



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 18th, 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 87th 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 3rd, 4th, 5th graders. He announced other events such as teaching Children how to Code, African American Abrazo, etc.

2. Councilmember-Elect Ruben Diaz Sr., representing the 18th 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 4th.

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.

Business Session

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 26th, 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 43rd 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