



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, Chairperson

Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President

Farrah Kule Rubin, District Manager

MEETING MINUTES HOUSING COMMITTEE

Date	October 23, 2023	START TIME	7 PM	END TIME	8:10 PM
Location	BXCB8 Office Conference Room (Hybrid)				
Address	5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100, Bronx, New York 10471-2194				

ATTENDANCE

Present	Lee Chong, Ingrid DeLeon, Rosemary Ginty, Jessica Sosa	Total	4
Absent	Aboubacar Barry	Total	1
Extraordinary Circumstances	Ted Morris	Total	1
Guest		Total	

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

A quorum being present the minutes of the April 2023 Committee Meeting were approved unanimously.

Chair's Report

The Chair discussed The City of Yes – Housing presentation given by the Department of City Planning (DCP). The YouTube link was previously shared with the committee members. Generally, the proposed zoning resolution involves ending R1 zoning; creating Universal Affordable Preferences (UAP) by increasing floor area for all residential zones by 25%; permitting Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) for lower density areas in basements, attics, garages, backyards, eliminating parking requirements for new construction; increasing floor area for residential development on community facility campuses; and, allowing a form of SRO occupancy.

DCP reported conversations with Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) concerning "income averaging" per building to address the current AMI formulas. L. Chong proposed asking staff from the development section of HPD and DCP to come to our committee to explain this new proposal.

The Environmental Assessment for the City of Yes – Housing zoning text will have its DCP scoping meeting on October 26 with a 10-day comment period. The public can give comments/questions concerning the proposal. The committee discussed submitting questions/comments, i.e., the new infrastructure needs and environmental impact of the increased population; the environmental consequences of eliminating parking requirements on extra driving time to find street spaces and pressure on side streets; effect of new SRO-type units on legal rationale that eliminated SRO's. With 3 days, the committee agreed to submit some questions anyway. The Chair will send the board the link for the on-line 10/26 scoping session.

The Chair described what a Borough Budget Consultation is, i.e. an annual opportunity for Bronx community boards to ask questions of city agencies. The recent Q & A list was distributed and discussed in addition to the recent session on Housing issues during which the agency said there is a plan for a new NYC 421a-type program and for a new J-51 program. Committee members expressed a desire to have a HPD staff member discuss these new proposals.

Old Items

There is no new information regarding past committee work on Local Law 152 which requires buildings to inspect their gas piping periodically.

Local Law 97 which deals with carbon emissions goes into effect 10/24/23. Committee members are interested in having the Department of Buildings attend a committee meeting to describe the law or have a public forum on the issue.

New & Future Items

The Community Board published a 2017 Housing Resource Guide in both English and Spanish. The committee is interested in updating and republishing a Housing Resource Guide. As part of the update effort, the committee is interested in DCP providing statistics on housing and income from the US Census data.

The Chair described the committee's future obligation to the Community Board to submit expense and capital budget items for the FY 2026 budget. This effort should start in January and complete in April 2024.

Adjournment

The next committee meeting will be Monday November 27 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Minute notes prepared by **Jessica Sosa, Committee Member**

Minutes drafted and reviewed by **Rosemary Ginty, Chair**