



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 19th, 2017

Present: Abunoman Rahman, Angel Martinez, Benigno Cuevas, Brandon Ganaishlal, Cruz Garcia, Cleneth Dais, Daniel Porro III, Felipa Manaiza, Hanna Godinez, Henry Pelayo Jr., Isabelo Adames, Jaime Feliberty, Jame Tynan, 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, Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins, Sharan Fernandez, Venus Williams, William Rivera (DM)

Absent: Carla Singleton, Dwayne Gathers, Harry Dunlap, Sarwar Jahan

Meeting Start Time: 7:00pm

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

Note: The Chairperson announced three new Board Members.

Public Session

- 1. Ms. Josephine Crisastomo**, from the Mayor's Office, was the first guest speaker. She discussed ThriveNYC, a mental health initiative started by the First Lady of NYC, Chirlane McCray. ThriveNYC is a plan of action to guide the city toward a more effective and holistic system that outlines 54 initiatives, 23 of them new, to support the mental well-being of New Yorkers. Additionally, ThriveNYC creates a model that can be applied nationally and a framework for advocacy. ThriveNYC is a bold response to a challenging reality: one in five adult New Yorkers face a mental health disorder each year. Eight percent of high school students in New York City report attempting suicide, and more than one in four report feeling persistently sad or hopeless. Deaths because of unintentional drug overdose now outnumber both homicide and motor vehicle fatalities.
- 2. Mr. Mohammed M. Mujumder**, a Board Member, was the second guest speaker. He announced the Mujumder Family Foundation. The foundation does three things for those seeking help: they are Education, Housing Assistance, and helping Crime Victims.
- 3. Mr. Rogier F. van Vlissingen**, Public Member, was the third guest speaker. He announced that early October, there was an event called the "Community Supper" at Saint Helenas Church. He said it was a success and the goal was to teach individuals how to cook with whole foods. The next event will be on November 18th.
- 4. Dr. Reverend Sidney Hargrave**, a Community Activist, was the fourth guest speaker. Reverend Hargrave announced that he has been making frequent trips to Washington D.C. to protest the Affordable Care Act from being shut down by the current administration. He announced that President Trump signed an Executive Order that cuts 5.8 Trillion dollars from Medicaid and Medicare.

5. Mr. Michael Beltzer, a public member, was the fifth guest speaker. Mr. Beltzer reminded everyone that the 2nd Annual Spooktacular at the Soundview Amphitheater will be held on October 28th.

Elected Officials Report

1. Mr. Jason Cintron, from Councilmember Annabel's Office, was the first representative speaker. He announced that the Councilmember's office is still providing legal consultation services. He also announced that the office provides additional services and clinics as well. He added that the Councilmember and office staff are working alongside Assemblyman Crespo and his staff to do cleanups on all the Bruckner Blvd Overpasses.

2. Mr. Devon Harris & Ms. Arnelis Ramirez, from Assemblyman Marcos Crespo's Office, were the second representative speakers. He announced that the Assemblyman's office is having a meeting with Sanitation and P.S. 123 to clean up the overpass by Stratford Avenue. He added that the staff is following up with DOT in regards to two traffic lights to be installed at Colgate and Westchester Avenues and then on Wheeler and Watson Avenues.

3. Mr. Joshua Cortez, from the Mayor's Office, was the third representative speaker. He announced that the Mayor opened a workcenter for individuals who come from Puerto Rico in response to Hurricane Maria. He announced that the Mayor signed the "Office of Nightlight" bill.

4. Mr. Andy Toledo, from the Borough President's Office, was the first representative speaker. He announced that on Sunday, the Tour de Bronx Biking event will be active.

5. Ms. Leticia Teasley, from Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda's office, was the fifth representative speaker. Ms. Teasley announced that the Assemblyman's office is accepting donations to aid in Puerto Rico in the relief efforts. All donations will be accepted at the Assemblyman's office.

6. Ms. Beatriz Pradon, from the New York Public Advocate's Office, was the sixth representative speaker. Ms. Letitia James is asking the City of New York to provide such as government benefits, English/Spanish employees to help those coming from Puerto Rico, School education where the schools designate English and Spanish speaking individuals to help students from Puerto Rico here in the city.

Note: The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to go into an Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed M. Mujumder. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Note: At this time, the Chairperson and Board Members left the audience and into a private room to discuss.

Note: The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to go into the Business Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed M. Mujumder. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Business Session

Note: The Chairperson motioned to approve the September 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Chairperson's Report

Report was tabled.

District Manager's Report

Report was tabled.

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 that there are two events being held at Soundview Park. On Saturday, it will be a cleanup event held by several different organizations. On Sunday, the “Our fault/its my Park Day” event will be held.

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.

New Business

Ms. Linda Brown reminded the audience of the Senior’s Connected meeting on October 25th 2017. She also announced that there will be a Living Will/Proxies workshop on October 28th 2017 at the Sonia Sotomayor Community Center.

The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to adjourn the General Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Justin-Westbrook Lowery. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Note: Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm