



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**  
**1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457**  
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*Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President*

**MS. EVONNE CAPERS**  
Board Chairperson

**MR. JOHN SANCHEZ**  
District Manager

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6**  
**Meeting minutes of Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

**Members Present:**

Jannie Armstrong, Clarita Bailon, Virginia Bird, Evonne Capers, Christopher Collazo, Claudette Coles, Margarita Espinosa, Eduardo Garcia, Maria Garcia, Lanell Gardenhire, Maria Latimer, Sara Nunez-Mejia, Michael Nelson, Floretta O'Brien, Rosa Peraza, Wendy Rodriguez, Angel Rosario, Lisa Sanchez, Angel Santana, Gil Simmons, Carrie Taft, Jacquetta Whaley.

**Members Absent:**

Stephannie Addo-Zuniga, Glenda Bond, Nicole Carter, Nelson Chimilo, Diana Diaz (Leave of Absence), Frank Franz, Audrey Harden, Laura James, Frank Kolovic, Marie Louise Ocran (Leave of Absence), Marilyn Oliver, Victoria Pamas, Paul Ramirez (Leave of Absence), Hiram Ratliff, Moussa Siby, and Michael Yu.

**Elected Officials Representatives Present:**

Romina Enea, representing Council Member Ritchie Torres  
Josue Melendez, representing Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.  
Fernando Garcia, representing NYS Senator Luis Sepulveda  
Yaz Duarte, representing NYS Assemblyman Michael Blake  
Nicholas Peters, representing NYS Assemblyman Victor Pichardo  
Justin A. Westbrook-Lowery, representing NYS Assemblywoman Karines Reyes

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The December 12, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was held at Mount Carmel Senior Center, which is located at 2405 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York, and was called to order at approximately 6:30 PM by Chairperson Evonne Capers.

**II. INVOCATION**

The meeting's invocation was delivered by Jannie Armstrong.

**III. COMMUNITY PERIOD**

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

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**Donnell Simon, representing New York City Veterans Affairs**

Mr. Simon introduced himself as the Community Outreach Coordinator for the New York City Veterans Affairs. His office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. His role is to promote services for veterans including housing and schooling. He also informed the community about available tax breaks for veteran homeowners. Mr. Simon can be reached at (917) 628-8532 for assistance and further information.

**Sandra Fonseca, representing St. Barnabas Hospital Health System**

Ms. Fonseca announced that there is a new Senior Vice President for Government and Community Affairs at St. Barnabas Hospital Health System. Additionally, St. Barnabas Hospital is offering workshops for community members focusing on topics including Prenatal and Infant Care, Infectious Disease Prevention, Adolescent Health, Women's Health, Mental Health, Patients' Rights, and more. Lastly, Ms. Fonseca announced that each month there is a Community Health Awareness meeting every third Wednesday of the month from 9:30 AM until 10:30 AM.

**Krystallyn Leonard**

Ms. Leonard informed the community about Encounter NYC, a young adult event occurring every third Friday of each month. The next meeting will occur on Friday, December 21st from 7:00 until 10:00 PM at 1735 Unionport Road, Bronx, New York.

**IV. BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr's report was included in our meeting packages. Chairperson Evonne Capers requested that we read the report at our leisure.

**V. ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

**Romina Enea, representing Councilmember Ritchie Torres**

Ms. Enea wished the community a happy holiday season. She informed the community that Councilmember Torres introduced legislation that would make it illegal for businesses to ban cash transactions. As we approach the anniversary of the Belmont fires, their office is distributing free stove knob covers. Lastly, their office received funding for the installation of tree guards along 187th Street up to Southern Boulevard last funding cycle, and the work will begin at the end of the year.

**Josue Melendez, representing Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.**

Mr. Melendez informed the community that Councilmember Salamanca Jr. was involved in a sit in at City Hall, advocating for legislation that would require a 15% set-aside for all new buildings that receive city funding. Additionally, Councilmember Salamanca Jr. is advocating for legislation mandating the Department of Homeless Services quarterly reports to Community Boards and elected officials. Reports would serve to tackle the problem of overburdening of homeless shelters. Mr. Melendez informed us that their office is distributing 500 tickets for homeless families for their Christmas Party on December 21, 2018

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on a first come, first served basis. Their district office is located on 1070 Southern Boulevard and can be reached by telephone at (718) 402-6130. Their office will also be distributing stove knob covers.

**Fernando Garcia, representing NYS Senator Luis Sepulveda**

Mr. Garcia introduced himself to the community and informed us about their office's toy drive. Toys can be dropped off at their district office located at 900 Rogers Place through January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. For more information call (718) 991-3161.

**Yaz Duarte, representing NYS Assemblyman Michael Blake**

Ms. Duarte informed the community their office's toy drive occurring on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 from 3:00 until 4:00 PM. If you need more information, the district office can be reached at (718) 538-3829.

**Nicholas Peters, representing NYS Assemblyman Pichardo**

Mr. Peters reported that Assemblyman Pichardo has donated three million dollars to Bailey Houses for roof repairs. He also informed the community about literacy services available at their office on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in January. Assemblyman Pichardo's office offers resources for housing, immigration, and other concerns. On Thursdays from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM, a tenant specialist is available to help residents with housing issues. Lastly, their office is closed for two weeks at the end of December. The office will reopen in January. Their office is located at 2175 Jerome Avenue and can be contacted by phone at (718) 933-6909.

**Justin Westbrook-Lowery, representing Assemblywoman Karines Reyes**

Mr. Westbrook-Lowery informed us that Assemblywoman Karines Reyes is the new Assembly Member for the 87<sup>th</sup> District. Her office is located at 1973 Westchester Avenue. Her office is also distributing tickets to the Christmas event at Maestro's on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

**VI. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Sanchez's district manager's report included, but was not limited to, the following information:

- Mr. Sanchez informed the community that Friends of Tremont Park planted over 1,600 daffodils at their Daffodil Bulb Planting day on Thursday, November 15, 2018.
- Mr. Sanchez announced that the Community Board District Office is hiring paid interns for the Spring Semester.
- Mr. Sanchez thanked the Stella Adler Studio of Acting and the Bronx River Art Center for the December 9<sup>th</sup> Romeo and Juliet performance for the community.
- Mr. Sanchez also announced that Bronx Community Board #6's Third Annual Holiday Party and Toy Giveaway will be at Grand Slam Banquet Hall, 478 East Tremont Avenue, on Friday, December 14, 2018 at 6:00 PM, and thanked the board members for donating.
- Mr. Sanchez announced some events in store for 2019 including, but not limited to: Financial Literacy Workshops, youth sports nights, and a Senior's trip to the Bronx Zoo.

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**VIII. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

A roll call attendance was taken confirming the presence of a quorum of twenty-two (22) members.

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The committee reports were included in our meeting packages. Chairperson Evonne Capers requested that we read the reports at our leisure.

**XI. ADOPTION OF MOTIONS**

1. A motion to adopt the minutes of Bronx Community Board #6's meeting of November 14, 2018 was made by Mrs. Virginia Bird, seconded by Ms. Jannie Armstrong and adopted by a vote of twenty-one in favor, zero opposed and one abstention.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to discuss, the December 12, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was adjourned at approximately 7:30 PM pursuant to a motion made by Mr. Gil Simmons, seconded by Mr. Michael Nelson and unanimously adopted by acclamation (twenty-two in favor, zero opposed and zero abstentions).

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Carly Wine**  
**Community Associate**

**Carla Leon**  
**Community Associate**

**ATTENDANCE AND VOTING RECORDING FOR BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6 MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2018**

| NAME                | ATTENDANCE       | MINUTES OF<br>NOVEMBER 14,<br>2018 | ADJOURMENT |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Stephanie Addo      |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Jannie Armstrong    | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Clarita Bailon      | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Virginia Bird       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Glenda Bond         |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Evonne Capers       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Nicole Carter       |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Nelson Chimilio     |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Collazo       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Claudette Coles     | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Diana Diaz          | Leave of Absence |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Margarita Espinosa  | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Frank J. Franz      |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Eduardo Garcia      | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Maria Garcia        | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Lanell Gardenhire   | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Audrey Harden       |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Laura James         |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Frank Kolovic       |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Maria Latimer       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Michael Nelson      | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Sara Nunez-Mejia    | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Floretta A. O'Brien | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Marie Louise Ocran  | Leave of Absence |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Marilyn Oliver      |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Victoria Pamias     |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Rosa Peraza         | Present          | Abstain                            | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Paul Ramirez        | Leave of Absence |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Hiram Ratliff       |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Wendy Rodriguez     | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Angel Rosario       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Lisa Sanchez        | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Angel Santana       | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Moussa Siby         |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Gil Simmons         | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Carrie Taft         | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Jacquetta Whaley    | Present          | Yes                                | Yes        |  |  |  |  |
| Michael Yu          |                  |                                    |            |  |  |  |  |