

(PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL)

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
Minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting of the
Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee
Held on Zoom

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander
Moses Esema
Marvin Goodman
Rob Jacklosky
Myra Joyce
Rita Pochter-Lowe
Ramdat Singh
Martin Wolpoff
Judith Green

AFFILIATION

CB8-Committee Chair
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
Community Committee Member

Guests

David Gellman
Rebecca Brown Barbier
Peter Pamphile
Araceli Faciert
Halley Yung
Alma C.
Palak Oza
I.C. Engel
Danielle Guggenheim
Janie Lerner
Shajada Brown
Va Sanahan

CB8-Budget Committee Chair
Manager, Spuyten Duyvil Branch Library
Manager, VC Branch Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM.

The minutes of the February 23, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Chair reported the new Chancellor Meisha Porter has summer plans to enrichment programs for all students. This year State tests will be shorter and remote learners will not have to take them. The CDC is weighing relaxing six feet rule to 3 feet to allow more students access to in-school learning. High Schools open this week.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 passed Congress on March 10, 2021 and libraries now qualify for billions of dollars of Covid relief funding. The money is to go for offering greater access to Tech purchasing hotspots, computers and digital content. Additional monies will go to Emergency Connectivity through the Federal Communication Commission to reimburse participating libraries for the cost of hotspots, wi-fi capable devices, modem, routers, laptops, tablets and similar devices to loan patrons.

Four City Council members have set aside \$4.2 million to bring back Participatory Budgeting-3 in Brooklyn and one in Manhattan. Since we don't have a Councilmember yet, we hope who becomes our Councilmember will follow Councilmember Cohen's generosity and look at our Budget Priorities.

Discussion was very engaged regarding our Budget Priorities FY2023. Schools have submitted their items for consideration and these items will be addressed in our April 27 meeting and submitted in priority order.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Alexander, Chair ELCA Committee