

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
OF BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8**

December 16, 2020

7:30 PM

Via Zoom

Committee members present: K. Argenti, C. Dastis-Galvin, R. Fanuzzi, R. Spalter, D. Travis

In attendance: B. Bender, D. Gellman, A. Bleier, J. Cedeno, A. Miller-D'Allessandro, IC Levenberg,

- I. Approval of Minutes
The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2020.

- II. Chair's Report
 - A. DSNY representatives were unable to attend because of the evening's snowstorm. Committee will discuss DSNY snow removal response at next meeting.
 - B. Courtney Dastis-Galvin and D. Travis volunteered to serve as co-Vice Chairs of the committee
 - C. L. Spalter appointed R. Fanuzzi to the Borough President's Solid Waste Advisory Board.
 - D. Councilperson has dedicated funding for extra garbage pick-up and garbage bins in his district.
 - E. Chair proposed Community Clean-Up Day in Spring 2021.
 - F. Con Ed is undertaking a study of the Palisades Loop, which serves 897 customers, with the intention of shortening the loop to serve 500 customers, an optimal number for storm resiliency.

- III. New Business
 - A. Committee reviewed 2020-21 DSNY Snow Plan and noted that CD8 has less ploughable trucks compared to other Bronx districts but has the maximum amount of haulsters (5) per district in the Bronx. K. Argenti recommended that the CB issue DSNY guidelines for residents' snow removal on Facebook. Daytime snow fall must be removed within 4 hours and nighttime snow removal within 14 hours. D. Travis recommended Plough.nyc for real-time progress of snow removal.
 - B. Committee is waiting for DSNY and DEP responses to BXC8 2022 budget priorities and will adopt District Resource Statements from OMB for 2023 budget planning. DRS includes goals and headcounts by agency; will be placed on January agenda to begin budget planning.
 - C. DSNY issued snow removal guidelines for local businesses participating in the Open Restaurant program. N. Fazio reported from "the field" by phone call that local merchants had followed DSNY regulations, weighted down their sidewalk shelters, and placed protective tape on structures.

- D. Committee discussed difficulty of holding large organized clean-up volunteer events due to COVID-19 restrictions. Chair will investigate DSNY guidelines for events.
- E. New DEP policy will use Croton Aqueduct water for 70 days, starting on December 8. Chair noted community complaints about taste and smell. K. Argenti shared information about DEP policy and reason for “lake-water” taste.

IV. Old Business

- A. Chair reported problem with DSNY truck access at 242nd and Broadway because of narrow service lane, created via recent DOT redesign. DSNY proposes that local merchants assist with garbage removal through Adopt a Basket program. Committee discussed DSNY suggestion and agreed that merchants should not participate in Adopt a Basket because of extra burden. Chair will discuss issue at Executive Committee and forward response back to District Service Cabinet.
- B. Committee discussed the Con Ed report filed with NYS Public Service Commission in the aftermath of Hurricane Isais. Chair will communicate committee’s interest in investing in smaller service loops and hardened aerial cables; noting low hanging branches; expediting bus detours due to fallen trees through closer connection with MTA.
- C. Committee discussed ongoing dumping problem at JPR. No agencies have stepped forward to increase garbage removal on their property. CB8 has requested extra 50 precinct patrols in the vicinity. Dumping is concentrated on Reservoir Avenue, across from Washington Walk, where there are no garbage bins and removed reservoir security cameras, and the area from GH 5 to GH 7, across from Harris Field. Committee discussion raised value of extra street lighting, extra DPR barrels, bikelanes to separate cars from curb, increased DSNY enforcement, engagement by Lehman College community. D. Travis noted that DPR may provide be able to provide barrels and pickup along Reservoir from Sedgwick to Goulden. DPR needs service complaints to document need for service. Committee decided on follow-up with DEP and DPR on respective segments.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Fanuzzi

Chair, Environment and Sanitation Committee