

(PENDING BOARD APPROVAL)

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at the Riverdale Y, 5625 Arlington Ave.

PRESENT (29):

S. Alexander	M. Della	R. Hilliard	L. Teten
R. Bender	M. Esema	R. Jacklosky	C. Tepelus
K. Buford	N. Fazio	M. Joyce	D. Travis
C. Calhoun	S. Froot	S. Krompinger	S. Villaverde
S. Chittilappilly	D. Gellman	D. Padernacht	M. Wolpoff
L. Chong	R. Ginty	J. Reyes	
L. Daub	J. Gomez	R. Singh	
I. DeLeon	E. Green	L. Spalter	

PRESENT ON ZOOM (3): *Due to Extenuating Circumstances*

M. Donato - Medical
O. Murray – Family Medical
S. Vasquez - Caretaking

ABSENT (8):

C. Barnes-Watson	R. Kaplan	R. Pochter-Lowe
J. Campbell-Privetterre	C. G. Moerdler	G. Santiago
R. Fanuzzi	T. Morris	

STAFF: P. Romano, Community Associate
C. Gannon, District Manager

GUEST: AM Jeffrey Dinowitz, CM Eric Dinowitz, Alina Dowe (NYC Mayor's Office), Capt. A. Ozuna (50th Precinct), T. Lucania (BxBPO Via Zoom)

Chair L. Spalter convened the meeting at 7:00 PM and welcomed all. She started the meeting with the presentation of the Comeback Kid Award, Betty Campbell Adams Most Valuable Merchant Award, and the Irving Ladimer Community Service Award. The Comeback Kid Award acknowledges youth in Community Centers who have overcome challenges and demonstrated improvement over a period of time. Youth Committee Chair, Julia Gomez presented this year's Comeback Kid Award to Michael Mack and Jasmine Pantajo.

Betty Campbell Adams owned Lloyd's Carrot Cake and was an outstanding business leader in CB8. The award honors the civic minded entrepreneurs in our community. Economic Development Committee Chair N. Fazio introduced the son of Betty Campbell Adams, Brandon Adams to deliver remarks to the honorees. The year's honorees were Laura Levine-Pinedo and Andre El-Saieh from Bronx Burger House, Eduvigis Marmolejos from One Yoga for All, Patti

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Cassiere and Joe Sparacio from Cora's Hardware, and Jimmy Packes from Riverdale Auto Clinic, formerly Tigerdale Automotive which was presented posthumously.

Chair Spalter spoke briefly about Irving Ladimer, a long-time and dedicated member of Community Board 8. R. Jacklosky stated that the Irving Ladimer Community Service Award is given to recognize volunteer efforts in the community and inspire others to follow. The recipients are Danny Monge, Rita Freed, Julie Jenkins, Sara Allen, Selma Raven, and the Riverdale Y Jewish Community Center's Senior Volunteer Meals Program.

1. GALLERY SESSION:

Giovanni Puella – (Homeowner) - expressed opposition to the proposed combined housing and school development to be located at the former Visitation Church, located at 160 Van Cortlandt Park South.

Christina Carlson – (Homeowner, 180 Van Cortlandt Park S) - expressed deep concern over the proposed development plan for the former Visitation site, and to ask for a full public hearing on the matter, as questions of environmental impact, traffic, parking and public safety that have not been adequately addressed.

Hillary Bosch (DSNY) – Ms. Bosch shared information on the NYC Compost program which continues in Bronx Community Board 8. The program has now expanded into Queens. Residents can register online. Sign up at nyc.gov/curbsidecomposting. There is a delay in bin delivery. Any bin can be used until the new one is available.

2. REPORT FROM THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT OFFICE – NONE

3. REPORT FROM THE NYPD 50TH PRECINCT – CAPT. A. OSUNA

Captain Osuna stated that 50th precinct has seen a 47% increase in grand larcenies. The precinct has seen a decrease in rape/murder but an increase in burglary and grand larceny. The captain informed the board that the officers are working hard to keep the community safe.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – L. SPALTER

Chair L. Spalter referred board members to the Executive Committee minutes for full report. She also expressed sadness at the passing of long-time board member Karen Pesce. Chair Spalter welcomed Lee Chong, Ingrid DeLeon, Rashida Hilliard, Scott Krompinger, and Leona Teten, as new members of Bronx Community Board 8. She asked new board members to briefly introduce themselves.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – J. CAMPBELL PRIVETTERE – Absent due to family emergency. Treasurer report was provided at the Executive Committee meeting and sent to board in advance of meeting.

6. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – C. GANNON

C. Gannon welcomed Board members back from the summer recess. She informed the board that the Borough President's office will be having an orientation for new members. She expressed gratitude to Pablo Romano for helping with IT in preparation for the meeting. She stated that OTI (Office of Technology & Innovation) has hired a replacement for Joe Coluccio. Board Members were thanked for their participation in events such as Riverdale Pride, Family Day, National Night out, Marble Hill Block Party. BXC8 will participate in the Job Fair organized by Council Member Dinowitz. Borough Budget Consultations have started, and the office will keep Committee Chairs updated with new information.

7. REPORT FROM DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING – NONE

8. REPORT FROM ASSEMBLY MEMBER JEFF DINOWITZ

Assembly Member Dinowitz stated that his office organized paper shredding events throughout the district. He asked that residents support the proposals that will appear on their ballot. He encouraged residents to go online to read more on these proposals. The Assembly Member shared that he hoped a school would replace the vacant Visitation lot, however, he is not happy with the size of the proposed school.

9. REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC DINOWITZ

Council Member Dinowitz congratulated new members to Community Board 8. The Council Member's office produces a newsletter every week and it's sent via email. He asked residents to sign up to get these interesting updates. (<http://ericdinowitz.nyc/newsletter>) His office is organizing a Job Fair on September 20 at Kingsbridge Library; Community Board 8 is a sponsor. He explained various legislations that he is sponsor/co-sponsoring in the City Council regarding 311. CM Dinowitz has allocated 5 million to Van Cortlandt Park.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Parks & Recreation – Bob Bender, Interim Chair

B. Bender stated that the next meeting is September 28 at the Van Cortlandt Golf House. He noted that he is only Interim Chair and urged board members to step up to fill the vacancy.

b. Public Safety – Edward Green, Chair

E. Green stated the next meeting is September 20th at the 50th Precinct. He shared that crime has increased in the district and encouraged members to consider signing up.

c. Traffic & Transportation – Kelli Buford, Chair

K. Buford stated the next meeting is September 15 at the St. Margaret's of Crotona School. L. Spalter shared that NYC DOT will attend to make a presentation on the Riverdale Ave Safety Improvement Plan and to answer questions on the recent implementation of the Riverdale Avenue redesign.

d. Youth – Julia Gomez, Chair

J. Gomez stated that she had her first meeting on September 6th. The next meeting will be in October.

e. Aging – Lisa Daub, Chair

L. Daub stated that the committee had its first meeting on September 12 via Zoom. Minutes will be distributed shortly.

f. Budget – David Gellman, Chair

D. Gellman stated that FY 23 began on July 1. A budget hearing will be scheduled before the October 2022 Full Board meeting which will give the community to comment on the priorities for FY24. The board will try to get all budget priorities to all board members by the end of the month.

g. Economic Development – Nick Fazio, Chair

N. Fazio stated that the next meeting is scheduled for September 22 at the Board Office.

h. Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs – Sylvia Alexander, Chair

S. Alexander stated that the committee invited SCA in December 2021 to make a presentation. But much of the information shared in their presentation was not reflected in the recent presentation seen by community leaders. S. Alexander shares the views expressed by AM J. Dinowitz. She invited the community to attend the upcoming Public Hearing.

i. Environment & Sanitation – Dr. Camelia Tepelus, Chair

C. Tepelus stated that her first meeting will be September 21st at the Board Office. She expressed excitement over the involvement of new members in each of the standing committees.

j. Health, Hospitals & Social Services – Omar Murray, Chair – HYBRID –

C. Gannon shared that O. Murray is attending the meeting via zoom and the September meeting is canceled.

k. Housing – Stephen Vazquez, Chair – No Report

l. Land Use – Martin Wolpoff, Vice Chair

M. Wolpoff reported that the working group will meet shortly with the executives of the construction group for 3745 Riverdale Ave to discuss some items of importance to the community. The building construction continues.

m. Law, Rules & Ethics – Martin Wolpoff, Chair

M. Wolpoff report that the committee will review policy for Hybrid Meetings.

n. Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway – Bob Bender, Chair – No Report

o. Special Committee on Racial Equity – Margaret Della, Chair – No Report

p. Special Committee on Veteran Services – Sergio Villaverde, Chair

S. Villaverde stated that the next events are a possible clean up on November 5th and the memorial grove on November 6 which will take place at Van Cortlandt Park.

11. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022 & Sept. 7, 2022

No Discussion of Executive Committee minutes.

12. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of June 29, 2022

R. Jacklosky proposed to add to the minutes of June 29 that the use of \$5,000 allocated by then Council Member Rodriguez for the purchase of trees for the Marble Hill Community. D. Padernacht requested the questions he asked also be included in the minutes.

Commented [RJ1]: Or is it DeLaRosa?

S. Villaverde placed a motion to table the June 29, 2022, minutes and it was seconded by C. Tepelus.

13. Miscellaneous Business - **NONE**

Motion to Adjourn meeting at 8:45 PM by R. Singh, seconded and passed by unanimous consent.

Prepared By: Pablo Romano, Community Associate
Reviewed by: Rob Jacklosky, Secretary