

(Pending Committee Approval)

Minutes of the Special Committee on Racial Equity Meeting
November 4, 2021, via Zoom

Attendees

Committee Members Present: B. Bender, M. Della, J. Reyes

Committee Members Absent: R. Fanuzzi, R. Singh

Community Board Members Present: D. Gellman, C. Tepelus, M. Wolpoff, S. Alexander, R. Ginty

Community Guest: Ray Bromley, Stephen Vasquez, Jillian Baez, Andria Whited

Agenda

The meeting began at 7:02 pm. Previous Vice Chair Margaret Della acting as meeting facilitator in the absence of a committee chair. Margaret welcomed the community to the meeting and Committee members introduced themselves. Chair Jyll Townes resigned from the Community Board earlier that week. The Committee thanks Ms. Townes for her invaluable service to the Special Committee on Racial Equity committee (SCRE).

A Board member recommended that an open call to Board members would give SCRE greater insight into who is able to commit to an additional committee beyond the two requisite committees and to follow suit of the nascent Special Committee on Veterans Affairs. A board member clarified that it is the Community Board Chair's decision. The Law, Rules, and Ethics committee will review this issue.

A guest board member recommended that SCRE meet monthly rather than 2-3 months to discuss issues at hand as there was much to be done. Margaret confirmed with the office that the first Thursday of the month is available for SCRE. Some Committee members suggested that not meeting monthly would be beneficial with the time being utilized to conduct work/research on the committee behalf.

Minutes of the May committee meeting were approved unanimously by the committee.

SCRE Outreach to CB8 Committees

It was discussed that SCRE members need to work with standing Committee chairs in order to get on agendas of respective committees. SCRE requested assistance from leadership on how to facilitate these conversations with committee chairs at the Executive Meeting of the Board. Openings in SCRE membership require new members to fill gaps in below committee areas:

SCRE Member Committee Assignments							
	Bob B.	Margaret D.	Bob F.	Julie R.	OPEN	Ramdat S.	OPEN
Aging		X					
ELCA						X	
Econ Dev							
Env & Sanit			X				
Housing		X		X			
HealthHSS							
Land use	X		X	X			
LawRE							
Parks & Rec	X					X	
Public Safety					X		X
Traffic&Transp o					X		
Youth							

Measuring Impact

Ramdat previously offered to review census tracks to assess racial equity in CB8.

Margaret also updated standing Committees' work on racial equity in their respective issue areas and this would be updated to the CB website. A guest Board member requested that the updated version be released to the public with comments from last year's discussion.

Community Discussion/Feedback

- SCRE should weigh in on CB discussion regarding proposed men's transitional shelter along with Land Use and HHSS Committees
 - Meeting participants discussed the issue and outlined that up-to-date information on supportive housing in the district as well as specifics on the proposal were needed to be presented to community.
 - SCRE should be consulted on any relevant issue to come before the Board including housing, E&S, public safety, land use, HHSS, etc.
 - Guest community board members stressed the importance of every committee to have an input in the upcoming transitional shelter.
- Strengthen communication between CB 8 and providers in the community to bring greater awareness to work being done in the district including Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition (NWBCCC), faith-based organizations, and others.

- SCRE will ask the office to share this list with SCRE to support an outreach campaign.
- Align SCRE's work with NYC City Council's data on equity
- Provide a Redistricting speaker to help community understand what it means and what is at stake

The committee will meet in December - December 2, 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. Minutes submitted by Margaret Della