

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE LAW, RULES & ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2015 RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE – 2ND FLOOR

Committee Members Present: Martin Wolpoff, Chair, I. William Stone, Vice Chair, Sylvia Alexander, Margaret Donato, Arlene G. Feldmeier, Rosemary Ginty, Maria Khury, Demetrius McCord, Robert Press, Herb Young

Committee Members Absent: Steve Balicer, Robert Fanuzzi, Irving Ladimer, Dana Lennon, Charles Moerdler, Amy Moore, Anthony Piscitelli, Julie Reyes

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:05PM.

1. Approval of the January, 2015 minutes

In Favor: 6 -Margaret Donato, Rosemary Ginty, Robert Press, I. William Stone, Martin Wolpoff, Herb Young

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3 – Sylvia Alexander, Maria Khury, Demetrius McCord (were not present at January meeting)

2. COIB Findings
There were no findings reported to the Board during the previous weeks
3. Legislative spreadsheet

Updated spreadsheet was shared with the committee. Of particular note was the Mayor's signing for the street renaming for Debbie Bowden. Rosemary Ginty, who painstakingly keeps the spreadsheet up-to-date, noted that Bob Bender, Steve Froot and Sylvia Alexander advised they have reported spreadsheet materials to their respective committees.

4. Review of Bylaws working group recommendations
Chair noted recommendations fell into three categories: corrections required as a result of Charter changes or legal requirements, changes based on Board practices, revision of unclear language. Changes included identifying OML and FOIL in list of laws the Board must follow, no-longer-appropriate to use supermajorities, appointed board members must be present to vote and establish a quorum (no proxies allowed), notice requirements for emergency meetings, election procedures expanded to include committee chairs, clarification of process for appointment of community members to committees.

- A. The Chair reviewed working group recommendations for By-Laws changes.
- B. Chair asked committee members for comment, suggestions for change to the recommendations or sense that additional items needed to be considered.
- C. Chair noted that, at this time, no changes offered for electing a nominating committee. However, today he had a thought that there may be an inconsistency in COOG advisories which he will research prior to the meeting of the Executive Board.
- D. Rosemary Ginty questioned the inclusion of the Board-approved practice of permitting reappointment of community members to committees without the requirement of a new three meetings was necessarily an item for the bylaws. She felt that "housekeeping" items were better placed in the Board's Guidelines. The committee concurred with her logic and the wording was removed from the recommended changes.
- E. Chair called on Bill Stone and Robert Press, working group members, to add or clarify anything that was reported.
- F. Chair noted that following the approval process for revising the bylaws, the committee would review the "Guidelines" for the Board that had been compiled by Irving Ladimer.
- G. The committee voted to pass the recommendations on to the Executive Committee for its March meeting.

In Favor: 9

Sylvia Alexander, Margaret Donato, Arlene G. Feldmeier, Rosemary Ginty, Demetrius McCord, Robert Press, I. William Stone, Martin Wolpoff, Herb Young

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Maria Khury

5. Review of OML recommendations

Chair noted the office had sent out copies of the OML, rather than the previously approved LRE-recommendations. Michael Heller had questioned why CB 8 needed to establish its own rules. Chair felt that it may actually better serve our purposes for copies of the OML to be provided to all Board members, placed in

our Guidelines and posted on our web site and that all members use it as a reference. The committee unanimously agreed.

6. New business

A. Bill Stone questioned whether the working group now ceased to exist. Chair noted process was for the Executive Committee to review recommendations, and if approved, forward recommendations to the full Board. If, for any reason, there was a charge to send an item back to committee, the working group may be called upon again. He also noted that there was still the issue of the future of the nominating committee. Chair noted resignation of Julie Reyes from working group. The working group felt, since their work was nearly complete, no need to bring on someone new.

B. Rosemary Ginty noted Mayor's Community Assistance Unit had revised and posted revised citywide guidelines. Chair suggested when we begin study our Guidelines, we carefully evaluate what has been forwarded by CAU.

7. New business – none

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:05. The next meeting will be on March 26, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Wolpoff, Chair
Law, Rules and Ethics Committee

With additional notes provided by Rosemary Ginty