



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 21st, 2017

Present: Abunoman Rahman, Brandon Ganaishlal, Carla Singleton, Daniell Porro III, Felipa Manaiza, Harry Dunlap, Henry Pelayo Jr., Isabelo Adames, Jaime Feliberty, Jame Tynan, Jennifer Ellison Lackard, Juan Torres, Justin Westbrook-Lowery, Kadesha Washington, Linda Brown, Loretta Masterson Mohammad Mujumder, Nelson Peralta, Nicolas Himidian Jr., Nicole Washington, Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins, Sharan Fernandez, Venus Williams

Absent: Benigno Cuevas, Lisa Diaz, Sarwar Jahan

Excused: Cruz Garcia, Dwayne Gathers

Meeting Start Time: 7:00pm

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

Public Session

- 1. Ms. Linda Brown**, a Board Member, was the first guest speaker. Ms. Brown announced that the next Seniors Connected meeting will be held on September 27th 2017 at 10am at the Sonia Sotomayor Community Center.
- 2. Ms. Deborah Oguamah**, a former Board Member, was the second guest speaker. Ms. Oguamah announced that she began the Kwanza event in 2009. She invited the audience to participate in the event on Friday, December 29th, 2017 between 4-8pm. The address of the event is 1315 Olmstead Avenue.
- 3. Mr. Michael Beltzer**, a former Board Member, was the third guest speaker. Mr. Beltzer thanked the Board for their support in some events he hosted during the summer. He announced the 2nd annual Soundview Spooktacular on Saturday October 28th 2017 from 3-6pm. The New York Public Library will be reading scary stories and there will be a costume contest.

4. **Ms. Martiza Cortaza**, an Outreach Specialist from the Human Resources Administration, was the fourth guest speaker. Ms. Cortaza left some materials for the audience.

5. **Ms. Melody Williams** was the fifth guest speaker.

Note: Ms. Williams was not present at the meeting. The Chairperson moved on to the next guest speaker.

6. **Ms. Joseph** was the sixth guest speaker. She announced that she has started a non-for-profit and is looking for girls between the ages of 14-18.

7. **Mr. Bryan H.**, from the New York Botanical Garden, was the seventh guest speaker. He announced that the Garden is surveying over 400 New Yorkers from the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Mexico, or Jamaica in order to find out which plants they use for medicinal purposes. The goal is to preserve these plants for future generations and help with medical services.

8. **Mr. Rogier F. van Vlissingen**, a former Board Member, was the eighth guest speaker. He announced that the New York Public Library will be celebrating Healthy Saturday, at 12pm they will be showing “Forks over Knives”. On October 7th, there will be a Whole Food Supper event from 3-5:30.

Elected Officials Report

1. **Mr. Andy Toledo**, from the Borough President’s Office, was the first representative speaker. He announced that the Board Member orientation for new members on Monday October 2nd, 2017. He added that the Borough President allocated 20 million dollars to Bronx schools. Mr. Toledo said that the Borough President is collaborating with other leaders to collect donations for relief aid for Mexico and Puerto on September 30th in the corner of Southern Blvd and Aldus Avenue.

2. **Mr. Jason Cintron**, from Councilmember Annabel’s Office, was the second representative speaker. He announced that the Councilmember’s office is still providing legal consultation services. He added that the Councilmember and office staff are in the works of getting together their annual Turkey and Toy drive. He announced the Kips Bay Day for Kids Festival. He encouraged the audience to attend NCO meetings.

3. **Ms. Helen Jacome**, from Senator Ruben Diaz Sr.’s Office, was the third representative speaker. She announced the Senator’s involvement with helping individuals who were affected by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. She added that the Senator will continue with the relief efforts and if anyone wants to help, they can contact the office to find out more information.

4. **Mr. Andy Salas**, from Senator Jeffrey D. Klein’s Office, was the fourth representative speaker. Mr. Salas announced that a shareholder of ShopRite met with Senator Klein and gave some updates for the project. They announced that they would be doing a Thanksgiving give away as a way to make up for the supermarket not being open/near open. Mr. Salas announced the opening of the homeless shelter at 1792 Lafayette Avenue and that local Elected Officials participated in a Public Hearing to combat the opening but the hearing was done too late.

4. Ms. Arnelis Ramirez, from Assemblyman Marcos Crespo's Office, was the fifth representative speaker. Ms. Ramirez announced that the Assemblyman's office is still working on the Stratford overpass in regards to cleaning it up and adding lighting to it. She also added that the office is working alongside P.S. 123 to address garbage that is being left over the weekend.

5. Ms. Leticia Teasley, from Assemblyman Luis Sepulvedas 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. Mr. Antirson Ortiz, from the Comptroller's Office, was the sixth representative speaker.

Note: The Chairperson motioned to go into the Business Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Venus Williams. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Business Session

Note: The Chairperson motioned to amend the September 2017 General Board meeting agenda to move the elections first. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kadesha Washington. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Nomination Committee

The Chairperson opened up the floor for nominations for the two open positions in the Board. The Chairperson distributed the voting sheets so that the Board members can begin voting for the vacant position of 1st Vice Chair.

Note: The Chairperson announced that Mr. Jaime Feliberty had removed his name from the ballot to run for 1st Vice Chair prior to the meeting.

Note: As Mr. Mohammed M. Mujumder ran unopposed for the position of 1st Vice Chair, he won the election by default. Ms. Shirley San Andres-Alonzo distributed the voting sheets for the vacant position of Secretary.

Note: The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to table all reports. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson announced that he created a finance committee to help oversee and see how funds are being spent throughout the board. The Chairman picked three members, Committee Chair Venus Williams, Kadesha Washington & Sharon Fernandez. They will help with strategies & ideas and work together with the Treasurer Nicole Washington. They will be in charge of the checks and balances of the Board's budget and what supplies will be ordered. The Chairperson addressed the attendance of the Board. He said that as of right now, there is no more excused absences. If someone is absent from the committee meeting, they have the opportunity to make up for it by going to another committee meeting that same month.

Note: The Chairperson announced that the results were in for the vacant position of Secretary. Mr. Daniel Porro III received 2 votes, Ms. Felipa Manaiza received 6 votes and Mr. Justin Westbrook-Lowery received 14 votes. Mr. Westbrook-Lowery won the election.

Note: The Secretary of the Board announced that on December 2nd, the Social Services Committee will be having a Mental Health/Disability event. He asked that any Board member provide any information for health providers willingly to participate.

District Manager's Report

Report 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.

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.

Note: Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm