



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, **Chairperson**

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

Farrah Kule Rubin, **District Manager**

MEETING MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE	December 19, 2023	START TIME	7:00 PM	END TIME	8:55 PM
LOCATION	50th Precinct NYPD				
ADDRESS	3450 Kingsbridge Avenue				

Present	Ed Green (Chair), Joy Campbell Priveterre (Vice Chair), Mary Ellen Gibbs, Laura Spalter	Total: 4
Absent	Christopher Calhoun, Eliane Lobos, Scott Krompinger	Total: 3
Extraordinary Circumstances		Total: 0
Guest	Battalion Chief G. Lehr (FDNY), Lieutenant Dolan (NYPD), Officer M. Conejo (NYPD), Eileen Connaughton Montague (Riverdale Steakhouse), Sandra Olaya (Bokagua), Dean Tuwaidan (Green Healthy Living Social Club LLC), Ahmed Al Saedi (Trendy Threads), Katherine Broihier (Kingsbridge BID), Debora Allen (Guest), Nava Simon (Guest), Vangjush Gjika (Guest), Yehuda Mann (Guest)	

Chair Ed Green called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

Roll Call of committee members. Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the November 21st, 2023, Public Safety Committee Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. NYPD Report (*See attached NYPD CompStat Report) –

Lieutenant Dolan presented the NYPD CompStat report. Officer Conejo was present. Issues discussed:

- Robberies in Van Cortlandt Park. 13 bike riders robbed.
- Robbery at Skyview. Complainant requested video but was denied video by building management. Management stated NYPD needs to request video.
- Tires stolen off a car at 236th Street & Netherland Avenue.
- 4 Tires stolen off a car on Riverdale Avenue in front of PS 81 School.

- On 12/11, 11 cars were broken into along Henry Hudson Parkway in the Fieldston area.
- Several car break-ins at Kappock Street & Independence Avenue.
- Resident requested police patrol by 644 West 227th Street & Henry Hudson Parkway. Resident also requested an Argus camera be installed at that location to discourage car break-ins and robberies.
- 50th Pct. stated they've documented all the quality of life related issues reported at this meeting, will investigate, and address any existing problems.
- Quality of life complaints: Call 311 to report the issue and then email BXCB8 office and the office will follow up with the appropriate agency.
- How to report an abandoned vehicle: Call 311 and report the vehicle. Take a photo of the vehicle. Send the photo and 311 complaint to bx08@cb.nyc.gov. If the vehicle has license plates, NYPD can ticket and eventually tow it. If it doesn't have license plates, DSNY (Sanitation) can ticket and remove it.

4. FDNY Report

Battalion Chief Greg Lehr (FDNY) gave a statistical report on fires in the BXCB8 area and discussed fire safety tips.

5 alarm fire on at 228 West 231st Street destroyed five businesses on the block. FDNY still investigating the cause of the fire. Merchants left without power on the block because Con Ed was forced to cut off the power on that grid.

5. NYS Liquor Authority: Renewals

Eileen Connaughton Montague, Representative of Riverdale Steakhouse, located at 5700 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the committee to renew this establishment's liquor license.

Lieutenant Dolan of the 50th Precinct stated there were no notable 311 complaints or reports to NYPD about the business.

The committee voted unanimously to approve this application.

Approve in favor (4): J. Campbell Priveterre, M. Gibbs, E. Green, L. Spalter

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

6. NYS Liquor Authority: Corporate Change

Sandra Olaya, Representative of Bokagua, located at 3541 Riverdale Ave, appeared before the committee to apply for a corporate change.

Gemmy Quelliz will be the new owner of the business and will change the name of the establishment from Mamajuana Café Prime to Bokagua.

Gemmy Quelliz signed a 2AM closing agreement, agreeing to close the establishment by 2AM during the first year of operation.

Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

The committee voted unanimously to approve this application.

Approve in favor (4): J. Campbell Priveterre, M. Gibbs, E. Green, L. Spalter

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

7. Office of Cannabis Management – New Establishment License

Dean Tuwaidan, Representative of Green Healthy Living Social Club LLC, located at 5625 Broadway Unit 8, appeared before the Committee to apply for a Retail Dispensary Premises License.

The applicant acknowledged he is currently operating an illegal smoke shop at the same address he is applying for a cannabis license.

The applicant stated his business has previously been fined by law enforcement agencies for illegally selling his products to an underage customer.

The committee voted unanimously to disapprove this application.

Approve in favor: (4) J. Campbell Priveterre, M. Gibbs, E. Green, L. Spalter

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Ahmed Al Saedi, Representative of Mine Space LLC, located at 5565 Broadway, stated he was withdrawing his application for a Cannabis Retail Dispensary Premises License. He stated his father's name was on this application and the family had another application for Trendy Threads located at 206 West 231st Street on the Public Safety Committee agenda.

Ahmed Al Saedi, Representative of Trendy Threads, located at 206 West 231st Street, appeared before the Committee to apply for a Cannabis Retail Dispensary Premises License.

The applicant acknowledged he is currently operating an illegal smoke shop at the same address he is applying for a cannabis license.

The committee voted unanimously to disapprove this application.

Approve in favor: (4) J. Campbell Priveterre, M. Gibbs, E. Green, L. Spalter

Disapprove: 0

Abstained: 0

8. Old Business

None.

9. New Business

Committee discussed Intro. Bill 586-2022 – A local law to amend the administrative code of the City of New York, in relation to requiring the police department to report on police-civilian investigative encounters.

A resolution opposing City Council Intro No. 586 Bill was introduced:

OPPOSITION TO CITY COUNCIL INTRO NO. 586, BILL

WHEREAS New York City Council Intro 586 is a legislative bill that proposes all Level 1 interactions with the public would require a separate report be filed each time a New York City Police Officer makes an inquiry; and,

WHEREAS level 1 encounters are considered police interactions where an individual is not suspected of a crime, an individual's help is being sought by a Police Officer, or an Officer is seeking to help an individual; and,

WHEREAS examples of a level 1 encounter include: Police Officers looking for a missing child in a park, Officers asking subway riders about a crime in progress, Detectives asking neighborhood residents about a crime in the area, Officers asking a store owner if everything is alright; and,

WHEREAS bill 586 would require Police Officers to report on the race, ethnicity, gender, and age of every person involved, and detail the circumstances surrounding each Level 1 encounter; and,

WHEREAS a Federal Court rejected a previous effort to require Officers to complete additional paperwork and found that imposing these requirements on police officers were unnecessary; and,

WHEREAS bill 586 sends a message to the New York City Police Department that Officers are not to be trusted with the most fundamental aspects of their profession; and,

WHEREAS Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark opposes Intro No. 586, citing that this law would cause “longer response times and fewer positive interactions between police and the public.”

WHEREAS New York City Mayor Eric Adams vehemently opposes Intro No. 586 and has publicly sworn to veto it, saying “It will endanger public safety.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee strongly opposes New York City Council Intro No. 586 bill and requests our City Council Representatives Carmen De La Rosa, Eric Dinowitz and Pierina Ana Sanchez publicly voice their opposition to the bill and vote against it.

The committee voted to approve this resolution.

Approve in favor: (3) M. Gibbs, E. Green, L. Spalter

Disapprove: 0

Abstained: (1) J. Campbell Priveterre

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

Minutes submitted by Committee Chair Ed Green.