

## **BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8, HOUSING COMMITTEE**

Draft of Minutes of September 25, 2017 Pending Committee Approval

### **Committee Attendance:**

S. Sarao, Committee Chair and Member  
P. Ellis, Vice Chair, Bronx Community Board 8  
Georgia Santiago, Committee Member  
James Santiago, Committee Member

### **Committee Absences:**

Julie Reyes, Committee member  
Omar Murray, Committee member  
Rosalind Zavras, Committee member

### **Guests:**

Barbara Lauray, President, Fort Independence Tenants Association  
Jennifer Montalvo, Deputy Director, Office of Intergovernmental Relations, NYCHA  
Shirelle Williams, Fort Independence Facility Manager  
Keevin Wells, Heating Administrator, NYCHA  
Robert Knapp, Director, Heating Service and Operations Manager, NYCHA  
Shannon, Assistant Facility Manager, NYCHA

Chair Steven Sarao called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. with no quorum present. The Chair welcomed those present, including members of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), Vice Chair Paul Ellis. A brief open discussion began with regard to the Budget and Capital Expense for fiscal year 2019. The floor was opened up for discussions while awaiting for a quorum.

Vice Chair and Past Chair of Housing Committee Paul Ellis addressed the audience and explained the budgetary and expense numbers obtained from NYCHA. With no quorum present, Deputy Inspector O'Toole was introduced and discussed crime statistics specifically relating to Fort Independence. DI O'Toole took questions and provided answers to those present at the meeting. Barbara Lauray, Fort Independence Tenants Association President, along with select residents, raised a series of questions about repairs, maintenance and other long-standing issues. There were issues raised regarding windows, heating, hot water, bugs, rodents, and ongoing repairs that have been requested by tenants. There was a healthy but heated exchange with NYCHA providing answers, taking notes on specifics, including specific apartment numbers and concerns. NYCHA representatives indicated that they would be following up with residents and the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 900 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by Committee Member James Santiago