

FINAL

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY**

HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT 7:00PM VIA ZOOM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82216791658>

Zoom Meeting by Phone: (646) 558-8656 Pin: 82216791658

Attendees

Committee Members Present: Jyll Townes, Chair, Bob Bender, Margaret Della, Robert Fanuzzi, Julie Reyes and Ramdat Singh. Committee Members Absent: Georgia Santiago

Community Board members: Laura Spalter (CB8 Chair), David Gellman, Omar Murray, Moses Oseme, Camelia Tepelus, Martin Wolpoff, Sergio Villaverde

Community guests : Joey Azoloui, Kelli B, Gavin Simmons, Marianna Miller-D'Alessandro, Shajada Brown, Veleniss Inoa

Agenda

The meeting began at 7:08 pm. Jyll Townes chaired the meeting and explained that she was acting as meeting facilitator in the absence of a committee chair. The committee welcomed new Committee Members Ramdat Singh and Georgia Santiago. The meeting was recorded.

1. Introductions: The meeting began with an introduction of the members of the Committee.
2. Approval of the Minutes: both the minutes of the September 29, 2020 and January 7, 2021 committee meetings were submitted to the committee for approval; the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Elections: Bob Fanuzzi nominated Jyll Townes to be Committee Chair. Bob Bender seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of Jyll Townes. Jyll Townes nominated Margaret Della to be Vice Chair. Julie Reyes seconded the nomination. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of Margaret Della.
- 4 - 5. Discussion of how SCRE can best work CB08 Chairs and Board members/how SCRE recommendations and objections are integrated into CB actions:
Chair Townes recapped the history of SCRE, the submission of the draft report in September 2020, and the initial report that was sent to the entire Board and Community on January 5, 2021 and posted on the CB8 website. The office would look into why it was not currently available on the website. Committee discussed placing SCRE on agendas of their respective committees, identified committees that SCRE members are already on, and Committee members discussed work related to SCRE that is presently underway in standing committees. It was requested that these and other "best practices" related to racial equity from each committee be reflected in the next iteration of the SCRE report to specifically share with the community what the Board committees are already doing. The chart below shows how SCRE members are distributed among the standing committees and highlight the committees that identified work related to SCRE.

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SCRE Member Committee Assignments							
	Bob B.	Margaret	Bob F.	Julie	Georgia	Ramdat	Jyll
Aging							
Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs						X	
Economic Development							
Environment & Sanitation			X				
Housing		X		X			X
Health, Hospitals & Social Services							
Land Use	X	X	X	X			
Law, Rules & Ethics							
Parks & Recreation	X						
Public Safety					X		X
Traffic & Transportation					X		
Youth						X	

6 & 9 (moved up on the agenda): Discussion of guest speakers/organizations to invite to future SCRE meetings/New Business: It was decided should focus on working on its framework and timeline for the remainder of the year. The issue of a forum regarding the reform of the NYC Office of Special Narcotics Prosecutor was raised. The Committee requested more information regarding the relevance of this issue to the Community Board 8, and the placement and the timing of such a forum.

7. Community Input: SCRE will review the report to simplify, be aware of inclusive communication to make it more accessible and reader-friendly and CB8 is looking into translating SCRE report into Spanish.

8. Old Business: Measuring Impact: Bob F. offered to create template to assess racial equity in CB8. He proposed an addendum to report, gather and evaluate information about Board's contribution to racial equity using census tracks. It was recommended that SCRE also use Borough President data on community demographics.

10. Announcement: While there was no announcement during the meeting, as per prior agreement and availability, the committee will meet on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be on March 11, 2021.

11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Della

Jyll Townes

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Vice Chair, SCRE CB8

Chairperson, SCRE, CB8