



## General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 18, 2024

**Present:** Abunoman Rahman, Alizia McMyers, Andrea McLoed, Angel Martinez, Anne Johnson, Badr Alsaïdi, Brent Woodie, Chandra Moore, Daniel Porro, David Marin, Derrick Holman, Henry Pelayo, Isabelo Adames, Juan Torres, Lorenzo Van Ness, Loretta Masterson, MD Alauddin, Mohammed Mujumder, Ram Halder, Robin Kelly, Sadie Davis, Shante Chamblee, Shereese Trumpet, Twywana Bush,

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:30pm

### Public Session

1. Catherina Gioino, Policy, and Partnerships Specialist for Veo- Catherina Gioino, is Community Engagement Specialist for Veo, a micromobility scooter and bike provider operating in The Bronx and in over 50 cities across the country. Many of their users ride through CB9 and they want to ensure they are properly following the rules of the road and offer any safety demonstrations to CB members as well as anyone who would like to participate. To encourage safe riding, they are reaching out to community boards to see if they can collaborate on both helmet giveaways and scooter riding demonstrations as well. Plenty of users are asking for helmets and we want to encourage safe and legal ridership along city streets and can provide helmets to give away as well.

### Elected Officials Report

#### **1. Councilmember Amanda Farias Report**

Primary Introduced Legislation:

- Int 1256-2023 | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the establishment of a municipal human milk bank
- Int 1058-2023 2024/011 | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to educational materials on menstrual products. This bill would require the Department of Education (DOE) to develop, in collaboration with the Commission on Gender Equity, informational materials about menstrual products, to be shared with every student in grades 4 through 12

Supported Legislation:

- Int 1269-2023 | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of health and mental hygiene to create pamphlets

identifying mental health resources available to individuals experiencing pregnancy loss

- Int 1056-2023 2024/009 | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the provision of menstrual products in schools. To include schools serving students in any combination of grades 4 through 12.

Past Events:

• December:

- Toy Drive: Tuesday, December 19th at 4pm Parkchester Library, sponsored alongside YMPJ and Lyft. Our office distributed 300+ toys.

- Toy Drive: Thursday, December 21st at 3 P.M. Our office, in collaboration with Assembly Member Burgos at I.S. 131 Albert Einstein, distributed over 700+ toys to families.

• January:

- Toy Drive: Saturday, January 6th at 1:00 PM at Holy Family's Mechler Hall in partnership with State Assemblymember Karines Reyes. Our office distributed an additional 300+ toys.

Upcoming Events

• January:

- Discretionary and Capital Funding Applications are open Trainings for nonprofits:

Topic: FY 25 Borough-wide Budget Workshop-Bronx

- When: Jan 31, 2024, 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

- Register in advance for this webinar:

- [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_IMuLGJ-9SV2nmEunNCAXzA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IMuLGJ-9SV2nmEunNCAXzA)

• February

- Sunday, February 4th, at 11:00AM | Our Office in partnership with YMCA and ACC will be hosting an Adoption and Vaccination, Find your Fur-ever friend at 2 Castle Hill Ave, Bronx, NY 10473

To RSVP for the above events, you can go to [bit.ly/district18events](https://bit.ly/district18events) (link in lower case, case sensitive).

Office Offerings:

- Monday Urban Justice Center Family Law Clinic - January 29th Virtually 3(Slots available)

Tuesday Urban Justice Center Public Assistance - January 30th in Person (3 slots available)

- Every Wednesday Immigration Legal Services are offered by CUNY Citizenship Now!

To RSVP for these office appointments, you can call our office at 718-792-1140

Participatory Budget Highlight

Through Participatory Budgeting in New York City (PBNYC), community members - like you - directly decide how to spend at least \$1,000,000 in participating Council Districts. PBNYC funds physical infrastructure projects that benefit the public, cost at least \$50,000 and have a lifespan of at least 5 years. Local improvements to schools, parks, libraries, public housing, streets, and other public spaces can be funded through this process.

- Tuesday January 23rd - Budget Delegates will attend an Agency info session to review all submitted project ideas.

## 2. Senator Nathalia Fernandez Report

- January marks the beginning of the Legislative Session where we will continue to advocate for the needs of our community.
  - Continuing in the holiday spirit, we co-hosted a Three Kings Event with Assembly Member Karines Reyes celebrating the **Three Kings Holiday with a final toy giveaway in Unionport on January 6th**. We will also be participating in an upcoming **Three Kings Day Cultural Celebration on January 28th at 4pm in the Justice Sotomayor Center**. The Senator will be a guest speaker and during the event there will be painting activities, performances, and small businesses present. (Flyer is attached)
  - Looking forward to February, we will also be focusing on Flood Prevention measures by hosting **two Flood Preventions Events** with the New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services. They will provide a presentation on flood prevention, followed by a questions and answer portion, and continued by a giveaway of disaster go kits (one per family/per household), and a few water pumps and flood barriers. RSVP will be needed to obtain any giveaways. These events will happen on:
    - **Thursday, February 15, 2024, 6:00PM**  
Edgewater Park Volunteer Fire House  
1 Adeo Place, Bronx, NY 10465  
[Link for RSVP Here](#)
    - **Thursday, February 22, 2024, 6:00PM**  
City Island Community Center  
190 Fordham Street, Bronx, NY 10464  
[Link for RSVP Here](#)
- \*\*Both are open to the immediate community and all of District 34.

## 3. Bronx DA Report

- Our Bronx District Attorney, Darcel D. Clark, is currently recruiting for our Youth Advisory Council. This is an exciting initiative aimed at empowering Bronx residents between the ages of 14-20 to become advocates for positive change. Please refer to the attached flyer for detailed information. We kindly ask you to share this flyer within your networks. The deadline to apply has been extended to January 26, 2024.
- Are you interested in being a Mock Juror? Join our Felony Trial Training Program at the Bronx District Attorney's Office on Monday, January 29th, 2024, from 8 am to 4 pm. This event is designed to train our new class of Assistant District Attorneys in handling felony cases by having you act as a mock juror for a trial. While this is a volunteer opportunity, we will provide breakfast and lunch. It's a chance for you to positively engage with our office and gain institutional knowledge of our mission and goal in 'pursuing justice with integrity.' If you can fill out the google form, please do. Right click and then click open hyperlink. If you are unable to do it, we will assist you the morning of the trial during breakfast. <https://forms.office.com/g/5icYRkn7NE>
- **RESOURCE FAIR** For people returning to the Bronx community **SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY DARCEL D. CLARK** Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Bronx River Community Center 1619 E. 174th Bronx, NY 10472. Services provided by Exodus, DOCCS, Fortune Society, Osborne Association, CEO, VIP Services, BronxWorks, Bronx Workforce 1 and more. Lunch will

be provided to participants. Attendees will receive free assistance with: Employment opportunities Resume writing/Preparation Interview skills Identification

#### **4. Congressman AOC Report**

- The House is back in session this week. We are approaching the government funding deadline of January 17. Congressional leaders are now considering a stopgap funding bill that would extend spending authority until March 1st and March 8th. We will continue to monitor for updates.
- We are excited to announce that the US DOT awarded the Bronx \$150 million to make the Cross Bronx Expressway more pedestrian- and transit-friendly. We are working alongside the Assemblymember and State Senator's offices to get more details on the project scope from NYS DOT and will update you accordingly. Additionally, the New York City Department of Transportation will also receive \$15 million to build an EV charging depot in the Hunts Point neighborhood.
- Medicare enrollees now pay no more than \$35 a month for each of their insulin prescriptions, thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, which Democratic lawmakers pushed through Congress in 2022. If you experience any issues with your Medicare or Medicaid, please contact our office for assistance.
- Our office will host a Student Services fair on January 25th at The Renaissance School in The Bronx from 4-6 pm. Students can learn about green job opportunities, updates to the FAFSA application, summer internships, and more! | left some flyers with more information on the back table in case anyone is interested
- As a reminder, our office is here to help you with any issue pending before a federal agency. You can give us a call at 718-662-5970 or email us. Our Hunts Point flagship office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 am-5 pm.

#### **5. The Commanding Officer of Housing Police talked about the Intro 586 Bill & Alina Dowe from the Mayors Office Shared the following:**

**Subject:** Intro 586 Talking Points

##### **What the bill does:**

- Officers would have to fill out a report for every Level 1 and Level 2 encounter.
  - We support filling out for Level 2 encounters.
- Each report would have to include, among other things:
  - Race/Ethnicity, gender, and age of person involved.
  - The circumstances surrounding that encounter
  - How the officer identified that particular individual for the encounter.
- This data would have to be aggregated and published quarterly, on a precinct-by-precinct basis.

##### **Talking Points Against It:**

- Filling out a report for each Level 1 encounter is, as a practical matter, impossible.
- NYPD has millions of such encounters every year, they include, amongst others:
  - Every person an officer approaches when searching for a missing person.
  - Every person an officer approaches in response to a 911 call.
  - Every person an officer approaches while on routine patrol.
- As a result, this would drown officers in paperwork.
- Public safety is paramount in this city, which is why we want to make sure officers are getting out of their patrol cars, approaching New Yorkers, and talking to members of the

community they police. *This bill would incentivize officers to not talk to community members.*

- This bill will negatively impact community policing as officers will be less likely to interact with the public if they must get information from all these interactions.
- Similarly, the public will be less likely to speak to officers if they are gathering personal information about them just because they have interacted and will publicly report on it. *This raises serious privacy concerns.*
- Likewise, assuming that every report takes a minimum of one minute to fill out on an officer's phone. This can reasonably *delay response times to other 911* calls and local emergencies as officers will be filling out multiple reports. Likewise, NYPD officers are already constantly criticized for being on their phones too much, if this bill passes *they will spend much more time on their devices, rather than fighting crime.*
- This bill will result in substantial cost to NYPD, not just time, public safety, and community policing, but a financial cost. The cost of not only storing this data but hosting it will be very high. Also, reporting this information will likely lead to *massive amounts of overtime* for officers.
- The district attorney's offices have privately conveyed that they're concerned that this bill will create additional discovery hurdles, and their officers are already drowning due to the new discovery burdens and timelines under state law. There is also a concern that this may prove to conflict with the Clean Slate Act, as it requires NYPD to store and house the information on its website.
- The Council submits that tracking level 1 encounters would be a simple task and officers can just use their phone to input the information after each encounter. They have also suggested that officers simply review their body-worn camera footage on a daily basis and then fill out the reports.
  - This oversimplified suggestions clearly show their lack of understanding of the impracticability of what is being asked largely due to the immense volume of encounters annually and the time that it would take to collect the required demographic information in real time.

Background on DeBour Levels:

- **Level 1: An officer may approach someone and request information if there is an objective credible reason to do so. It does not require suspicion of criminal activity. The individual remains free to leave.**
  - Level 2: An officer may approach an individual and request information based on founded suspicion that the person has engaged or will engage in criminal activity. The individual remains free to leave.
  - Level 3: An officer may detain an individual for a brief period of time upon reasonable suspicion that the person committed, was committing, or is about to commit a crime (otherwise known as a Terry stop).
  - Level 4: An arrest.
- \*DM Rivera stated that this bill will be on the agenda for the Public Safety meeting because all the information needs to be reviewed so Board Members can decide if they are supporting it or not.

### **Chairman Report**

- Chairman stated as his personal opinion that he is not in support of bill 586

- The Chairman held a dinner for Elected Officials and Chairs of committees that went well. There will be another upcoming dinner, information will be sent.

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

- CB9 office is going well, waiting on the city to get equipment. Working on getting phones and internet.
- Office rent was paid in lumpsum for the fiscal year
- ADM Shirley and DD Loretta are members of Union Local 371 and there is a pilot in place where members are eligible for two remote workdays a week. Instead of taking two full days remote, they do 9am to 2pm Monday through Friday and 2pm to 5pm remote.
- Toy drop-off was done to North Central Pediatrics
- Coat drop-off was done to sanctuary sites.
- The letter was sent to target, it was signed by Elected Officials and was sent to Board Members. The letter was acknowledged, awaiting a response.
- NCO meetings are being held, information for the meetings is on the 43<sup>rd</sup> Precinct website
- DM Rivera had a meeting with the Bronx Parks Commissioner in reference to recreational center
- The City of Yes will probably be voted on in February

**By-Laws** BM Twywana Bush stated that the By-Laws meeting will be held next Wednesday virtually.

### **Committee Reports**

1. Youth & Education Committee Minutes were submitted as is.
2. Land & Zoning minutes were submitted as is.
3. Parks & Recreation minutes were submitted as is.
4. Public Safety Minutes were submitted as is.
5. Social Services minutes were submitted as is.
6. NYCHA minutes were submitted as is.

Chairman Mohammed Mujumder put a motion to submit all committee summaries/minutes. The vote was unanimous, the motion was passed.

**Meeting adjourned: 7:35pm**

#### **OFFICE INFO**

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