



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, **Chairperson**

Vanessa L. Gibson, **Bronx Borough President**

Farah Kule Rubin, **District Manager**

MEETING MINUTES OF THE **HOUSING COMMITTEE**

DATE	January 22, 2024	START TIME	7:00 PM	END TIME	7:45 PM
MEETING HELD AT	BXCB8 OFFICE – Conference Room				
ADDRESS	5676 Riverdale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471				

ATTENDANCE

Present	Lee Chong, Rosemary Ginty	Total	2
Absent	Ted Morris, Ingrid DeLeon, Jessica Sosa	Total	3
Extraordinary Circumstances		Total	
Guests	Chair Julie Reyes, CB Member Chris Calhoun, CB Member Mary Ellen Gibbs, Dr. Camelia Tepelus, Belinda Hancock, Altagracia Alvarez, Ardy Malziu, CB Staff	Total	7

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

A quorum was not present. Minutes of the December 2023 Committee Meeting were set aside.

Chair’s Report

The Chair reported that the Department of City Planning (DCP) was unable to have staff present at our committee meeting. The committee had requested that an agency representative give a presentation providing statistics for CB #8 on housing and income from the US Census data. The DCP supplied the committee with some Census information on our community board. Lee Chong highlighted some interesting statistics:

- Total 2020 population was 113,700 of which 49.4% was Hispanic.
- 59.5% were between 16 and 64 years old.
- In 2017, there were 44,440 occupied housing units of which 66.8% were renter-occupied.
- In 2017, 51.4% were rent stabilized.
- In 2017, 8,983 occupied units were “severely rent-burdened” paying more than 50% of their income in rent.

The DCP data will be further analyzed.

The committee continues to request several guest speakers on key housing issues. Staff from Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) will attend the next committee meeting on February 26th to discuss various aspects of affordable housing.

The Chair said recent news articles described an attempt by the Governor and the State Legislature to craft a new 421a program for new housing construction. The committee should follow any new efforts.

The Chair reported that the committee's resolution on City of Yes – Economic Opportunities (Section on NYCHA Developments) was approved at the January community board meeting by a vote of 17 in favor and 11 opposed.

The City of Yes – Housing will be the next proposed zoning text for our consideration. The Chair requested the board office to inquire into the status of the environmental assessment statement for the text. Once complete, the ULURP text will be certified to community boards and the 60-day review will begin.

New Business

A sheet listing the last 16 years of housing committee budget requests was circulated to the committee. Without a quorum, a full discussion was put off until February. The need for Department of Buildings inspectors especially for the safety of basement units and structural defects in apartment buildings was mentioned, in addition to HPD inspectors.

Old Business

Portions of updates of the Housing Guide from the Chair and Vice Chair were presented. A full discussion of all updates was put off until February. A community member suggested that when finalized, the Guide should be in Spanish and English. The Chair confirmed that it would be as the original was.

Adjournment

The next committee meeting will **be Monday February 26th at 7:00 pm.**

The meeting was adjourned **at 7:45 pm.**

Minutes drafted and reviewed by Rosemary Ginty, Chair