

Pending committee approval  
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 8

Education, Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting  
Held on September 24, 2019

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander  
Marvin Goodman  
Martin Wolpoff  
Nick Fazio  
Robert Jacklosky  
Rita Pochter-Lowe  
Judith Green

AFFILIATION

Chair, ELCA Committee  
CB8-Committee Member  
CB9-Committee Member  
CB8, Committee Member  
CB8, Committee Member  
CB8, Committee Member  
Community Committee Member

GUESTS

Rebecca Barbier  
Dora Gutierrez  
Ravi Benthil  
I.C. Levenberg  
Phoebe Rubinstein  
Samantha Margles

Riverdale Library-Branch Manager  
PS 81-Parent  
PS81-Student  
Community Resident  
Journalist Student-The New School  
Lehman College

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes of the committee meeting held on May 28, 2019 were approved as written.

The Chair shared that she attended the opening of the new Van Cortland Library branch on July 15, 2019. The branch has doubled its size and the community came out to celebrate. She also attended the Borough Budget Consultations in early September where the DOE was to attend but they did not make the meeting but would attend on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Dora Gutierrez-PS 81 Safety Committee reported on their continuing request to install additional features in their school building to curtail the possible danger to students of armed intruders. The Education Committee has included a budget item for FY2021-Budget Priorities. Also, the parents have contacted Councilman Andrew Cohen who has pledged funds to install safety cameras at all entrances and exits of the school building with monitors at Safety desks at main entrance. The parents have expressed their appreciation for the prompt action on their request both by Councilman Cohen and the Education Committee of Bronx Community Board #8.

Nick Fazio, one of the new members of the committee highlighted the report of Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. entitled "Reforming the School Construction Authority. An action Plan For Efficient Use of Public School Space". It is our sincere hope that SCA utilizes these

suggestions to address issues of space in our overcrowded schools. The Chair will report as new information becomes available.

Rebecca Barbier, Branch Manager of The Riverdale Branch advised the committee of some of the programs presently being enjoyed by toddlers, students and patrons of all ages. The Calendar of all of our Libraries programs can be found on their websites each month.

Discussion about future topics for the committee to entertain turned up some possibilities. The Chair will do some research with the committee and hope to present new issues during the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Alexander, Chair  
Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee