

Minutes of the Youth Committee Meeting Bronx Community Board 8

Monday, September 16, 2024, 7:30pm

Location: Bronx Community Board 8 Office, 5676 Riverdale Ave Bronx, NY 10471

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0J3VxH27nk>

Attendees

Committee:

Present (4): Caesar Tobar Acosta, Ramdat Singh (Chair), Kevin Wade, Karen Walker

Absent (0)

Guests:

Bronx Community Board 8: Julie Reyes (Chair, Bronx Community Board 8)

CB8 Staff: Ardhmir Malziu

Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD): Janae Russell

The meeting commenced at 7:30 pm

1. Welcome & Introduction of Committee Members & Guests

2. Approval of Committee Minutes – May 20, 2024

The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Chairperson's Report

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Youth Committee and expressed his gratitude for all the new Board Members who have joined the committee. He mentioned that he would like the Committee Members to take an active role on the committee, by sharing potential guest speakers, organizations, and other programs from DYCD they would like to learn more about. The Chair will have a detailed report on the updated budget for DYCD at the October meeting.

4. Updates on Summer Youth Employment Program, Janae Russell- DYCD

The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) served 100,000 young people this summer. DYCD launched the SYEP application in January,

traditionally the application is launched in March, and the cut-off was mid-March. In the neighborhoods of Bronx Community Board 8, 1600 young people from our neighborhoods were enrolled in SYEP. In zip code 10463, 558 young people were enrolled in SYEP, 946 young people were enrolled from 10468, and 105 participants were enrolled from zip code 10471. There were about 31 participants enrolled through the Bronx Transition College and Career Center (BXTCAC). Participants worked with BronxWorks, Catholic Charities, Children's Arts and Sciences, Community Association of Progressive Dominicans, Good Shepherd Services, Inwood Community Services, with many more providers, totaling about 56 partner organizations.

There were 2 cohorts, Cohort A ran from July 1st to August 9th and Cohort B ran from July 8th through August 16th. The Older Youth (OY), ages 16 to 24 years old, participants worked for 6 weeks and earned \$16 per hour. The Younger Youth (YY), ages 14 to 15, earned a stipend of \$700 and completed project-based learning.

Janae mentioned other programs within DYCD. CRED, a program for 24-year-olds and older, and DYCD just put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for organizations to become involved. CRED will be invited to one of our meetings at a later date, to discuss CRED. During the School year, students can participate in the In-School Youth (ISY) and Learn and Earn Programs. Janae will follow up with the Board on which schools in our district are Career Ready Schools.

5. Committee Goals and Priorities

This agenda item was tabled for October 2024 meeting, to give Committee Members to think about it more and bring ideas back at next month's meeting.

6. Review of FY 2026 Budget Requests

The Committee reviewed the FY 2026 budget and capital requests and only made minor changes to the language of the requests:

#3. YOUTH – (DYCD) – Sustain/expand Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP): Increase the number of applicants accepted; consider support around transportation barriers

#16. YOUTH – (DYCD) – Job programs for young adults: Expand both current and new job programs for young adults, ages 14 and up.

17. YOUTH - DYCD - Expand programs to combat hate crimes, harassment, and bullying to protect young people's overall health

7. Committee Organizational Business

Caesar Tobar-Acosta volunteered to serve as Vice Chair and was unanimously voted in by the committee. The Committee agreed to continue having meetings on Mondays but move the time to 6:30. If 6:30 seems too cumbersome for folks to be punctual, the Committee will entertain a 7:00 pm committee meeting time change in the future.

8. Community Partners

There were no community partners in attendance to present.

9. Old Business

There was no old business to revisit at this time.

10. New Business

The community Board was invited to table at In-Tech’s welcome back, block party on September 19th, 2024, from 2:00- 5:00 pm. If any committee members are available to volunteer, please reach out to the Board Office.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Minutes submitted by Youth Committee Chair Ramdat Singh