



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Health & Human Services/Policy & Legislation Joint Committee Minutes

September 18th, 2024

Marilyn Peña, Committee Chairperson – Health & Human Services Committee
Dalourny Nemorin, Committee Chairperson – Policy & Legislation Committee

Attendance: *Dalourny Nemorin, Carolyn Chamorro, Christine Licata, Claudia Rahman, Whitney Williams, Emmanuel Pardilla, Ramona Ferreyra, Joean Taitt, Clarisa Alayeto*

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Introduction and Meeting Purpose

- Committee Chair Dalourny Nemorin introduces herself as the committee chair for policy and legislation and outlines the meeting's purpose: discussing policies and solutions for drug epidemics in the South Bronx.
- The meeting is a joint effort between health and human services and policy committees due to the interconnected nature of the issues.
- Committee Chair Dalourny Nemorin mentions the presence of multiple committees and introduces them to the attendees.
- The goal of the meeting is to address drug use issues in the South Bronx, particularly in Community Board 1, and to explore potential solutions.

Introduction of Committee Members

- Member Christine Licata introduces herself.
- Member Ramona Ferreyra introduces herself.
- Terrell Jones introduces herself as the Community Engagement Manager at OnPoint NYC.
- Thomas Blaszek introduces himself as the Outreach Services Manager for the Bronx at One Point NYC.
- Marina Samuel introduces herself as a reporter for the Mott Haven Herald and a student.
- Various other members introduce themselves, including community board members, and community journalists.

Overview of One Point NYC's Services

- Terrell Jones provides a historical context of the opioid prevention center and its advocacy efforts.
- The center was established to address the increasing number of overdoses and lack of effective prevention methods.
- The center operates as a pilot program in East Harlem and Washington Heights, providing safe environments for drug users.
- The center offers a range of services, including overdose prevention, drug checking, wound care, and transportation to and from the facility.

Challenges and Solutions in the Bronx

- Terrell Jones discusses the high rate of xylazine and fentanyl in the Bronx, which are more potent and dangerous than heroin.
- The center provides services tailored to the specific needs of the Bronx, including drug checking and wound care.
- The center has a hotline for community members to report public drug use and discarded syringes, which are collected and disposed of by the center's team.
- The center emphasizes the importance of providing a safe and supportive environment for drug users, addressing their trauma and providing wraparound services.

Community Concerns and Questions

- Terrell Jones explains that the center is funded by the Department of Health and provides master training for Naloxone administration.
- The center's services are designed to be client-centered, focusing on the individual's needs and providing a supportive environment.
- The center has seen a significant increase in participants and services since its establishment, indicating the need for more funding and space.

Advocacy and Funding Challenges

- The center faces challenges in securing funding, particularly with the governor's stance on using opioid settlement money for harm reduction.
- The center has received support from Mayor Adams and the NYC Department of Health, but more funding is needed to expand services.
- The center emphasizes the importance of community involvement and advocacy in securing funding and support for their work.

Community Board's Role and Next Steps

- The committee will continue to work with the center and other organizations to develop solutions and policies to address the use of open market drug use.

Discussion on Harm Reduction and Community Engagement

- The board discusses the importance of harm reduction and the center's role in providing services that address the needs of drug users and prevention or recovery services.
- The center emphasizes the importance of community engagement and providing services that are tailored to the specific needs of the community.
- The center has built strong relationships with community members and other organizations to support their work.
- The board acknowledges the challenges of addressing drug issues in the community and the importance of a collaborative approach to find solutions.

Final Remarks and Next Steps

- Committee Chair Dalourny Nemorin thanks the center for their presentation and emphasizes the importance of continued collaboration and advocacy.
- The committee will also engage with the district manager and other stakeholders to gather feedback and for the center's efforts.
- The meeting concludes with a commitment to continue advocating researching for policies and funding to address drug issues in the community.

Action Items

Prepare a formal recommendation reflecting the committee's positions on the DCP proposals to present to the full community board.

Read additional informational materials provided like the intern's report on OnPoint to prepare for the full board discussion.

Consider touring OnPoint's facilities in Manhattan to learn more about their overdose prevention programs.