

## **PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

### **MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION COMMITTEE OF BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8**

February 17, 2021

Zoom; 7 PM

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

In attendance: L. Spalter, D. Gellman, H. Cohen, I. C. Engel, J. Gorman, L. Judd, S. Paulen, A. Rauch, W. Seligson, V. Inoa, J. Azoulai, A. Bleier

- I. Approval of minutes  
The minutes of the meeting of January 20, 2021 were unanimously approved by the committee.
- II. Chair's Report
  - A. Chair Spalter has appointed R. Fanuzzi to the Bronx Solid Waste Advisory Board. The Bronx SWAB is created by NYC recycling law to advise Borough President of each borough on policies and opportunities to increase recycling rates. C. Dastis-Galvin will represent the committee at the next SWAB meeting.
  - B. DEP urges CD8 residents to call 311 to report musty water smell so that it can monitor and adjust water flow between aqueduct sources.
  - C. DSNY snow removal has been effective throughout the district and left open air restaurant seating intact in city streets.
  - D. March meeting will engage Special Committee on Racial Equity and focus on Environmental Justice neighborhoods in CD8 as per Mayor's Environmental Justice for All Report.
- III. New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)

Ms. Maureen Leddy, Director of Climate Change, NYS DEC, reported on the CLCPA, passed and signed by Governor Cuomo in January 2020 to reduce and eventually eliminate carbon emissions in NYS. Benchmarks include 40% reduction from 1990 levels by 2030, 70% non-carbon electricity generation by 2030, and 100% non-carbon generation by 2040, all to be achieved through alternative renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, and carbon sequestration. CLCPA also addresses workforce transition to renewable energy economy through Just Transition Working Group. The CLCPA also created the Climate Action Council, which represents and gathers statewide industries into seven sectors to generate plans to meet goals, and the Climate Justice Working Group for determining impact on disadvantaged communities. CLCPA also increases NYS DEC role in measuring greenhouse gases, co-pollutants, and air quality. Law requires reduction of 40% reduction of emissions on disadvantaged communities. The draft scoping plan for CLCPA is due by law by 2022,

with recommendations integrated through advanced data analysis. N.B: Livestock, a methane gas producer, is not regulated

In response to questions, Ms. Leddy confirmed that regulations proposed through CLCPA regulations are subject to normal regulative process for determining environmental impacts; that its energy conversion regulations can have economic development impact. R. Fanuzzi commented on need for equitable access to capital markets for energy conversion; distributed consulting services to help smaller property owners and businesses take advantage of incentives; air monitoring locations in Bronx neighborhoods, and opportunities to participate in delineation of NYS disadvantaged communities.

S. Paulsen of Riverdale Nature Preservancy noted the absence of architects on the Climate Advisory Board and the overlap of NYC and CLCPA sustainability goals and ongoing implementation, citing need for coordination.

A. Rauch announced formation of Riverdale Jewish Climate Coalition, gathering environmental groups and local synagogues, and their support of companion legislation to CLCPA, the Climate Community Investment Act (CCIA), currently in committee in the NYS Assembly and State Senate. CCIA legislation is designed to fund CLCPA goals through fees on carbon emission polluters and engage vulnerable communities. W. Seligson of the Riverdale Jewish Climate Coalition and the Jewish Climate Action Working Group spoke of the group's support for CLCPA and for the pending legislation, CCLIA, which will raise \$15 billion in fees for private sector carbon emission polluters to reach goals of CLCPA. CCIA would dedicate 1/3 of funds to community based projects, 1/3 to large scale energy generation; and 1/3 for rebates of New Yorkers for relief from energy conversion regulation fees. In response to question, M. Leddy affirmed that state-level economic development corporation support CLCPA goals and find economic benefit.

#### IV. FY 2023 Budget Planning: Community District Needs

With help from DM Gannon, R. Fanuzzi displayed Department of City Planning District Needs Guidelines for assistance in evaluating and categorizing neighborhood needs. Committee is forming budget priorities from determination of needs by neighborhood, especially in Environmental Justice qualified census tracts. D. Travis displayed 311 spreadsheet that grouped complaints by type, city agency, and address. Committee members used DCP guidelines and 311 complaints to identify clusters of complaints in EJ-eligible neighborhoods, especially in areas of housing development, and identified needs for noise reduction, clean streets, air quality, sewage and waste water treatment/Combined Sewer Overflows.

An Environmental Justice Working Group, composed of K. Argenti, R. Fanuzzi, C. Tepus, D. Travis will review and adopt Environmental Justice for All Report Graphic Information System maps for assistance in determining community needs and budget requests.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fanuzzi,

Chair of Environment and Sanitation Committee