

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8 BRONX
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 2021
MEETING HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM
(Pending Approval)**

PRESENT

Edward Green (Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Myra Joyce (Vice Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Margaret Donato	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Nick Fazio	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Ted Morris	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Stephen Vazquez	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Christopher Calhoun	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Georgia Santiago	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Robert Kaplan	CB8 Public Safety Committee

Guests: Eric Kollin, User2, Captain Paul Colabella (FDNY), Rani Vawani (Barbecue Pit), Yibel Torres, Camelia Tepelus, Captain Girven, Miguel Acostas, Marilex Santana (Bx DA), David Fisher, Joe Pilla.

Chair Ed Green called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Roll call of committee members

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

2. Approval of the October 19, 2021 Public Safety Committee Minutes

Approve in Favor: 8

(E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, M. Donato, T. Morris, S. Calhoun, S. Vazquez, G. Santiago)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

3. NYPD Report –

Compstat Report:

28 days, ending 11/14/21

	2021	2020
Murder	0	0
Rape	2	0
Robbery	12	11
Fel. Assault	14	11
Burglary	7	6
Gr. Larceny	48	46
G.L.A.	19	15
TOTAL	100	89

Captain Girven was promoted from 2nd in command to Commanding Officer

- A lot of property crimes, mostly vehicles.
- Check washing: Related to scams. There are lots of scams happening to seniors. Chair Green requested that the Community Affairs Officer give a presentation on this topic. She is working with Postal Inspectors to address “fishing” in mailboxes. Thieves are bypassing the new technology and getting mail out of boxes.
- Ted Morris: Asked if the victim in the fatal hit & run at 262nd Street was homeless. Person was not homeless. Yonkers resident. Police identified the car and have person of interest.
- Other items addressed included:
 - Relationship the 50th would have with the proposed men’s shelter on 262nd & Broadway.
 - Recent bust on Mosholu Ave: \$4m heroin, weapons, ammunition, etc. were found.
 - New Government policy: How press credentials are being controlled by Mayor’s office.
 - Shooting at Marble Hill.

4. FDNY Report

Captain Paul Colabella gave a fire prevention presentation:

- Shared city-wide trends:
 - Entering holiday/heating season. Fire goes up this time of year.
 - 65 fatal fires per year. 2021 – approaching 60 fatal fires.
 - A lot more seniors this year.
 - Make sure everyone has upgraded smoke detectors.
 - Newer smoke detectors have batteries that are hard-wired into them.
 - FDNY has thousands of smoke detectors, installing and providing for free.
 - 60% more likely to die without a working smoke detector.
 - 1-877-redcross (Red Cross Sound the Alarm Program).
 - Electric stoves are dangerous.
 - Lots of fires due to overloaded power strips.
 - When done with an appliance, unplug it. Done with the toaster, unplug it.
 - LED lights burn much cooler – put in lamps.
- Questions to Captain Colabella included:
 - Close apartment doors behind you if you have to get out of the building.
 - Power strips. Can you recommend alternatives if don’t have enough wall outlets. There are no alternatives. Power strips: phone charger, clock, lamps. Surge protector is no better. Suggests calling Electrician to install new outlets.
- Black soot around wall sockets is a danger sign that something is wrong. May have loose outlet or wires behind the outlet are loose. Something that must be addressed.
- Don’t push furniture (couch, bed) up against electrical wall outlet.

5. RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

- The Barbecue Pit, 5788 Mosholu Ave. (Rani Vawani)

- No incidents at this location

Approve in favor: 8

(E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, M. Donato, T. Morris, S. Calhoun, S. Vazquez, G. Santiago)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

6. NEW APPLICATIONS

- Ezili Luxury Hall Corp, 5540 Broadway (Miguel Acostas, Yibel Torres)

- Signed 2AM agreement has been received.

- Margaret Donato asked if they have other establishments. No other establishments, but has experience with other catering places. Asked re noise – No live entertainment, acoustic music.

- Stephen Vasquez asked what is Miguel Acostas' title: Accountant. He is processing the application.

- Chair Green asked if they will have promoters – No. Hours of operation: 7 to 10, 8 to 12. Kids parties in the afternoon.

- Chris Calhoun asked what is the capacity: 74 people.

Approve in favor: 8

(E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, M. Donato, T. Morris, S. Calhoun, S. Vazquez, G. Santiago)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

7. Old Business

- None

8. New Business

Discussion of SLEEP Act: Amendment of traffic law, increasing penalties against motorists and repair shops that illegally modify mufflers and exhaust systems to make them excessively noisy.

- Fines for shops installing noisy accessories. Ed feels there needs to be enforcement at the motorist level. Ed asked Girven, how will noise be measured and motorists be fined. Vehicle traffic enforcement. In past 2 weeks, they seized two vehicles with excessively loud exhaust. They had moving violations. Reckless driving. That's why they were stopped in the first place.
- Nick stated the loud noises sound like they are being amplified through a sound system.

Marilex Santana of the Bronx DA spoke about the December 18th gun buyback event.

9. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Minutes submitted by Vice Chair Myra Joyce; reviewed by Chair, Ed Green.