



*Chairman Mohammed Mujumder - District Manager: William Rivera*

## **Land & Zoning, Economic Development & Planning Committee Meeting Summary September 18, 2023**

**Board Members Present:** Mitchell Halpern, Twywana Bush, Andrea McLeod, Kristine Garcia

### **I. Introduction**

- A. Committee Description:** The Land & Zoning, Economic Development & 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.

### **II. Speakers**

**A. Glenda Silva, Ponce Bank's Initiative**

Ponce Bank requests the support of Bronx Community Board 9 in the creation of a new Banking Development District in partnership with its Westchester Avenue Branch. Ponce Bank was born in the Bronx in 1960 and is both a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and a Minority Depository Institution (MDI).

In the Community Ponce Bank has awarded scholarships to Bronx students, hosted Finance Mastery sessions, and awards sponsorships to local nonprofits. In addition, Ponce Bank has awarded over \$4 million in loans within AD 87.

Ponce Bank is now working to bring additional resources to the community through the New York State Department of Financial Services and New York City Banking Commission Banking Development District (BDD) Program. The BDD Program encourages the growth of banking services in areas of demonstrated need. Ponce's Bank deposit levels are too small and impair its ability to maintain services, BDD deposits would make a significant difference, allowing them to continue to serve unbanked and underbanked area in the community.

To bring this program to this community the CB and the BPO's Office must approve, through a resolution or letter, confirming they welcome this investment in their local community.

BP Gibson has already awarded her support of this initiative.

Community Board is interested in working more closely with Ponce Bank in the near future and suggest referrals of programs/organizations for bank resources, sessions, etc. CB9 will be conducting a follow-up to address further concerns before a vote is finalized.

### **III. Notifications**

- A. 1106 Metcalf Avenue - Block - 3747 & Lot - 88 - Extension of Time of the Variance - Filing Information**

**IV. DM Report**

- A.** Committees have requested committee meetings be moved from 6:30 to 7pm
- B.** DNS due in October, survey will be distributed to BMs for priorities
- C.** Office Update: the office is almost complete, awaiting electronics installation to be completed

**OFFICE INFO**

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