

*The City of New York*  
**Bronx Community Board Four**  
**General Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 6 pm**  
**Bronx Museum of the Arts**  
**1040 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY**  
**MS. BEVERLY BOARD, BOARD CHAIR, PRESIDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Shekera Algarin, Ms. Rasheida Alston, Mr. Isidro Bernabe Arguello, Ms. Beverly Bond, Dr. Serge Caceres, Ms. Triciah Claxton, Mrs. Rossmery Dais, Ms. Leticia N. Dinkins, Ms. Brenda Dock, Ms. Veronique Green, Ms. Towona Joye, Ms. Nurys Laureano, Dr. Veronie Lawrence, Ms. Marie McCullough, Ms. Monique McMahan-Stancil, Mr. Leandro Monzon, Ms. Michelle Mootreddy, Mr. Ebrahim Dawda Ndure, Mrs. Zonia Ortiz, Ms. Martha Reyes, Ms. Yohanny Rincon, Ms. Elba Rodriguez, Ms. Lilliam Rosa, Mr. Glenn A. Saenz, Rev. Julian Stephenson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ms. Ellen D. Abraham, Ms. Priscilla Alexander, Ms. Makeda Byfield, Ms. Gleny J. Camacho, Ms. Musu Drammeh, Mr. John Fielder, Ms. Michelle Gardner, Mr. Julian D. Lopez-Leyva, Ms. Keyana Lundy, Mr. Avery Smith, Ms. Marie A. Stroud.

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Mr. Howard Brown, Ms. Ishaira Garcia, Mr. Robert Garmendiz, Ms. Frances Hudson-Marrow, Ms. Crystar Lopez, Mr. Mohammed Mardah, Mr. Van Miles, Ms. Kinanda Williams-Murray, Ms. Latasha Wright.

**STAFF:**

Elizabeth Gonzalez-Rodriguez, Senior Secretary

**ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

Hon. Landon Dais, NYS Assembly Member  
Gina Williams, representing Public Advocate Jumaane Williams  
Juton Horstman, representing Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson  
Jumanah Escalera, representing Bronx County District Attorney Darcel D. Clark  
Terell Brock, representing NYS Senate Jose M. Serrano  
Nicole Liberato, representing NYS Senate Luis Sepulveda  
Crystal Diaz, representing NYS Assembly Chantel Jackson  
Yudelis Moronta, representing NYS Assembly Landon Dais  
Tyreke Israel, representing NYC Council Althea Stevens  
Gloria Cruz, representing NYC Council Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala

**GUEST PRESENT:**

Daniel P. Silvera-Bridge Builders Community Partnership, Mariano Laboy-Morrisania D&T, Dr. Edward T. Beglane-Siena House Shelter, Deputy Inspector Anthony Mascia-NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct, Detective Shala-NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct, Lieutenant Adeniyi-NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct, Mari Pichardo-Maribella Paradise Restaurant Corp., Marvin McFadden-Volunteer of America Inc., Cristian Reinosomontes-NYPL Highbridge Branch, Ms. Mildred James-Resident, Shayla Colon-New York Times,

Shakima Gillings-Resident, Ariana Bon-WHEDco, Magda Perez-Lincoln Hospital/Public Affairs, Judith Crawford-New York Public Library, Esther Polanco-Volunteer of America, Wanda Taveras-Sobredosis D'Amor Restaurant Corp., Bladimir Nunez-OCM, Youmna Sukkov-The Bronx Bulletin, Debra Myer-Resident, Audrey P. Hoover-Resident, Patrick Hoover-Resident, Audrey P.-Resident, Emmanuel Martinez-Resident, Prettystar Lopez-Resident, Jackie Hinds-Resident, Marigbe Sy-Resident Saida Cabrera-Resident, Edward Bunge-Resident.

Meeting Called to Order at 6:10 pm

1) Public Session

- a. Mariano LaBoy – Immigrants asking for school with ESL
  - i. New school 169<sup>th</sup> street – Aurelia Green School
  - ii. Bishop McKay
  - iii. Register to vote
- b. Bladimir Nunez
  - i. Resident between 165&166
  - ii. Vandalism on university avenue – action was taken- patrol units have increased
- c. Assemblymember Dais
  - i. Congrats to the new board
  - ii. 77<sup>th</sup> assemblymember
  - iii. Mayor's town hall – CB4 was present
    1. Proliferation of shelters within the community
    2. Shelter will move out of our district – real estate will come in
      - a. Option for homeownership
      - b. affordable housing
      - c. will have an additional meeting with real estate group
  - iv. University Avenue – 2 sanitation cameras will be coming to the district and one will be in the Highbridge Area
  - v. Rash of homicides the last few weeks – west African communities
  - vi. Supermarket
  - vii. Famer's Market available- Health bucks
  - viii. Looking for young people to be involved with the community
  - ix. Mayor, 161 BID, 44 – unlicensed vendors: need to figure out how to assist with licensing
- d. Cristan Reinoso Montes – NYPL
  - i. Highbridge Library
  - ii. Increase early literacy rates
  - iii. Early program – 3-6 homework help, snack, water, juice
  - iv. College Fair – October 9<sup>th</sup> – any questions about how to apply for college
- e. Dr. Edward T. Belgain
  - i. New program director for Sienna House Shelter – 168<sup>th</sup> Street, next to Sacred Heart Church

- ii. Sister Mary – will receive a Proclamation from Commissioner Molly Parks
- 2) Welcoming remarks and announcements
  - a. New member introduction
    - i. Glen – Health Committee
    - ii. Serge – Municipal Services
  - b. Need to hire District Manager
- 3) Invocation
  - a. Martha Reyes
- 4) Report by NYPD
  - a. Commander Mascia
    - i. Getting applications for after-hours permits for NYE
    - ii. Spike in robberies this past month (from the clubs)
    - iii. A lot of other folks come over from other precincts to party in the 44
    - iv. Some businesses had letters that were not approvals but possibly “pending approval”
    - v. Number one precinct for 311 and Radio Runs – noise complaints
    - vi. New partnership with FUSUS – able to tap in with local businesses/tenant associations. Access cameras to pull video for incidents. Would help to gather information for incidents that occur.
    - vii. Illegal marijuana locations- have closed 20 in the last 3 months
      - 1. 2 locations reopened – people were rearrested-cut locks and went back into the location
      - 2. Weed Truck – please gather info and report. Two people have been shot recently, robbing weed trucks.
    - viii. 1%, 2%, murders up – 52 Robberies vs 36 last year. Robberies on mopeds. 130 incidents between 44<sup>th</sup> and Manhattan North.
      - 1. Took 26 mopeds off the street – can buy mopeds that already have plates, can register plates with DMV but they do not readily show them.
      - 2. Felony assaults down 1, burs down 1, stolen vehicles
      - 3. Shootings are up 2 (6 vs4)
      - 4. Increased deployment during the summer, which was supposed to stop on 9/15, but end date has changed
      - 5. Detecting Mopeds- must follow traffic rules. If stopped and does not have proper licensing, taken back to precinct, etc.
      - 6. Illegal Weed Stores – are landlords fined if the location reopens- must follow civil process
      - 7. Coordination with 44 and DEP with after hours business and noise complaints? Some officers have sound meter training and can write some of the summonses
      - 8. How can landlord give NYPD access to cameras- the 44 will go talk to the landlord

9. Smoke Out Bill – cleaned up the legal way the NYPD can shut down illegal weed stores. Due Process.
  10. October 9<sup>th</sup> – Precinct Council Meeting – Bronx Museum- 917-853-5030 Detective Shala
- 5) Review/Correction/Adoption of minutes
    - a. April 23<sup>rd</sup>
      - i. One abstention – Dr. Veronie Lawrence
      - ii. Move to accept minutes as presented
      - iii. passes
    - b. May 28<sup>th</sup>
      - i. Ms. Ortiz – move to accept minutes as presented
      - ii. In favor - 7
      - iii. One abstention – Sid Arguello
      - iv. Motion passes
  - 6) Nominating Committee
    - a. Need to nominate members to be on the committee to find Recording Secretary
    - b. Need 3 members to serve on the committee
    - c. Names can be taken at meeting, names can also be submitted
      - i. Luis Loreano
      - ii. Michelle ?
      - iii. Latisha Dinkins- Chair
    - d. Nominations
      - i. Can be submitted to the office
      - ii. Motion- Martha Reyes
        1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Michelle
        2. Passes Unanimously
  - 7) Committee Reports
    - a. Housing & Land Use
      - i. Committee met on 9/16. Presentation by HPD and NYPL for affordable housing and new library. 90-100 homes should be available
      - ii. Discussed survey responses
      - iii. Reviewed budget priorities that will be voted on in October
      - iv. First Monday of the month at Murray Cohen Auditorium
    - b. Youth Services
      - i. Committee met on 9/14. Reviewed the budget priorities for 2025.
      - ii. Need more funding for special needs students
      - iii. Will address CB4 resource manual
      - iv. Third Thursday at each month at Murray Cohen Auditorium
    - c. Municipal Services
      - i. Committee met on 9/4. Representation from 44<sup>th</sup> precincts sharing crime stats
      - ii. Committee voted to table the 4 plus 44.
      - iii. District needs statement – the committee is looking over 15 items

- iv. October -Sanitation will present
- v. First Wednesday
- d. Parks
  - i. Committee did not meet
  - ii. Third Wednesday of the month. Same time, same location
  - iii. Fred Seigel Park – open to the community for use
  - iv. Parks survey trip in the district (winter time)
  - v. Tennis Court accessibility – working on open house
  - vi. Water front access- extension of Mill Pond Park – open to the public
  - vii. Parks Department programming
    - 1. Learn to Swim on Saturday for kids
    - 2. St. Mary’s has free soccer
  - viii. Mt. Eden Walls – needs to be addressed by Parks, Sanitation, DHS, etc. (Ms. Meyers)
  - ix. Bike deliverers dumping in median on Grand Concourse (Ms. Meyers)
- e. Health & Human Services
  - i. Committee did not meet in September
  - ii. Importance of prioritizing your health, especially in flu season
  - iii. 988 – Mental health / NYC Health for assistance
  - iv. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, if holiday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday
  - v. Next meeting 10/21 at Murray Cohen Auditorium
- f. Economic Development
  - i. Committee meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at Murray Cohen Auditorium
  - ii. 3 renewals and 1 new license
    - 1. 579 GIO Inc/Giovanni’s Restaurant – renewal of liquor, wine, etc.
      - a. No issues
    - 2. Yankee Twin Eatery Bar – renewal of liquor, wine, etc.
      - a. No issues
    - 3. Maribella Paradise Restaurant Corp – renewal of liquor, wine, etc.
      - a. No Issues
    - 4. Sobredosis D’ Amor Restaurant – new application for liquor, wine, etc.
      - a. No issues
  - iii. Vote – 3 renewals
    - 1. No opposition
    - 2. One abstention
    - 3. Motion passes
  - iv. New application
    - 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Rosemary Dais
    - 2. No abstention
    - 3. 3 opposed
    - 4. Motion passes

- v. District Needs statement was reviewed – for FY 2025
  - vi. Nex meeting – announcement for entire committee meeting
  - vii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Murray Cohen Auditorium
- 8) Report from Borough President
- 9) New Business/Unfinished Business
- 10) Announcements
- a. Representative from Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
    - i. National Preparation Month
    - ii. Bulletin - bitly/advocatenewsletter
    - iii. Ban On Solitary Confinement
    - iv. Bill passed in City Council – Pearl and Wall Street – first slave market in NYC
    - v. Voter Registration – 9/17/24
    - vi. 17 year olds can work the polls
    - vii. 988 – Mental Health Assistance
    - viii. [gwiliams@advocate.gov.ny](mailto:gwiliams@advocate.gov.ny)
  - b. Bronx DA
    - i. Juman Escovera
      - 1. October 26<sup>th</sup> – 5k walk/roll/run Against Domestic Violence
        - a. 9:30-12:30
        - b. Lou Gehrig’s Plaza
      - 2. Youth Conference
        - a. 80 students currently participating
        - b. 14-21 years old
  - c. Planning and Development for BP Gibson
    - i. Highest % of food insecurity
      - 1. Dinowitz & Dais – distributing Health Bucks
      - 2. Farmer Markets
      - 3. Montefiore / Einstein – Back to school event
      - 4. Presented a 1 million dollar check to Hip Hop Museum
      - 5. Transit Alternatives – Bronx has 7 of the hottest bus stops in the City of New York
        - a. Working on initiatives to decrease heat exposure
      - 6. Upcoming Events
        - a. 9/25 – Morris Heights Farm Stand
        - b. 9/28 – Express Yourself – Lou Gehrig Plaza
        - c. 10/6 - Tour de Bronx
        - d. 10/7 – Reso A funding information meeting
        - e. 10/16 – Italian Heritage Celebration
  - d. Akola Berrato – Senator Sepulveda
    - i. Wrapping up back to school efforts
    - ii. Bills that have been passed and signed by Gov. Hochul
    - iii. First annual health and wellness event – addressing food insecurity

- iv. Workforce Development Fair
  - v. Father's Day event
  - vi. Community Leaders Appreciation Brunch
  - e. Landon Dais
    - i. 7185382000
    - ii. State of the District – Andrew Freidman
    - iii. Coat Drive
    - iv. Do assist with immigration services
    - v. Do assist with quality of life issues
  - f. Gloria Cruz- Diana Ayala
    - i. Flyer has all information
    - ii. [gcruz@council.nyc.gov](mailto:gcruz@council.nyc.gov)
    - iii. Every Tuesday, Senator Serrano is in Ayala's Office 347-297-4922
  - g. Crystal Diaz – Chantel Jackson
    - i. Real Estate Webinar – flyer provided
  - h. Theo Brock – Jose Serrano
    - i. How we connect with our Bronx Constituents
    - ii. Office hours
    - iii. Diana Ayala's office
    - iv. Highbridge library – 11 am – 2 pm
    - v. Also at Althea Stevens office
    - vi. Melrose Senior Center
    - vii. Back to School Event
    - viii. Partnered with Amanda Farias – backpack and supplies event
    - ix. 9/11- joined BP in tribute
    - x. Able to secure 100,000 for libraries
  - i. Tyreik Israel – Althea Stevens
    - i. Housing conference – 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. – 1020 Jerome- October 3, 2024
    - ii. Can pick up Health Bucks from Althea Stevens
    - iii. Working with a Black Farmer to bring pumpkins to the Bronx for pumpkin decoration
- 11) Adjourn – 8:29 p.m.

Submitted by Shekera Algarin