



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, October 10, 2018

Members Present:

Jannie Armstrong, Clarita Bailon, Virginia Bird, Nicole Carter, Nelson Chimilo, Christopher Collazo, Claudette Coles, Margarita Espinosa, Frank Franz, Eduardo Garcia, Maria Garcia, Lanell Gardenhire, Audrey Harden, Laura James, Sara Nunez-Mejia, Michael Nelson, Floretta O'Brien, Marilyn Oliver, Victoria Pamas, Hiram Ratliff, Angel Rosario, Lisa Sanchez, Angel Santana, Gil Simmons, Jacquetta Whaley, and Michael Yu.

Members Absent:

Stephannie Addo-Zuniga, Glenda Bond, Evonne Capers, Diana Diaz (Leave of Absence), Kia Ferguson, Frank Kolovic, Maria Latimer, Marie Louise Ocran (Leave of Absence), Rosa Peraza (Leave of Absence), Paul Ramirez (Leave of Absence), Wendy Rodriguez, Moussa Siby, and Carrie Taft.

Elected Officials Present:

NYS Assemblyman Victor Pichardo

Elected Officials Representatives Present:

Desiree Pene, representing Council Member Ritchie Torres
Josue Melendez, representing Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.
Fernando Garcia, representing NYS Senator Luis Sepulveda
Charisse Suarez, representing NYS Senator Jose Rivera
Andreen Campbell, representing NYS Assemblyman Michael Blake
Nicholas Peters, representing NYS Assemblyman Victor Pichardo
Antirson Ortiz, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The October 10, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was held at St. Barnabas Hospital, which is located at 4422 Third Avenue, Bronx, New York, and was called to order at approximately 6:35 PM by First Vice-Chairperson Maria Garcia.

II. INVOCATION

The meeting's invocation was delivered by Reverend Marilyn Oliver.

III. COMMUNITY PERIOD

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

Dr. Rajan Gurunathan, representing St. Barnabas Hospital Health System

Dr. Gurunathan welcomed us to the St. Barnabas Hospital campus and introduced himself as the Chief of the Division for General Medicine. He informed us that St. Barnabas Hospital has several ambulatory care practices, Center for Comprehensive Care located at 4422 Third Avenue, Bronx Park Medical Pavilion located at 2016 Bronxdale Avenue and Arthur Avenue Comprehensive Care located 2385 Arthur Avenue where there's a large variety of services and primary care doctors that focus of the health and wellness of their communities.

Kyung Mi Bae, representing the Department of Education

Ms. Mi Bae informed the community about the Head Start program that provides free high-quality early child development activities and educational programs in the community for eligible children ages 3 and 4 and for their families. All Head Start programs offer full-day, year-round care. Head Start has some eligibility requirements for families. Families who are interested are encouraged to find out if they are eligible by contacting a Head Start program directly.

Wendy Arias, representing New York Business Licensing Group

Ms. Arias announced that Glitch Bar and Grill at 441 East 187th Street will be operating as a family and local sport bar on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Mondays between the hours of 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM and on Sundays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 AM serving Latin food. Glitch Bar and Grill is currently under construction.

Sergeant Franklin Bonilla, representing the 48th Police Precinct

Sergeant Bonilla introduced himself as the Supervisor for the Neighborhood Coordination Officers of the 48th Police Precinct. He informed us that the Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) serve as liaisons between the police and the community - they are not responsible for answering emergency calls. They are given more time and opportunity to collaborate with the residents in identifying and solving local problems and crime. The Neighborhood Coordination Officers conduct meetings that are held to hear from a broad range of voices about what it will take to make all the residents of our neighborhood feel safe and secure. They have also been able to participate with sporting activities with the youth of our community and will continue to commit to that participation.

Erica Maldonado, representing Legal Hand Tremont

Ms. Maldonado announced that Legal Hand Tremont located at 713 East Tremont will be opening on Thursday, November 1, 2018. She informed us that Legal Hand provides free legal information, assistance and referrals to help you resolve issues that affect your life, in areas like housing, family, immigration, divorce, and domestic violence.

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Wilson Francis, representing Tremont Library

Mr. Francis invited the community to the opening of the Tremont Library Sound Lab on Friday, October 19, 2018 at 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM. The Tremont Library Sound Lab is a first of its kind multi-media lab resource offering digital audio workstations, instruments and a recording booth.

Bridget McBrien and Jonathan Mclean, representing The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Service

Ms. McBrien and Mr. Mclean provided the community with an update on the youth residence that's going to be developed on 4462 Park Avenue. The development will be for female youth between the ages of twelve and twenty who have been placed on foster care. The development will consist of nineteen beds. The goal for this development will be to provide treatment, services, employment skills and opportunities to that will allow them to return back to their homes and communities successfully.

IV. BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr's report was reported 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 announced that Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. will host his annual celebration of Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month, "Mese della Cultura Italia", at the Schiff Family Great Hall on the grounds of the Bronx Zoo on Thursday, October 11, 2018.
- Mr. Lucania also announced that Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. will host his annual PumpkinFest and Halloween Spooktacular at the Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club on Wednesday October 31, 2018 from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM.
- Mr. Lucania informed the Community Board Members about the required annual training session entitled: *Sexual Harassment Prevention: What to Know About Unlawful and Inappropriate Behaviors in the Workplace* that must be completed by all Community Board Members by Friday, December 14, 2018. The Community Board Members can complete this training session at the community board district office and take the course on a computer, at the Bronx Borough President's office and take the course on a computer or as a lecture on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 11:00 AM or Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 5:30 PM, and at the Department of Citywide Administrative Services' offices at 1 Centre Street.

V. ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

NYS Assemblyman Pichardo

Assemblyman Pichardo informed the community about a job fair his office is hosting on November 1st at Bronx Community College's Holston Hall from 3:00 until 6:00 PM. At least 20 organizations will be in attendance. Dress professionally and bring a resume. On September 21st, his office held a Peace March for International Day of Peace. He also informed us that their office provides tenant support from HRA on

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Thursdays from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM. On October 26th, Assemblyman Pichardo's office is partnering with St. Barnabas Hospital to host a mobile mammography event where women can receive free screening. No insurance is needed. The mobile unit will be at 114 East 188th Street from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. To make an appointment, call (718)960-3931. His office will also be hosting an Immigration One Stop event on Saturday, October 27th from 12:00 PM until 3:00 PM at P.S. 33. Attendees can receive assistance with immigration and citizenship status. Lastly, his office is partnering with the Bronx Defense Attorney's office and NYPD to host a gun disposal event on October 13 from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM at the Mitchell Community Center and Holy Spirit Church. Guns can be disposed at these events in exchange for money. Guns can also be registered with the local police department.

Famod Konneh, representing Mayor Bill de Blasio

Mr. Konneh informed the homeowners in the community about the Property Tax Commission Public Hearing occurring on Thursday, October 10, 2018 at 6:30 PM at 1300 Morris Park Avenue. Additionally, he informed the community about a town hall being held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, October 17 at Metropolitan College. The address is 463 East 149th Street. Lastly, Mr. Konneh discussed the Mayor's initiative to close Rikers Island and instead create local community jails. Conversation around the Bronx site for a borough jail has been highly contentious, but the Mayor is dedicated to continuing the conversation around criminal justice reform.

Charisse Suarez, representing Senator Jose Rivera

Ms. Suarez informed the community that Senator Rivera's office had a successful summer filled with community events and concerts. Senator Rivera's office offers a tenant assistance program every other Friday. Call ahead to make an appointment. Additionally, their office provides free notary services. Lastly, their office is planning to hold a homeless support event at Fordham Plaza at the end of this year.

Andreen Campbell, representing NYS Assemblyman Michael Blake

Ms. Campbell informed that their office provides tenant services every Tuesday from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM. If you need more information, the district office can be reached at (718) 538-3829. She also encouraged attendees to register to vote. Over the summer, the Assemblyman's office provided over 1000 backpacks with school supplies to children in his district. On Wednesday, October 17 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Assemblyman Blake is partnering with Senator Sepulveda, Councilmember Salamanca and Councilmember Gibson to host a job fair at Bronx Academy. Bronx Academy is located at 1716 Southern Boulevard.

Desiree Pene, representing Councilmember Ritchie Torres

Ms. Pene informed the community about the immigration services available at their office, some of which include citizenship assistance, petitions, and consultations. The immigration services are provided by CUNY and are by appointment on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. She also informed us that their office also provides a family lawyer on the last Thursday of each month. Lastly, Ms. Enea reported that Councilmember Torres has secured more security cameras in our district in addition to increased security by NYPD.

Josue Melendez, representing Councilmember Rafael Salamanca

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Mr. Melendez informed the community about Councilmember Salamanca's bill to create an app for substance abuse addiction. The app would provide information about clinics and syringe disposal locations. Additionally, he promoted the job fair occurring on October 17 in partnership with Michael Blake's office.

Antirson Ortiz, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer

Mr. Ortiz informed the community about the Comptroller's call for New York City to not simply develop affordable housing, but to also preserve and fund affordable housing. Additionally, their office is interested in creating a chief diversity office.

VI. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Mr. Sanchez informed us that Bronx Community Board #6 was designated as a Banking Development District. This will allow Popular Bank to loan additional funds to small businesses, individuals, and conduct additional complimentary financial literacy workshops.
- Mr. Sanchez announced that Ms. Audrey Harden, Board Member, is leading free fitness classes at the Bronx Neighborhood Action Center located at 1826 Arthur Avenue on Wednesdays evenings at 6:00 PM.
- Mr. Sanchez also informed us that the district office is available to the community, organizations or city agencies that require a space to conduct meetings or events.
- Mr. Sanchez also announced that Daisy Girl Scout (kindergarteners and first graders) will be meeting at our district office on Monday evenings from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM for the remainder of the year.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

Daisy Rodriguez and Michael Yu, representing Wildlife Conservation Society

Ms. Rodriguez presented on the Bronx Zoo's Con Edison substation construction. They are seeking support from the community board for a capital project that would address operational issues. If passed, the construction would occur over the span of 12 to 18 months. About 50 trees would need to be removed in addition to portions of the existing fencing in order for the construction to begin. Approximately 44 of the trees would be replaced upon completion. Community board members expressed concern about the loss of healthy trees.

VIII. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

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

IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS

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1. **The community board conducted a public hearing on Bronx Community Board #6's Fiscal Year 2020 Preliminary Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests.**

No one requested to testify as part of the public hearing on the public hearing stated above. Therefore, First Vice-Chairperson Garcia ended the public hearing.

2. **The community board conducted a public hearing pursuant to the city's Uniform Land Use Review procedure applications 190049ZMX, 190050ZRX, and 190051PPX. Jointly, the applications, if approved by all relevant authorities, will facilitate the development of an 11-story, 158- unit residential building at 656 East 176th Street Bronx, New York 10457 (Block 2945, Lot 34).**

No one requested to testify as part of the public hearing on the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure application stated above. Therefore, First Vice-Chairperson Garcia ended the public hearing.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee reports were included in our meeting packages. First Vice-Chairperson Garcia 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 September 12, 2018 was made by Ms. Margarita Espinosa, seconded by Mr. Michael Yu and adopted by a vote of twenty-three in favor, one opposed and zero abstentions. (Please note that board members, Ms. Nicole Carter and Ms. Lanell Gardenhire, left the meeting prior to this motion).**
2. **A motion to adopt Bronx Community Board #6's Fiscal Year 2020 Preliminary Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests as submitted or with the following changes (if any) was made by Mr. Christopher Collazo, seconded by Ms. Jannie Armstrong and adopted by a vote of twenty-four in favor, zero oppositions and zero abstentions. (Please note that board members, Ms. Nicole Carter and Ms. Lanell Gardenhire, left the meeting prior to this motion).**
3. **A motion to approve Uniform Land Use Review procedure applications 190049ZMX, 190050ZRX, and 190051PPX. Jointly, the applications, if approved by all relevant authorities, will facilitate the development of an 11-story, 158-unit residential building at 656 East 176th Street Bronx, New York 10457 (Block 2945, Lot 34) was made by Ms. Floretta O'Brien, seconded by Ms. Maria Garcia and adopted by a vote of twenty in favor, zero oppositions and four abstentions. (Please note that board members, Ms. Nicole Carter and Ms. Lanell Gardenhire, left the meeting prior to this motion).**
4. **A motion to provide a letter of support to the Wildlife Conservation Society for the Bronx Zoo's electrical substation construction was made by Ms. Victoria Pamas, seconded by Ms. Margarita Espinosa and adopted by a vote of twenty in favor, one opposition and three abstentions. (Please note that board members, Ms. Nicole Carter and Ms. Lanell Gardenhire, left the meeting prior to this motion).**

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5. A motion to provide a letter of support to the New York City Department of Transportation for the one way conversion of Beaumont Avenue between East 187th Street and East 189th Street was made by Mr. Angel Santana, seconded by Ms. Maria Garcia and adopted by a vote of nineteen in favor, one opposition and four abstentions. (Please note that board members, Ms. Nicole Carter and Ms. Lanell Gardenhire, left the meeting prior to this motion).

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to discuss, the October 10, 2018 meeting of Bronx Community Board #6 was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM pursuant to a motion made by Mr. Gil Simmons, seconded by Mr. Frank Franz and unanimously adopted by acclamation (twenty-four in favor, zero opposed and zero abstentions).

Respectfully submitted:

Carly Wine
Community Associate

Carla Leon
Community Associate

*Honorable Ritchie Torres,
City Council Member, 15th Council District*

*Honorable Rafael Salamanca Jr.,
City Council Member, 17th Council District*

ATTENDANCE AND VOTING RECORDING FOR BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #6 MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2018

NAME	ATTENDANCE	MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2018	FY 2020 BUDGET REQUESTS	ULURP APPLICATIONS	LOS TO WILDLIFE	LOS TO DOT	ADJOURMENT
Stephanie Addo							
Jannie Armstrong	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clarita Bailon	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Virginia Bird	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Glenda Bond							
Evonne Capers							
Nicole Carter	Present						
Nelson Chimilio	Present	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Yes	Abstain	Yes
Chris Collazo	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Claudette Coles	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Diana Diaz	Leave of Absence						
Margarita Espinosa	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kia Ferguson							
Frank J. Franz	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eduardo Garcia	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Maria Garcia	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lanell Gardenhire	Present						
Audrey Harden	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Laura James	Present	Yes	Yes	Abstain	No	Abstain	Yes
Frank Kolovic							
Maria Latimer							
Michael Nelson	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sara Nunez-Mejia	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Floretta A. O'Brien	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Yes	Yes
Marie Louise Ocran	Leave of Absence						
Marilyn Oliver	Present	Abstain	Yes	Abstain	Yes	Yes	Yes
Victoria Pamiás	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rosa Peraza	Leave of Absence						
Paul Ramirez	Leave of Absence						
Hiram Ratliff	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Abstain	Yes
Wendy Rodriguez							
Angel Rosario	Present	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Abstain	Abstain	Yes
Lisa Sanchez	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Angel Santana	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Moussa Siby							
Gil Simmons	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Carrie Taft							
Jacquetta Whaley	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Michael Yu	Present	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes