Revised Minutes of the Special Committee on Racial Equity Meeting
Bronx Community Board 8
November 7, 2024

Meeting Recording

Attendees:
Committee: Margaret Della (chair), Bob Bender, Kelli Buford, Sebastian Chittilappilly, Caesar Tobar-Acosta
Absent: Adiana Rivera

The Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE) meeting began at 7:02 pm and the Chair welcomed the community to the meeting, and recognized new and recurring committee members. A quorum was present and the April 2024 minutes were unanimously approved.

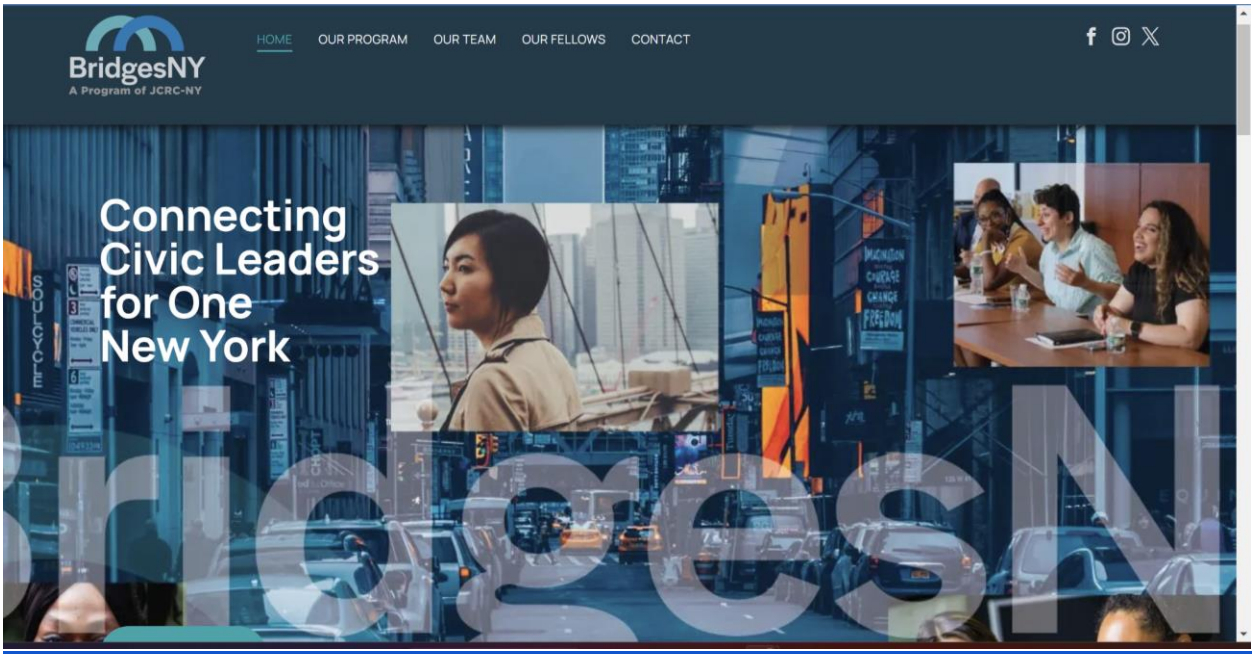
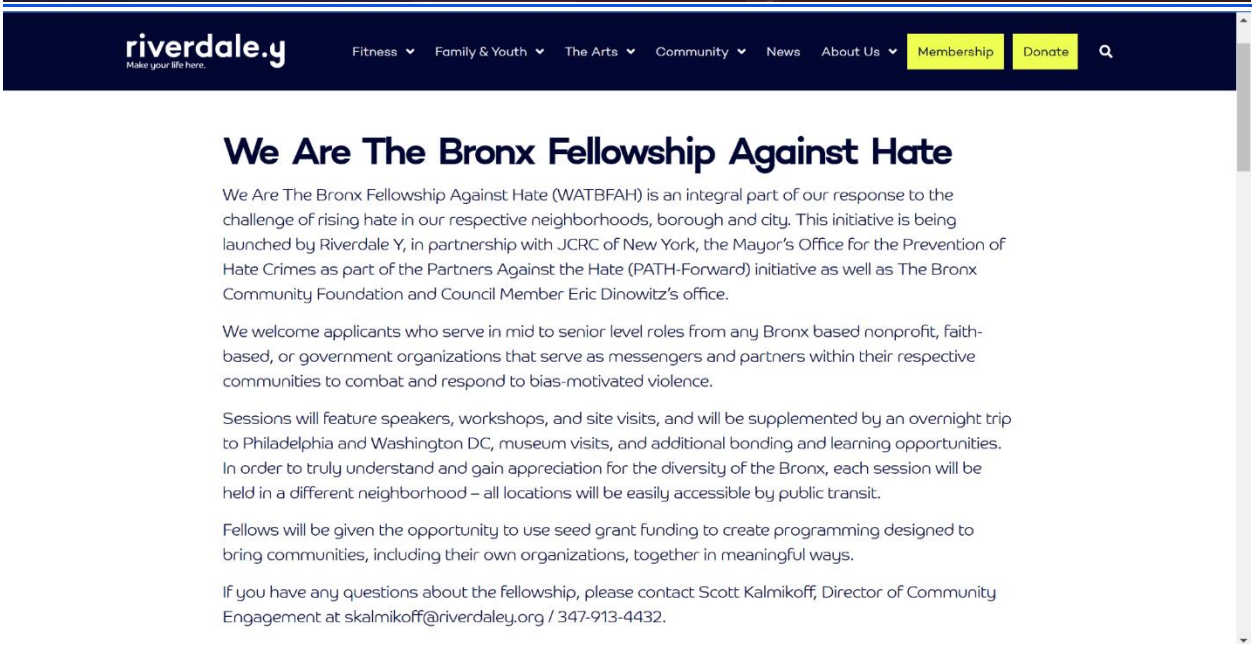
The Committee discussed the following areas:

- Reviewed SCRE webpage and resources. Took in-depth review of Resource Guide on Combating Hate:
    - Check NYC Veterans link in guide, add NYC nonprofit on hate
    - Create Google Translate link
    - Create Flyer with QR code to post in community
- Acknowledged New York State (NYS) Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) passed
- Discussed people desensitized to word 'hate' and need to think before speak
- Discussed continuing to keep 'hate' as a recommended Standing Committee topic.
    - Discussed the CB8 Budget process
    - Elevate equity to be the top vetting tool for budget requests
    - Elevate past SCRE speakers and post YouTube links to SCRE page
- Joint meeting with HHSS Committee on science of digital detox and 'burning' hate via exercise, nature, and other data-backed self-care
- Explored retitling SCRE
- What is our ***vision*** for the future we want to see
    - What does the community really want
    - Build community over chaos

The Committee agreed upon the following next steps:

- Caesar agreed to follow up on youth-led conversation with Youth Committee Chair
- Explore technical requirement of renaming special committee with further input from Law Rules and Ethics Chair
- Spring speakers: NYS ERA ballot initiative, line between free speech and hate, rescheduling September 2024 speakers, intergenerational bridge building
- Promote **The Bridges-NY Fellowship** connects, develops and empowers the next generation of civic leaders in NYC. **Application due Monday, November 25.**

- Promote **We Are The Bronx Fellowship Against Hate. Applications are due by Friday, November 29,** for potential fellows who share our commitment to combating hate in our borough and city.
- Explore Spring convening, breaking bread-youth, create art, BBQ, open dialogue, table event, parasocial relationships, third spaces
- Find updated data on EEOC/discrimination

Next Meeting in January, March, April. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Minutes submitted by Margaret Della.