



FEBRUARY 15, 2018

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

**AGENDA AND MINUTES**



*Chairman: Nicholas Himidian, Jr. - District Manager: William Rivera*

## GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

February 15, 2018

**Location:**

**Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club  
1930 Randall Ave  
Bronx NY 10473**



*To request any additional accommodations please contact  
our office at 718-823-30304 or [bx09@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bx09@cb.nyc.gov)  
72 hours before the meeting or event*

- MEETING CALL TO ORDER
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE
- PUBLIC SESSION

*Public speakers are limited to 2 minutes to address the Board or otherwise instructed by the Chairperson. Public speakers can sign up for the public session until the end of the meeting business day (5PM). During this segment only Board Members can ask questions and combined are allowed three questions for each public Speaker, unless otherwise instructed by the Chairman. Additional questions or comments by the public or board can be done outside of the meeting room.*

- ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

*Representatives are limited to 2 minutes to address the Board or otherwise instructed by the Chairperson. During this segment only Board Members can ask questions and combined are allowed three questions for each Report, unless otherwise instructed by the Chairman. Additional questions or comments by the board can be done outside of the meeting room.*

- **MOTION TO GO INTO BUSINESS SESSION**

*During this segment of our meeting only Board Members can speak on General Business.*

- **MOTION TO APPROVE JAN GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

- **DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT**
- **EXECUTIVE/OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Chair: Nicholas Himidian Jr.**  
**Vice Chair: Mohammad Mujumder**
- **YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**Chair: Venus Williams**  
**Vice Chair: Nicole Washington**
- **LAND, ZONING, PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
**Chair: Mohammad Mujumder**  
**Vice Chair: Benny Cuevas**  
**Vice Chair Planning: Nicholas Himidian Jr.**
  - **PARKS & RECREATION**  
**Chair: Jamie Feliberty**  
**Vice Chair: Kadesha Washington**
  - **PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**Chair: Brandon Ganaishlal**
  - **SOCIAL SERVICES/HOUSING**  
**Chair: Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins**  
**Vice Chair: Justin Westbrook-Lowery**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION TO END MEETING**

**Our next General Board  
Meeting will be March 15, 2018  
Location: Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club**

**Please contact office to confirm location.**

**OFFICE INFO**

District Manager William Rivera – [wrivera@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:wrivera@cb.nyc.gov)  
Assistant District Manager Shirley SanAndres-Alonzo – [ssalonzo@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:ssalonzo@cb.nyc.gov)  
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Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM



## General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Present:** Abunoman Rahman, Angel Martinez, Cruz Garcia, Cleneth Dais, Daniel Porro III, Felipa Manaiza, Hanna Godinez, Harry Dunlap, Henry Pelayo Jr., Isabelo Adames, Jaime Feliberty, Jennifer Ellison Lackard, Juan Torres, Justin Westbrook-Lowery, Kadesha Washington, Linda Brown, Lisa Diaz, Loretta Masterson, Mohammad Mujumder, Nelson Peralta, Nicolas Himidian Jr., Nicole Washington, Sarwar Jahan, Venus Williams, William Rivera (DM)

**Absent:** Benigno Cuevas, Brandon Ganaishlal, Carla Singleton, James Tynan, Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins, Sharan Fernandez

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00pm

**Note:** The Chairperson asked the audience to stand and pledge allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

**Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda**, representing the 87<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, spoke to the audience. The Assemblyman, Senator Diaz, Senator Klein, Assemblyman Crespo, and CB have put together a series of Fire Safety Seminars. Mr. Sepulveda added that he has collected donations for the individuals affected by the fire in the West Farms Area. He says his office looks like an aid relief center. He announced that the Governor released the budget proposal. The State of New York will have a potential 6 million budget gap. Assemblyman Sepulveda announced his annual spelling bee event for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders. He announced other events such as teaching Children how to Code, African American Abrazo, etc.

**2. Councilmember-Elect Ruben Diaz Sr.**, representing the 18<sup>th</sup> Council District, spoke to the audience. He introduced himself as the new Councilmember-Elect.

### Fire Safety Seminar Presentation

#### Public Session

**1. Ms. Adaline Walker Santiago**, Chairperson of Community Board 7, was the first guest speaker. Ms. Santiago came to the podium to speak about Hope House. She says that they claim they are not a shelter but the way they operate is the way a shelter operates and that the community should not allow Hope House to operate.

**2. Ms. Topeka King Sams**, Founder of Ladies of Hope Ministries, was the second guest speaker. Ms. Sams announced that a group of individuals within Hope House are trying to sabotage the organization. She says that the organization is necessary to have and that she will continue to service individuals who are in need for as long as possible.

**3. Ms. Myisha Taylor-Mike**, was the third guest speaker.

**Note:** The speaker was not present at the meeting. The Chairperson moved on to the next guest speaker.

4. **Mr. Rogier F. Van Vlissingen**, a public member, was the fourth guest speaker. Mr. Vlissingen is developing a support group for individuals who are interested in plant based nutrition. He says at Saint Helena's Church individuals can prepare plant based dishes, sample them, and give feedback.
5. **Luis Armand**, Director of Strategic Partnership for the Department of Corrections, was the fifth guest speaker. He announced several correction officers exams posted and their salaries.
6. **Ms. Briana Reeves & Bruce**, were the sixth guest speakers. Einstein and Montefiore. He announced that the National Cancer Institute issued special funding for a community health survey.
7. **Mr. Walter Nestler**, a public member, was the seventh guest speaker. He submitted two letters to the Board addressed to the Conflict of Interest Board to open an investigation on a project discussed at a Committee meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
8. **Mr. Raji Kopi**, was the eighth guest speaker.

**Note:** the speaker was not present at the meeting. The Chairperson moved on to the next guest speaker.

9. **Ms. Donnie Walker Santiago** was the ninth guest speaker. Ms. Walker spoke at the behest and for the residents of Saint Andrews Village. She says that Saint Andrews Village opposes Hope House and its plans. She said that Ms. Topeka King Sams came to the neighborhood under false pretenses. She reiterated that Saint Andrews Village opposes Hope House.
10. **Mr. Michael Beltzer**, a public member, was the tenth guest speaker. He thanked individuals for their support at the NYCHA rally. Mr. Beltzer announced that he wants to have another Community Board application seminar for teens so that the Board can include younger members.
11. **Mr. Lothar Krause**, from Saint Andrews Village, was the eleventh guest speaker. He announced that the residents of Saint Andrews Village were displeased with the Board and how they failed to stay neutral when it came to Hope House. He read some quotes from the meeting and asked to keep it mind that while the job is voluntary, they should stay neutral in every affair within the community.

### **Elected Officials Report**

1. **Mr. Andy Toledo**, from the Bronx Borough President's Office, was the first representative speaker. He reminded the Board Members to submit their re-appointment applications. He addressed the audience and encouraged them to apply to be a Board Member. He announced that the office is partnering up with the Department of Finance to help homeowners.
2. **Mr. Ramon Cabral**, from Congressman Jose E. Serrano's Office, was the second representative speaker. He announced that the Congressman has been working towards stopping all the programs from closing due to budget cuts. He shared his contact information with the audience. He announced that there will be a new Postmaster for USPS.
3. **Ms. Onelis Ramirez**, from Assemblyman Marcos Crespo's Office, was the third representative speaker. She announced the services the office offers, where the office is located, and contact information.
4. **Mr. Antirson Ortiz**, from the NYC Comptroller's Office, was the fourth representative speaker. He announced that the Comptroller is investing away from fossil fuels. He added that the Comptroller is tackling the issue with no heating in NYCHA developments.
5. **Ms. Jessica Reynoso**, from the Public Advocate's Office, was the fifth representative speaker. She announced that the office is investigating the heating issue in NYCHA and she gave contact information for lead testing.

**6. Mr. Andy Sales**, from Senator Klein's Office, was the sixth representative speaker. He announced that senator Klein has partnered with the Immigration of Blacks Institute. They offer social services on many levels. He announced that Senator Klein is having an open call in regards to NYCHA quality of life issues.

**Note:** The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to go into the Business Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Felipa Manaiza. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

### **Chairperson's Report**

The Chairperson announced that Board Applicants can now be 16 and 17 years of age in order to add youth into the Boards. He announced on January 26<sup>th</sup>, there will be a hearing in regards to the NYC Waterboard Hearing. He iterated about the fire within our Community and to please check on fellow neighbors, check your home, etc.

### **District Manager's Report**

The District Manager announced that the next Fire Safety Seminar will be tomorrow and will be hosted by the Community Board. He announced that the Board has received 3 FOILS and that the Board will comply with the requests. He added that the Commander of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Pct was promoted to 2-star chief. He announced the new office aide, Ms. Sanzida Tuldker. He thanked and praised the Department of Sanitation for their work before, during and after the snow storm and cleanup in overpasses.

### **Committee Reports**

**1. Land and Zoning Committee** – Mr. Mohammed M. Mujumder, Chairperson

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

**2. Operations/Executive Committee** – Mr. Nicholas Himidian Jr., Chairperson

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

**3. Parks Committee** – Mr. Jaime Feliberty

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

Mr. Feliberty announced a Family Game Night with the Friends of Soundview Park.

**4. Public Safety Committee** – Mr. Brandon Ganaishlal, Chairperson

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

**5. Social Services & Housing Committee** – Ms. Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins, Chairperson

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

**6. Youth and Education Committee** – Ms. Venus Williams., Chairperson

**Note:** The report was tabled. Minutes were submitted as is.

It was announced that there will be an Easter egg hunt on the March 24 or April 7 at Soundview Park.

### **New Business**

The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to adjourn the General Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Venus Williams. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

**Note: Meeting adjourned at 8:50**



Chairman Nicholas Himidian & District Manager William Rivera  
District Service Cabinet **Minutes**  
**February 13, 2018**

**Meeting Location:** BRONX CB9 OFFICE

**Meeting Start Time:** 1:03 PM

**Members Present:** Shirley SanAndres-Alonzo (CB9), Loretta Gagraj (CB9), Duane Rose (OEM), Effie Ardizzzone (DEP), Erica Peralta-Downing (DOH), Andy Salas (Senator Klein), Onelis Ramirez (AM Crespo), Davon Harris (AM Crespo), Jason Melendez (NYPD), Jugba Santi (DOT), Larry Hyland (FDNY), Adam Lessuck (FDNY), William White (ConEd), Tanya Bradley (NYPL), Valerie Davis Oneal (Parks), Patricia Ferguson (Parks), Michelle Cruz (NYPD), M. Johnson (Sanitation Enforcement), SEA Doris White (Sanitation Enforcement), Stephen Nuzzo (DOB)

**Service Requests**

**A. DOT**

- SR97-2018: Update on date of installation of "No Standing" on Hart Street to Howe/Barette Ave to Olmstead Ave along Pugsley Creek Park. –As per DOT, approval from Parks was received regarding this request, however, installation date is not yet available.
- SR108-2018: No Parking Sign on Metropolitan Oval by Aileen B. Ryan. –As per DOT, it is possible that there was previously a sign in this area but that it got knocked down. ADM SanAndres-Alonzo to follow up with Jugba via email regarding this service request.
- Newbold & Zerega Ave: Need clarification on where commercial vehicles are allowed to park overnight. –As per DOT, Commercial vehicles are not allowed to park in IBZ zones overnight or from 9pm-5am. There are many regulations on this and Office of Mobility will be able to share more specifics. Jugba will email all regulations to CB9 for filing.

**B. DSNY**

- SR165-2018: Request for trash can at Queens-bound Q44 bus stop located at East Tremont Avenue and East 177th Street. –No one from Sanitation was present to follow-up on this complaint.

**C. New Business**

- Update on 1547 Commonwealth Ave Fire. –Overview of meetings held at CB9 office was shared. Update on status of fire report which was shared with residents this morning.

#### **D. Agency Reports**

- DOH announced press release on flu advising all New Yorkers to get flu shot
- DOT will be meeting with the principal of PS 69 on Soundview regarding pedestrians and improvements to make it safer to cross Soundview
- Soundview Library will be hosting Mental Health First Aid trainings on February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- FDNY announced Fire Safety Workshops for Tenant Associations. Any TAs interested should visit FDNYSmart website
- Parks will be hosting Bronx SpeakUp Workshops on February 24<sup>th</sup> from 11am-5pm where different Park projects will be introduced.

#### **Announcements**

- AM Crespo will be hosting African American Abrazo on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. On March 16<sup>th</sup> his office in collaboration with Catholic Charities and State Farm will be hosting a Financial Literacy Event from 10am-2pm. Somos El Futuro will be taking place March 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.
- Senator Klein's Office will be hosting a Black History Month Celebration on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11am at Villa Barone to acknowledge activist. RSVP is required.
- Next DSC Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 13, 2018
- CB9 Social Service Committee will be hosting Mental Health & Disabilities Health Fair March 17, 2018
- Hope House Town Hall will take place March 1, 2018

#### **OFFICE INFO**

*District Manager William Rivera - [wrivera@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:wrivera@cb.nyc.gov)*

*Phone (718) 823-3034 - Fax (718) 823-6461 - Office Email [bx09@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bx09@cb.nyc.gov) - Website [nyc.gov/bxcb9](http://nyc.gov/bxcb9)*

*Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM*



cbsumold

DATE : 02/06/18 22:06

CALENDAR YEAR - TO - DATE COMMUNITY BOARD ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD THROUGH JANUARY 2018

BOROUGH OF BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD	STRUCTURAL FIRES		NON-STRUCTURAL FIRES		TOTAL FIRES		SUSPICIOUS FIRES		NON-MEDICAL EMERGENCIES		MEDICAL EMERG/10-92		TOTAL EMRG/MED 10-92		NON-MEDICAL MFA		TOTAL INCIDENTS	
	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD
06	47	47	24	24	71	71	3	3	356	356	296	296	652	652	9	9	732	732
09	69	69	29	29	98	98	10	10	640	640	472	472	1112	1112	29	29	1239	1239
11	38	38	20	20	58	58	1	1	435	435	405	405	840	840	15	15	913	913
12	72	72	21	21	93	93	6	6	608	608	433	433	1041	1041	50	50	1184	1184
03	77	77	32	32	109	109	4	4	507	507	362	362	869	869	29	29	1007	1007
07	76	76	49	49	125	125	9	9	435	435	348	348	783	783	31	31	939	939
08	34	34	17	17	51	51	3	3	343	343	223	223	566	566	11	11	628	628
10	50	50	15	15	65	65	4	4	392	392	350	350	742	742	13	13	820	820
OTH	2	2	17	17	19	19	0	0	40	40	50	50	90	90	2	2	111	111
05	125	125	35	35	160	160	7	7	569	569	469	469	1038	1038	31	31	1229	1229
02	19	19	13	13	32	32	1	1	175	175	178	178	353	353	11	11	396	396
04	50	50	39	39	89	89	1	1	578	578	495	495	1073	1073	29	29	1191	1191
01	62	62	24	24	86	86	5	5	897	897	555	555	1452	1452	43	43	1581	1581
TOTALS:	722	722	335	335	1057	1057	55	55	5995	5995	4644	4644	10639	10639	304	304	12000	12000

NOTE : INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT IS UNOFFICIAL AND IS INTENDED MAINLY FOR USE IN ANALYZING TRENDS. FOR THIS REASON IT MAY NOT AGREE WITH INFORMATION IN OTHER REPORTS OR WITH "BICS80"

CALENDAR YEAR - TO - DATE COMMUNITY BOARD ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD THROUGH JANUARY 2017

cbsumold

DATE: 02/06/17 21:50

BOROUGH OF BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD	STRUCTURAL FIRES		NON-STRUCTURAL FIRES		TOTAL FIRES		SUSPICIOUS FIRES		NON-MEDICAL EMERGENCIES		MEDICAL EMERG/10-92		TOTAL EMRG/MED 10-92		NON-MEDICAL MFA		TOTAL INCIDENTS	
	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD	MONTH	YTD
12	43	43	18	18	61	61	2	2	317	317	421	421	738	738	22	22	821	821
03	47	47	17	17	64	64	2	2	337	337	327	327	664	664	29	29	757	757
11	36	36	18	18	54	54	3	3	306	306	363	363	669	669	20	20	743	743
06	45	45	15	15	60	60	4	4	246	246	324	324	570	570	14	14	644	644
09	40	40	8	8	48	48	3	3	459	459	483	483	942	942	22	22	1012	1012
01	47	47	15	15	62	62	5	5	636	636	486	486	1122	1122	43	43	1227	1227
07	45	45	18	18	63	63	2	2	325	325	401	401	726	726	28	28	817	817
04	50	50	26	26	76	76	3	3	425	425	483	483	908	908	37	37	1021	1021
OTH	5	5	10	10	15	15	0	0	31	31	30	30	61	61	8	8	84	84
05	58	58	14	14	72	72	2	2	390	390	459	459	849	849	19	19	940	940
02	14	14	9	9	23	23	1	1	108	108	149	149	257	257	1	1	281	281
10	33	33	19	19	52	52	3	3	302	302	358	358	660	660	21	21	733	733
08	22	22	7	7	29	29	1	1	248	248	217	217	465	465	12	12	506	506
TOTALS :	486	486	194	194	680	680	31	31	4140	4140	4511	4511	8651	8651	277	277	9608	9608

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# SAVE THE DATE

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 9



**SATURDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

**12:00 PM-4:00 PM**

**SONIA SOTOMAYOR CENTER**

**1000 ROSEDALE AVENUE, BRONX, NY 10472**

**"GET INVOLVED  
IN YOUR COMMUNITY"**

# MENTAL HEALTH & DISABILITIES HEALTH FAIR (MENTAL HEALTH PANEL DISCUSSION)

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE  
CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER LISTED BELOW**

**PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE AND BRING YOUR OWN TABLE**



## COMMUNITY BOARD 9

BRONX RIVER • CASTLE HILL • CLASON POINT • HARDING PARK  
PARKCHESTER • PARK STRATTON • SOUNDVIEW/BRUCKNER & UNIONPORT

**1967 TURNBULL AVE, BRONX, NY 10473**

OFFICE: 718-823-3034 FAX: 718-823-6461

E-MAIL: [BX09@CB.NYC.GOV](mailto:BX09@CB.NYC.GOV) • [WWW.NYC.GOV/BXCB9](http://WWW.NYC.GOV/BXCB9)



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**WellCare**  
Health Plans

**UnitedHealthcare**  
Community Plan

**Montefiore**  
**DOING MORE**<sup>SM</sup>



Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner

# Unionport Drawbridge Replacement Project

HBX1131

Community Board No. 9 &  
10

Bronx

February 2018



your city. your needs.  
your number.

# Important Notice

On or about Thursday, February 22, the NYCDOT Division of Bridges will begin the replacement of the Unionport Drawbridge. During the first phase, the ramp from the westbound Unionport Bridge to the Zerega Avenue intersection will be replaced. As a result, the two lanes of the ramp will be reduced to one lane. The reduction will allow the creation of a work zone and will last approximately six months. Futures updates will be provided as the project progresses.



## Lane Reduction

Ramp From Westbound Unionport Bridge to Zerega Avenue

Thursday February 22, 2018

*Two lanes reduced to one lane*

Michael Heller, Community Liaison is available to provide information about this project at (718) 314-7199 or [newunionportbridge2017@gmail.com](mailto:newunionportbridge2017@gmail.com). For all NYC non-emergency services, including inquiries regarding NYCDOT construction projects, dial 311.



Communications (40B)	\$0.00
Supplies (100)	\$0.00
Printing (101)	\$0.00
Food Supplies (110)	\$0.00
Postage (117)	\$0.00
Rentals (412)	\$300.75
Consultants (686)	\$0.00
Office Furniture (314)	\$0.00
Advertisement (417)	\$0.00
Office Equipment (315)	\$0.00
<b>Total EXP</b>	<b>\$300.75</b>

*Konica Copier Renta (\$149.00) & Cablevision (\$151.75)*

**MONTHLY SUMMARY**

Description	Sept	Oct	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JAN	JUNE
Communications (40B)	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	0.00
Supplies (100)	\$219.87	117.55	0.00	204.77	0.00					542.19	
Printing (101)	\$3,095.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					3095.49	
Food Supplies (110)	\$0.00	119.87	0.00	0.00	0.00					119.87	
Postage (117)	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	
Rentals (412)	\$149.00	149.00	452.49	91.41	300.75					1142.65	
Consultants (686)	\$2,140.00	735.00	600.00	0.00	0.00					3475.00	
Office Furniture (314)	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	
Training (689)	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	
Office Equipment (315)	\$0.00	0.00	569.99	0.00	0.00					569.99	
<b>EXP Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$5,604.36</b>	<b>1,121.42</b>	<b>1,622.48</b>	<b>296.18</b>	<b>300.75</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8945.19</b>
<b>Salary (PS)</b>	District Mgt	100,000	ADM	52,000.00							
											<b>Total Salary(est)</b>
											<b>TOTAL SALARY / EXP</b>
											<b>8945.19</b>
											<b>FY2017 BUDGET</b>
											<b>233911.00</b>



**OFFICE INFO**

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Chairman Nicholas Himidian & District Manager William Rivera  
Youth and Education Committee Meeting **Minutes**  
**February 8, 2018**

**Meeting Location:** BRONX CB9 OFFICE

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Chair of Committee Venus Williams, Felipa Manaiza, Lisa M. Diaz, Abnunoman Rahman, Harry Dunlap, Chairman Nicholas Himidian

**Board Members Absent:** Committee Vice-Chair Nicole Washington, Hannia Godinez

#### **Introduction**

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- B. The Youth & Education Committee represents the community's interests with regards to education and programs that target the youth and acts as a liaison between community members and the NYC Department of Education including Parent Advocates, PTA's, Educators and Principals, School Safety, the Administration for Children Services, the District Attorney's Office, NYC Department of Youth & Development and local organizations and nonprofits

#### **Guest Speakers**

- A. Luc James Dieudonne, Forever DC Mentorship Program  
Representatives spoke on behalf of the Forever DC Mentorship Program. The purpose of this program is to introduce financial literacy to youths ages 13-21. Daquan Cooper is the inspirational for this organization. He was a youth killed in Parkchester some time ago. Due to Daquan's entrepreneurship, in his honor, this organization's purpose is to teach youths skills in areas such as the stock market, investment in real estate, budgeting, saving, and entrepreneurship. With the program Pick Your Passion, this organization plans to match an inspiring artist with a leader in their field to mentor them. The program is hoping to launch in June. They have reached out to other organizations for partnership. Their hope is that the launch event will be a basketball tournament. The program is also looking to host a school supply giveaway and donate supplies to local schools. One of the organizations' long term goal is establishing an after school program. They hope to integrate with other community programs and nonprofits that are already working with the youth in the community. Their hope is to partner with local after school programs to present their program/curriculum. They are also hoping to expand outside of the Bronx and NYS eventually. The organization also hopes to create community centers which they feel is a need that is in high demand within the community.

As per BM Venus Williams, will this be a co-ed mentorship program. As per Forever DC Mentorship Program representative, yes, this will be co-ed.

As per Chairman Himidian, please elaborate on Pick Your Passion. As per Forever DC Mentorship Program rep. Pick Your Passion is going to be a fundamental part of the organization. We will present youths with options throughout various art fields in order to partner them with a mentor most aligned with their interest.

As per Chairman Himidian, is this program established anywhere as of yet? As per Forever DC Mentorship, they are still in the process of building.

As per Chairman Himidian, Sotomayor Center may be ideal for this program. Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club may also be a good fit.

As per BM Venus Williams, Forever DC Mentorship should also come to present at CB9's general board meeting later this month. Ms. Williams also volunteered to be a mentor with this program. Program was also invited to attend a College Prep Course.

B. Lloyd Donders, Special Education Law Attorney

Mr. Donders arrived late but was available to present. Mr. Donders is a special education attorney who has a son with special needs. He went through a battle to get his son the services he needed and as Mr. Donders, this made him think of all the kids that are unable to get the services they need. Specifically in areas of low income and resources where parents do not have money to pay for legal fees. As a Special Education Attorney Mr. Donders helps children get the support they need and are entitled to from their school. Mr. Donders educates parents as to what their kids are entitled to. When a child is wronged, and case is won, the schools pay for his attorney fee. Federal Laws are the ones that are in place for children with special needs. The state laws are there to implement the federal mandate. Mr. Donders explained Child Find, which means that schools are obligated to go out and find children who are in need of special education services. Evaluations was another topic of discussion. Mr. Donders knows how to get parents free private evaluations for their children. FAPE is very basic to special education. It stands for Free Appropriate Public Education. If school does not give them appropriate education than parents have the right to sue schools to achieve this. Mr. Donders also explained Least Restrictive Environment. This means that Children with disabilities have to be educated with everyone else/non-disabled peers. Early Intervention Services is for children within the ages of 0-2 not meeting their milestone, NYDOH is responsible for giving these children services. CPSE: Committee on Pre-School Special Education is handled by the district and is for children 3-5 years old. Mr. Donders focuses on Committee of Special Education, which services children Ages 5-21 years old with special education needs. These children are entitled to education until they graduate from high school or until they turn 21. IDEA-Individual with Disabilities Education Act is a federal law to keep in mind. Independent Education Evaluation-IEE, is an evaluation of a student thought to have a disability by a qualified examiner not employed by the district. The issue is that evaluations by DOE, as Mr. Donders, are poor. As a result, he advises clients that an IEE is done. Mr. Donders can get parents with little money the same evaluation that a parent with money is able to afford as this will be paid by the district. NYC DOE is the largest school district in the country, it has 1.1 million students and 1,800 schools of which 2,000 students have IEPs-Individual Educational Program. When IEP's are not kept, Mr. Donders as an attorney can get private services for these students. By state law, DOE is required to give parent training and counseling to help manage children at home. Schools do not always have the ability to provide services in schools for what children need, so they give parents vouchers of providers nearby, however, the vast majority of people on the list do not participate in related services because DOE does not pay competitive rates. As per Mr. Donders this should not be the responsibilities of the parents. As a result, 91% of these vouchers are not being used. Mr. Donders works to get children who have not received these services, services with a private service provider paid for by district as a result of lawsuit. Pamphlets and business cards were shared with meeting participants and board members.

As per Chairman Himidian, Mr. Donders may be interested in being a mentor or can maybe point Forever DC Mentorship Program in the direction of a mentor.

In response to a participant's question, Mr. Donders stated that in the IEP process parents are an active members and are able to be involved in the determination of services.

- C. New teacher Peter Rosado at St. Helena's Elementary School and BM at Bronx CB2 was present to talk to committee regarding St. Helena's condition. As per this teacher, the school is 75 years old and looks 75 years old. He is requesting assistance with locating funding for improvements in the school. As per Mr. Rosado, low enrollment in archdiocese schools due to competing enrollment from charter schools and lack of additional city funding has been affecting the quality of archdiocese schools. As per Mr. Rosado, the school has experienced wifi shortage and lack of resources such as laptops and electronics. As per BM Venus Williams, CB9 is able to draft a letter of support to elected officials regarding requesting wifi and computers as a donation on behalf of CB9. As per Chairman Himidian, have you looked into grants? There is also computer sites that have sponsorship programs to some capacity. As per BM Venus Williams, in regards to the cosmetic of the school, she suggested throwing a paint party and inviting the community to paint. As per Chairman Himidian, St. Helena's should contact Councilmember Diaz in regards to funding for computers.

As per BM Venus Williams, Mr. Rosado should explore DELL as a donation source as well as Optimum. As per Chairman Himidian, you should also check with Verizon.

As per BM Venus Williams, Home Depot can also participate with supplies for a paint job and invite local electeds, media and community members.

As per Chairperson Himidian, school should also check Clinton Foundation and Bill Gates Foundation. CGI in 125<sup>th</sup> Street is definitely a place to go to. Councilmember Salamanca may also be a good venue for pointing Mr. Rosado in the right direction for city funding

#### **New Business**

- A. Easter Egg Hunt and College Prep Course were tabled by Committee Chair Venus Williams in consideration of time.

#### **Meeting Adjourned: 8:21 P.M.**

Minutes Transcribed by CB9 Staff.

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*Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM*





*Chairman Nicholas Himidian & District Manager William Rivera*  
Land & Zoning Committee Meeting **Minutes**  
February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Meeting Location:** BRONX CB9 OFFICE

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Nicholas Himidian Jr., Mohammed N. Mujumder, Benny Cuevas, William Rivera (DM)

**Board Members Absent:** Sarwar Jahan

### **Introduction**

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- B. The Land, Zoning, Planning Committee represents the community's interests with regard to the use of land, zoning, landmark, building, etc. and acts as a liaison between community members and Department of City Planning, Department of Buildings & the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

### **Notices**

- A. Notices were discussed with participants present.

### **Speakers**

- A. Walter Nestler read a description regarding Hope House to participants and inquired if there were any disagreements with the description being read aloud. As per Mr. Nestler, "people are not understanding the concerns of the residents or not vocalizing them clearly." Homeowners are preoccupied with the safety of children, seniors, neighboring owners and tenants, security of homes and property, quality of life issues, decline in property values, etc. All houses were built the same way and at the same time in this community. As a result, homeowners are as close as they are because they all moved in at the same time. There has been very little turnover in the community.  
As per Mr. Nestler, the make-up of the houses does not allow for the number of people that will be living in Hope House. There will be 7 people living in that house as per a newspaper article and testimony given at the sub-committee meeting.  
As per a resident's inquiry, is it zoned that someone can flip a house like this?  
As per Chairman Himidian, we are still waiting on feedback regarding this zoning issue.  
As per a St. Andrew's Village resident, St. Andrew's Village would like to request another letter of support from CB9 where CB9 states that they are against Hope House. The letter that CB9 wrote and shared previously, as per resident, was too vague.  
As per another resident, St. Andrew's Village is composed of community homeowners whereas Hope House participants are all from outside the community. Homeowners all agree that the behavior of Hope House representatives at the previous CB9 General Board meeting was unbecoming. They insisted that CB9 take the side of the community members and homeowners in this debate.

As per Chairman Himidian, he was unaware that any threats had been made. In regards to a video that residents claimed was posted by Hope House following the meeting, Chairman Himidian clarified that he only became aware of this video the Friday evening before this committee meeting. Chairman Himidian also stated that although he supports the concept of the program as St. Andrew's Village Homeowners questioned, he never agreed the program should be in their neighborhood. He explained that he as well lives next to people that have been formerly incarcerated but homeowners insisted that this is different being that Chairman Himidian rents and does not own property therefore he has the liberty to move at any time if desired.

As per St. Andrew's Village homeowners association, they have not yet received what they requested from CB9. This includes a letter from CB9 to the Dept. of Probation and the Dept. of Buildings, as well as a letter to the Elected Officials.

As per residents they do not want any promotion stating that they want to come to an agreement regarding this matter as they are strongly opposed.

As per District Manager Rivera, CB9 is hoping to finalize a date with local elected officials for the town hall where CB9 will discuss their findings from Dept. of Probations and Dept. of Buildings on Certificate of Occupancy. Senator Klein's Office is investigating with state and federal agencies regarding this matter, especially state parole and state attorney general.

As per DM Rivera, NYPD will be invited to town hall but NYPD does not oversee, authorize or conduct any business with formerly incarcerated unless there is an ongoing investigation. As per DM Rivera, CB9 is pushing for the town hall on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

As per Walter Nestler, the longer this matter is postponed the more people that may move into the home in question. St. Andrew's Village residents stated their distrust with Chairman Himidian based on the previous meeting that was held with Hope House. St. Andrew's Village also stated that CB9 should remain neutral.

Resident also stated that the vetting process for Hope House participants is very poor.

As per a statement from the Director of Hope House at a public event, she claimed that they don't look at the crimes participants committed although they had assured residents that they would be considerate of which participants were brought into the house.

As per resident, Doni Walker Santiago, she would like CB9 to draft a letter in support of St. Andrew's Village Homeowners Association and asked that this letter be put to a vote as well as investigate who allowed Topeka Sam authority to record inside Kips Bay when her organization does nothing to benefit the children or parents of the children of this program. Additionally, her Certificate of Incorporation is to solicit donations and to open a shelter and Ms. Walker Santiago would like CB9 to look into this. Homeowners do not care about Topeka Sam renting the house but they do care about the house being used for a business. They are also concerned that Hope House is collecting funds as donations without being a registered organization. Homeowners are also concerned about the declining value of their properties. As per Chairman Himidian, DM Rivera will follow-up and contact Dept. of Buildings and ask them for clarification on what a two family, residential R5 is allowed to do legally and for the definition of what constitutes a family. As per residents, Hope House filed officially as being opened for use as a shelter.

As per Chairman Himidian, DM Rivera will follow-up with Dept. of Corrections, City of Probation, and Dept. of Buildings to assure that they will be in attendance at the town hall. As per St. Andrew's Village residents, Bronx Borough President should be invited to the town hall meeting, as well as City Councilman Salamanca, Assemblyman Crespo, Councilmember Gjonaj, and Senator Rivera.

As per Chairman Himidian, DM Rivera will draft a letter to all elected officials involved with all the concerns from this meeting and inquire regarding when the town hall meeting will take place. Residents requested that elected officials involve an attorney to look into the matter of hosting a business in this home being that formerly incarcerated individuals that will be living in home are not related and are transient. CB9

can copy Ray at the BP's Office when emailing DOB because they can offer legal assistance. Residents requested that CB9 enforce sited state rule 7, which Topeka Sam is trying to appeal. Residents would also like CB9 to investigate what the 5<sup>th</sup> bedroom will be used for and request that CB9 draft a letter of support that is unconditional and that it be brought to the board as a resolution to be voted on. The letter should state that it would be inappropriate to have this program in an R5 zone like St. Andrew's Village.

As per St. Andrew's Village Homeowners Association, when Topeka Sam was questioned as to why the program didn't come to the community board first her response was that she didn't do so because she didn't want anyone to have any regulations over how she wanted to get things done.

As per DM Rivera, before a motion for a resolution is done by committee, feedback from DOB should be given to see if the project is even allowed so that the resolution can be informed and if so, it then should be presented to committee for discussion after the town hall when more facts are brought to light.

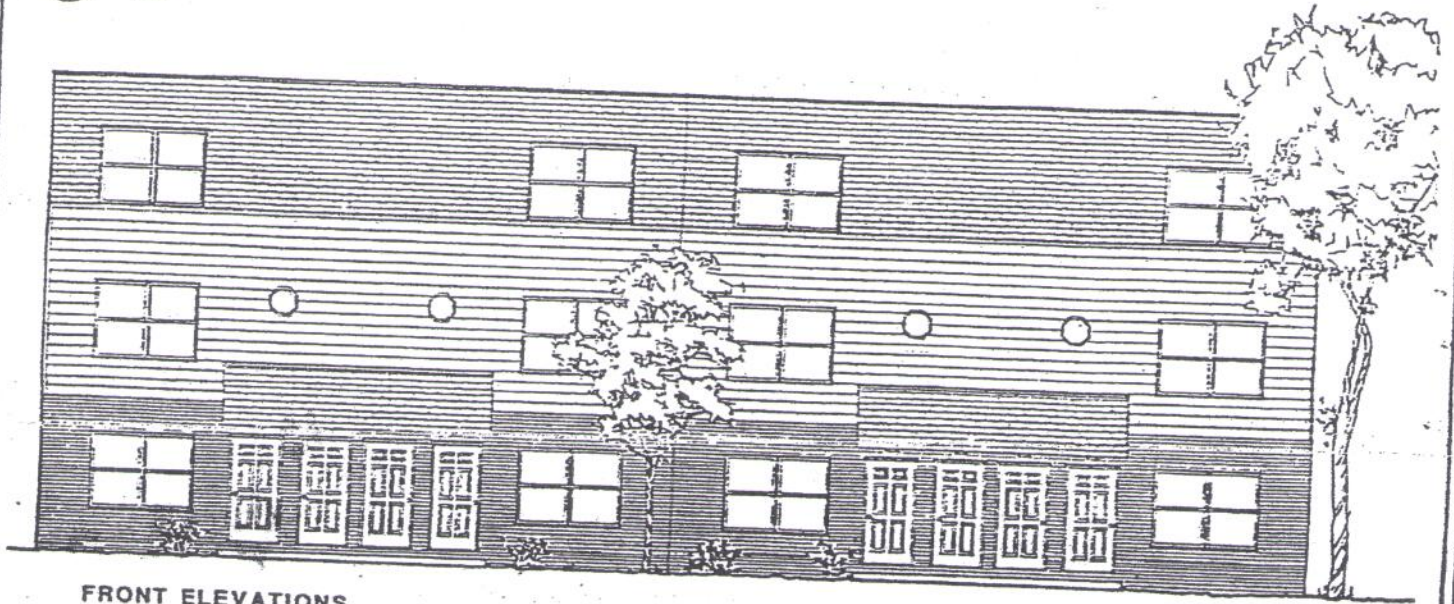
St. Andrew's Village requested CB9 draft a letter stating that given the new information that has come to light CB9 is in complete support of the community in not wanting Hope House in St. Andrew's Village. St. Andrew's Village opposes and rejects the previous letter that was drafted by CB9 because despite the letter containing the request for a meeting with the elected officials (completed) and a town hall meeting (date TBD); the letter did not contain language pertaining to their concerns. The homeowners will not tolerate another outburst from a member of the Hope House. Homeowners would like police presence at the town hall meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.**

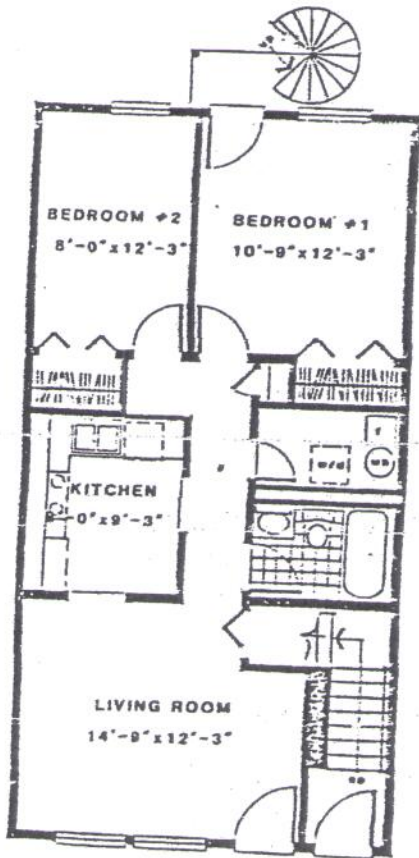
Minutes created by CB9 Office Staff

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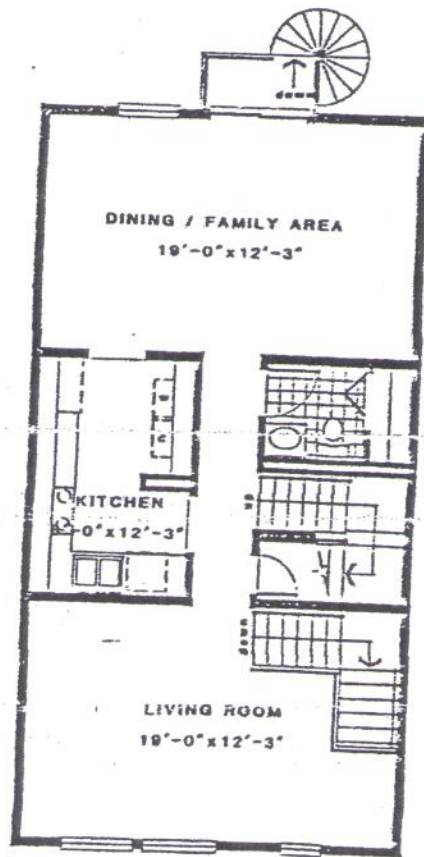
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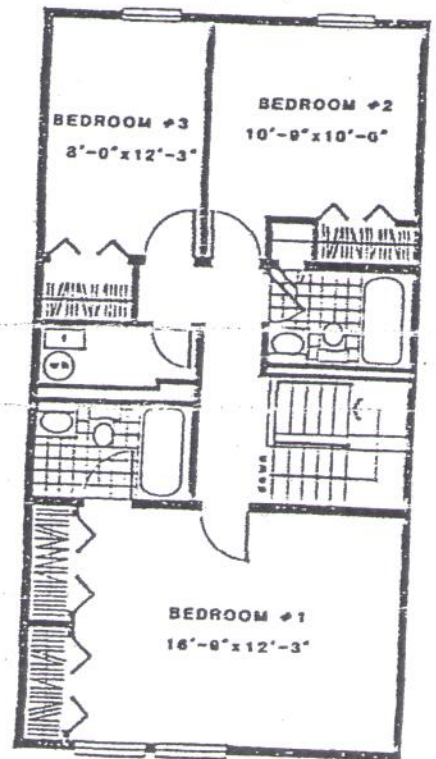
FRONT ELEVATIONS



FIRST FLOOR PLAN (20'x39')



SECOND FLOOR PLAN (20'x39')



THIRD FLOOR PLAN (20'x39')

STEEL FRAMING



Chairman Nicholas Himidian Jr. & District Manager William Rivera

## Parks Committee Meeting **Minutes**

**February 13, 2018**

**Meeting Location:** BRONX CB9 OFFICE

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Committee Chair Jaime Feliberty, Sharan Fernandez, Sarwar Jahan, Mohammed Mujumder, Chairman Nicholas Himidian

**Board Members Absent:** Kadesha Washington, Carla Singleton

### **Introduction**

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- B. Committee Description: The Parks and Recreation Committee represents the community's interests with regard to parks, park services and all park related matters and acts as a liaison between parks users and the New York City Parks Department.

### **Speakers/Presentations**

- A. Mohammed Mujumder, President of the Bangladesh-American Community Council was present to speak about the International Mother's Day Language Monument Proposal. As per Mr. Mujumder, in Bangladesh, people died to protect their language. "How would you feel if someone told you could not speak your language anymore?" This issue led to the independence of Bangladesh. International Mother Language Day was proclaimed by United Nations in 1999, February 21<sup>st</sup> is celebrated as International Mother Language Day even though it was established in Bangladesh. Mr. Mujumder is requesting installation of a symbol of International Mother's Day. He would like it on Union Port Rd in front of Chang Li Supermarket. Mr. Mujumder's presentation pledges to cover the expense of this installation and maintenance but is requesting the expedition of this request. On behalf of the Parks Dept, Patricia Ferguson will share this request with the Commissioner. There are a lot of different steps involved with this process. As per Chairman Himidan, also please note the 2013 timeframe on this request. The plaque will be in multi-language. The proposal is included in the packet that was distributed. The design is included in the packet as well. As per Chairman Himidian, it is essential to have as many languages that encompasses our district. Mr. Mujumder stated that other cities have already funded similar projects. As per Chairman Himidina, how do we go about getting a bench in a park in dedication of a person? As per Parks Representative, benches can be dedicated in any park selected depending on the need in that area. Board is looking to dedicate a bench to a board member's family member that is deceased. As per Park Rep, she will send CB9 all the information that was requested regarding this request. As per Chairman Himidian, dedicating benches in a park is ideal for fallen heroes as well since renaming streets and schools are a big ordeal and are expensive.

- B. Friends of Soundview Park is hosting their second family game night this Friday from 5-8pm. All are welcomed. Adults must be accompanied by a child and children by adults. Friends of Soundview Park will also be hosting volunteer maintenance days on Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm at the garden. Volunteers will be cleaning and getting garden ready for the Spring. On Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup> Art in the Park will be hosted at the Soundview Fieldhouse by Lucy Aponte. This events consists of arts with recyclables and will take place from 10-11:30am. All events will be posted on Friends of Soundview Park's FB page on the calendar.

### Old Business

- A. Park Sub-Committee Meeting minutes were shared. Since Board Member Kadesha Washington was not in attendance, Parks Chair Jaime Feliberty opted to vote on suggestions for how to spend funding when BM Washington was present at the following meeting. Easter Egg Hunt may be an issue due to the time it takes to get Parks permits for events. As per Ms. Ferguson, if there's anything she can do to help expedite permits for events, she'd be willing to help. Since events are coming from committee they are welcomed. Chairman Himidian will follow-up with Parks Chair and Vice Chair on permits for possible Parks Committee Events in March or April. As per Joan Barnes, the Appreciation Breakfast for CB9 Park employees (around 30) was also an event that was discussed. As per Kevin Walker, Parks representative, a lunch would be most ideal and all employees will be invited to attend. As per Ms. Ferguson, Mr. Walker has been doing a phenomenal job and he is being recognized as well as the district by the City Parks Commissioner. As per Chairman Himidian, maybe CB9 can give a recognition to Mr. Walker and Parks employees as well? As per Chairman Himidian, Can Ms. Ferguson share a list with CB9 of Parks employees.

### Announcements

- A. Bronx Speak Up on February 24<sup>th</sup> at Lehman College, Parks Chair will be in attendance. No one objected to table at committee but no one volunteered to attend either. As per Mr. Walter Nestler, he will be unable to attend this year. As per Parks Chair Feliberty, he will be present in representation of the New York Botanical Garden. As per Joan Barnes, if anyone from CB9 would like to attend in representation, they are welcomed to. As per Ms. Ferguson, literature in reference to canine waste and leashing your dog is very helpful. Also, Parks is putting up new doggy waste bags and areas of disposal throughout CB9 near fences and areas where people are known to walk their dogs.
- B. Grow Together 2018 will be taking place on March 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:30-4pm at BMCC. As per Chairman Himidian, does any of this work exist in Soundview Park? As per Parks Chair Feliberty, we can't because soil is contaminated but we can do beds instead. As per Ms. Ferguson, Concrete Plant Park did something similar with raised bed and replaced soil with Five Boroughs. As per Parks Chair Feliberty, this may be too big of a project for CB9 Parks Committee. NY Restoration is also willing to participate with this for Soundview but the work would be immense. As per Joan Barnes, she saw Concrete Plant improvements at City Water Day but she also noticed a lot of debris in the soil, bottle caps, etc. It appeared as though the soil was brought in contaminated. As per Ms. Ferguson, Concrete Plant Park is a part of CB 2. Starlight is no longer a part of CB9 either. Soundview Park may also be reassigned community board not necessarily for Community Board purposes but rather on Parks Maintenance end.
- As per Joan Barnes, City Council has a new committee, Committee of Parks and Recreation, which has 11 members, 4 of which are from the Bronx.
- As per Chairman Himidian, can we get a map with quantity and locations of all blue towers throughout CB9/Soundview park? As per Ms. Ferguson, this is definitely something that can shared.
- As per Walter Nestler, can we request report of call box calls.
- As per Chairman Himidian, tracking on call box calls to be put on next public safety agenda.

As per Walter Nestler, can we get an update on Soundview Ferry progress? As per Ms. Ferguson, if you can get me a list of questions I can try to get them answered for you. As per Walter Nestler, just give us the name of the capital contractor. As per Ms. Ferguson, it's Ms. Michelle Martell or Michael Ortiz oversee capital contractors.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 pm.**

Minutes created by CB9 Office Staff

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Community Board 9 (CB9)  
Parks Subcommittee Meeting

January 26, 2018

7:00 PM

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Attendance: Committee members Sharan Fernandez, Joan Barnes and Kadesha Washington; CB9 Chairman Nicholas Himidian, Jr.; CB9 District Manager William Rivera

Purpose: This subcommittee was called at the request of the Parks Committee Chairman, Jaime Feliberty. The purpose of this committee is to brainstorm projects and ideas for the Parks Committee for 2018 – 2019.

Discussion: The committee came up with a main list of ideas which included the following:

- a. Assist with the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt (Youth/Education Committee)
- b. Parks Employee Appreciation Breakfast
- c. Bus Tour of CB9 Parks (for committee and open to entire board)
- d. Spring Carnival/ Park de los ninos renovation
- e. Kite Day
- f. CB9 Olympics

From the main list, the committee prioritized the following ideas:

1. Bus Tour – presumably this will take place in the Spring season and would be held over the course of multiple weekends. Chairmain Himidian suggested using the Bronx Trolley.
2. CB9 Parks Employee Appreciation Breakfast – informal event for all the parks employee in CB9. Suggestion of members cooking or having it catered. Will need to get total number of employees to better determine the food. Also, a discussion about inviting Parks officials to attend but not offer remarks.
3. Kite Day – to be held in late Spring or early Fall. Similar events held in Manhattan (Flyn NYC) and in Brooklyn. Will need to get more information and connect with other local organizers to determine feasibility.



4. CB 9 Olympics. Will hold off until 2019. We all agreed that it would make sense to do the Park Tour first in order to determine which parks could be a part of the Olympics.
5. Aquatics programs at the 174St Playground. Pool renovations will be complete soon and CB9 could potentially team up with other groups or agencies to offer free, short-term activities for kids at the pool.
6. Movies in the Park – specific focus on Puglsey Creek Park and Soundview Park. Something along the lines of Summer Stage and/or Shakespeare in the Park. This would require us connecting NOW with the appropriate contacts at Parks to get put on the list or to find out the specifics of what we would need to do.
7. Bronx DJ Battle. Host a musical/cultural event featuring local DJ, up and coming DJs and internationally known DJs. Hold off until 2019.

Meeting concluded at 8:20 pm.



**PRESIDENT**  
MOHAMMED MUJUMDER LLM  
PHF

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Community Board number 9

June 7, 2013

**Subject: Request to place International Language Martyr  
Monument/Shahed Minar in Parkchester, Bronx, to commemorate and  
observe International Mother Language Dday (IMLD)**

I am writing this letter on behalf of all Bangladeshi-Americans living in this great city of New York, in order to place a International Language Martyr Monument/Shahed Minar in the Parkchester area of the Bronx, commemorating International Mother Language Day.

**Brief history of International Mother Language Day.**

International Mother Language Day was proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in November 1999 (30C/62). On May 16, 2009, the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/61/266, called upon Member States, "to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world". By the same resolution, the General Assembly proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Languages, to promote unity in diversity and international understanding through multilingualism and multiculturalism. Language is the most powerful instruments in preserving and developing our heritage, both tangible and intangible. All moves to promote the dissemination of mother tongues will serve not only to encourage linguistic diversity and multilingual education, but also to develop

• fuller awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world, and to inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.  
—from the United Nations International Mother Language

### **Historical Development of February 21- The International Mother Language Day**

The history of the 21<sup>st</sup> of February, now known as International Mother Language Day, began with the independence of Pakistan from British colonial rule on the Indian sub-continent in 1947. Pakistan received independence in two parts, West Pakistan (present-day Pakistan) and East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh) on the basis of religion. As the two parts were far away from each other, not only in land area, but also in lifestyle, language, environment, ethical values, and culture, it did not take too much time to create disputes between the two parts of the country. The problems worsened day by day, which augmented a conflict situation between the two provinces of East and West Pakistan. The most critical situation occurred when West Pakistan (present-day Pakistan) authority adopted a regulation that URDU would be the only state language in 1947 through a declaration in the Education Conference at Karachi. Most of the people were speakers of Bangla, and the people of East Pakistan were only accustomed to the Bangla language. It was also decided that Bangla would be abolished from all government stationary, including money order forms, envelopes, and posters that would be only be printed in Urdu and English even though East Pakistan constituted most of population and spoke Bangla.

Jinnah, the Pakistani Prime Minister at the time, said, “Let me make it very clear to you that the state language of Pakistan will be Urdu and no other language. Anyone who tries to mislead you is really the enemy of Pakistan. Without one language no nation can remain solidly tied together and function. Look at the history of other countries. Therefore, so far as the state language is concerned, Pakistan’s shall be Urdu.”

The problems grew again and extended even further in 1951. In 1952, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Khawaja Nazimuddin, again reiterated the previous declaration that, “Urdu will be the state language of Pakistan,” avoiding the feelings and extreme protests in East Pakistan. This rewind of the declaration created serious discontent amongst the Bengali population of East Pakistan, and a flame of protest spread over the country against the decision.

### **Final countdown for the Language Movement**

People of East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh), especially the students, were not ready to accept this decision. They argued that this decision is a total violation of democracy and a blatant indication that East Pakistan was not independent of West Pakistani authority as the government was responsible for snatching the mother tongue of 56% of the total population. They demanded that BANGLA should have the prestige and power as a state language along with URDU. The following statistics show how deep the disparity over this decision was:

The capital of the country was situated in West Pakistan, and the main city of East Pakistan was neglected. 80% of employees were from West Pakistan, mostly from Punjab, and only

2% represent West Pakistan in the Military Section. In the national budget, the disparity was so acute that it made it seem as if West Pakistan was King and East Pakistan was nothing but a beggar. Thus, a great historical plot was developed.

In response to the statement of The Prime Minister, politicians, along with the students, stood in a fiery position and the "All Party State Language Committee" was formed on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1952 to protest the matter and to achieve the Honor and Prestige of The Mother Tongue again. A 16 member committee was held up. February 21<sup>st</sup> was chosen as the day for protesting since it was the scheduled time for the Budget Session of East Bengal. A whole day of strikes and procession was planned for that day. As it was expected, the Pakistani Government would not make this event smooth for the people of East Province, and they showed their ugly face again. On February 20<sup>th</sup> in the evening, the government imposed Section 144 in the city and banned any gathering or procession, even of five people. That evening the "All Party State Language Committee" met in an urgent meeting at the Awami League Premises, but it was tough to make a decision because the top two leaders, Mawlana A.H.K Bhasani was at Tangail (in his village home), and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was jailed. The 16 committee members were not unanimous in order to break section 144, but later the decision was taken in a vote of 11 to 4 in favor of breaking section 144.

After making the decision to break 144 again, confusion arose as most of the top political leaders opposed the idea of the massive class with the use of armed forces. However, the students were so determined and full of patriotic spirit that it seemed no power in this world could prevent them from achieving their birth and civil rights. The next morning on February 21<sup>st</sup>, students of Dhaka University Medical College, Engineering University gathered at the Dhaka University premises and started protesting with the slogan, "We want Bangla as State Language" and "We don't obey section 144".

### **Finally Blood for Language**

As time was passing, tension and fury was also rising. At mid-day, students remembered that the budget session was going to start at 3:00 PM, and they planned not to reach the minister in the assembly building. Students were gathering more and more, and before 3:00 PM, a large group of students broke out in a great procession. By this time, armed police were deployed in large numbers and District Magistrate Koreyshi commanded they open fire. The police complied and threw tire shells at the crowd. Consequently, a number of students were shot spot dead! February 21<sup>st</sup> took the permanent hue of red from that day. We lost our brothers. It is red to this date.

Thousands of students were injured and arrested also. Following the news of the death of the students, the situation was deteriorating and students called a full day strike on the following day February 22<sup>nd</sup>. On that day, some other rebels were also killed by the police. As the Great Language Movement was going on, the Bengali people finally achieved the right to use their mother tongue. Still today, we believe that the language movement not only gave us the right to speak our language, but also paved the way of liberation war in 1971.

## **Significance of International Language Martyrs Monument**

The Language Movement is one of the most formidable movements which have come up in the country of Bangladesh, thus the Central Shahid Minar epitomizes efforts to represent the spirit of Bangladeshi nationalism and also highlight the importance of the Bengali language in the social and cultural progress of the country. As a result, the Shahid Minar has a very significant place in the social and cultural mechanism of Bangladesh.

Furthermore, there are several language movements happened throughout the world during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. Followings are some of the example. The International monument in the Bronx will recognize all martyrs in this part of the Great Melting Pot, the New York City.

- Baloch independence movement, a movement that claims the Baloch people, an ethno-linguistic group mainly found in Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan, are a distinct nation,
- English-only movement, a political movement to use English as the only language in official government operations in the United States of America
- Gaelic revival, the late-nineteenth-century national revival of interest in the Irish language and Irish Gaelic culture
- Language Freedom Movement, an organization opposing the state-sponsored revival of the Irish language
- Illyrian movement, a pan-South-Slavist cultural and political campaign during the first half of the 19th century
- Kosli language movement, a campaign for recognition for the Kosli language
- Khowar Language Movement, a linguistic movement in Pakistan aimed at reviving the Khowar Chitrali language
- Nepal Bhasa movement, a movement for linguistic rights of Nepal Bhasa speakers in Nepal
- Norwegian language conflict, an ongoing controversy within Norwegian culture and politics related to spoken and written Norwegian
- Punjabi Language Movement, a linguistic movement in Punjab, Pakistan aimed at reviving Punjabi language, art, and culture
- Rajasthani language movement, a campaign for greater recognition for the Rajasthani language
- Reintegrationism, a linguistic and cultural movement in Galicia which views Galician and Portuguese as a single language
- Scandinavian movement, literary and political movements that support various degrees of cooperation among the Scandinavian or Nordic countries
- Urdu movement, a socio-political movement aimed at making Urdu the universal language and symbol of the cultural and political identity of the Muslim communities of the Indian subcontinent

At present, all national, mourning, cultural, and other activities held each year, regarding February 21<sup>st</sup>, have been centered on the Shahid Minar / Martyrs Monument.

## **Bangladeshis in Parkchester**

The Bangladeshi population is growing very fast in the five boroughs of New York City, particularly in the Parkchester area of the Bronx, which is under Community Board 9. Many Bangladeshi immigrants have been coming and settling in Parkchester. According to the census data of 2010, there are more than 12,600 Asians Americans residing in Parkchester. The Asian population in Parkchester is mostly made up of Bangladeshis. Since most of those people are of Bangladeshi origin, it is clear that the census concerning the Asian population is mainly in regards to the Bangladeshis. The growth of this population, between the period of 2000 and 2010, is 500%, and continuing to grow.

Bangladeshi people have at least seven Mosques (Muslims place of worship) and two Mandirs (Hindu's place of worship) in the Parkchester area. There are many stores, restaurants, barbers, contractors, professional services and medical offices, such as doctors, lawyers, dentists, and accountants of Bangladeshi origin that are concentrated in the Parkchester area. Many social and cultural organizations work within the community. Bangladeshi-Americans are the most vibrant and the fastest growing community in the Bronx. Most importantly, they are very politically conscious and participate in the political process. 99% of Bangladeshi-American voted in the last presidential election. Bangladeshi Americans have been playing a vital role in this city's economy and political process.

With that said, it would very much please the Bengali-American community of Parkchester, Castle Hill, and Sound View if a permanent Martyr Monument/Shahid Minar was erected in honor of those who sacrificed their lives fighting for the mother language throughout the world. Not only would Bengali-Americans love that a monument was erected in their honor, but so would the millions of people still living in Bangladesh who have never had the opportunity to visit this area of the world. The monument would commemorate International Mother Language Day and those who fought for their right to speak their mother tongue, showing that the people of Bangladesh and linguists around the world have strong ties to America, an oasis of the free world where no one can be discriminated against for expressing and respecting their mother tongue.

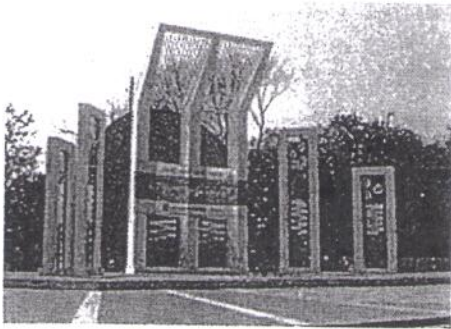
We would appreciate and be humbled if we could place this monument either in the small park near Monsignor Arthur Scanlon square, located between Benedict and Odell Street, in front of the funeral home on Union Port Road, Bronx NY 10462 or in the Virginia Park in Parkchester between Virginia Avenue and White Plains Road, block of Cross Bronx and McGraw Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462.

## Responsibility Cost Maintenance Security Traffic and Economic Impact

Proposed **International Language** martyrs monument will have no negative impact on the park or the local community, it will not hurt anyone's religious faith, rather it will attract all language lovers/tourists/art lovers from all over the world to see the martyr's monument. This will bring additional revenue to your district. It will be installed and safely maintained by our organization as sponsor. It will be used once a year on February 21<sup>st</sup>, therefore no security is necessary except for once a year and that can be taken care of by issuing a permit by the park authority and the police department (if necessary). It will not interfere with the traffic flow, create any congestion; it will not change the name of the park. It will rather attract visitors to come and see a unique piece of artwork placed in a city park.

Most importantly it will be history it will bring joy and happiness to people from all over the world, particularly in the Bronx and in Bangladesh where the first language movement was taken place where many had to sacrifices their blood to protect their own mother language.

### **Propose Design:**



### **Descriptions:**

The enormous design will include a circular column to symbolize the mother with her fallen sons standing on the monument's central dais. Yellow and deep blue pieces of glass will symbolize eyes reflecting the sun, would also be placed in the columns. The marble floor will be designed to reflect the moving shadows of the columns. The basement of the Minar will also include 300-square-foot resco depicting the history of the language movement. A railing decorated with the Bengali alphabet is to be constructed in front. Two footmarks colored red and black, indicating the two opposite forces, are also in the design. Elected officials and

members of the monument commission's name will be included on the base. Actual size will be determined by the commission.

Floor Plan:

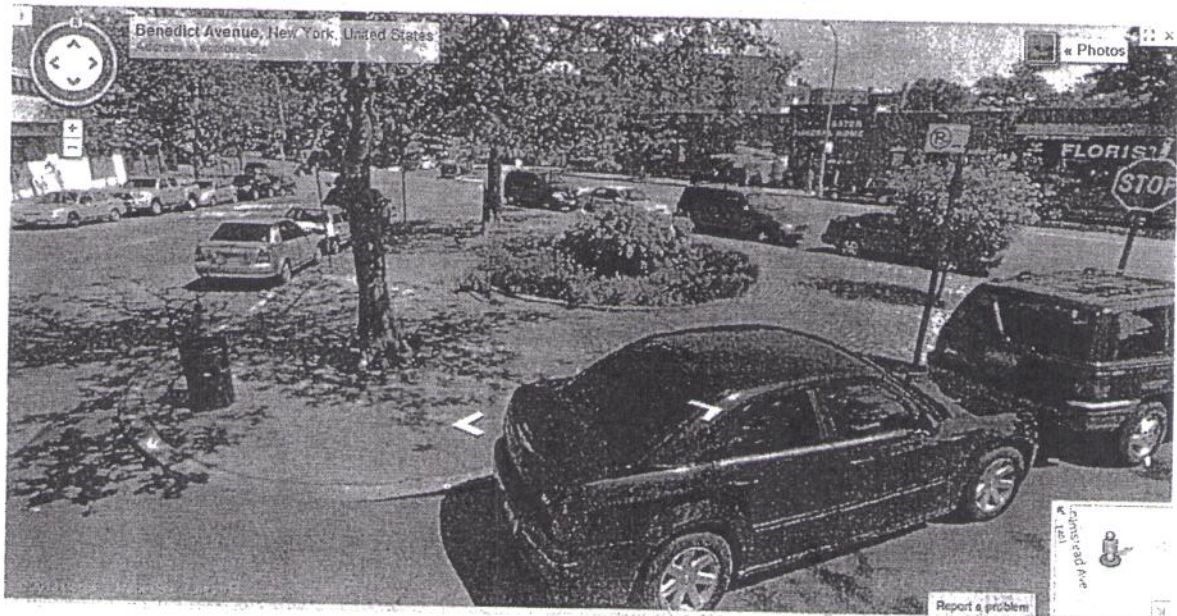
Design specifications:

**Use plan:** From the street there will be a safe paved pathway to the monument to place flowers and to exit through the exit door after placing the flower on the monument on the day of celebration.

Support Letters from elected officials:

Assembly member Luis Sepulveda, Senator Ruben Diaz, Senator Jeff Klein

**Proposed Site # 1- Monsignor Arthur Scanlon square**, located between Benedict and Odell Street, in front of the funeral home on Union Port Road, Bronx



**Proposed site # 2 in Parkchester -VIRGINIA Park**, Virginia Avenue and White Plains road, block of Cross Bronx and McGraw Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462





**IMLD monument/ Shahid Minar is a unique piece of artwork needed to be placed in the city's park.**

No other Nation on the earth has had to sacrifice their blood and go through a long fight for their freedom of Language and independence as Bangladesh did from 1948 through 1971. As mentioned earlier, Bangladeshis are the only people who have sacrificed so much for their Mother Language, and made history in the process. Since February 21, 1999, International Mother Language Day has been celebrated and recognized worldwide. Placing such a monument will not only recognize Bangladesh, but it will also make all nations and their Mother Language lovers happy and honored.

Based on the foregoing, I respectfully request that you give us a support letter and guide us to obtain the necessary permissions from the Park Department to place a permanent Martyr Monument/Shahid Minar/ IMLD monument in one of the parks in the Parkchester area of the Bronx (sites mentioned above).

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Sponsoring organization: Bangladeshi-American Community Council (BACC)

\*For: Mohammed N. Mujumder LLM

Reference links for further study on International Mother Language Day:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Mother\\_Language\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Mother_Language_Day),  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Mother-Language-Day/311845956576>,  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0016/001624/162418e.pdf>,  
[http://www.google.com/#sclient=psy-ab&q=IMLD&oq=IMLD&gs\\_l=hp.3...0.0.1.3827.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.1c..16.psy-ab.63sIS1URdS4&pbx=1&bav=on.2.or.r\\_qf.&bvm=bv.47534661,d.dmg&fp=5bd14550fad8bd6&biw=1280&bih=923](http://www.google.com/#sclient=psy-ab&q=IMLD&oq=IMLD&gs_l=hp.3...0.0.1.3827.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.1c..16.psy-ab.63sIS1URdS4&pbx=1&bav=on.2.or.r_qf.&bvm=bv.47534661,d.dmg&fp=5bd14550fad8bd6&biw=1280&bih=923),  
<http://www.google.com/search?q=international+mother+language+day&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=ZhWyUa3hC-P54AOvtoDQCw&sqi=2&ved=0CEkQsAQ&biw=1280&bih=923>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Language\\_movement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Language_movement)



*Chairman Nicholas Himidian Jr. - District Manager William Rivera*

# Public Safety & Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

## February 1, 2018

Committee Chair: Brandon Ganaishlal

### 1. Introduction

- A. Committee Description: The public safety & transportation committee represents the community's interests with regards to sanitation, crime, fire-ems, quality of life, NYS liquor license application recommendations, street activity permit applications, street re-naming application, transportation and acts as a liaison between community members and the New York Police Department & Fire Departments, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, NYC Department of Sanitation, NYC Department of Transportation, NYC Department of Sanitation & NYS Liquor Authority.

### 2. Liquor License

#### A. Yo Soy...

- 1163 Manor Ave; 1500 sq ft
- Serves breakfast, lunch and dinner ; Business hours: 7 AM – 1 AM everyday
- New application
- Next door to Crespo's office
- Will have security camera
- One bar with 12 seats, 7 tables with 6 seats and Total capacity: 54
- Deadline: April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Liquor license is until 4 AM
- Make sure they have access to NCO
- Willing to restrict liquor license to 1 AM for the first 2 years
- Because they have a bar, they should be conscious about different element it brings
- Music will not be played loudly
- Communicated with building department to make sure all of the regulations are followed
- No objections; will approve liquor license application

### 3. Speakers

- A. Jackie Carter, Assistant Director of MTA Government and Community Relations with Lieutenant Garcia, Bronx Road Operations
- Q44 Select, BXM6, BX36, BX39, BX27, BX5, BX4 and BX22
  - Q44 Select (inter-borough): efficient, buses usually double up and may be due to traffic in Flushing; gets traffic from I-95; will work with Queens counterpart because depot is in Queens
  - BXM6 (inter-borough): never on time in the morning (assume talking about rush hour but have to check schedule), should move stop up to avoid traffic
  - BX36 and BX39: Trouble in Westchester Ave and White Plains Rd; goes out of service at the most inconvenient times; these buses aren't BX36 or BX39 buses instead they are buses driving by to get to another location
  - BX27: People get on the bus through the back and older people use student metro card; will have officers ticketing at the time and place provided; bus drivers can't stop; Simpson St
  - BX5: Hunt's Point stop is most crowded; 4 PM – 7PM (Mon – Fri); low ridership because people come through the back of the bus
  - Nicholas: Has the ridership increased on the BX5?

- Jackie: The ridership remained basically the same
- Number of buses coming to a particular route depends on number of people swiping
- Connecting from the train first would be Simpson and then would be Hunt's Point and ride the rest of the route; every half hour or every hour between 1:30 AM and 5:00 AM
- Would it be possible to have a stop on the BXM8 at McDonalds at Bruckner Plaza or can stop at White Castle to get to Downtown
- Buses are supposed to go through Newman but residents park on the street and the buses can't get through, so they go through Stevens
- CB9 needs to work with DOT to clear route
- Waiting for BX22, walks to train station, which is a 15-20 min walk and end up getting to train station before the bus even came; due to daily congestion on Pelham Pkwy
- Angela, send time of BX4 when they take forever to come
- DOT is responsible for bus shelters and maintenance of it

B. Neile Weissman, Complete George

- Coalition of 200 businesses and organizations asking public officials for letters of support to call on Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to widen the bike paths on the George Washington Bridge to comply with national standards as part of the upcoming ~\$2B renovations
- There is a resolution passed by City Council
- Over next 7 years Port Authority rip out and restore 1931 paths as part of the renovations
- 3,700 cyclists are there every weekend and really crowded
- If renovated according to national standards, it would lead to construction to connected grid and expansion of bike share across the Harlem River Bridges reduces congestion
- It would be cheaper for MTA to provide facilities than to maintaining bus or train services
- Restoring it to 1931, creating 7 foot paths
- Asking leave existing paths for runners and build out for cyclists
- This will carry into the next century
- Projected cost is \$90M and maybe even less
- Map didn't include bike lanes in Soundview Park
- Port Authority's responsibility for bi-state transportation
- NJ governor supports this

No objections to signing letter of support for Complete Bridge

Send letter to Port Authority Commissioner

C. Ig Toing

- Sign says from 5 AM to 10 AM no parking except for loading and unloading
- Sometimes loading trucks; traffic keeps coming and they keep giving tickets
- Not getting ticketed when parked; getting ticketed while loading
- 809 Zerega Ave (Cross street is Lafayette Ave)
- Sanitation took up all the parking on one side of the street and writing tickets
- Took tickets to court to fight them but don't want to have to fight them in court
- No one can park and only can double park
- Suggestion should be to send a letter to remove sign because it serves no purpose
- All of the parking is restricted to sanitation and don't use all of the spots
- Will have conversation with DSNY to reserve some parking for DSNY and leave the rest for the public
- DM will have site visit with DSNY commissioner and NYPD
- DM will also talk to DOT and will report back in next Public Safety meeting

4. **New Business**

- Mariam says both sidewalks from White Plains Road going to Kmart on Story Ave are not ADA compliant
- On White Plains Rd, going through Story to get to Pugsley
- Nicholas: We'll work on it because all of them have to be ADA compliant; should have wooden ramps
- Cars on Bruckner are parked without license plates
- Send letter to management because street may be public property
- Aurora write letter and gather more information and CB9 will confirm
- Nicholas will write letter for Mariam

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:35 PM**

# C o m p l e t e G e o r g e

Neile Weissman, completegeorge.org, neileweissman@gmail.com

## **GWB remarks to the Bronx CB#9 Public Safety and Transportation Committee, 2/1/18**

Between 2017 and 2024, the Port Authority will rip out and restore the 1931-era paths on the George Washington Bridge as part of a \$1.9 billion recabing and restoration project.

The GWB is the sole bike-able connector between North Jersey and New York City and the nexus of the 1650 mile Tri-State Trail Network. Its 7 foot paths are now dangerously overcrowded at 3700 cyclists per day on weekends and growing 10% per year. If this continues, that's 9000 cyclists per day by 2024. There's no precedent for crowding so many cyclists onto such a narrow path, yet this is the PA's plan.

If not widened to national standards (AASHTO), it will become a "walk-your-bikes" facility. This will hobble the growth of cycling across the region for generations, impacting affordability, public health, tourism, sustainability and resilience annually worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

Conversely, GWB paths widened to support growing demand would spur construction of a connected grid and the expansion of bike share across Harlem River bridges. This in turn:

- Creates new commuting options across the Bronx's "transportation deserts," reducing congestion and demand on overcrowded buses. Everyone who bikes frees up capacity for those who don't.
- Expands resident access to employment and education and increases affordability. Bike commuting saves thousands of dollars per year vs. mass transit or commuting by car.
- Extends community access to green space throughout the Bronx, into Westchester and Connecticut and across the Hudson River, encouraging residents of all ages to exercise.



- Models by World Health Organization and Columbia School for Public Health show investment in cycling infrastructure to be incredibly cost effective public health interventions. Encouraging cycling enhances physical fitness and mental health while lowering the incidence of diabetes and asthma.
- Bike trips offset twice the CO2 as low emission vehicles.
- New York is spending \$500 million to expand recreational cycling on the New Tappan Zee Bridge and Empire State Trail. Extending that network through the Bronx will route the region's cyclists past local tourist and food shops.
- People who bike are more likely to shop locally. Bike shops by their nature are labor intensive and community oriented.
- Cyclists provide resilience during transport outages. In 2019, when the "L" subway the shut down to make repairs to the Canarsie Tubes, bike traffic across the Williamsburg Bridge is expected to double to 1400 trips per hour.
- Robust cycling infrastructure enhances CB9's attractiveness to a younger demographic.
- 230 organizations, businesses and communities have called on the Port Authority to widen the GWB paths, including Manhattan CBs #4, 7, 9, 12 and Bronx CBs #4, 5, 7, 8 and Rep. Serrano.

**Draft Support Letter**

Kevin J. O'Toole  
Chairman  
Port Authority of NY&NJ  
4 World Trade Center  
150 Greenwich Street  
New York City, NY 10007  
kevotoole@panynj.gov

Dear Chairman O'Toole,

Bronx Community Board #9 calls upon the Port Authority of NY&NJ to widen the bicycle-pedestrian paths on the George Washington Bridge to comply with national standards as part of the upcoming \$1.9 billion reconstruction in order to support the growth of cycling throughout the region.

We believe that wider GWB paths will spur the development of connected infrastructure over the Harlem River and "transportation deserts" across the Bronx. This will provide residents with opportunities for exercise and recreation, while enhancing public health, affordability, access to jobs, tourism and sustainability.

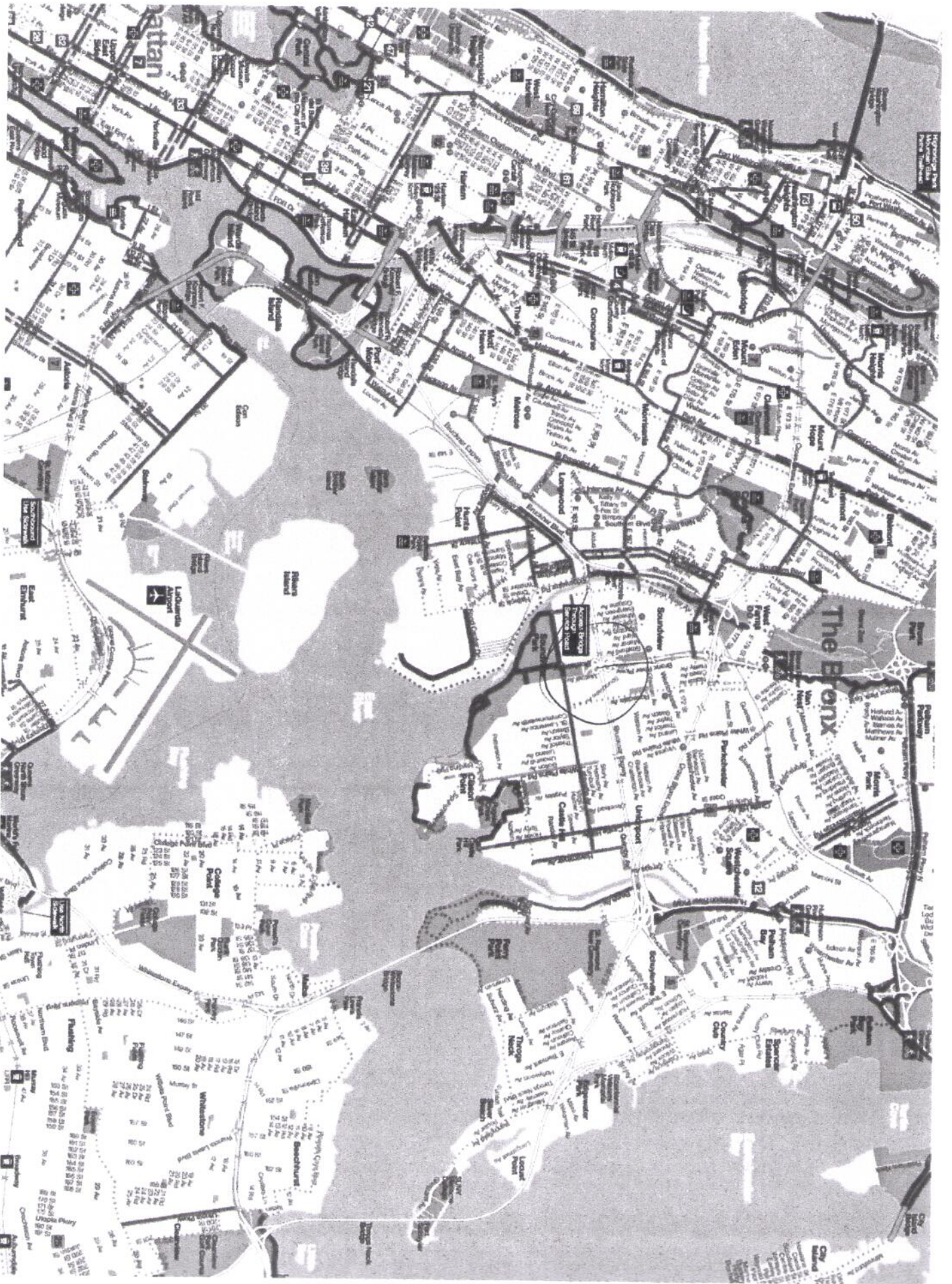
We further believe that the upcoming reconstruction, during which the existing paths will be ripped out and restored, represents the ideal opportunity to accomplish the widening.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Himidian Jr.  
Chairperson  
Bronx Community Board #9

cc:

PANYNJ Chairman Kevin J. O'Toole - kevotoole@panynj.gov  
PANYNJ Executive Director Rick Cotton - rcotton@panynj.gov  
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo  
Mayor Bill Di Blasio  
Bronx Borough President Rubén Díaz Jr.  
Congressmen Joseph Crowley  
Congressmen José E. Serrano  
Senator Jeffrey D. Klein  
Senator Gustavo Rivera  
Assemblymember Marcos A. Crespo  
Assemblymember Luis R. Sepúlveda  
Councilmember James Vacca  
Councilmember Rubén Díaz Sr.



***Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.***  
***February 2018***  
***Community Board Report***

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: Mayor de Blasio's Plan to Replace  
NYCHA Boilers**

“Mayor de Blasio’s announcement today is cold comfort for the tenants of NYCHA, as it does nothing to accelerate the timeline of the procurement process. Even on the most optimistic schedule the city will have a different mayor when these new boiler installations are completed.

“We cannot afford to wait any longer to make critical, long overdue repairs. NYCHA must issue an emergency declaration and take the necessary steps to cut through the red tape of the procurement process and replace broken boilers faster. This heat crisis is a dire health emergency, and it requires an immediate, permanent solution,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

**OVER 50 ELECTEDS JOIN BP DIAZ & CALL ON NYCHA TO ISSUE  
EMERGENCY DECLARATION ON HEAT CRISIS**

Over 50 elected officials from all over the five boroughs are calling on the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to issue an emergency declaration to address the dangerous lack of heat and hot water in many developments across the city, in order to speed the procurement process to replace out of service boilers.

“As a progressive city, we have a requirement to protect our most vulnerable residents. The hundreds of thousands of individuals and families who call public housing home should not be forced to suffer in the cold. An emergency declaration would allow your agency to jump-start the procurement process and install much-needed, permanent boilers that are already in the pipeline at a swifter pace,” states the letter, which is addressed to NYCHA Chair and CEO Shola Olatoye.

The full letter can be read at <http://on.nyc.gov/2EaEUuY>.

“A declaration of emergency is a common sense act NYCHA can take to streamline the procurement process, and it is heartening to see that so many of my colleagues from across the five boroughs agree. Clearly, the signatories on this letter understand the urgency to act immediately on behalf of the more than 400,000 tenants who call NYCHA home,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**, who first called on the agency to declare an emergency in a letter sent last month. “And if some aspect of City, State or Federal law hinders the process, it is incumbent upon City Hall, with all its resources at its disposal, to take action and build coalitions for change, not to throw up its hands.”



**TESTIMONY OF BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT RUBEN DIAZ JR.  
BEFORE THE NYC COUNCIL COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC HOUSING  
AND OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION RE: NYCHA HEAT AND HOT  
WATER FAILURES**

The recent “bomb cyclone” that struck the northeast region caused dangerous drops in temperatures across the five boroughs. Nowhere was this extreme weather event felt more dramatically than within NYCHA developments, where nearly half of all boilers are beyond their useful life and many developments are forced to rely on ineffective temporary boilers to provide heat and hot water.

The hundreds of thousands of individuals and families who call public housing home should not be forced to suffer in the cold. Our office has received numerous complaints from residents of NYCHA developments across the borough. When seeking answers on when new boilers would be installed NYCHA advised my office in a meeting on January 18, 2018, that their hands were tied by the procurement process, contrary to recent statements by City Hall. That is no comfort to a family forced to live in a frigid apartment on the coldest days of the year.

I know that the chronic lack of heat and hot water in NYCHA housing is an emergency. Formally declaring a state of emergency is a common sense act and the morally correct action NYCHA can take to streamline the procurement process. Such a declaration would allow your agency to jump-start the procurement process and install much-needed, permanent boilers that are already in the pipeline at a swifter pace.

Further, if some aspect of Federal law hinders the emergency procurement process, it is incumbent upon City Hall, with all its resources at its disposal, to take action and build coalitions for change, not to throw up its hands.

The process to replace boilers in NYCHA developments takes far too long, and does not reflect the urgent need for these critical repairs. For example, the Patterson Houses in The Bronx have been forced to subsist using inadequate temporary boilers since 2011. NYCHA has not even begun the RFP process to replace these boilers, which means that even in a best-case scenario new boilers will be years away. The recent extreme weather event showed us just how vulnerable temporary boilers are to very low temperatures, and we have no reason not to expect similar extreme weather

in the future. NYCHA tenants should not have to wait a decade for the basic human right of reliable heat and hot water.

We must act to cut red tape during this time of severe crisis. While the recent announcement of some new funding for boilers is a step in the right direction, the situation remains an emergency, and NYCHA has told our office that red tape ties their hands. An emergency must be declared.

We would not accept this kind of behavior from a private landlord. NYCHA tenants are entitled to warm apartments, just like anyone else.

Treating this situation as the true disaster it is will help provide heat to families faster, and your agency should declare an emergency immediately and show leadership in cutting the red tape at any and all levels of government, that NYCHA has stated deprives residents of adequate heat.

Thank you.

## **BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ OUTLINES HOUSING UNITS FOR PRESERVATION IN REPORT ON JEROME AVENUE CORRIDOR REZONING**

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. has issued a report identifying more than 2,000 units of affordable housing that must be preserved as part of the proposed rezoning of the Jerome Avenue corridor.

The report, titled "Zoned-In: A Housing Preservation Blueprint for the Jerome Avenue Corridor," identifies 2,075 units across 45 buildings within a ¼ mile radius of the area proposed for rezoning around Jerome Avenue by the de Blasio administration.

"In my negotiations with the administration as part of the ULURP process, the city committed to preserving 1,500 units of affordable housing in Community Boards #4 and #5, as a condition of my support of this rezoning. While this achievement is appreciated, we can do more to keep this community affordable. This report identifies the units that should be preserved and kept affordable, and the city should direct its resources to do just that," said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** "As this rezoning proposal moves forward, it will be up to the City Council to hold the administration to the promises they have made."

The report uses a formula based on building violations, demographics and development subsidies to identify units that meet the criteria for further preservation. It can be read in full at <http://on.nyc.gov/2ErFy7t>.

## STATEMENT FROM BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: Fix NYC Congestion Pricing Plan

“Though I have been a critic of congestion pricing in the past and still remain skeptical, the plan released today by Governor Cuomo and his Fix NYC panel offers a wide variety of innovative suggestions on how we can raise funds and reduce congestion in Manhattan, and is fairer and less regressive than simply tolling the East River bridges. However, the burdens of this new proposal must be examined carefully.

“If a congestion pricing proposal is implemented in Manhattan, the funds raised must be earmarked to repair our city’s subway system by establishing a dedicated fund for New York City Transit. I look forward to further examining this proposal in the coming months,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

### Upcoming Events

*Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. State of the Borough*

Thursday, February 22, 2018

11:30am

Bronx High School of Science

75 West 205<sup>th</sup> Street

RSVP - <http://bit.ly/sotbx18>



## COMMUNITY BOARD 9

BRONX RIVER \* CASTLE HILL \* CLASON POINT \* HARDING PARK  
PARKCHESTER \* PARK STRATTON SOUNDVIEW/BRUCKNER & UNIONPORT  
1967 TURNBULL AVE, BRONX, NEW YORK 10473  
OFFICE: (718) 823 - 3034 FAX: (718) 823 - 6461  
EMAIL: BX09@CB.NYC.GOV - WWW.NYC.GOV/BXCB9



**BRONX CB9 INVITES YOU TO OUR MONTHLY COMMUNITY BOARD  
MEETING FOR OUR SENIORS & DISABLED COMMUNITY**

## SENIORS CONNECTED

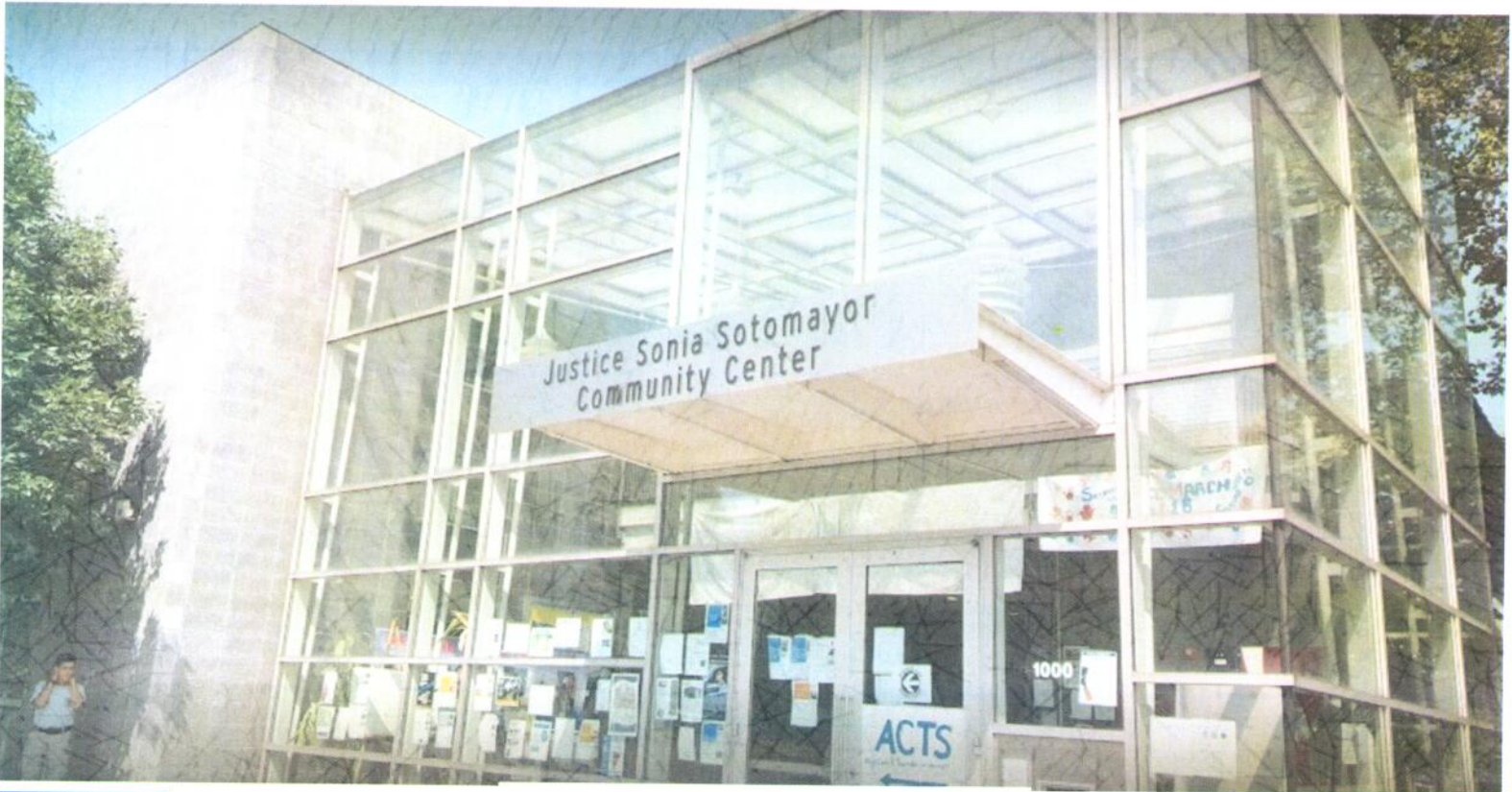
### Fall Prevention

By Fall Prevention Analyst Caitlyn Smith, NYC DOH & Mental Hygiene

**Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**10:00 AM - 11:15 AM**

**1000 ROSEDALE AVENUE BRONX, NEW YORK 10472  
JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR COMMUNITY CENTER**



**NYC** Department of  
Youth & Community  
Development





# Public Town Hall Meeting

**Date/Fecha: Thursday March 1, 2018**

**Time/Hora: 7PM**

**Location/Lugar: Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club  
1930 Randall Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10473**

**Proposed Project**

**(Hope House)**

**Transitional home for previously  
incarcerated individuals  
Located at 2023 Caesar Place**

**Proyecto Propuesto**

**(Casa de la esperanza)**

**Hogar de transición para  
individuos previamente encarcelados  
ubicado en 2023 Caesar Place**

**AGENDA**

**Information / Información**

**Resident's Concerns / Preocupaciones**

**Q&A / Preguntas y Respuestas**

**SPONSORS / PATROCINADORES**

**State Senator Jeffrey Klein**

**Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda**

**Council Member Ruben Diaz, Sr.**

**To sign up on speakers list contact us at: [BX09@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:BX09@cb.nyc.gov)**