

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON., BOROUGH PRESIDENT YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

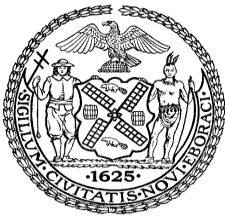
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	October 17, 2024
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	<u>The Bedford's Community Room</u> 211 East 203rd Street, Bronx, NY 10458
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Yajaira Arias _ Chad Y. Royer ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Betty Arce _ Michelle Avila ✓ Leurys Acosta ✓ Edgar Ramos ✓ Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky
Minutes done by:	Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky

Minutes:

- I. Guidelines and Code of Conduct read**
- II. Attendance Taken- Quorum met**
- III. Review of previous minutes- Betty Arce motions to accept the minutes, Yajaira Arias seconds; minutes are approved.**
- IV. No Follow-up from the previous month.**
- V. District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera Updates**
 - A. The Civic Engagement Commission has awarded \$4,500 to the office to host The People's Money (Citywide Participatory Budgeting-Cycle #3) Idea Generation Session. A fiscal sponsor is needed; suggestions are welcomed. This is a community wide brainstorming session, a "Think Tank." Six locations have been selected in different areas of the community. The goal is to have 20 people at each session, to ensure we reach at least 100 people. Meetings will last 1½ HRs and**

THIS MEETING'S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:
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take place during the day. Board members should start thinking about outreach to neighbors for this event. The registration will be on a Google Doc. To learn more about the citywide participatory budgeting process at www.participate.nyc.gov and stay tuned for Bronx CB7 sessions via our Instagram page. Program ends on 11/22. Proposed dates for November events and locations:

1. 11/4 Sister Bethel Senior Center- Norwood/Bedford Park
2. 11/6 The keeper's House- Jerome Gunhill BID area
3. 11/13 Mosholu Library- Norwood
4. 11/16 CUNY on the Concourse- Fordham
5. 11/20 St. James Park-Fordham & University Heights
6. 11/21 Lehman College- Jerome Park/Bedford Park

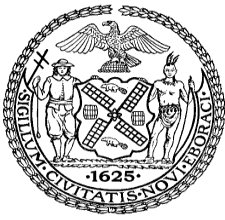
B. The Bronx Community Board 7 office has copies of the 2024 General Election Voter Guide. Dates to keep in mind:

1. Early Voting is from October 26th to November 3rd, and Election Day is November 5th.
2. Please do not forget to turn your ballot over to vote on the 6 ballot proposals. Learn more at www.nycvotes.org.

VI. Chair Yajaira Arias Remarks

A. Civic Commission Training- The Borough Assembly Committee, held training on Participatory Budgeting and it was a great experience; Ms. Arias encourages everyone to attend the training, it takes a few weeks. They worked on budgets for the entire borough. The training pays carfare and 300 dollars at completion of the training.

B. Reserve your spot for the Board Member Luncheon-Check your email for the meet and greet Google Doc to register. The event is scheduled for Saturday 11/2 at 199th St and Grand Concourse.



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VII. Motion(s):

A. Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs, <https://bit.ly/4gYJNXB>: Send a letter of support to the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation to express approval of the design for the renovation of Poe Park's playground.

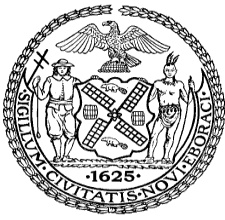
1. Barbara Stronczer motions to accept motion, Yajaira Arias seconds the motion. The motion opens to discussion:

- a) Question made around whether the entire sections of the park will be closed to the public; Barbara Stronczer mentioned the decision to work on both projects concurrently or by section is up to the contractor. It is not known if both sections will be done by the same contractor.
- b) The Gazebo at Poe Park has been Landmarked at the same time as Poe Park was landmarked.
- c) Motion carries to the General Board meeting with 7 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

B. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development, <https://bit.ly/4dIXuHi>: Send a letter of opposition to Mayor Eric Adams, the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, and The Fortune Society regarding the proposed 83 beds of emergency and transitional housing at 2586 Bainbridge Avenue, (Poe Place) Bronx, New York 10458.

1. Yajaira motions to accept the motion, Betty Arce seconds the motion. The motion opens to discussion:

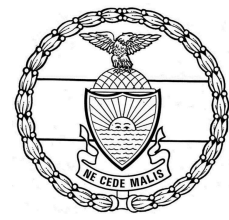
- a) The area around the proposed project has many quality of life issues with illegal dumping, drug sales, and drug use.
- b) Councilman Oswald Feliz has also sent a letter of opposition to this proposal.



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- c) The building has already been constructed; the Board had the understanding that we were getting family housing.
- d) Motion carries to the General Board meeting with 7 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

VIII. New Business

A. Extensive review & discussion of FY26 Capital and Expense Requests

<https://bit.ly/409oVHe>

1. Betty Arce motions to accept Fiscal Year 2026 Capital & Expense Budget Requests with proposed language changes; Yajaira Arias seconds the motion.
2. The language change in B above- Priority 2 will read, **“Our community is experiencing a large increase in residential development with thousands of planned housing units across the district; therefore we are forseeing the need for additional schools.”**
3. Motion carries to the General Board Meeting with 7 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstains; 2 absents
4. Public Hearing will be held at Monroe College on 10/22 at 5PM.

IX. Committee Reports

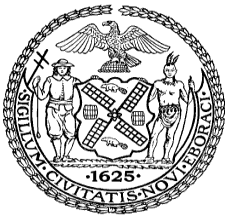
A. Environment and Sanitation – Betty Arce

1. No meeting was scheduled.
2. Next meeting: 11/6/2024 where DEP will present on Flooding, and DSNY on Containerization and Composting.
3. Concern that the new program for Composting is not taking off. Ms. Arce has not seen any brown bins out for collection, other than her bin. Ms. Hill told her building, Tracey Towers, about the composting rules and they did not know how to enforce them in

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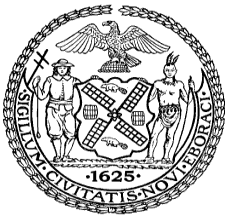
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such a large building. DSNY can visit and work with management on implementation.

4. Reports that the containerization is going well. In April fines will be given for non-compliance.
5. Ms. Arce complained to the Mosholu Preservation Corp (MPC) that 204th Street garbage bins need cleaning; what are the duties of the MPC on 204th Street, if any? Malcolm Gray is now the head of MPC. Jean Hill will invite him to visit the Sanitation Committee.
6. Ms. Stronczer added that cleaning was also supposed to be done for 204th Street and Webster Avenue from 204th Street down to 198th Street. It doesn't appear that much work is being done. This will be followed up on.
7. On 311 calls, the system doesn't accept duplicate complaints. Let the office know and they can follow-up on the original complaint.

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. No quorum.
2. Bi-monthly meetings this year. Next meeting in November. Planned to attend the CEC10 meetings; but their meetings conflict with our General Board meetings.
3. Brainstormed many suggestions for future meetings; all suggestions are welcome. The new head of DOE would be an interesting person to reach out to; what plans does she have for our community? Speakers to the Committee and/or a panel at the Library to name two.



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4. Birthday wishes sent to Mr. Acosta who spent his birthday with this committee.

C. Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos

1. No quorum was met.
2. Next meeting: 11/7/2024.

D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Yajaira Arias

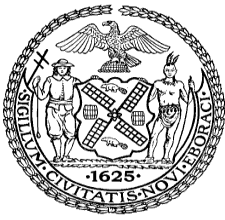
1. The committee thoroughly discussed and created a motion on the proposed emergency and transitional proposed site at 2586 Bainbridge Avenue. Extensive work was also done on the budget requests for 2026.
2. Next meeting date: 11/12/2024 joint meeting with Health & Human Services.
3. No meeting scheduled for December 2024

E. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Parks presented on improvements to the Harris Field Turf and capital improvements at Poe Park. The Harris Field Soccer field will be redone with Astro-Turf; Councilmember Dinowitz supplied the funds for the renovation.
2. Next meeting: 11/13/2024 Parks will present on Vital Parks For All.
3. Save the date for the 2024 Tree Lighting Ceremony on 12/12/2024.
4. The hedges at Tracey Towers on the traffic Island are still a problem, they need trimming.

F. Health & Human Services – Michelle Avila

1. No meeting was held.
2. Next meeting: 11/12/24 Joint meeting with Housing, Land Use & Economic Development.



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G. Veterans Affairs – Chad Y. Royer

1. The committee had two presentations.
2. It was reported that Veterans who were not citizens did not automatically become citizens because of their service.
3. Veterans who were exposed to Burn Pits can get help with health care.
4. Save the Date for the bi-annual Flagging event on 11/9/24 at 10am.

H. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill

1. Committee met on 10/12 to review the FY2026 Capital and Expense Budget Requests. Four requests were removed and two new items were added.
2. Letters went out to members with attendance violations and responses were received.
3. New business:
 - a) Santiago Baena of Councilman Oswald Feliz's Office reported on their proposed work with Bridge Arts to renovate Oliver Place.
 - b) Jenna Klaus of Councilman Eric Dinowitz's Office reported on the 10 million awarded for the renovation to the WBO, and the Mosholu Parkway #4 Station.

X. Next meeting date: November 14, 2024 at 211 East 203rd Street

XI. Adjournment- Ms. Arias moved to adjourn and Ms. Hill seconded.
Meeting adjourned 8:15