

**Draft - Awaiting Committee Approval**

**Minutes of the Law, Rules and Ethics Committee Meeting  
Bronx Community Board 8  
Monday, March 9, 2026 at 7:30 PM  
Board Office – 5676 Riverdale Ave, Suite 100, Bronx, NY 10471**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM
2. Attendance:  
Present (5): Martin Wolpoff, Chair, Steve Froot, Vice Chair, Sylvia Alexander, Jessica Sosa, Sergio Villaverde  
Absent (2): Charles Moerdler, Jyll Townes
3. Approval of January 12, 2026 minutes, as amended:  
Yes (5): Martin Wolpoff, Steve Froot, Sylvia Alexander, Jessica Sosa, Sergio Villaverde
4. Chairperson's Report
  - A. Working Committee on committee organization  
Chair noted that working committee is active and has been polling Board members and chairs for input.
  - B. Award for committee on Veterans Award  
Committee is planning to bring a resolution establishing award criteria before the full Board.
5. Discussion of wording for amendment for the Community Board 8 Bylaws

The Law, Rules and Ethics Committee offers the following amendment to the Bylaws of Community Board 8, Bronx:

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of term limits for community board members will soon become operational; and

**WHEREAS**, the Law, Rules & Ethics committee seeks to permit any term-limited Board members who are interested in continuing to offer their expertise and time in the form of Board service as a Community Committee Member to have at least one year of eligibility to serve as a Community Committee Member of all standing committees (but not including the Executive Committee or Budget Committee, where only committee chairs are members), thus retaining their experience and permitting them a year to reapply for appointment to the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, it would facilitate their service to the Board if such individuals could become Community Committee Members on any standing committees on which they have served within the past five years, without the requirement (based on the longstanding practice of the Board) that they attend three consecutive committee meetings before seeking appointment as Community Committee Members, although such appointment would still require committee chair and Board chair approval;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bylaws of Bronx Community Board 8 be amended by adding the following as Article VI, Section 9:

*Notwithstanding any contrary provisions contained in subsections 7(2) and 7(3) of this Article VI, any former member of the Board, in the year subsequent to becoming term-limited, may apply to serve as a Community committee member on any standing committee (with the exception of the Executive and Budget committees) of which they had been a member during any of the past five years, subject to the approval of the chairperson of the committee involved and the Board Chairperson, with no requirement that such recently term-limited individual attend three consecutive meetings of the committee involved before applying to be appointed as a Community committee member. The "year subsequent" is understood to extend from the date that such individual's Appointed Member status terminates as the result of term limits until June 30 of the following year. After such one-year period, any such term-limited former Board member may reapply for appointment to the Board or continue their service as Community committee member.*

On motion to approve:

Yes (4): Martin Wolpoff, Steve Froot, Sylvia Alexander, Jessica Sosa

No (1): Sergio Villaverde

**6. Discussion on when Board/Committee Meeting Minutes are Due:**

Committee agreed to leave bylaws as is and reaffirmed the requirement of the Open Meetings Law requiring that minutes be made available to the public within two weeks of any meeting.

**§106. Minutes.**

1. Minutes shall be taken at all open meetings of a public body which shall consist of a record or summary of all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matter formally voted upon and the vote thereon.

2. Minutes shall be taken at executive sessions of any action that is taken by formal vote which shall consist of a record or summary of the final determination of such action, and the date and vote thereon; provided, however, that such summary need not include any matter which is not required to be made public by the freedom of information law as added by article six of this chapter.

3. Minutes of meetings of all public bodies shall be available to the public in accordance with the provisions of the freedom of information law within two weeks from the date of such meeting except that minutes taken pursuant to subdivision two of this section shall be available to the public within one week from the date of the executive session. If the agency in which a public body functions maintains a regularly and routinely updated website and utilizes a high speed internet connection, such minutes shall be posted on the website within two weeks from the date of such meeting except that minutes taken pursuant to subdivision two of this section shall be available to the public within one week from the date of the executive session. For purposes of this

subdivision unabridged video recordings or unabridged audio recordings or unabridged written transcripts may be deemed to be meeting minutes. Nothing in this section shall require the creation of minutes if the public body would not otherwise take them.

7. Latest from COIB – Not distributed before meeting.
8. NYC Council Legislative Spreadsheet – Not distributed before meeting.
9. Unfinished Business - None
10. New Business – Committee discussed restrictions on Board members communicating with members of the press. Ethical Guidance Manual requires that before a Board member asserts he/she is representing the Board or any committee, approval needs to be sought from the Board chairperson. Committee agreed to take up the issue at its next meeting to seek to establish further guidelines.
11. Adjournment at 8:35 PM
12. Next Meetings – Monday, April 13, 2026, Monday, May 11, 2026, Monday, June 8, 2026

Respectfully submitted,  
Martin Wolpoff, Chair

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/U4ECVetyfck?si=iwNemgnKecNslvzb>