

PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL
Bronx Community Board No. 8
Minutes of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee
Held on
Thursday, March 26, 2020
Via
Zoom Conference Call

Present:	Affiliation
Omar Murray	Chair – Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee
Steve Froot	CB8- Committee Member
Tao Moran	CB8- Committee Member
Karen Pesce	CB8- Committee Member
Absent:	
Martin Gluck	CB8- Committee Member
Guest:	
Eric Bell	CB8- Committee Member
Erica Peralta-Downing	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
David Gellman	Chair- CB8 Budget Committee
Laura Spalter	Vice Chair-Bronx Community Board No. 8

The Committee meeting is called to order at 7:48pm. The Chair opens by thanking all Committee members and guests for coming to the meeting and expresses healthy well wishes to all and their families. The Chair states the February meeting minutes will be presented at the next committee meeting.

Chair states that Coronavirus (COVID-19) rate has been increasing within our communities, the United States, and the world and many are now concerned about how to avoid this virus and the way to protect themselves and their families. The Chair explains tonight Miss Erica Peralta-Downing, the Bronx Borough Coordinator of DOHMH will be giving a presentation on Coronavirus (Covid-19).

Miss Downing: Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory infectious virus spread to people who are in close contact (within about 6 feet) with a person who has coronavirus disease (COVID-19). It is spread through droplets that are sprayed when a person coughs or sneezes, and possibly when they sing or talk. COVID-19 can be spread if someone touches a surface that has the virus on it and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands. There is strong evidence that people who have no symptoms can also spread the virus.

The people mostly at risk of becoming infected by COVID-19 are those affected by the conditions below:

- Asthma
- Chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis
- Chronic lung disease
- Diabetes
- Hemoglobin Disorders
- Immunocompromised (HIV/Aids and Cancers)
- Liver disease

- People aged 65 years and older
- People in nursing homes or long-term care facilities
- Serious heart conditions
- Severe obesity

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, individuals and families should do the following:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or clean them with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Maintain at least six feet distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Use a face mask to cover mouth and nose
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.
- Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

The numbers and data below counts as of Sunday March 29, 2020.

Situational update

Globally 725,000 cases

US 143,000 cases

NYS 59,513 cases

NYC 33,474 cases

Miss Downing States that NYC is working to increase testing sites for people who maybe be infected with COVID-19.

The Chair thanks Miss Downing for coming to the Committee meeting and providing extremely useful information.

Submitted By:
Omar Murray
Chair,
Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee