

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

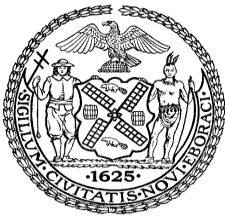
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	November 14, 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 ✓ 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 were read by Chair Stronczer**
- II. Attendance was taken and quorum was met**
- III. Review of previous minutes were read and unanimously approved**
- IV. District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera Updates**
 - A. The Citywide Participatory Budgeting (PB) Sessions are going well. The board will host an additional event to fulfill its engagement goal. We are hosting a Community Dinner and PB session on Friday, 11/22/2024, 4-6 pm at 2916 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10458.**
 - B. District Service Cabinet Meeting Update:**
 - 1. Business improvement Districts (BIDs) in CB7 are experiencing issues with unlicensed street vendors and illegal dumping;**
 - 2. Alina Dowe mentioned she would re-circulate Bronx CB7’s letter of opposition for the proposed 83-bed for justice impacted men at 2586 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, New York 10458.**
 - 3. Councilman Oswald Feliz’s Office informed the Board that the Transitional Housing proposed for Poe Place, is currently on pause.**

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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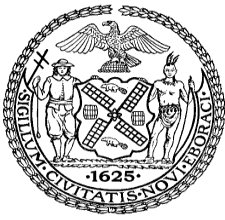
4. The Mayor's Office for Criminal Justice is currently expected to present on the Poe Place Transitional Housing at the Housing Committee in December.
5. Department of Social Services (DSS)/ Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will provide a footprint of their facilities in our district.

C. Relocation of the CB7 Office: The District Manager has submitted a relocation form request to the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). Per DCAS, the current landlord is not interested in a lease longer than five years.

D. FY27 Statement of Needs: the board must be more detailed in their budget requests.

V. Chair Yajaira Arias Remarks

- A. On November 9th, the Veterans Committee held a flagging event at the Bronx Victory Memorial on Mosholu Parkway. The event was lovely. Next year will be the Centennial of the monument and the plan is to make the event very special.
- B. As of January 2025, Broker's Fees in NYC will be illegal.
- C. Starting January, an Ad Hoc Committee will be created to explore combining committees to ensure that a quorum is met at committee meetings.
- D. Congestion pricing is coming again. Stay tuned for details.
- E. The Chair spoke with the Borough President's Office about the need and desire to go hybrid for meetings. She explained that members of the public and the Board are not attending meetings in the numbers that we had when meetings were available online.
- F. We currently are down to 35 Members, and we may be losing three more. Chad Royer and Samantha Souvatzis are currently on leave.



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VI. New Business:

A. The James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center Presentation:

<http://bit.ly/4eZbbDr>

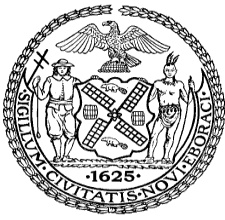
1. Request for a letter of support for plaza co-naming was read and discussed.
2. The Horticultural Society visits twice a day to keep the plaza in good shape and there is much pride and passion in keeping the name and history of James Baldwin alive in the school and community.
3. The centennial of his birth is this year and the New York Public Library has been promoting his books. It is expected that a plaque about Baldwin's life will be installed when the plaza is co-named.
4. Michelle Avila made a motion for a letter of support for the James Baldwin Plaza and Jean Hill seconded the motion.
5. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion; six votes in favor.

VII. Motion(s): No other motions were presented.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Environment & Sanitation - Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky spoke on behalf of Betty Arce; there were two speakers:

1. Effie Ardizzone from DEP presented on flooding in NYC.
 - a. NYC is in the middle of a drought and the committee discussed options for homeowners such as rain barrels and other equipment for basements.
2. Joseph Ottomanelli from DSNY presented on composting where starting in October, composting will be required all over the city.
 - a. Discussion was held on forty story buildings such as Tracey Towers, where guidance is needed on how to implement this new process.



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- b. Also discussed were smaller buildings where the landlords are not interested in complying with the rules.
- c. Buildings with 1-9 Apartments are now required to have their trash containerized (with lids). Concerns about theft of the cans were discussed; any theft should be reported to the police.

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. The committee met this month. For more information, go to education minutes.

C. Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos

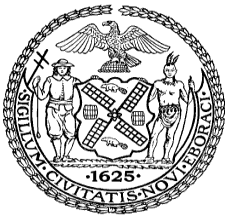
1. No meeting held

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

1. The Committee met jointly with Health & Human Services where they had three speakers.
2. Carlos Marte from VIP Community presented
 - a) The organization is offering services and workshops on Hypertension to the community. They plan to do 20 workshops before the end of the year.
3. Malcolm Grey from Jerome Avenue BID discussed the cleaning schedule; it is expected they will be able to cover a larger area when they have more staff.
4. Councilmember Oswald Feliz spoke about his opposition to the planned transitional housing at Poe Place.

E. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Allison Jackson and Valerie Davis presented on Vital Parks for All which is the Parks Commissioner's new Citywide plan.
2. The plan is a health initiative where one billion dollars has been allocated for the renovation of older parks.



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3. The goal will be to open more space in parks for public use, but when they were asked about where the funds would be coming from, the presenters said it was not known at this time.
2. The committee discussed the Tree Lighting event on December 12th between 6-7PM at East Mosholu Parkway North at Bainbridge Ave.

F. Health & Human Services – Michelle Avila

1. Met jointly with Housing & Land use. (see above)

G. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill

1. The Budget & Capital Expense Requests were reviewed, discussed and finalized. A public hearing was held on 10/22/24. Cover letter and pictures were attached.

IX. Next meeting date: Monday, December 16th, 2024 at the Bedford Community Room at 6:30 PM

X. Discussion on Next Agenda:

A. Activation Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee for consolidation of committees.

XI. Adjournment- Michelle Avila moved to end the meeting and Yajaira Arias seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM