



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6
1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457
Telephone: (718) 579-6990 Fax: (718) 579-6875 Email: bronxcb6@bronxcb6.org
Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. WENDY RODRIGUEZ
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting minutes of Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Members Present:

Stephanie Addo-Zuniga, Jannie Armstrong, Virginia Bird, Glenda Bond, Evonne Capers, Nelson Chimilo, Claudette Coles, Diana Diaz, Margarita Espinosa, Frank Franz, Maria Garcia, Lanell Gardenhire, Audrey Harden, Laura James, Frank Kolovic, Maria Latimer, Sara Nunez-Mejia, Michael Nelson, Floretta O'Brien, Victoria Pamas, Rosa Peraza, Hiriam Ratliff, Moussa Siby, Gil Simmons, Carrie Taft, and Jacquetta Whaley

Members Absent:

Kia Ferguson, Jerry Jackson, Octavia Lewis, Marie Louise Ocran (Leave of Absence), Paul Ramirez, Wendy Rodriguez, and Michael Yu

Elected Officials Present:

Assemblyman Victor Pichardo

Elected Officials Representatives Present:

Thomas Lucania, representing Bronx Borough president Ruben Diaz Jr.
Romina Enea, representing Council Member Ritchie Torres
Justin Sanchez, representing Council Member Rafael Salamanca
Jay Baez, representing NYS Senator Gustavo Rivera
Charisse Suarez, representing NYS Assemblyman Jose Rivera
Adam Fome, representing NYS Assemblyman Michael Blake

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The April 11, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was held at the Volunteers of America, which is located at 1887 Bathgate Avenue, Bronx, New York, and was called to order at approximately 6:44 PM by First Vice-Chairperson Sara Nunez-Mejia.

II. INVOCATION

The meeting's invocation was delivered by Board Treasurer, Mrs. Jannie Armstrong.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2018

III. COMMUNITY PERIOD

Individuals who asked to address the community board as part of the meeting's Community Period included:

Arisleyda De La Cruz, LiteracyINC

Ms. De La Cruz informed us about LiteracyINC's Very Involved Parent (VIP) Academy program. The VIP Academy is a program that assist parents to make positive changes in their community through literacy, learn how to support their young readers and also assist with creating a literacy rich environment. The academy will take place on Fridays from April 13, 2018 to May 4, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Bronx Library Center, 310 East Kingsbridge Road.

Roseanne Andrade, representing Teddy Bear Project

Ms. Andrade announced that the Teddy Bear Project will be conducting a sweep at Concrete Plant Park on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 11:00 AM with Riverkeeper. During this sweep, participants will be removing trash and planting plants to restore the location. Interested participants can sign up to volunteer at www.riverkeeper.org/sweep or email Teddy Bear Project for information at CQ4CATS11@gmail.com. She also encourage the community to vote for the tree guards at Vidalia Park under the Participatory Budgeting ballot for Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.

Gabriel Hernandez, representing The Last Call Church

Mr. Hernandez introduced himself to the community. He also mentioned ways he could collaborate with the Community Board to better serve our community.

Kristalynn Leonard

Ms. Leonard asked the community board members to please reconsider adopting the motion that pertain to approving a salary increase request for the District Manager.

Johnny Rivera, representing Acacia Network

Mr. Rivera invited the community to attend the Bronx Opioid Summit on Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at the Metropolitan College of New York Bronx Campus. This Opioid Conference will bring together a broad range of speakers and participants for a community-based dialogue on actions to identify, address and reduce the harms related to opioids in the Bronx.

Linda Rosenthal, representing Volunteers of America-Bronx Early Learning Center

Ms. Rosenthal welcomed the community to the Bronx Early Learning Center. She also informed us about several services that that are available at the Bronx Early Learning Center. For instance, their students with a range of developmental delays learn alongside typically developing children through the Universal Pre-K program. They also provide multidisciplinary evaluations depending on what the child may need.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2018

IV. BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr's report was presented by his Director of Community Boards and Legislative Affairs, Mr. Thomas Lucania. The report included, but was not limited to, the following information:

- Mr. Lucania informed us that Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. is strongly working towards addressing health hazards and to improve the living conditions for NYCHA residents.
- Mr. Lucania announced that the new ferry route from the Soundview community in the Bronx is projected to serve 400,000 riders traveling to and from East 90th Street, East 34th Street and Wall Street. The ferry will be \$2.75 a ride, the same as a subway ride.
- Mr. Lucania also announced that Bronx Week will begin Thursday, May 10th through Sunday, May 20th. For more information, please visit ilovethebronx.com.

V. ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Assemblyman Victor Pichardo

Assemblyman Victor Pichardo informed us that the New York State FY 2019 Executive Budget was recently passed which includes funding towards after school programs and modification in the Enhanced Tuition Award program. He also informed us that the New York City Tenant Support Unit can assist tenants with housing related issues such as tenant harassment, evictions, overcharges, denial of repairs and services. This assistance is available at his office every Thursday from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. He also encourage the community to participate in the Participatory Budgeting which allows community members to decide how to spend part of the City's budget.

Romina Enea, representing Council Member Ritchie Torres

Ms. Enea announced that Council Member Ritchie Torres is participating in Participatory Budgeting New York City, where community members of his council district directly decide how to spend \$1 million of his public budget. She encouraged the community to vote during the week of April 7th to April 15th online or at one of the voting poll sites.

Justin Sanchez, representing Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.

Mr. Sanchez informed us that their office provides constituent services, housing assistance, immigration services and senior citizens services. Mr. Sanchez informed us that Council Member Salamanca Jr. is participating in Participatory Budgeting New York City, where community members of his council district who are at least eleven years old or at least in the 6th grade directly decide how to spend \$1 million of his public budget. He encouraged the community to vote during the week of April 7th to April 15th online or at one of the voting poll sites. Mr. Sanchez could be reached by telephone at (718) 402-6130 or by email at jsanchez3@council.nyc.gov.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2018

Jay Baez, representing Senator Gustavo Rivera

Mr. Baez announced are interested in attending are to RSVP by Monday, April 23, 2018 with Ms. Rachel Ferrari at ferrari@nysenate.gov or at (718) 933-2034.

Charisse Suarez, representing Assemblyman Jose Rivera

Ms. Suarez informed us that their office is offering tenant assistance every Friday from 11:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Adam Fome, representing Assemblyman Michael Blake

Mr. Fome informed us that Assemblyman Blake has been working closely with addressing the health hazards and improving living conditions with NYCHA. He also informed us that their office provides assistance for tenants every Tuesday from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

Tom Fein, representing the Department of Parks and Recreation

Mr. Fein presented on the proposed redesign of the Prospect Playground that is located on East 176th Street and Prospect Avenue. The design was created with the community's input in mind. The goal of the redesigning is to include access and entrance improvements, active play facilities upgrades and seating and lighting improvements. They will also be adding water drinking fountains xxx

Michael Nixon, representing Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation

Mr. McNamee presented on the Department of Small Business Services' Chamber On-the-Go Program. Chamber On-the-Go is a mobile business support program that helps New York City's small business owners access free services without leaving their storefront by deploying trained business specialists to connect with them. During an on-site visit, a Chamber On-the-Go specialists will conduct a snapshot assessment of the business' strengths and needs, connect business owners with free resources to help their business thrive from the Department of Small Business Services, Chambers of Commerce, and local organizations, provide immediate business support and make appointments for future services and answer questions and collect feedback on the challenges and opportunities facing their specific business community.

VII. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager John Sanchez's report was included in our meeting package. District Manager John Sanchez asked that we read the report at our leisure.

- Mr. Sanchez introduced Ms. Lariely Sanchez as the new principal of KIPP Freedom Middle School which is scheduled to open at 1825 Prospect Avenue this August with 90 5th graders.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2018

- **Mr. Sanchez announced that the Bronx River Art Center is back and is offering their spring art workshops beginning on Saturday, April 21, 2018.**

VIII. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

A roll call attendance was taken confirming the presence of a quorum of twenty-six (26) members.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee reports were included in our meeting packages. First Vice-Chairperson Sara Nunez-Mejia requested that we read the reports at our leisure.

X. ADOPTION OF MOTIONS

- 1. A motion to adopt the minutes of Bronx Community Board #6's meeting of February 14, 2018 without adopting motion #5 was tabled upon a motion made by Mr. Frank Franz, seconded by Ms. Evonne Capers and adopted by a vote of twenty-four in favor, two opposed and zero abstentions.**
- 2. A motion to adopt the minutes of Bronx Community Board #6's meeting of March 14, 2018 was tabled upon a motion made by Mr. Frank Franz, seconded by Ms. Maria Garcia and adopted by a vote of twenty-five in favor, one opposed and zero abstentions.**
- 3. A motion to issue a letter of support to the Department of Parks and Recreation on the Prospect Playground renovation design was made by Ms. Margarita Espinosa, seconded by Mr. Gil Simmons and adopted by a vote of twenty-six in favor, zero opposed and zero abstentions.**
- 4. A motion to issue a letter to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services requesting that it supports Bronx Community Board #6's suggested development of the vacant property behind the Community Board's district office, 1932 Arthur Avenue, was made by Ms. Maria Garcia, seconded by Mr. Michael Nelson and adopted by a vote of twenty-five in favor, zero opposed, and one abstention.**
- 5. A motion to issue a letter of support to VIP Community Services to continue their Department of Homeless Services contract for eleven SRO units at 2029 Hughes Avenue was made by Mrs. Sara Nunez-Mejia, seconded by Mrs. Virginia Bird and adopted by a vote of twenty-five in favor, one opposed and zero abstentions.**

A vote to amend the motion to approve District Manager's 12% salary increase request effective as of February 14, 2018 to read as "*A motion to approve District Manager's 12% salary increase request effective as of July 1, 2017*" was amended by Ms. Evonne Capers, seconded by Mr. Frank Franz and was passed by a vote of nineteen in favor, seven opposed, and zero abstentions.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2018

6. A motion to approve District Manager's 12% salary increase request effective as of July 1, 2017 was made by Ms. Carrie Taft, seconded by Mr. Gil Simmons and adopted by a vote of nineteen in favor, seven opposed, and zero abstentions.
7. A motion to have the Chairperson prepare and send each meeting notice and agenda beginning on May was made by Ms. Rosa Peraza, seconded by Ms. Diana Diaz, and defeated by a vote of eight in favor, eighteen opposed, and zero abstentions.

However, please be advised that each meeting notice and agenda is presently prepared and sent by the Chairperson in consulting with the Executive Committee.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to discuss, the April 11, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM pursuant to a motion made by Mrs. Sara Nunez-Mejia, seconded by Ms. Carrie Taft, and unanimously adopted by acclamation (twenty-six in favor, zero opposed and zero abstentions).

Respectfully submitted:

Carla J. Leon
Community Associate

ATTENDANCE AND VOTING RECORDING FOR BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6 MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2018

NAME	ATTENDANCE	TO TABLE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2018	TO TABLE MINUTES OF MARCH 14, 2018	LOS PARKS AND RECREATION FOR PROSPECT PLAYGROUND	LOS TO DCAS	LOS TO VIP COMMUNITY SERVICES	DISTRICT MANAGER SALARY INCREASE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 14, 2018	DISTRICT MANAGER'S SALARY INCREASE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017	AGENDA TO BE PREPARED AND SENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON	ADJOURNMENT
Stephanie Addo	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Jannie Armstrong	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Virginia Bird	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Glenda Bond	Present	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Evonne Capers	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Nelson Chimilo	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Claudette Coles	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Diana Diaz	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Margarita Espinosa	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Kia Ferguson										
Frank J. Franz	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Maria Garcia	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Lanell Gardenhire	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Audrey Harden	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Jerry L. Jackson										
Laura James	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Frank Kolovic	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Maria Latimer	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Octavia Lewis										
Sara Nunez-Mejia	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Michael Nelson	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Floretta A. O'Brien	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Marie Louise Ocran		Leave of Absence								
Victoria Pamas	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rosa Peraza	Present	No	No	Yes	Abstain	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Paul Ramirez										
Hiram Ratliff	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Wendy Rodriguez										
Moussa Siby	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Gil Simmons	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Carrie Taft	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Jacquetta Whaley	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Michael Yu										