

Pending Committee Approval
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 2021
VIDEO CONFERENCE

Committee Members Present (15)

Laura Spalter, Chair	Diomarys Escaño-Bell	Julia Gomez
Sylvia Alexander	Robert Fanuzzi	Edward Green
Bob Bender	Moses Esema*	Theodore Morris
Lisa Daub	David Gellman	Omar Murray
Eric Dinowitz	Rosemary Ginty	Martin Wolpoff

Committee Members Absent (3)

Charles Moerdler	Daniel Padernacht	Nicholas Fazio*
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*Mr. Esema represents Economic Development in Mr. Fazio's absence

Staff (1)

Ciara Gannon – District Manager

CB8 & Guests

Guests: Debra. Travis (CB8); Jesse Lerer (rep. Congressman Bowman), Ethan Stark-Miller (Riverdale Press), Community Attendees (2)

Chair Spalter welcomed everyone and convened the meeting at 7:05pm.

L. Daub conducted a roll call and confirmed the quorum.

Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes of January 6, 2021 Executive Committee seconded and approved: In Favor (14): Alexander, Bender, Daub, Escaño-Bell, Fanuzzi, Esema, Gellman, Ginty, Gomez, Green, Morris, Murray, Spalter, Wolpoff, // Opposed: (0), Abstain (0)

Chair's Report – L. Spalter

- The board reached out to our officials concerning the need for and possible locations for local vaccination and testing sites. Marble Hill Houses will soon host vaccinations.
- March board meeting will include an election for Housing Committee Chair. Nominations for the position will be taken from the floor and all are encouraged to apply. Ted Morris, interim housing chair, expressed his interest.
- Two new members have been added to the SCRE: Georgia Santiago and Ramdat Singh.
- Eider Garcia wrote that he is leaving the board and he sends his best regards. We wish him well.
- Reminder letters were sent to board members who have poor attendance at meetings and as required, a copy was sent to the Borough President.
- Public hearing on agency response to our FY2022 budget request will start at 6:30 pm before the start of our February 9th board meeting. Chair is pleased that our budget requests are spread out over the entire district.
- The office received many comments from board members and the public about our board meetings ending very late. We have a responsibility to be respectful of people's time. We need to facilitate online meetings similar to in-person meetings that adjourned within approx. two hours. Everyone needs to be cognizant of speaking time.

Treasurer's Report – D. Escaño-Bell

- No budget modification this month
- Allocated funds include \$3,628 that we are required to transfer back to OMB this year as part of citywide program to reduce financial gaps.

District Manager's Report – C. Gannon

- District Services Cabinet meeting was postponed due to weather so there is still time to add issues.
- Yankee Stadium vaccination site will be open starting Friday for Bronx residents, with 15,000 capacity during the first week.
- Stagg group created an email address for questions and complaints re 5278 Post Rd. Complaints still need to be reported to 311 and the office.
- The newsletter re-started and was distributed with Friday's board mailing.
- Received positive feedback about snow removal and thanks Sanitation for their hard work. Garbage pick-up is resuming.

Committee Resolutions

Chair Spalter called for committee resolutions to be presented at the February Board meeting:

- Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs – S. Alexander
 - Approval of SAPO application by RJC for Purim celebration on Feb 25th on W. 237th Street between Independence and Blackstone Ave. from 1pm to 9 pm.
- Public Safety – E. Green
 - Approval of renewal liquor licenses for (1) An Beal Bocht, (2) The Punch Bowl, (3) TCR Tennis Club, (4) Flame
 - Approval of new liquor licenses for (1) Tulum Restaurant & Lounge, and (2) Baby Crab

Agency Responses to FY22 Preliminary Budget

- L. Spalter – board is reaching out to organizations to attend next week's public hearing. Also reaching out to agencies to better understand their responses to help guide our next actions.
- D. Gellman – incorporating comments from committees for our FY22 response to OMB. Committees should also start soliciting capital and expense requests for FY23. It's important to start the process in February.
- Discussed: budget priorities and district needs, 10-year capital budget, trash collection budget cuts, updating our priorities, and clarifying qualifications for budget items.

Issues for Discussion –

- E. Dinowitz – letter sent to Mayor, co-signed with O. Murray, L. Spalter and L. Daub, supporting council members' request to provide senior center access to a special vaccine scheduling portal for older adults and to provide for their vaccinations at or near senior centers.
- J. Gomez – thanked members for their condolences.
- T. Morris – (a) a power plant outage stopped heat at Marble Hill Houses, (b) vaccinations for eligible residents and neighbors at the MH community center, (c) complaints about the Atmosphere Academy and construction at 22 Marble Hill Avenue continue. DM reminds neighbors to call 311 and office.

Follow-up on Outstanding Issues - None

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by unanimous consent.

Prepared and submitted by Lisa Daub, Secretary