

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of Bronx Community Board 8
March 1, 2023 via Zoom

Committee Members Present

Sylvia Alexander, Bob Bender, Kelli Buford, Lisa Daub, Moses Esema, Rosemary Ginty, Julia Gomez, Edward Green, Omar Murray, Camelia Tepelus, Debra Travis, Martin Wolpoff

Committee Members Absent

Laura Spalter, Robert Jacklosky, Scott Krompinger, David Gellman, Lee Chong, Charles Moerdler, Margaret Della, Sergio Villaverde, Nick Fazio

The meeting began at approximately 7:03 pm with roll call. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Bob Bender began the meeting by explaining that he was chairing in the absence of Laura Spalter, who is attending the Borough President's "State of the Borough" address.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February meeting were approved with one change, deleting the reference to Bronx Community Board 8 as the goldstar of Bronx community boards. The minutes were approved unanimously.

In the absence of a chair's report, Rosemary Ginty asked for an update on the proposed homeless shelter at Broadway and W. 262 St.

Rosemary Ginty also asked for a list of the publications and other sites where the District Manager's position has been advertised.

Committee Resolutions for Discussion

Public Safety chair Ed Green presented four resolutions regarding SLA liquor license applications. Because the Public Safety committee did not have a quorum at its most recent meeting, these resolutions will be brought to the March full board meeting for discussion and a vote. Ed also discussed a problem with the liquor license of another establishment whose license has expired. After discussion by board members, it was agreed that this matter should immediately be brought to the attention of the SLA and local elected officials because of the effect that the lapsed license will have on the business.

Parks & Recreation chair Deb Travis presented a resolution from that committee in favor of installing a pickleball court in place of one of the handball courts in Riverdale Playground.

Lisa Daub proposed that the community board establish a Community Engagement Committee that includes the functions of a few current committees and that may enhance outreach and participation. She also recommended renaming a committee.

There was consensus among those present that the board should reexamine the committee structure, which has not been done for some time. Committee members agreed to continue the conversation about the committee structure, and discussed how best to do so. There was agreement that the issue should be examined by individual committees as a first step. Committee members thanked Lisa for raising the issue and also thanked her for her years of service on the community board after learning that she would not be applying for reappointment to the board

Traffic & Transportation chair Kelli Buford brought forward two resolutions. The first concerned the honorary renaming of a portion of Broadway in honor of Betty Campbell-Adams and Lloyd Adams, the longtime proprietors of Lloyd's Carrot Cake. The location would be at the closest possible point to Lloyd's Carrot Cake.

The second resolution concerns a street closure of Johnson Avenue between W. 235th and W. 236th Streets on April 2 for the Riverdale Y Sunday pop-up farmers market.

Committee Member Issues for Discussion

Rosemary Ginty asked that committee and board agendas and minutes prior to 2007 should be accessible on the community board website, which is not the case. Rosemary stated that the previous website included this information.

Lisa Daub said that there should be an "archive" button on the website for such older information and that the Board has a responsibility to retain documents that can be digitized according to the city's policy.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Minutes submitted by Bob Bender, Vice Chair

Minutes reviewed by Laura Spalter, Chair