

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
Minutes of the Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee
Held on February 27, 2024

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander
Emily Hausman

AFFILIATION

Chair, ELCA
CB8-Committee Member

EC

Jillian Baez
Rita Pochter-Lowe
Georgia Santago

CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member
CB8-Committee Member

ABSENT

Constance Barnes-Watson
Sebastain Chittilappilly
Judith Green

CB8-Committee
CB8-Committee Member
CCM

GUESTS

David Kalin
Rebecca Brown
Melissa Koszer

Horace Mann School-SAPO Application
Riverdale Library-Manager
Spuyten Duyvil Children Librarian

The meeting came to order at 7:35pm.

The minutes of the January 23,2024 meeting could not be voted on because a quorum was not present.

David Kalin, Horace Mann School presented the school's SAPO application.
The chair offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS David Kalin representing Horace Mann School attended the Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee meeting on 2-27-24 to ask for support of their SAPO application to celebrate their Spring Festival and Homecoming on April 27,2024, and

WHEREAS Horace Mann School is requesting the street closing of Tibbett Avenue between West 246 Street and College Road from 10:00am & 7:00pm, and

WHEREAS the Homecoming is usually held in October but could not be held because of extreme weather conditions, and

WHEREAS parking will be on school grounds and 2,000 persons are expected to attend the all-day event, food will only be served in the cafeteria, and there will be on-site Security, and

WHEREAS the Fieldston Property Owners Assoc. will be notified and the fifteen-foot lane for emergency vehicles will be available on the closed street.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bronx Community Board No, 8 approves the SAPO application.

(Since there was no quorum present, the resolution will be brought to the general meeting for a vote).

Discussion continues for the FY26 Proposed Budget.

The response from OMB to ELCA's budget requests was to go back to the agency. The Chair has contacted schools in CB8 and is waiting to hear back from them. A suggestion was made by a member of the committee to continue the request for a 6-day service of libraries in CB8.

Since cell phones were introduced in 2009 and the pandemic occurred in 2020, children have suffered isolation. The Governor has made funding available to schools, in her budget, to address mental health issues of students. Schools must apply to receive the much-needed program.

The Kingsbridge library offers a program which has reading to a therapy dog, which is very popular with the children and the Spuyten Duyvil Library is also considering such a program with a therapy dog, as requested. The libraries have many interesting programs in all branches and encourage participation of the community.

Although not in CB8, Ruth Gottesman, a professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is donating \$1 Billion which will provide free tuition to all students going forward at the medical school.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Alexander, Chair-ELCA Committee

MEETING RECORDING LINK:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFWWorRn96g>