

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 24, 2013 AT RIVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTER, 5521 MOSHOLU AVENUE

Attendees

Lamont Parker
Sylvia Alexander
Rita Pochter Lowe
Robert Press
Maria Khury
Andrew Cohen
Wai Yu
Derwin Greene
Phoebe Downes
Wilert Tee Lawtson
Sleep Abdul Johnson
Kathy Gibson
Michael Newman
Karen Green
Christina Taylor
Martha Gonzalez-Buitrago
Police Officer Perez
Police Office Miranda
Carlos Vidot
Jonathan Mela
Erik Maldonado

Affiliation

Youth Chair
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Riverdale Neighborhood House (RNH)
CB3
CB3/C-Ball
Riverdale Community Center
Riverdale Community Center
Education Community, Youth CB8
Friends of Van Cortlandt Park
Kingsbridge Public Library
50TH Precinct
50th Precinct
Target
Target
Advocate of Wordz

The meeting was called to order [at 1:15pm](#), the agenda followed:

The chair opened the meeting by greeting the participants. He asked the attendees to introduce themselves. He also indicated that the Job fair proposed for June will be postponed to April 2014.

Foster Parent Advocacy Foundation, Inc. was unable to attend. They will present in the future.

The NYPD 50th Precinct Police Officer Perez (Youth Officer/Explorer Advisor) spoke about helping children in the community and in neighboring communities. She works with children with ages ranging from 9 to 21 in a program called Explorer. The Explorer will be partnering with the Youth Committee for the Youth Job Fair. A good dialogue and exchange where the other groups present wanted to offer assistance and participate in expanding this program. The officer expressed gratitude and was very impressed with the offer of those present.

NYPD 50th Precinct Police Officer Miranda (Crime Prevention) spoke about crime prevention. There are programs that focus on protecting your car, cellular phones, and your computer. In the future, she will be working with Ft. Independence Community Center, Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, and Riverdale Neighborhood House Community Center.

The 1st Youth Poetry SLAM was discussed by Erik Maldonado (Advocate of Wordz.) The event is scheduled for [May 23](#) at the Kingsbridge Branch Library. Mr. Maldonado and Chair Lamont Parker will call the registrants to review their poems and make sure they are ready and know what to expect at the event. They will set up a mock poetry slam to be held prior to [May 23](#) to help the children with their poems. He indicated that it seems that the event will be very successful. They have a high amount of registered participants from the Public Library. The Librarian spoke and confirmed that everyone is very excited about this event. She will be available. The event is online.

Community Board 8 Vice Chair Maria Khury acknowledged the hard work being done by Chair Lamont Parker, congratulated him and all present agreed.

She asked if the schools in the community had registrants. The committee decided that in the interest of time and although the Board office had sent letters and notices to all the schools the effort would come mostly from the several community centers that have been collaborating since the beginning. Education Chair Sylvia Alexander agreed that the event was not in her agenda but that she welcomes collaborating towards the event next year where there could be a closer collaboration between the committees as Community Board 8 Vice Chair Khury suggested. Most important Vice Chair Khury stated to make sure that everyone is included and has the same opportunity to participate. Youth Chair Lamont Parker agreed.

Pertaining to Old Business the Youth Job Fair was discussed:

Wilbert Tee Lawtson (CB3) spoke of his experience and his ongoing commitment to job fairs and about utilizing established community resources to find information about available jobs. He has worked closely with UPS, FedEx, and the Bronx Lebanon Hospital to provide job opportunities to the community.

Chair Parker asked VC Khury, who will be assisting with the job fair, to also speak. Ms. Khury spoke about the importance of identifying the target audience as well as which jobs will be offered and who will attend to apply for these jobs. Identifying which jobs will be available so that there can be matches to fill those jobs.

Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO) application has been retracted. The Youth Job Fair has been changed to take place in April of 2014. The preparation will commence with a review on December 2013. The goal is to hold the Job Fair at a site vs. outside on a street. The committee will review what will work best and which sites will be suitable. St Stephen's Church was mentioned as a possibility.

Pertaining to New Business the following was discussed:

Carlos Vidot (Target-Security) spoke about Target's role in sponsoring events benefiting the community. Target has worked with the Fire Department, 50th and 52nd Precincts, and Target has worked with the New York Public Library to promote the opening of the

Kingsbridge Branch Library. For The Youth Committee, Target will promote the Youth Job Fair and supply any manpower as needed for the success of the event.

Michael Newman (Healthy Eating Chef) spoke about teaching teenagers about eating healthy. He teaches at Riverdale Community Center at the after school program. He teaches students from 6th to 8th graders, 2 to 3 times a week. He has taught them to prepare meals in a healthier way by using less salt and by substituting pre-packaged canned and jarred foods with homemade foods made from freshly prepared ingredients such as garlic and tomatoes. Chair Lamont Parker suggested he may want to participate at the Youth markets with the kids.

Sleep Johnson (CB3/C-Ball) spoke about C-Ball (The Community Board Athletic Leadership League, Inc.) C-Ball is a non-profit organization that offers programs for youths, ages ranging from 7 to 18, who are interested in serving their community through their participation in sports. The committee will review how they can participate and support his effort.

Future Business

Initiate talks for the Youth Job Fair and the Van Cortlandt Golf. Van Cortlandt Golf is hosting a four session event, 1 hour each, for up to 20 youths per session **on July 16th, from 11am to 3pm.**

Adjourned Meeting

Meeting was adjourned [at 3:15pm.](#)

The next Youth Committee meeting will be held at Marble Hill Community Center, [5365 Broadway, Bronx, NY 10463 on May 22, 2013 at 1pm.](#)

Submitted by,

Lamont Parker, Chair
Youth Committee