

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

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

Chair:	Betty Arce
Meeting Date:	January 2, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center, 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members In Attendance:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky <input type="checkbox"/> Jean Hill <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosalie Leslie <input type="checkbox"/> Gwen Thomas-Steed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lowell Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hugo Gonzalez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kazi Noor
Minutes done by:	Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky

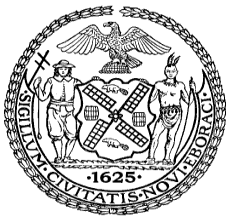
Minutes:

- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting were read**
- II. Introductions/Attendance -**
 - A. Attendance was taken and quorum was met
- III. Review of November 13, 2023 Minutes -**
 - A. Minutes were reviewed and accepted with 2 minor changes. Helene Hartman approved the minutes after the 2 changes below were noted. Rosalee Leslie seconded the minutes.
 1. Under II Introductions/Attendance: Change “excuse” to “excused” for Gwen Thomas Steed’s attendance status and include full name for anyone mentioned in minutes, both community members, community members and presenters.
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month (If applicable)**
- V. New Business**
 - A. *Sanitation Foundation's NYC Trash Academy* - a free virtual 10-session educational series designed for busy New Yorkers interested in learning how to create a cleaner, healthier, more sustainable city. Series will run from 2/8 –

THIS MEETING’S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

E-MAIL: KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV ♦ WEBSITE: WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7



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3/21/24. Last day to apply is February 2, 2024.

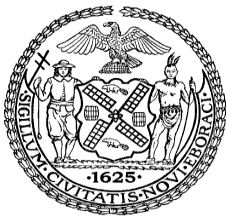
<https://www.sanitationfoundation.org/nyc-trash-academy>

B. *Fordham University \$50 Million Grant* - This grant provides federal funding for environmental justice projects. The grants, ranging from \$75k – 350k , will prioritize unrepresented groups and communities overburdened by environmental injustices. <https://bit.ly/4aAxMEC>

1. Further details will be made available at a press event & project launch in February.
2. Board members asked can CB7 apply for a grant? What role can CB7 play? Needs clarification.
3. Projects of interest to committee members include the development of educational materials on impact of climate change in urban areas, solutions to address

C. *Open Discussion:*

1. There is a lack of trash cans near the bus depot at Jerome Avenue & Bedford Park so members want to put in a request to DSNY for new trash cans.
2. Members want to request DSNY to increase composting bins to make up for the delay in organic sidewalk collection due to budget cuts.
3. Members want to request DSNY to add recycling bins (for paper and plastic) along some commercial areas such as Kingsbridge Road.
4. Kazi Noor wants to coordinate a clean up involving young people, primarily high school students from the area, such as - Clinton HS, BX HS of Science, Lehman HS, Roosevelt HS.
 - a) The Clean up project can serve as a vehicle to educate and engage the community to keep their blocks clean and be aware of environmental issues and possible solutions.



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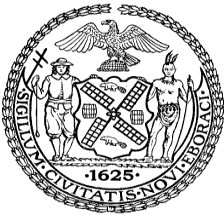
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5. It was stated by a board member that there seems to be less personal responsibility for keeping the community clean. Home ownership has gone down significantly in recent years and that may explain the dirty sidewalks and increased garbage on the streets. Both residential and commercial vendors need repeated reminders as well as receiving summonses for failure to comply with established rules.
6. There are complaints that some new residents to our neighborhoods are not following the rules regarding garbage disposal resulting in new issues with rats.
 - a) It was noted that garbage is sometimes left in alleyways because the tenants are afraid of rats congregating at the garbage cans in the building trash areas, many of which are dark and dirty.
7. Organic waste recycle bins are no longer available at the Keeper's House and MMCC locations due to the city's budget cuts. Therefore a request will be made to DSNY to place smart composting bins in these locations – Gunhill Road & DeKalb Ave., near the Keepers House at either Putnam Place or Reservoir Place
8. There was talk of paying unsheltered people a stipend in exchange for helping to clean the community. This idea is similar to the DOE. More use of technology, such as QR codes, can help to spread this information.
9. The Containerization Law-
 - a) As of **August 1, 2023**, ALL food-related businesses in NYC must use bins with secure lids when setting out trash for collection.
 - b) As of **September 5, 2023**, ALL chain stores with five or more locations in NYC must use bins with secure lids when setting out trash for collection.



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c) Starting **March 1, 2024**, ALL businesses in NYC must use bins with secure lids when setting out trash for collection.

10. A question came up as to how Sanitation can know when to clean out the smart composting bins. *This will be asked to DSNY later on.*

VI. Next Meeting Date:

A. March 5, 2024 at 6:30PM

VII. Discussion on Next Agenda -

A. TBD

VIII. Adjournment

A. Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM