



General Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 18, 2024

Board Members Present: Abunoham Rahman, Ahmat Jallo, Alizia McMyers, Andrea McLoed, Angel Martinez, Anne Johnson, Brent Woodie, Chiene Jones, Daniel Porro, Derrick Holman, Elizabeth Angeles, Henry Pelayo, Janelle Harper, Julio Quinones Jr., Juan Torres, Kristine Garcia Lena Johnson, Loretta Masterson, MD Alauddin, Miriam Sanchez, Mitchell Halpern, Mohammed Mujumder, Nellie Santiago, Ram Halder, Robbin Kelly, Sarwar Jahan, Sharyn Brown, Shereese Trumpet, Wajied Hakim

Meeting Start Time: 7:05pm

Note: The District Manager began the Public Session. Moment of Silence was had for any dearly departed.

Public Session

1. Tara Gibson, Seize the Cure

Ms. Gibson, founder of Seize the Cure, encouraged the public to attend the April 20th Seize the Cure 4 Epilepsy Event at the Sonia Sotomayor Center from 1-6pm which will host guest speakers, testimonials, and various artists in collaboration with the Epilepsy Foundation and in partnership with by BXC9.

2. Taylor D. James, The Legal Aid Society

The Legal Aid Society is built on one simple but powerful belief: that no person should be denied the right to equal justice. They seek to be a beacon of hope for New Yorkers who feel neglected - regardless of who they are, where they come from, or how they identify. From their start over 140 years ago, their growth has mirrored that of the city they serve. Today, they are proud to be the largest, most influential social justice law firm in New York City. Their staff and attorneys deliver justice in every borough, working tirelessly to defend their clients and dismantle the hidden, systemic barriers that can prevent them from thriving. As passionate advocates for individuals and families, The Legal Aid Society is an indispensable component of the legal, social, and economic fabric of our City.

3. Arianna C. Williams, The New York Public Library CB9 Branches

Ms. Williams advocated on behalf of CB9 NYPL Libraries for all to sign on in support of not cuts to libraries, a petition to Mayor Adams to restore funding to one of New York City's most vital resources, public libraries.

4. Curtis Minnis, Team First's Beacon Program @ 119X

Mr. Minnis runs a Beacon Program under Team First at PS 119 that offers various programs for the community. Program flyers were shared at meeting and can also be found on the BCB9 bulletin. There will also be a Health & Wellness fair taking place on Saturday, May 18th and all invited to attend.

5. Michael Beltzer, Bike/Bus on Soundview Ave

Mr. Beltzer promoted the Soundview Bike Bus and encouraged all to attend, the Bike Bus is schedule to start in May and rides on a monthly basis. The Bike Bus welcomes all those on 2 or 3 wheels to ride to school and work on the Soundview Avenue protected bike and runs every first Wednesday of the month at 7:15AM from Soundview to Sunset. Participants can hop on the bike bus anywhere along the route: <https://www.bikebus.nyc/soundview-bike-bus>

Note: DM Rivera began the Business Session

Business Session

Elected Officials Report

1. Marco Luna, Office of CM Amanda Farias: Updates from our office: Our office is in receipt of the letter from the Social Services Committee regarding issues with Access-a-Ride. Our office has spoken with the MTA and requested a meeting. We will follow up with a date and time once we confirm with the MTA.

The Council Member signed a letter to the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal in conjunction with the Borough President, Senator Fernandez, and Assemblymember Reyes with respect to the carrying charge increase DHCR has proposed for Jamie Towers, as well as issues around mismanagement of the property.

Updates from City Hall: The Council Member has signed on to a letter addressed to the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, and Speaker of the Assembly, calling on the state to create a new subsection of the State Cannabis Law, which would allow the City Council to change enforcement guidelines and impose financial penalties and issue closure orders where unlicensed sales of cannabis are taking place.

The Council Member sent a letter to the Senate Majority Leader and Speaker of the Assembly urging the state legislature to include a “Final Average Salary Incentive” (S.2148B) for NYPD officers in the state budget. This would provide equitable benefits in the police pension fund for police officers in hopes of retaining experienced police officers for an additional five to ten years before their retirement.

Bills Passed: Introduction 126 | A Local Law in relation to requiring provision of body armor to fire department employees within the bureau of emergency medical services providing emergency medical services; Introduction 127 | A Local Law in relation to providing de-escalation and self-defense training to fire department employees within the bureau of emergency medical services providing emergency medical services

Legislation Introduced: Int | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to information required in job listings; Int | A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the development of a public housing entrepreneurship and commercial popup program; Introduction 745 | A Local Law in relation to requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct an annual study on bicycle activity; Introduction 765 | A Local Law in relation to establishing a task force on vehicles registered out-of-state; Resolution 322 | Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A.642/S.1215, which directs the Queens Board of Elections to provide language assistance in Bengali, Punjabi and Hindi; Introduction 772 | A Local Law in relation to building emissions calculations, adjustments and penalties; Introduction 802 | A Local Law in relation to establishing a standard insurance policy for food procurement

vendors; Introduction 791 | A Local Law in relation to requiring the department of social services to post on its website data concerning vacant supportive housing units.

Upcoming Events: May: Superhero Skate Party | Friday, May 04, 2024 Time: 12:00PM to 4:00PM | Watson Gleason Playground (Entrance at Watson Ave and Rosedale Ave); Movies Under the Stars | Friday May 10, 2024 Time: Starts at Sundown Expected 8:30 PM| PO Serrano Playground, 2125 Turnbull Ave; Family Day | Friday, May 31, 2024 Time: 3:00PM to 6:00PM | Castle Hill Playground, 1679 Castle Hill Ave. To RSVP for the above events, please visit bit.ly/district18events (link in lower case, case sensitive).

Office Offerings: Monday Urban Justice Center Family Law Clinic - April 29th in-person (5 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 Past Events: April: Soundview Family Day | Saturday, April 06, 2024 Time: 12:00PM to 4:00PM | Soundview Park (Entrance between Morrison Ave and Lafayette Ave); HRA Fair Fares Enrollment Event| Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 Time: 10:00AM to 2:00PM | Soundview Cornerstone Community Center, 1680 Seward Ave.

Participatory Budgeting Information: Participatory Budgeting has officially concluded for 2024. We anticipate the results of the vote to be released as soon as Friday, April 26, 2024. Please connect with us on social media or sign up for our newsletter to find out the results of the vote and the winning projects. Nine (9) projects that were on the ballot: Education: AV System Renovation for P.S. 100 Isaac Clason School: The project would improve the audio-visual system of the school to allow for enhanced school performances (\$250,000); Auditorium Stage Renovation for P.S. 100 Isaac Clason School: The project will renovate the school stage to allow for better school celebrations and performances (\$150,000); Tech Upgrades for P.S. 093 Albert G. Oliver School: The project would supply the school with Smartboards, printers, and laptops for educational purposes (\$200,000); Hydroponics Lab for P.S. 093 Albert G. Oliver School: The project would provide P.S. 093 with a Hydroponics lab to teach kids about the farm-to-table approach as well as learn about healthy living (\$175,000); Physical Education Space for P17X, Adlai Stevenson Campus: The project would create a space for kids with and without learning disabilities to develop healthy living and fitness skills (\$450,000); Gym Air-conditioning upgrade for MS 127 Castle Hill Middle School and Linden Tree Elementary School: The project would replace the HVAC unit at X127 to provide a cooler gym for students of both J.H.S 127 Middle School and Linden Tree Elementary School (\$500,000). Parks & Recreation: Tree Planting for Council District 18: The project would bring 30 new trees into the district, increasing afforestation by providing shade and greenery; 1905 Story Avenue (Bruckner Commons) (\$105,000). Public Safety: NYPD ARGUS Cameras for Public Safety throughout Council District 18: The project would provide funding for three ARGIS camera locations to the NYPD in an effort to deter crime in the district (\$243,000). Environment: Sanitation Cameras for Council District 18: The project would provide DSNY with funding for sanitation cameras to deter and catch violators of chronic illegal dumping locations (\$250,000).

2. Cristal Veras, Office of Assemblymember Kenny Burgos: Legislative Updates - Passed in the Assembly: A4066B- Requires motor vehicle dealer franchisors to fully compensate motor vehicle dealers for warranty service agreement.

Community Events: Paper Shedder Event taking place on April 19 at the Shorehaven Clubhouse, Rain Barrel Giveaway taking place on Friday, June 21st from 4-6pm at the Castle Hill YMCA at 2 Castle Hill Ave in the parking lot. To RSVP call 718-893-0202.

AM Burgos is working on deterrence for the theft of Catalytic Converters and is planning an informational meeting with Rep AOC's Office about the Cross Bronx 5 Bridges Project.

3. Daisy Nunez, Office of Representative AOC: Our office will host an art showcase tomorrow, April 19th from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Variety Boys and Girls Club of Astoria, located at 21-12 30th Road, Queens, NY 11102. All students are welcome to attend!
Our office invites your high school students to participate in the 2024 Congressional Art Competition! The winner's artwork is recognized in a special reception by the Congressional Institute and displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. The deadline to submit is April 26th at 5 pm. Our office is accepting submissions now, and you can visit our website for more information or email NY14Art@mail.house.gov.
As a reminder, our office is here to help you with issues pending before federal agencies. You can call us at 718-662-5970 or email us via our website at ocaseo-cortez.house.gov. We are also available at our Hunts Point flagship office, open Monday through Thursday from 9am to 5 pm and located at 1231 Lafayette Ave, Suite L-610, Bronx, NY 10474. Walk-ins are welcomed.
4. Ciara Gannon, Office of Bronx BP Vanessa Gibson: The 2nd State of the Borough will be held Thursday April 18th at 530 pm at Cardinal Hayes High School.
The Borough President's Office is collecting prom dresses, suits and accessories for a giveaway. Donations are accepted through May 9th.
The Borough President is hosting an LQTBQIA+ Career Fair on May 3rd at 11am at La Central YMCA at 434 Westchester Ave from 11am-3pm.
The Borough President is hosting a Planning for your Future Information Session on April 25th from 6pm-8pm at Bronx Borough Hall.
Bronx Week Parade & festival will be held on May 19th at 10am beginning on Mosholu Parkway.
Our Office is partnering with community boards, churches and community groups to host Fire safety trainings. Please reach out to set one up in your community.
5. Treyvon Blondet, Office of Bronx DA" The District Attorney Darcel D. Clark is hosting a Prom Dress and Suit Drive, until Friday, April 19th. We invite you to join us in this initiative by donating gently worn formal dresses, suits, shoes, accessories, and handbags. To contribute, simply drop off your donations at the designated bin located in the welcoming lobby of 198 E 161st Street. Our team at the Bronx District Attorney's Office will accept donations between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For any inquiries or further details, please don't hesitate to contact our dedicated Community Engagement team at CEU@bronxda.nyc.gov. Your support and generosity make a significant difference, and we sincerely appreciate your participation in this endeavor. Thank you!
The Office of Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark is thrilled to announce the 7th Annual Bronx Child Safety Fair, to be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 11a.m. – 3p.m. P.S. 211 at The Bilingual School, located at 1919 Prospect Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10451. You will learn about Internet Safety, Body Safety, Bullying Prevention and so much more. You will also receive a free NYPD Child Identification card. In partnership with NYPD Options. FOR MORE INFO: Please contact the Community Engagement Unit: (718) 590-2272 or CEU@bronxda.nyc.gov.
6. Alina Dowe, Mayor's CAU spoke to address several concerns regarding NYPD Stops Act, Bail Reform, Illegal Smoke Shops, Outdoor Dining and other Quality of Life Concerns.
Cell: 914-446-8393, Email: adowe@cityhall.nyc.gov

Chairman's Report

- Chairman Mujumder thanked all BMs for their time and also the community for coming together.

- Chairman Mujumder encouraged all to please take flyers distributed in the back and for BMs to help spread the word about the resources available
- BP's Office sent email about re-appointment applications and this year the process will be more rigorous so the Chairman implores all BMs pay close attention to this

District Manager's Report

- DM Rivera encouraged all BMs to please read DSC Summary to be kept up to date with city related initiatives and quality of life concerns.
- DM Rivera attended a meeting with various other Elected Officials including the Bronx BP regarding Target that will not be coming to the Bruckner Plaza regardless of the Letter of Request BXCB9 drafted in support.
- NYPD Citizens Academy recently took place and CB9 Public Safety & Transportation Chair Shante Chamblee is a recent graduate. CAU and 43rd Pct allocates a space for a CB9 BM, typically its PS&T Chair.
- Today is BP State of the Borough
- Seniors Connected is taking place tomorrow, CM Farias and DSNY to potentially collaborate on a shredding event for the June Seniors Connected Meeting
- Potential for another shredding event in the afternoon/evening in Parkchester for working class residents
- DM Rivera will be following-up on chronic quality of life issues in anticipation of the summer with our partnering city agencies including Ferry Pt Park
- CB9 is in support of pool and parking for the new Soundview Rec Center planned

Committee Reports

1. Youth & Education Committee Summary were submitted as is by DM Rivera. Yankee Youth Leadership Awards nominees are in review.
2. Land & Zoning Committee Summary were submitted as is by DM Rivera. DM will be contacting previous ULRP Developers to ensure they are on track with their commitments.
3. Parks & Recreation Committee Summary were submitted as is by DM Rivera. Recommendations for the Soundview Rec Center and Skate Park are in talks.
4. Public Safety & Transportation Committee Summary were submitted as is by DM Rivera. Liquor Licenses were discussed, no Cannabis applications reviewed.
5. Social Services Committee Summary were submitted as is by Chair Nellie Santiago-Rivera. Committee drafted Letter to Access-A-Ride regarding several concerns with the service.
6. NYCHA & Housing Committee Summary were submitted as is by Chair Anne Johnson. Committee drafted letter in support for a Housing Group that will provide legal representation for vulnerable tenants and homeowners.

Juan Torres put motion to adjourn the meeting and Chairman Mohammed Mujumder adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 7:40 PM

OFFICE INFO

District Manager William Rivera - wrivera@cb.nyc.gov
 Phone (718) 823-3034 - Fax (718) 823-6461 - Office Email bx09@cb.nyc.gov - Website nyc.gov/bxcb9
 Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM