

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

HOUSING, LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair:	Erick Ascensio
Meeting Date:	February 8, 2022
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members	✓ Erick Ascensio ✓ Myrna Calderon ✓ Sandra Erickson
In Attendance:	<u>✓</u> Edgar Ramos <u>✓</u> Barbara Stronczer <u>✓</u> Mahbubur Jewel
Minutes done by:	Erick Ascencio

Minutes: (please click on active links for more information)

- I. Meeting was started at 6:35 pm by reading the Meeting Guidelines as established by the Governor's executive order and review of Agenda.
- **II. Introductions and Attendance:** All Committee members were present and quorum was met.
- III. Previous Minutes were reviewed and approved for January 2022.
- IV. Follow-up from previous months:
 - A. Family Shelter: 170 East 206th Street
 - i) DHS provided a memo with additional information in regards to the family shelter at the above reference address that was shared with the committee and the public.
- V. New Business
 - **A. HPD Updates:** Ted Weinstein informed the public that Adolfo Carrion (former Bronx Borough President) was named Commissioner of HPD.
 - **B.DCP Update:** Geethanjali informed the committee that Mayor Eric Adams announced the appointment of Dan Garodnick as chair of the City Planning Commission (CPC) and director of the Department of City Planning (DCP) and Edith Hsu-Chen as executive director of DCP.



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- Julien Sneck from the Department of City Planning (DCP) provides a tutorial on the use of the <u>Good Urban Design</u> website. He explained that there are three brief activities where you can share your perspective for shaping our built environment in your neighborhoods. Such as amenities and infrastructure your neighborhood might need.
 - DCP is looking for feedback from the public until March 4th.
 - A presentation on the finding will become available during the summer (tentative) and DCP will come back to the Board to discuss.
 - Ultimately, DCP will share the gathered feedback with all city agencies.
- DHS and Nonprofit service provider the Acacia Network Housing presented a new Stabilization Bed Facility at <u>2287 University Avenue</u>. Amarilis Soler, the project manager, informed the committee this location had been previously utilized as a shelter for adult families (108 occupants) without minor children. The new facility will have a capacity for 59 Single Adults and is set to open in Mid-March
 - The facility will have 24/7 staff who will make hourly rounds, including the perimeter, and is equipped with security cameras.
 - Residents will have no curfew and are not chronically homeless.
 - DHS and BronxWorks will provide referrals.
 - The building has offices for staff and social workers, a cafeteria and a recreation room, where classes, such as art, and activities will be held for the residents.
 - Myrna Calderon from the committee stated that the problem is DHS keeps loading the neighborhood with shelters, such as the one at Fordham Landing. The issues brought up to DHS by the community at that time, remain the same current issues



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being discussed with this shelter. She also stated that the neighborhood parks, such as Devoe, are over utilized and is the only place for our children and seniors in the neighborhood and now even has to be shared with two dog runs.

- Attendees expressed that the streets have become unsafe and adding unsupervised individuals with mental and other health issues can bring additional problems to the area.
- In attendance for this presentation:
 - 1. Erin Drinkwater (DHS)
 - 2. Shane Cox (DHS)
 - 3. Amarilis Soler (Acacia)
 - 4. Ravi Rampersaud (Acacia)
 - 5. James Baggett (Acacia)
 - 6. Fernando Brinn (Acacia)
- Those interested in jobs for this facility can browse and apply here.
- VI. Next meeting date: Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 at 6:30pm
- VII. Discussion on next agenda: None
- VIII. Adjournment