

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



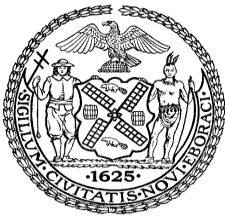
HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON    KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

**JOINT MEETING**  
**EDUCATION, YOUTH & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & QUALITY OF LIFE**

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Leurys Acosta, Education, Youth, &amp; Libraries</b> <b>Samantha Souvatzis, Public Safety &amp; Quality of Life</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>April 09, 2024</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b><u>Bronx Library Center</u></b> <b>310 E Kingsbridge Rd, Bronx, NY 10458</b>
<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>✓ Adaline Walker-Santiago ✓ Leurys Acosta</b> <b>__ Tayna Peña ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Samantha Souvatzis</b> <b>✓ Lowell Green ✓ Robin Rollan</b>
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Leurys Acosta</b>

**Minutes:**

- I. Meeting Guidelines and code of conduct were read**
- II. Attendance was taken. Quorum was met**
- III. Review of Previous Minutes - Minutes were reviewed and accepted**
- IV. New Business**
  - A. Bronx Library Center, NYPL**
    - 1. Jenee Bre - supervising librarian shared branch updates.
    - 2. Lowell Green asked about special services the branch offers to seniors and Jenee shared they do not offer specialized senior services but that their adult department programming is open to everyone including seniors.
      - a) Adult programming includes but is not limited to Arts & Crafts, English language learning, Book groups, and Movie & Author events.
    - 3. Jenee also shared that the branch will be celebrating an Eco Civic fair on Friday, May 24th as part of their Environmental programming on urban environment and food desert. They are



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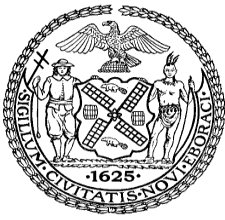
working towards repairing their rooftop green space and offering both programming and relaxation opportunities. The event will include informative panels, workshops, and exciting giveaways. <https://www.nypl.org/events/calendar>

#### **B. NYPD 52nd Precinct -**

1. Officer Ricardo Acosta shared the precinct's monthly updates.
2. The following criminal activities are on the rise
  - a) Robberies by illegal moped riders. They are targeting cell phones, jewelry, and headphones.
  - b) Rim and tire theft. To prevent your car from being left on milk crates, install custom high-quality lug nuts.
3. Officer Acosta addressed the quality of life issue of illegal car washes. After a series of warnings, officers confiscated power washers and interrupted the operations of those illegally using fire hydrants. Illegal street car washes pollute the environment and storm drains with chemical-based cleaning products.
4. Adaline requested an update about a series of missing children featured in the news, but there hasn't been any information about whether the children were found. Officer Acosta conveyed that the majority of cases involve runaway teens rather than outright kidnappings. He also mentioned that, in his 18 years of service at the 52nd precinct, he can recall only two instances of kidnappings.

#### **C. NYPD Options Presentation: <https://bit.ly/4aqq1k3>**

1. Officer Jason shared information about the NYPD youth program OPTIONS.
2. Tons of programming and workshops available for the youth ages 13-19. NYPD does their outreach at schools that suffer from the most incidents. They are open to collaborating with any community-based organization or schools.
3. Their facility is located at 1932 Arthur ave and is expanding. It'll include a hydroponic farm, a music stage, a sports complex



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for multiple sports, and a trade school in collaboration with unions, higher education institutions, and the private sector. Officer Jason shared that the NYPD has a shortage in trade workers (specifically in radio and auto repairs) and that this is a great career to get into.

4. They have also partnered with Grubhub to feed the kids they serve.
5. Currently, the program serves 30-60 kids. In the summertime, they will host 150 kids.

#### **D. OYATE Group**

1. Alexander Reyes, Alexander@Oyategroup.org, shared information about the organization and programs including an entrepreneurial program where Bronx residents can pitch an idea and get up to \$10,000 in funding to make it a reality.

#### **E. Executive Session: Review of NY Yankees Youth Leadership Award Applications.**

1. The committee reviewed all 6 applicants and selected 5 winners

#### **F. In Public Session: The committee recommends the 5 top applicants for the NY Yankees Award:**

1. Caylah Burrus
2. Draimely Gonzalez
3. Michaela Cruz
4. Arianna Soto
5. Brianna Ramos

**V. Next Meeting Date:** May 14, 2024

**VI. Discussion on Next Agenda:** Committee Awards

**VII. Adjournment** - Meeting is adjourned