

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 27, 2013 AT KINGSBRIDGE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER 3101 KINGSBRIDGE TERRACE

Attendees

Lamont Parker
Sylvia Alexander
Rita Pochter Lowe
Robert Press
Derwin Greene
Karen Green
Nancy Nunez
Wendy Garcia

Alina Williams
Sadie Mahoney
Gloria Williams
Kathy Gilson
Erik Maldonado
Christina Taylor

Affiliation

CB8 Committee Chair
CB 8
CB 8
CB 8
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Community member
Riverdale Neighborhood House
NYC Department of Youth &
Community Development
Fort Independence Community Center
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Riverdale Community Center
Riverdale Community Center
Poet, "Advocate of Wordz"
Friends of Van Cortlandt Park South

At 1pm the meeting was called to order; in the absence of minutes from the previous meeting the agenda followed.

Old Business

Finalizing Bronx Youth Poetry Slam

Finalizing a date for "Youth Day" with Van Cortlandt Park Golf

New Business

Wendy Garcia (Director) spoke about The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) . It was created in 1996 to provide the City of New York with high-quality youth and family programming. Their central task is administering available City, State, and Federal funds to effective community-based organizations. DYCD supports New York City youth and their families by funding a wide range of high-quality youth and community development programs, including, Beacon Community Centers, Cornerstone Community Center, Immigrant Services, Jobs and Internships of Youth, Literacy for adult and adolescent and families Out of School Time (OST) initiative Summer Youth Employment. DYCD is also the designated Community Action Agency for New York City, which is the local grantee for the Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). CSBG funding supports a wide variety of programs that address the conditions of poverty.

Christina Taylor (Executive Director of Friends of Van Cortlandt Park) spoke about The Friends of Van Cortlandt Park (FVCP). It is a not-for-profit organization that was founded in 1992. FVCP began as a small, informal group of Bronx residents interested in collectively sponsoring a park-based teen program. The Summer Teen Program, the first program that the Friends offered, had such a positive effect on both the Park and the teen participants that FVCP was encouraged by the Parks Department to assume a leadership role in broader park issues. The FVCP, an independent community based organization, actively promotes the conservation and improvement of Van Cortlandt Park through environmental education and restoration and enhancement of the Park, its forests and trails. The FVCP believes that Van Cortlandt Park would benefit from the cooperative efforts of the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy. Van Cortlandt Park has regional value as a unique natural open space resource. Nationally, Van Cortlandt Park enjoys recognition as a Cross Country running venue. Van Cortlandt Park's trails, forests and other natural areas require ongoing maintenance and occasional reconstruction for their long-term preservation. Offering opportunities for physical involvement within Van Cortlandt Park—to hike its trails, assist with maintenance, learn about its ecology—helps foster a greater appreciation of the Park and the natural environment among youth and the broader community.

Erik Maldonado spoke about the Bronx Youth Slam to be held on May 23rd at the Kingsbridge Library. He explained what the event entails and how the local community centers can get involved.

Future Business

Initiate talks for a "Youth Job Fair" with NYPD Explorer.

Adjourned Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM

The following Youth Meeting will be held at the Riverdale Neighborhood House Community Center, 5521 Mosholu Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463 on April 24th at 1 PM

Submitted by,

Lamont Parker, Chair
Youth Committee