

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITALS & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, February 1, 2016

[Pending Committee Approval]

PRESENT

Steven Froot
Lenora Croft
Karen Pesce
Omar Murray
Noah Friedman
Julia Gomez

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair
Committee Vice Chair
Committee member
Committee member
Committee member
Community Committee Member

ABSENT: A. Moore, M. Heller.

The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. at the Board Office, 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Bronx, NY.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 16, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved by the members present.

Chair's Report

- Mr. Froot reported on recent developments concerning the establishment of IRA-group homes by Sinergia Inc. at 3016 and 3018 Corlear Avenue. Mr. Froot described a letter sent to the Borough President's Office complaining about the Board's approval of the IRA at 3016 Corlear Avenue; correspondence with the Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) regarding the requirement in the NYS Mental Health Law that sponsoring organizations are only required to seek Community Board approval for group homes with more than three residents, provided they do not require full-time supervision; and a January 14, 2016 article in the *Riverdale Press* describing the situation.
- The Chair reported on the January 14, 2016 "Forum on Drug Use & Dependence" organized by Councilman Cohen at the Chair's suggestion and held at Riverdale Neighborhood House. The Board co-sponsored the forum and assisted with publicity. Mr. Froot described the event as well attended and extremely informative. Panelists included a local private practice physician, a representative from Arms Acres (a residential/outpatient treatment facility), and representatives from Riverdale Mental Health, the Harm Reduction Coalition and the Bronx Borough Health Director of the Department of Education.
- Mr. Froot reminded the Committee about the DOH/MH community consultation about health priorities scheduled for February 18, 2016 at the Riverdale Library Branch.

New Business

Noah Friedman continued the discussion about the possibility of the Committee reaching out to community organizations, including clergy, regarding health priorities in our community district.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

The Committee will hold its next meeting at 7:30 PM on Monday, March 21, 2016 at the Methodist Home for Nursing & Rehabilitation, 4499 Manhattan College Parkway.

Prepared by Steven Froot, Chair
Health, Hospitals & Social Services Committee