

**(Pending Committee Approval)**  
**Bronx Community Board 8**  
**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Bronx Community Board 8 Office**  
**September 7, 2025 7:00pm**

**Committee Members Present**

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

**Committee Members Absent**

Absent (2): Charles Moerdler (zoom) and Sergio Villaverde

**Staff/Board Members**

Farah Kule Rubin, Debra Harris, Emily Hausman, Micole Lewis, and Steve Matthews,

Chair Reyes convened the meeting at 7:03pm and welcomed Board Members and guests.

**Roll Call** Quorum met

**Approval of Executive Committee Minutes: June 16, 2025**

Minutes unanimously approved.

(15): Debby Allen, Constance Barnes-Watson, Bob Bender, Sebastian Chittilapilly, Dr. Wayne Debeatham, Margaret Della, Edward Green, Rhashida Hilliard, Barbara Kail, Joy Campbell Priveterre, Laura Spalter, Cesar Tobar-Acosta (interim Youth Vice Chair), Debra Travis, Martin Wolpoff and Julie Reyes

**Chairperson's Report**

- The Chair introduced new members Debra Harris, Steve Matthews and Micole Lewis, who were invited to tonight's meeting to participate and learn.

- The following members are approved for ADA exemption this year: Sylvia Alexander, Lee Chong, Barbara Kail, Georgia Santiago and Martin Wolpoff. They may attend on zoom or in person. They must show their face during the meeting if attending virtually.
- Most Executive meetings will not be on zoom
- The Board will hold an election next week for a Youth Committee Chair.
- Three members of the board resigned over the summer, Kevin Wade, Ramdat Singh and Johanna Edmondson. We thank them for their service.
- Regular monthly meetings will now have committee chairs give their respective reports earlier in the agenda and elected officials to follow. This will allow chairs enough time to give their reports.
- Requests that chairpersons send their committee report to Secretary, Margaret, to use for the meeting minutes.

### **Treasurer Report**

- Discussed Operating Budget for the upcoming year.
- No Budget Modifications

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

- Welcomed 10 new members
- Thank you to Marty Wolpoff for guidance on the calendar.
- CB8 tabled at many events this summer - National Night Out, Marble Hill NYCHA Family Day, NYC Parks Movies under the stars event at Bailey Playground with Parks Chair Deb Travis and Caesar Tobar Acosta, Back to School with Theory 9 today, September 3 and Back to school September 19 at IN TECH.
- For future volunteer opportunities, please reach out to the office.
- Thank you to the Yankees for supplying us with some bookbags to distribute and working with Senator Rivera's office for bookbags for the IN-TECH event.
- We will continue to do more events throughout the year including our Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway in November.
- Thank you to Chairperson Reyes and Treasurer Joy Campbell Priveterre who attended the Bronx Borough President's Orientation and Swearing in for our 10 new Board members

- We worked on many constituent services cases over the summer. We appreciate the partnership and communication with our elected official offices and City agencies that work with us on these issues as well.
- Recently conducted a walkthrough of the district with our chair of Traffic and Transportation Debby Allen, Public Safety Vice Chair Laura Spalter, Assembly member Dinowitz, Council member Dinowitz, DOT and Citi Bike reps to make recommendations on the 22 new Citi Bike stations they proposed in our area.
- I attended the first District Service Cabinet Meeting this week. The next meeting will be on October 7, 2025.
- We are working on our Summer into fall newsletter.
- We had a wonderful New Member/New Chair orientation at Bronx Alehouse last week. Thank you to our Chairperson Julie Reyes, presenters Marty Wolpoff, Karren Argenti and Emily Housman and to our Community Coordinator Ardhmir Malziu for making it such a successful evening. We gave out information and guidance for our new members.
- Two initiatives working on this year:
  - Community planning fellowship for 8 months. We can submit two proposals and need to finalize the applications by the end of next week. See the information I sent for ideas. I will need the detailed proposal from you by September 12, 2025. We can also apply again next year.
  - Applying for a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) Grant to help with our records management. I am waiting to hear what the next steps are and have asked Board member Bob Bender to assist me with the forms and process if we receive the grant. It will pay for a consultant and assistant to help our office retain and dispose of records we no longer need as well as converting it all digitally. If I do not receive the grant I can apply again next year.
- As we begin this year, chairs must give us their agendas and minutes within 10 days of meeting. We will post a generic agenda if we don't have one in time. Best practice is 14 days prior to meeting to help the office get information **out in time**.

Emily Hausman introduced the CB8 mentorship efforts that were presented at the new member orientation.

## **Committee Reports:**

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

- Aging - Meeting 9/11 to review annual priorities: 1. Resource Guide and 2. Recommendations to legislators.
- Budget - Public Hearing 10/30 FY27 Budget Priorities. Request to add a standing item on agenda for budget priorities on FY28. M. Della agreed to be Vice Chair.
- Economic Development - Met 9/2. Presentations from Riverdale Market and the Department of Sanitation. Seeking available date for October meeting. Exploring community mapping on open storefronts and available businesses.
- Education, Libraries, & Cultural Affairs - Next meeting is 9/30.
- Environment & Sanitation - Next meeting 9/17. Priorities: Broadway corridor, Community-wide litter mitigation.
- Health, Hospitals & Social Services - Next meeting 9/10, clarifying domain of committee.
- Housing - June meeting presentation with Brick & Mortals. Next meeting 9/18.
- Land Use - Next meeting 9/4 to discuss: 1. SNAD enforcement and related legislation; 2. October: Charter Revisions.
- LRE - Next meeting 9/8 to review bylaws.
- Parks & Rec - Next meeting 9/29. Presentation from Parks on Fort Independence. North Riverdale Baseball presentation. Tabled at Bailey Playground.
- Public Safety - Next meeting 9/16. Ten resolutions for consideration at the next Regular Board meeting:
  - New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) → RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
    - Metate – 3515 Johnson Avenue
    - Aramark Educational Services LLC – 4513 Manhattan College Parkway
    - Malecon Restaurant – 5592 Broadway
    - Cocina Chente Mexican Cuisine – 3535 Riverdale Avenue
    - College of Mount St. Vincent – 6301 Riverdale Avenue
    - Home the Bronx Steakhouse – 222-224 West 238th Street
    - Aoyu Sushi – 3532A Johnson Avenue
    - Kai Fan – 3717 Riverdale Avenue

- Greek Express – 3733 Riverdale Avenue
  - Downey’s Bar & Grill – 5790 Mosholu Avenue
- New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) → NEW APPLICATIONS
  - Metate – 3515 Johnson Avenue
- New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) → METHOD OF OPERATION CHANGE
  - Cocina Chente Mexican Cuisine – 3535 Riverdale Avenue
- New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) → OUTDOOR DINING APPLICATIONS
  - An Beal Bocht – 445 West 238th Street
- Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) → NEW APPLICATIONS
  - Vutra Inc. – 5625 Broadway
- Traffic & Transportation (T&T) - Next meeting 9/25. B. Bender accepted as Vice Chair. DDC (submitted safety plan) and PS207 124 Ames Place presenting projects, working with DOT on Citi Bikes.
- Youth - Next meeting 9/15.
- Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway - Met with MTA over the Summer on part of Five-Year Plan and resiliency plan to be announced in Spring 2026. NYC DOT Greenway Map released over the summer.
- Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE) - Next meeting 9/11.
- Special Committee on Veterans Services - None.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**      Misc Q & A board structure

### **Adjournment**

Next meeting October 30, 2025 at 7:00 PM following the 6:30 PM Public Hearing. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:56 pm.

Submitted by,  
Margaret Della, Secretary