

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
Minutes of the Education/Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee
Held on January 29, 2019

PRESENT	AFFILIATION
Sylvia Alexander	Chair, ELCA Committee
Marvin Goodman	CB9-Committee Member
Sharon Paige	CB8-Committee Member
Judith Green	Community Committee Member
Absent	
Rita Pochter-Lowe	CB8-Committee Member
Tricia Mullen	CB8-Committee Member
Martin Wolpoff	CB8-Committee Member
Guests	
Wendy Spector	Dean/Coach-Debate Team-MS/HS 368
Stephen Seltzer	Principal-In Tech Academy-MS/HS368
David Weisberg	Asst. Principal-In Tech Academy-MS/HS368
Lisa Rivera	Parent-In Tech Academy
Antonio Perez	Member-Debate Team-MS368
Gabriela Mata	Member-Debate Team-MS368
Nelly Tavaez	Member-Debate Team-HS368
Benjamin Mineya	Member-Debate Team-HS368
Rebecca Barbier	Manager-Riverdale Branch Library
Tim Tureski	Manager-Spuyten Duyvil Library Branch

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

The minutes of November 27, 2018 could not be approved because of lack of quorum.

Chair welcomed Wendy Spector, Dean and coach of the Debate Team and four members of the Debate Team of In Tech Academy-MS/HS 368 to the meeting. Ms. Spector explained that there are 35 members on the team made up of middle school and high school students. The present team has been very successful both individually and collectively. They have debated many schools including schools in other boroughs. The team has also debated Brooklyn Tech and Bronx Science successfully. There is also a Bi-Lingual team.

The students shared that being involved with the team has given them many helpful skills. They have gained the skills of leadership, public speaking, gained confidence, learn to complete assignments in a timely fashion, incorporate skills to other subjects and understand how team work is successful. Mr. Seltzer, Principal and Mr. Weisberg, Assistant Principal attended the meeting. Lisa Rivera, a parent, was present and shared that her son is a debater (but not in

attendance). She is very involved and attends many debates. She feels that the experience has taught the students self worth and has made everyone involved feel that they are part of a family who care about each other on a daily basis. The students participate in community service with Riverdale Temple, Riverdale Y and the Greenway, as well as, being active with students from Horace Mann and will be working with Columbia University shortly. The committee was very impressed with the program and especially with the maturity of the students.

Chair advised that Budget priority discussions will be earlier this year.

Chair proposed an event to be sponsored by the committee (date not set) at a site (TBD) to celebrate the centennial of "Women's March To Washington-1913."-Their goal was to have the legislature pass a law to give women the right to vote. This event would cover both Education and Cultural Affairs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Alexander, Chair
Education/Libraries and Culture Affairs
Committee