

**PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL**  
**MINUTES**  
**Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE)**  
**Bronx Community Board 8**  
**September 29, 2020**

Contained herein are the minutes for the September 29, 2020 meeting of the Bronx Community Board 8 Special Committee on Racial Equity (“SCRE.”) The following memorandum was prepared by Margaret Della, SCRE/CB8 Member.

Meeting called to order: 7:07 PM, via Zoom.

Committee Member Attendance: R. Zavras, J. Townes, R. Bender, M. Della, D. Jackson, R. Fanuzzi,

Committee Member Absence: J. Reyes

Board Member Attendance: L. Spalter, D. Gellman, P. Ellis, L. Daub, C. Tepelus, R. Ginty, M. Wolpoff, N. Fazio

Community Member Attendance: Jacki Fisher, Justin Sanchez, Abigail Martin, Mariel de la Cruz (Comptroller’s Office)

Chair Zavras, again, started meeting (7:07pm) with the Special Committee’s Agreements as parameters for discussion. Reference previous minutes for the Agreements.

**Agenda**

Minutes (from previous meetings): Motion Chair/Second D. Jackson. None opposed.

*Review of Comments Document*

Chair Zavras directed committee discussion to identify friendly amendments to easily adapt and devote meeting to tackle feedback that requires more discussion. R. Zavras reiterated this is a draft document. Comments were discussed in order within document:

- Committee members engaged in extensive discussion regarding the initial Board feedback on the current draft of the report. R. Zavras initiated a screen share and made changes/updates/edits contemporaneously with committee, non-committee CB8 member and community suggestions:
  - Remove qualifying language on initiatives
  - Incorporate other CB8 initiatives into intro paragraph as examples

- It was suggested to consider incorporating these themes into future recommendations for CB8 consistency (holding engagements in every corner of district, translating documents to prominent languages, tabling, etc.)
    - Expand on documentation of Inequalities -
      - R. Bender - Difficult to document inequities in order to accurately compare our CB to others because of lack of City reporting, clarity of data across neighborhoods, bundling “needs” by zip code
      - R. Fanuzzi - Underscored that the point of the SCRE is for us to find out the inequities and detail them. Then, channel data to committees in order for work to be done at the committee level.
      - C. Tepelus - Be explicit about inequities by demographics, locations, etc. People know and feel the differences. Incorporate extensive Marble Hill small business/community data information as a reference produced under KVRC.
      - N. Fazio - Echoed C. Tepelus’ points that business data must included and that this is significant work. Encouraged SCRE to utilize students that could dig deep into data and support SCRE members in extensive research.
    - Conduct community food assessments
    - Expand community partnerships
      - M. De la Cruz encouraged SCRE to utilize partnerships like Hunter College to make CB8 engagement more inclusive including explaining rules to people so they understand appropriate engagement at CB8 monthly meetings, encourage their participation within meeting parameters, consider how comfortable the space is, incorporate younger people
      - R. Bender, M. Della assess how, where, who are constituents reaching out to the CB8 office. How do we encourage more questions from public and know CB8 is a resource? Give context to data points on those reaching out for help as well as those who do not - do they know how to plug in?
      - Difference in charter and what community boards actually do/do.? Roz
- Report edits:
  - Utilize third person throughout report, except when
  - Push recommendations into appropriate respective committee scopes and map where we can take action
  - Statement of intent clarify public meeting
  - Unpack structural racism and define - R. Fanuzzi to write. Crawford
  - SCRE go back into document and make sure pieces are cited as some previous footnotes may not have carried over from individual work
  - SCRE to reread section and make sure language can be tighten as a summary. - Fanuzzi.

- Need more data on education as it fundamentally facilitates not only learning and racial equity
  - R. Bender -Education data exists in appendix and will draft connecting language in text of report.
  - J. Townes underscored that we need to reference many of these items and decide collectively on what to include. Reference WE DuBois
- Consistently utilize Hispanic vs Latinx - use what City government uses and provide a note explaining why we chose it.

#### *What's next*

Due to length of meeting, Chair Zavras moved to continue Committee reflections on recommendations via google doc in order to unpack them a bit more.

R. Fanuzzi expressed that we must do so keeping in mind what are SCRE/Board metrics and scope of work. He underscored that SCRE put a lot of material out there and we need to clarify what are we going to measure. He suggested bringing to each Committee chair to workshop metrics. Chair Zavras request a call to action for Committee chairs to join us.

SCRE will complete feedback review by mid/late October.

#### *Public feedback*

Justin Sanchez offered to translate documents and guides needed in CB8 if not already offered.

#### **New Business**

N. Fazio - 10/22 Economic development meeting will focus on low income lending and access to capital presentation.

R. Fanuzzi - Emphasis on Broadway and Bailey trash removal at November E&S

R. Bender - Chair Zavras did an incredible amount of work in collating comments and feedback. Thank you!

Motion to adjourn R. Fanuzzi, Second J. Townes 8:50pm