

**Bronx Community Board 8**  
**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Bronx Community Board 8 Office**  
**March 4, 2026 7:00pm**

**Committee Members Present**

(16): Sylvia Alexander (ADA), Martin Wolpoff (ADA), Debby Allen, Constance Barnes-Watson, Bob Bender, Sebastian Chittilapilly, Dr. Wayne Debeatham, Margaret Della, Edward Green, Barbara Kail, Debra Travis, Caesar Tobar-Acosta, Laura Spalter, Julie Reyes, Joy Campbell Priveterre, and Rhashida Hilliard.

**Committee Members Absent**

Absent (3): Sergio Villaverde, Daniel Rowen, Charles Moerdler (on the phone)

**Staff**

Farrah Kule Rubin

**Board and Community Guests**

Emily Hausman (on the phone)

Chair Reyes convened the meeting at 7:10pm and welcomed Board Members and guests.

**Roll Call**

Quorum met

**Approval of Executive Committee Minutes: February 4, 2026**

Minutes unanimously approved.

(16): Sylvia Alexander (ADA), Martin Wolpoff (ADA), Debby Allen, Constance Barnes-Watson, Bob Bender, Sebastian Chittilapilly, Dr. Wayne Debeatham, Margaret Della, Edward Green, Barbara Kail, Debra Travis, Caesar Tobar-Acosta, Laura Spalter, Julie Reyes, Joy Campbell Priveterre, and Rhashida Hilliard.

**Chairperson's Report**

- Office will provide Letter of Support - Van Cortlandt Park Alliance for their annual Springtime Shindig, May 27, 2026, 6:00 to 9:00 pm, Van Cortlandt Golf House.
- Chair discussed ICE in the area and unconfirmed reports of ICE officers in the community. Executive Order #13 = in part..." – Mayor Mamdani 2-6-26 - ICE not allowed in schools." Community reports that ICE officers shadow Ellis Academy students as they walk from the JFK campus to the 231st 1 train station. There are now volunteer adult escorts for the students, which may have prevented ICE from taking any action against students. Chair requested information as it is received.
- Chair established a Social Media Working Group (SMWG) to research best social media sites the Board may utilize to increase Board's presence, usage, and increase dissemination throughout the district not utilizing current sites used by CB8. SMWG

member Daniel Nunez conducted a Social Media & Digital Presence Assessment of the Board's status.

- The office seeks a remote Intern to expand outreach and build a mailing list.
- Reminder: Committee Chairs are authorized to speak to the press when an inquiry comes in as it relates to their committee. At times exceptions will be made by the Board Chairperson. All press requests must go through the Office.
- District includes the following Zip codes: 10463 \* parts of 10468 \* 10471 - and is represented by the following elected officials:
  - Council Members De La Rosa, Dinowitz & Sanchez
  - Senators Jackson & Rivera
  - Assembly Members Alvarez, De Los Santos & Dinowitz
  - Congressmen Espaillat & Torres
- Community committee membership is not guaranteed; Chair will submit paragraph for consideration to add to Board's Handbook
- Committee minutes - must indicate:
  - If a Board Member is granted ADA attendance by the Chair, they must state who they are at the beginning of the meeting, if on video zoom they must be on camera for the duration of the meeting. If a committee member attends via Zoom without ADA approval, they are listed as Absent- a notation of Zoom is welcomed so there are notes as participating even though they have no vote. Guests and staff will also be listed in meeting minutes.
  - Each Appointed Member shall be marked "present" or "absent." If anyone leaves early, or arrives late, Members' absence should only be noted by vote tally when quorum present.
- Every committee now has a Vice Chairperson. Before cancelling a meeting – look to Vice Chairperson or committee member to host the meeting if the Committee Chair is unable to attend. Chair recommends Committee Chairs start a list of procedures, questions, etc. for the future Chairs and members of the committee.
- If chairs have Executive report notes typed and are able to forward to our Board Secretary – please do so to help expedite meeting minutes.
- April Executive meeting will be Monday, April 6th. Please speak with DM if your meeting falls on the Passover holiday.
- Thanks to Vice Chair Villaverde for attending vigil for JFK student shot and killed in the District.

## **Treasurer Report**

### March 2026 Treasurer's Report

- \$39,590 remaining in OTPS. Office will follow its spending plan to utilize the full budget prior to June 30, 2026.
- No budget mods

## **District Manager (DM) Report**

- Office received and distributed 100 community tickets to NYBG Orchid Show
- DSC meeting 3/3. Next 4/7.
- Attended Bronx Borough Cabinet meeting 3/4 with Partnership for Parks
- Attended briefing on NYC Greenway Planning Initiative

- Invited for introductory meeting with NYC Mass Engagement division
- Working with DSNY on snow removal.
- Met with Partnership for Parks re: Seton Park Dog Run
- Orders supplies for 10 Community Events. Evaluating upcoming events.
- April calendar finalized. Holidays will be revisited over the summer.

### **Committee Reports:**

Board Members are reminded to read resolutions prior to meeting. [Board Calendar](#).

- Aging - Met 2/12, presentation on how to advocate for more funds, overview of budgetary requests. Discussed Older Adult Resource Guide action steps. Will host Economic Development Committee on Kappock storefronts. Next meeting 3/12.
- Budget - Received City responses to FY27. Majority of capital responses came with a template response, which is disappointing. Chair raised concerns at NYC Independent Budget meeting. Budget Committee Public Hearing meeting 3/10 prior to Full Board meeting - NYC requires response before 4/8. Please review with your committees and provide response before 3/13.
- Economic Development (EDC) - Met 3/3 to discuss Knolls Crescent businesses, budgets, MVM Award applications open - please spread the word.
- Education, Libraries, & Cultural Affairs - Sent letter to principals regarding capital/expense requests. Next meeting 3/24.
- Environment & Sanitation - Met 2/18 - SBS Mobile Bus SAPO application for 3/19 10am - 2:30pm, no street closure, unanimously approved. E&S received an application for Renewal of State DEC permits for the Yonkers Sewerage Treatment Plant located on Fernwood St./Ludlow Dock South (along the Hudson River). The Application includes a request for comments. Committee will provide comment that residents have complained about foul sewer odors and support planned upgrades to the facility designed to mitigate these odors. The comment period closes on 3/20 - time will be of the essence to post Committee's comment. Next meeting 3/18.
- Housing - Met on 2/23 Presentation from NYCHA guest speaker on PACT (Permanent Affordability Commitment Together - program to fund major renovations, improve building infrastructure, and enhance social services for public housing residents) goals to usher in repairs, modernization efforts, including Ft. Independence Houses. Next meeting 3/23.
- Health, Hospitals and Social Services (HHSS)- Met 2/11 - Presentation on Alzheimer's disease; received request from Mosaic Mental Health Services to sign letter of support for crisis respite care license and pending facilities move. Next meeting 3/5.
- Land Use - Meeting 3/11 to discuss:
  - SNAD application - Schervier letter/response - will ask for meeting
  - Charter Revision - Proposed building on Arlington Ave.
  - Landmarks/Parking - Orthodox Synagogue entrance revisions
  - Micro units/SRO issue - being reviewed by new Housing Director
- Law Rules and Ethics (LRE) - Next meeting 3/9 - Discussion on Bylaw revision on Land Use/LRE community members for one year after term limited. Will be discussed at 3/10 Full Board meeting.
- Parks & Rec - Met 2/25 to discuss budget items, Seton Park Dog Run. Bronx Parks Speak Up held at Lehman College. The proposed City budget will slash Parks funding. Next meeting 3/25.

- Public Safety - Next meeting 3/17 to discuss recent youth violence and invited Bronx District Attorney office. Met 2/17 - Five Resolutions for consideration at the next Regular Board meeting:
  - New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) RENEWAL→
    - Caridad Restaurant, located at 135-45 Kingsbridge Road
    - Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course, located at 115 Van Cortlandt Park South
    - Blackstone Bar & Grill, located at 3713 Riverdale Avenue
  - New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) → ALTERATION APPLICATIONS
    - Bokagua, located at 3541-3543 Riverdale Avenue
  - Office of Cannabis Management → NEW ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE
    - 3 Guys Canna LLC: 6677 Broadway
- Traffic & Transportation (T&T) - Met 2/19 - See minutes. One resolution on Dale Diner, 189 W 231st St, Bronx, NY 10463 for Outdoor Dining Permit. Next meeting 3/12 presentation from DOT.
- Youth - Met 2/12 to discuss the Resource Guide, Yankee Award and Comeback Kid Award, spreading word on Summer Youth Employment Program. Next meeting 3/16.
- Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway - Met 1/29. Presentation and discussion with NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC) on Greater Greenways Plan and planned outreach as well as MTA Metro-North Railroad on Proposed MTA Waterfront Resiliency Project.
- Special Committee on Irving Ladimer Community Service Award - Met 3/3 to review applications and will refer candidates for Full Board consideration.
- Special Committee on Veterans Services (SCVS) - Met 2/26.
  - Presentation from Veterans of Foreign Wars on NYC Veterans Department collaboration on a pilot program that connects veterans directly with services. SCVS encourages a standing committee to consider a budget expense request to continue discretionary funding for Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New York Paul A. Vallone Veteran Resource Centers (formerly Veteran Resource Centers).
  - 11/1/26 20th Annual Memorial Grove event and proposed honoree for Annual Veterans Award. Will evaluate another candidate with finalized information via email. SCVS must review criteria and follow up with Board on outstanding questions.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The Vice Chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:28 pm.

Next Executive Meeting 4/6/26 at 7pm.

Submitted by,  
Margaret Della, Secretary