

**Minutes of the Economic Development Committee for Bronx Community
Board 8 Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

Meeting Recording

**Meeting was held at Community Board 8 Offices, 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100
Bronx, NY 10471**

Committee Members in attendance (4): Constance Barnes-Watson (Chair), Angel Ortega, Jyll Townes, Karen Walker

Absent Committee Members (4): Julia Gomez, Nick Fazio, Caesar Tobar Acosta, Ashley Medina (Community Member)

Guests/ Attendees: Laura Levine Pinedo (KRVC) via Zoom, Halima Lugent (Yoga with Halima)

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM

**SAPO Application for BAMBA Fest, June 8, 2025 - Single Block Festival
Bailey Avenue Merchants and Broadway West 238th Street Alliance**

Laura shared that the alliance has a grant in partnership with Small Business Services (SBS) and they are hosting a street fair on June 8, 2025 on West 239th, between Broadway & Review Place.

They have held several fairs in previous years, but this will be the first in this area and the goal is to highlight those businesses who are experiencing challenges due to the MTA Construction, and raise awareness to businesses that are less known in the area. The fest will include face paintings, music, and food from the merchants along the corridor. There are approximately 15 businesses that will participate; Laura also referenced the prior Taste of BAMBA Walking Tour, which was very successful despite the weather.

Laura shared a few of the merchants participating and will send information to the Board once the flyer is created. Some of the merchants include Bx Ale House, Kingsbridge Social, Jake's Steakhouse, Tortoise & Hare, Nice Guys Car Wash, Lloyd's Carrot Cake & S&S.

Laura will send flyers and the Economic Development Committee of CB8 is welcome to table at the event.

The Committee unanimously approved the SAPO;

Resolution:

SAPO APPLICATION BAMBA Fest West 239th, Broadway-Review Pl

WHEREAS, Laura Levine of Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Van Cortlandt Development Corp. (KRVC) and The Bailey Avenue Merchant's and Broadway Alliance (BAMBA) applied for a SAPO application to host their BAMBA Fest to support and highlight the local businesses on Bailey

Avenue and on Broadway from West 238th Street to West 242nd Street, on Sunday, June 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant requested a single-block street closure on Broadway and Review Place, Bronx, NY 10463 on Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 10:00 am to 8:00pm; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has held the event on prior occasions in various parts of Council District 11.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Bronx Community Board 8 Traffic & Transportation Committee, supports the issuance of a permit to KRVC/BAMBA for the single-block street closure on Broadway and Review Place, Bronx, NY 10463 on Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 10:00 am to 8:00pm.

In Favor (4): C. Barnes-Watson, A. Ortega, J. Townes, K Walker

Opposed (0)

Abstained (0)

NYC Dining Out Applications:

***All applicants were invited to attend but they did not.**

The first was a road-side application for Fridas Tacos 5786 Mosholu Avenue, Bronx 10471. The Committee discussed concerns for the traffic and parking, noting last year there were concerns for double-parking last year. Karen noted that they were previously out of compliance and had to remove the structure and replace. Jyll expressed concerns for other establishments having similar structures and fairness, as well as the appearance of some of the structures that are constructed. The Committee seeks clarity on the other structures before making the final decision; however, currently the consensus is to deny the application.

The second was a side-walk cafe application for Early Bird Café 5628 Mosholu Avenue, Bronx 10471. The Committee discussed the request and noted that it was the same request and set-up as the prior year and the consensus is to approve the application.

The final application was for a sidewalk-cafe at Sheza's Coffee House 6050 Riverdale Avenue, Bronx 10471 . It appears that the applicant requests additional tables on the opposite side of the current tables; however, the Committee had several questions about the placement of the additional tables. The Committee determined that more information was needed before they could render a decision.

Small Business Owner's Spotlight: Halima Lugent of Yoga by Halima

Halima shared a slide show that described her background: she is a 13yr resident of Riverdale, she has conducted Yoga in the Park at Central Park and currently works with a group called Multi-tasking Yogi. Halima noted she doesn't have a website and she is seeking help to get her business off the ground. Currently she hosts Saturday Yoga sessions at 3603 Fieldston Rd. Bronx, NY 10463, from 10am-11am. Her rates are on a sliding scale from \$15-30; customers can choose to pay what they can afford.

A discussion followed about the location of the yoga in Central Park, the need for more

Yoga, and the Committee was interested in participating. Halima shared a photo of her ideal studio and was asked how the Economic Development help support her efforts. Angel shared Angel Pagan's (SBS) information, Karen and Jyll noted they may have friends who can support, and we continued to brainstorm ways to support. Halima will share her flyer with the district office.

Approval of March 4, 2025 & April 1, 2025 Meeting minutes – Tabled

Old/New business:

- Reschedule Corridor Walkthrough - Chair will share possible dates via email
- Angel will host the 3rd Annual Henry Hudson Service Road Neighborhood Clean-up between West 246-254th Street.

7:51 pm meeting adjourned

Submitted by Constance Barnes-Watson