

**Pending Committee Approval**  
**Bronx Community Board No. 8**  
**Minutes of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee**  
**Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 7:00pm**  
[Meeting Recording](#)

**1) Welcome & Roll Call**

Present (2): Rabbi Bob Kaplan (Chair), Barbara Kail

Absent (3): Sebastian Chittilappilly, Dr. Wayne DeBeatham, Dr. Julia Gomez

Committee meeting started at 7:00 p.m. Rabbi Kaplan welcomed everyone to the meeting. We conducted a roll call and unfortunately did not have a quorum.

**2) Approval of Committee Minutes – December 13, 2023, January 10, 2024, February 14, 2024, April 10, 2024, May 8, 2024, June 5, 2024, & November 27, 2024, January 23, 2025**

We were not able to approve the minutes due to a lack of a quorum.

**3) Chairperson's Report**

The chair noted the priorities of the committee including mental health. This led to a rather in-depth conversation that was facilitated by a representative from MJHS. They were able to give us a background history of the agency and its scope of work. They were also able to impart to us some of the challenges of operating in the Bronx. There was a particular focus on the issue of mental health for those who are receiving services from this agency. There was also a lively conversation around the issue of aging in the community and the difficulty in accessing services. This conversation led us to include mental health issues, and aging issues for capital and expense recommendations.

**4) FY27 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities**

We were not able to formalize our recommendations for capital and expense budget priorities due to the lack of quorum. However, we were able to identify, once we have a quorum and vote, what will be given to the board as our priorities. We did solidify that we wanted it to focus on the issue of mental health access with a particular emphasis on those affected by aging.

**5) Old Business / New Business**

There was no old business nor new business at this meeting. However, we did emphasize that we will again go back to the chair to discuss our frustration and not having a quorum for the past several meetings.

**6) Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Rabbi Bob Kaplan, Chair, HHSS Committee*