

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITALS & SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING, November 16, 2015**

PRESENT

Steven Froot
Lenora Croft
Karen Pesce
Noah Friedman
Omar Murray
Nancy Varughese
Ashley Smith
Ohemaa Atuahene

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair
Committee Vice Chair
CB 8 - Committee member
CB 8 - Committee member
CB 8 - Committee member
Student, College of New Rochelle
Student, College of New Rochelle
Student, Lehman College

ABSENT: A. Moore, M. Heller, J. Gomez.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. at the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center Early Childhood Services building.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 19, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved 5-0 with no abstentions by the members present.

Chair's Report

- Mr. Froot thanked Lenora Croft for agreeing to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee.
- The scheduled presentation regarding strokes by a nurse practitioner from Montefiore, which was on the meeting agenda, will be rescheduled.
- Mr. Froot reported that the Board office was still trying to arrange a presentation to the Committee from a representative of the Department of Homeless Services.
- Efforts are ongoing by Councilman Cohen's office to organize a public forum to discuss drug use in local schools and in the community, with a focus on K-2 (synthetic marijuana) and opioids, including heroin. The Board would expect to co-sponsor the event and assist with publicity.
- For the benefit of new members, the Chair discussed the Community Board budget priority process, and noted the Expense item relating to the Riverdale Mental Health Association's geriatric program that HHSS had put forward in recent years.
- Mr. Froot handed out copies of a current City Council legislative summary prepared by Board Vice Chair Rosemary Ginty.

Old Business

The Chair reported that the Board office had been notified, and had confirmed, that Sinergia, Inc. was in the process of locating a second IRA at 3018 Corlear Avenue, next door to the proposed IRA at 3016 Corlear Avenue that had been the subject of a public hearing held by the Committee on September 21, 2015, and that was approved by the full Board at its October meeting. Mr. Froot explained that he was engaged in correspondence with Sinergia regarding what appeared to be a lack of candor on the agency's part in failing to notify the Committee in September that Sinergia was planning to establish a second group home immediately adjacent to the proposed group home that was the subject of the public hearing.

New Business

During the early portion of the meeting, before a quorum was present, Mr. Froot outlined the work of the Committee for the benefit of the health sciences students in attendance from the College of New Rochelle and Lehman College.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

There will be no December meeting because the Land Use Committee needs to meet on the regularly scheduled HHSS meeting day, and no other convenient dates are available for HHSS. The Committee will hold its next meeting at 7:30 PM on Monday, January 4, 2016, at Park Gardens Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, located at 6585 Broadway (north of West 260th Street), Bronx, NY 10463.

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