

**Law, Rules and Ethics Committee
Bronx Community Board 8
September 8, 2025 at 7:30 pm
Minutes**

1. Meeting called to order 7:39 by M Wolpoff
2. Attendance:
Present (5): Martin Wolpoff, Chair, Sylvia Alexander, Charles Moerdler (ADA – Zoom), Jessica Sosa, Jyll Townes, Sergio Villaverde
Absent (1): Steve Froot Vice – Chair
Guests (3): Julie Reyes, Board Chairperson, Ed Green, Board member, Mr. Lovelace
Chair made a statement for the record: Steve Matthews. Chair was denied his joining. He will participate as guest.
3. Motion to approve minutes of June 9, 2025. Moved by Jessica Sosa, seconded by Sylvia Alexander
Affirmative (4) Martin Wolpoff, Sylvia Alexander, Charles Moerdler, Jessica Sosa, Sergio Villaverde
Abstention (1): Jyll Townes
Chair requested volunteer to record minutes. Sergio Villaverde offered.
4. Chair's Report:
 - a. We have a joint meeting committee coming up to discuss Charter revision committee proposals.
 - b. Chair polled committee concerning meeting starting time. Will remain at 7:30.
 - c. If we finish our business we may not need monthly meetings. Chair will decide.
 - d. Board discussed CB fellows. Chair wanted to have intern maintain pulse of rules coming from Albany especially OML.
 - e. Chair of Board created a working group (WG) to evaluate efficiency of the committee structure. Hope for a report by WG by December. It would require a by-law change.
 - f. Chair believes that we did a great job last year on giving committees a framework for awards presented in the name of the Board. Will discuss in October.
5. Carry over items:
 - a. OML use of Zoom and having Hybrid meetings. Chair reminded Board chair of the need to renew the resolution authorizing CB 8 to conduct hybrid meetings. Albany is discussing OML issues including reductions in quorum requirements, providing funding for agencies to become more technology enabled, requirements for staff development on OML and FOIL. More state legislators are considering CB's as advisory thus should not be held to higher standards.
 - b. Possible by-law amendment needed to clarify possibility of a "Chair" midyear vacancy. Current proposal seeks to distinguish Board Chair position versus committee Chairs. Extensive discussion held regarding the wording and structure of the proposed by-law amendment felt that the procedures, as explained in the proposed amendment recommendation required a rewrite. There was also

discussion on the proposed addition of an order of succession of board officers. Jyll Towns offered to rework the suggested bylaws change and will provide an updated draft.

6. Discussion held regarding how many vice-chairs can a committee have? There are differing points of view. On the term in the by-laws of "A "vice-chair. The following amendment was presented:

Article VI Committees

The Board may create such additional standing committees to cover additional substantive areas of responsibility, as it deems necessary or advisable. No person may serve as Chairperson of more than one standing committee. ~~Each committee~~ ~~*Chairperson shall select a Vice-Chairperson who shall be an Appointed Member of the Board.~~ **At their discretion, each committee chairperson shall structure the committee with at least one Vice-chair who shall be an appointed member of the Board.** When there is a vacancy in a committee chair, or when the Chairperson, and the Vice-Chairperson if any, of a committee will be unavailable to conduct a meeting or hearing, the Chairperson of the Board, in his or her discretion, may appoint any Appointed member of such committee, or any member of the Board's Executive Committee, to conduct, on an ad hoc basis, a scheduled meeting or public hearing of such committee, or any public hearing of such committee which is mandated by law.

*[Added 5/1/96]

Motion made by Jyll Townes to approve language as presented on screen, seconded by Jessica Sosa passed unanimously. Chair noted that the recommended amendment will be presented at the October Exec meeting for presentation at the October and November Board meetings.

7. Chair reported on COIB. Recommended reading and highlighted certain salient points.
8. Chair reported on NYC Council spreadsheet. Chair discussed the practice of LRE sending out report of Council Activity.
9. Unfinished business: No unfinished business
10. New Business:
Board Chair Reyes thanked committee.
11. Jessica Sosa raised the issue of charter revision review. Chair requested all be prepared for joint meeting.
12. Jyll Townes moved to adjourn seconded by Sergio Villaverde. Approved unanimously at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sergio Villaverde
Approved by Martin Wolpoff, Chair