



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose

VANESSA L. GIBSON
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CLARISA M. ALAYETO
CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

Public & Supportive Housing Committee Minutes

September 23rd, 2024

Daniel Barber, Committee Chairperson

Attendance: *Daniel Barber, Ramona Ferreyra, Rosa Pinero, Patricia Simpson, Herman Francis Jr.*

DRAFT

Introduction and Meeting Setup

- Committee Chairperson Daniel Barber introduces the meeting for the Community Planning Board 1, mentioning it is live on the internet.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan welcomes guests and mentions the meeting is being recorded live on YouTube.
- Ms. Eileen Level from PolyFO Cinema introduces herself and the documentary "Raizing Liberty Square," emphasizing its importance in advocating for cinema and community engagement.

Discussion on "Raizing Liberty Square" Documentary

- Ms. Eileen Level explains the significance of the documentary, which was inspired by the impending demolition of a segregated public housing development.
- The film introduces the concept of climate gentrification, which changed the film's direction and focus.
- Ms. Eileen Level shares personal anecdotes about the importance of cinema in understanding and engaging with community issues.
- The documentary aims to create change through the vehicle of cinema, emphasizing the importance of community engagement and movie-going experiences.

District Needs Statement

- District Manager Anthony Jordan discusses the district needs statement, the process where the community board identifies and prioritizes community needs.

- The process involves each committee identifying top priorities, which are then reported back to the full board for budget recommendations.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan encourages community members to share their ideas and needs, emphasizing the importance of community input in determining budget priorities.

Community Concerns and Historical Context

- Members express concerns about the impact of development on the community, particularly the potential displacement of long-time residents.
- Historical context is provided, highlighting the segregated nature of Liberty Square and its significance as a community staple.
- The discussion touches on the broader issue of gentrification and its impact on communities of color.

Development Plans and Community Reactions

- Members express skepticism about the involvement of non-local developers and the potential for displacement of long-time residents.
- The conversation highlights the need for affordable housing and the importance of retaining the community's cultural and historical identity.
- Speakers emphasize the need for transparency and accountability from developers and elected officials.

Climate Gentrification and Environmental Impact

- The conversation highlights the disproportionate effects of climate change on low-income and minority communities.
- The discussion emphasizes the need for comprehensive and equitable solutions to address climate gentrification and its impacts.

Community Resilience and Advocacy

- Members share stories of community resilience and advocacy, highlighting the efforts of local leaders and organizations to support and empower residents.
- The conversation touches on the importance of education and youth engagement in addressing community issues.
- Members emphasize the need for continued advocacy and community involvement in shaping the future of public housing and community development.
- The discussion highlights the role of local organizations and leaders in providing resources and support to residents facing challenges.

Challenges and Solutions in Public Housing

- Members discuss the challenges of public housing, including maintenance issues, lack of investment, and the impact of privatization.
- The conversation highlights the need for comprehensive and equitable solutions to address the challenges faced by public housing residents.
- Members emphasize the importance of community involvement and advocacy in shaping the future of public housing.
- The discussion touches on the need for better communication and transparency from housing authorities and elected officials.

Community Engagement and Education

- Members discuss the importance of community engagement and education in addressing community issues and advocating for change.
- The conversation highlights the need for continued education and awareness about the challenges faced by public housing residents.
- Members emphasize the importance of involving youth and community leaders in advocacy efforts.
- The discussion touches on the role of local organizations and leaders in providing resources and support to residents facing challenges.

Future and Next Steps

- Speakers discuss future and next steps for community engagement and advocacy efforts.
- The conversation highlights the importance of continued advocacy and community involvement in shaping the future of public housing and community development.
- Speakers emphasize the need for comprehensive and equitable solutions to address the challenges faced by public housing residents.
- The discussion touches on the role of local organizations and leaders in providing resources and support to residents facing challenges.

Action Items

Share the district needs statement survey and process with the community.

Coordinate with the education committee to explore screening the "Raizing Liberty Square" film in local high schools.

Follow up with elected officials to schedule a screening of the "Raizing Liberty Square" film.