

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**  
**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD ON MAY 28, 2020 via ZOOM**

**PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

**PRESENT:**

**AFFILIATION:**

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Sergio Villaverde | Committee Chair, CB8      |
| Louis Lopez       | Committee Vice Chair, CB8 |
| Julia T. Gomez    | CB8 (CM)                  |
| Margaret Della    | CB8 (CM)                  |
| Jyll Townes       | CB8 (CM)                  |
| Camelia Tepelus   | CB8 (CM)                  |
| Nick Fazio        | CB8 (CM)                  |
| Janet Peguero     | NYC SBS                   |
| Deshaun Mars      | NYC SBS                   |
| Rosemary Ginty    | Chairperson               |
| David Gellman     | CB8                       |
| Mary Ellen Gibbs  | Community Member          |
| Pierina Sanchez   | Community Member          |
| Shari Hall        | KRVC                      |

1. Call to order at 7:35 PM
2. Introduction of participants was done.
3. SBS issues and rate of support for merchants and presentation

**SBS Funding issue:**

Janet Puguero and Deshaun Mars, SBS. Discussed the 1% of financial assistance to Bronx. The actual number is more than 1%. The grant and loan program was put forth quickly. Borough diversity not properly achieved. SBS Commissioner is concerned about the lack of diversity in funding. Once the programs closed they shifted to technical assistance with financial applications. [nyc.gov/financing](http://nyc.gov/financing) assistance. New Commissioner has a 5 Borough approach. Is adjusting outreach to all Boroughs.

Representatives responded to questions and agreed to continue outreach and partnership.

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SBS will share final report on distribution of funds citywide when available.

Business Guidance:

Issue of Phased openings discussed Chairman Villaverde posed question about giving detailed, clear and concise information now for businesses to prepare for opening. Chair Villaverde suggested having the same manual used for enforcement shared with merchants and the community so that we all can work towards the same standard.

SBS acknowledged that the information may be confusing. SBS wants to be a warehouse for rules that apply to businesses.

They will take information back and understand the need for the information to be given to merchants in a timely manner. SBS agreed to work with the relevant agencies to coordinate information to the community.

4. BOEDC merchant support and presentation.

Matter tabled as no representative of BOEDC was present.

5. COVID19 Merchant impact continued discussion: Discussed previously.

6. SAPO application- Johnson Avenue Block Festival 9-13-20  
10:00 am to 7:00 pm, street closure between West 235 Street  
and West 236 Street, KRVC Sponsor

KRVC, Shari Hall presented the application and agreed to approval subject to restrictions.

Committee members expressed gratitude and support for the application.

The event has been successful in the community previously.

Having this event was seen as a return to normalcy that is very needed by the community.

Motion to approve application, subject to any COVID19 restrictions, made by Jyll Townes  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret Della  
passed unanimously

7. Approval of minutes

Motion to approve prior minutes by Julia Gomez 2<sup>nd</sup> by Louis Lopez  
passed unanimously.

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8. New Business

Nick Fazio raised the issue of Parilla Latina closing. There will be a report from Public Safety.

Board Chair Ginty reported that there was enforcement activity and the place is closed. The issue will be followed up at Board Meeting and with NYPD.

Camelia Tepelus raised the issue of graffiti in business districts. Question as to who gets called. Chair Villaverde made note of additional graffiti issues in Marble Hill corridor.

Chair Villaverde directed members to call 311 and forward same to Board Office.

9. Old Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted:  
Sergio Villaverde,  
Economic Development Committee Chair