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Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member

EVONNE CAPERS Board Chairperson

RAFAEL MOURE-PUNNETT District Manager

Youth and Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Laura James, Committee Chairperson Tuesday, November 12, 2024

The Youth and Education Committee met Tuesday, November 12, 2024 in-person at the district office and via Zoom Video Communications. The following Board Members attended the Youth and Education Committee Meeting: Cornell Brown, Evonne Capers (Virtual), Nicole Carter (Virtual), Frank Franz, Gail Irby, Laura James, Magdamary Marcano, Donald McLachlan, Reggie Powell, Carol Robinson (Virtual), Gladys Sotomayor, Porscha Wilson, and Annette Wright.

The Youth and Education Committee discussed the following:

Discussion on the Lambert Houses' School Siting

District Manager Rafael Moure-Punnett informed the Youth and Education Committee of the updates provided by Lambert Houses regarding the redevelopment project. The buildings on 180th Street (Phase 1) and Boston Road (Phase 2) have been demolished and their tenants were relocated into the newly constructed buildings. A representative from Lambert Houses spoke with District Manager Moure-Punnett about the concerns among tenants who must relocate during Phase 3. Residents had previously expressed a lack of transparency concerning the move-out/move-in process. Lambert Houses is unable to offer information about the buildings that will be constructed during Phase 3 because renegotiations with the city are in progress, as prompted by the start of each phase. This means that the rent for each unit, total number of apartments, and number of bedrooms is still undetermined.

District Manager Moure-Punnett also reiterated that the School Construction Authority (SCA) reported that schools within the district are undercapacity, and the developing a school at Lambert Houses was contingent on the SCA exercising the option of using the space to build a school. The Youth and Education Committee considered the history of Lambert Houses' application for the multi-building rezoning and the implications of Lambert Houses delaying the school construction until the final stage of the redevelopment. The Youth and Education Committee reaffirmed that Lambert Houses has an obligation to provide a community benefit as stipulated when the Board approved the multi-building rezoning. A motion to write a letter to Phipps Houses requesting that a community center and/or supermarket in their new commercial space if a school is not feasible was made by Laura James and seconded by Annette Wright.

• Bronx River Art Center (BRAC) Art Class Sponsorship Outreach

District Manager Moure-Punnett informed the Youth and Education Committee that only two students have signed up for the art classes sponsored by the Board at the Bronx River Art Center. The Youth and Education Committee shared recommendations to build relationships with school administrators and parents. The Youth and Education Committee also discussed plans to get feedback from educators and families, which the committee can then work towards addressing.