



# BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, **Chairperson**

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

Farrah Kule Rubin, **District Manager**

## MEETING NOTICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### OFFICERS:

**Vice Chairperson**  
Sergio Villaverde

**Secretary**  
Margaret Della

**Treasurer**  
Joy Campbell Priveterre

**Immediate Past Chairperson**  
Laura Spalter

**Date:** Tuesday, October 1, 2024

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

**Location:** Bronx Community Board 8 Office  
5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100, Bronx, NY 10471

Join Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2114033690>

Join Zoom Meeting by Phone: **+16465588656** Pin: **2114033690#**

Board Members must attend in-person at the Board Office unless they have received a pre-approved exemption.

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

**Aging**  
Mary Ellen Gibbs

**Budget**  
David Gellman

**Economic Development**  
Oscar Martinez

**Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs**  
Sylvia Alexander

**Environment & Sanitation**  
Daniel Rowen

**Health, Hospitals & Social Services**  
Rabbi Bob Kaplan

**Housing**  
Rhashida Hilliard

**Land Use**  
Charles G. Moerdler

**Law, Rules & Ethics**  
Martin Wolpoff

**Parks & Recreation**  
Debra Travis

**Public Safety**  
Edward Green

**Traffic & Transportation**  
Josh Land

**Youth**  
Ramdat Singh

We strongly recommend that members of the public attend via Zoom due to limited room capacity.

\*See Bronx Community Board 8's Procedures for Hybrid Meetings [LINKED HERE](#)

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction of Committee Members and Guests
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Executive Committee Minutes: September 4, 2024
4. Chairperson's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. District Manager's Report
7. Committee Chairs Reports and Resolutions
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Next Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2024
11. Adjournment

*Julie Reyes*

Chairperson



Pursuant to New York State legislation signed by Governor Kathy Hochul (Bill S1150A), The Community Board is required to post material to be discussed at a public meeting. Please know that the material below has not been voted on or discussed by the full board at this time.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE**  
**RESOLUTION**  
**September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Resolution to Urge EPA to Adopt a Not Protective Determination in its Third Five-Year Review  
Concerning the Hudson River PCB Cleanup**

**WHEREAS**, the Hudson River is an American Heritage River and the Hudson River Valley is a National Heritage Area, the health and beauty of the Hudson River is critical to the economic vitality of the communities surrounding it; and

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8's district borders the lower-Hudson River Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 has been a long time advocate for improved river access (including for the extension of the Hudson River Greenway) as well as cleaner water for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, for 30 years, from 1947-1977, General Electric ("GE") dumped polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCBs") into the Hudson River from two capacitor manufacturing plants located in the towns of Fort Edward and Hudson Falls, N.Y.; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of GE's PCB contamination, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") designated a 200-mile stretch of the Hudson River from Fort Edward to New York Harbor as a Superfund Site in 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, PCBs are man-made, bioaccumulative, persistent organic pollutants that have been linked to a wide variety of adverse health effects, including, among others: cancers, liver, and kidney disorders; reduced birth weight, conception rates, and live birth rates; persistent and significant deficits in neurological development, including visual recognition, short-term memory and learning; and developmental problems due to interference with thyroid hormone levels; and

**WHEREAS**, PCBs discharged by GE are still found at dangerous levels throughout the Hudson River ecosystem and as far south as New York Harbor: in soils and sediments within the river and the surrounding floodplains; in the living tissues of wildlife, from low-level organisms to larger animals such as birds and fish; and, periodically, suspended in the river itself or in the air; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002 EPA selected a two-part cleanup plan to address in-river sediments in the Upper Hudson River, a 40-mile stretch of the Hudson River between Fort Edward and the Federal Dam at Troy, which called for targeted dredging of PCB-contaminated sediment from the river bottom, followed by an extended period of natural recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the selected cleanup remedy was designed to reduce the dangerous health risks to humans and wildlife living in and near the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site in an expedited time frame and reestablish the ecological and economic health of the Hudson River; and

**WHEREAS**, EPA's original cleanup plan also focused on minimizing the long-term downstream transport of PCBs to the Lower Hudson River, a 160-mile stretch of the Hudson River from the Federal Dam at Troy to New York Harbor; and

**WHEREAS**, with the completion of dredging in 2015, the cleanup has transitioned from the dredging phase to the natural recovery phase; and

**WHEREAS**, federal Superfund law requires EPA to conduct a study every five years to evaluate the implementation and performance of the remedy to determine if the remedy is protective of human health and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 10, 2024, EPA released its draft third five-year review concluding that EPA needs more years of fish data to determine if the cleanup is meeting the expectations of the original cleanup plan; and

**WHEREAS**, EPA's draft third five-year review report does not adequately address scientific data and analysis that show that there has been little improvement in fish and sediment PCB concentrations since the completion of dredging; and

**WHEREAS**, PCB concentrations in Upper Hudson River fish and sediment are not declining as anticipated by EPA to reach key remediation targets and adequately minimize the downstream transport of PCBs to the Lower Hudson River; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued presence of PCBs in the Hudson River has significantly diminished economic activity and recreational use and enjoyment of the river; and

**WHEREAS**, the understanding of the relationship between how much PCB was left behind in the sediments and the rates of recovery in sediment and fish needs to be updated to determine if further remedial work is necessary to protect human and environmental health; and

**WHEREAS**, the data available supports the conclusion that the selected remedy is not protective of human health and the environment. The human health and ecological risks are well in excess of EPA's acceptable risk ranges, and will not be in the acceptable range for the foreseeable future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bronx Community Board 8 Environment & Sanitation Committee hereby urges the EPA to adopt a "not protective" determination" in the third five-year review and acknowledge the failure of the Upper Hudson River remedy to meet the goals and objectives of the cleanup.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Bronx Community Board 8, hereby urges the EPA to adopt a "not protective" determination" in the third five-year review and acknowledge the failure of the Upper Hudson River remedy to meet the goals and objectives of the cleanup.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the EPA must begin the process of assessing additional remedial actions to protect the environment and our vulnerable communities along the Hudson River, who will otherwise continue to be exposed to toxic levels of PCBs for generations to come.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**RENEWAL APPLICATION: Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Jon Beqiraj, a Representative of Savor Coffee and More, located at 3725 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment's liquor license.

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

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**RENEWAL APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Franklin Vargas, a Representative of Caribe Bites Bar & Restaurant, located at 5586 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment's liquor license.

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

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**RENEWAL APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Adam Clayton Powell, a Representative of Tijuana Nites, located at 216 West 242nd Street, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment’s liquor license.

**WHEREAS**, Representatives of NYPD’s 50th Precinct provided documentation of numerous complaints and disturbances at the location of this establishment within the last 12 months, including: 101 311 calls, 29 911 calls, 64 summons, 1 complaint of attempted rape, 1 complaint of assault, and 3 people aided for physical sickness, injury and emotional disturbance.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee has received complaints about this establishment for several years, including public drunkenness and drug use outside the club, harassment of building residents by the club’s patrons and employees, assaults resulting in injury, and excessively loud music routinely disturbing residents until 4am.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee has seen no attempt by this establishment to accommodate area residents and address the well documented history of complaints.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee voted unanimously to disapprove this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 disapproves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**NEW APPLICATION AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Kenya Peralta, a Representative of EL DF Mexican Patio, located at 5602 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license and temporary retail permit.

**WHEREAS**, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**NEW APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** He Chen, a Representative of Tokyo House, located at 5648 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license.

**WHEREAS**, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**NEW APPLICATION AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Josefina Tineo, a Representative of Sweet Billiards Corp, located at 3004 Heath Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license and temporary retail permit.

**WHEREAS**, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**RESOLUTION**  
**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**CORPORATE CHANGE: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

**WHEREAS** Gemmy Quelliz, Owner of Bokagua, located at 3541 Riverdale Avenue, applied for a corporate name change (unrelated to operational methods already approved by Bronx Community Board 8).

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

**WHEREAS** Ms. Quelliz requested in writing to be exempt from appearing before the Public Safety Committee and her request was granted by Chair E. Green.

**WHEREAS** the application was filled out incorrectly and corporate change was not indicated.

**WHEREAS** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application (contingent upon the Board receiving a proper application before our next Full Board meeting. *\*The Board received the properly completed application the following day*).

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

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