

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON February 26, 2014 AT  
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 OFFICE  
5676 Riverdale Avenue Suite 100  
Bronx, NY 10471  
Phone # (718) 884-3959 Fax# (718) 796-2763**

**Attendees**

Lamont Parker  
Erik Maldonado  
Karen Green  
Christopher Riley  
Joe Smith  
Kathy Gilson

**Affiliation**

Youth Chair  
Advocate of Wordz/Community Committee member  
Community Committee member  
Community Board 8  
Director of Youth and Camping Riverdale YM-YWHA  
Executive Director of Riverdale Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 1:11pm.

Chair Lamont Parker announced that the VCP Skating event has been postponed till the next winter season, due to the location closing down for the season. The Comeback Kid award has been pushed to the April 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting and Community Centers need to have applications in by March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014! Currently the Chair is in the process of working with the community centers to see how many children would be interested in the Hebrew Home Adopt a Grandparent program.

Erik gave a breakdown on how he will be working with the kids in preparation for the Youth Poetry slam event set for May 15, 2014 at the Kingsbridge Library. Erick is going to set up workshops in March where he will work with the students from each community center whose students will be participating. This will help the students get ready and know what to expect at the event. The Chair is in the process of working on Sponsorships.

Karen provided an overview on how some of her curriculums geared towards middle school students could help keep students engaged. Karen has the knowledge and experience when it comes to writing curriculums. She is currently in the process of speaking with the Riverdale Neighborhood House on how some of the curriculums could be introduced to the center. One of the curriculums is The Organic Curriculum. It challenges young people's energies into hands on projects. Further information on this curriculum can be provided upon request.

Christopher suggested that a Basketball Clinic would be a great program for the kids who want to enhance their skills and enjoy the love of basketball. The clinic will create a daily emphasis on fundamental development, drills, shooting, team playing, offensive/defense moves and rebounding. Predicted month for such clinic is June, of course further discussions will be needed.

Joe gave an overview of some of the after schools programs provided by the Riverdale YM-YWHA at PS24. The programs are geared towards children in K thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Some of the programs available to the kids are karate, creative drama, cooking, swimming which is provided in the Y's indoor pool and many others. For further information on these and the other programs, you can contact Joe at JSmith@riverdaley.org

The Community Centers in attendance gave a brief overview on how their centers are doing:

**Riverdale Community Center-** The center has after-school programs/activities that they offer to the Middle School and High School students. These programs are geared to help assist the students stay on track with their academics while also preparing some into the transition of adulthood. Middle school programs include but are not limited to: Academic Support & Enhancement, The Arts and Recreation & Fitness. High school programs include but are not limited to: Career Readiness workshop, Teen Action and Teen Theater. For further information on the programs you can log onto <http://riverdalecommunitycenter.org> Note: On Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a Spanish class starting at 7pm at the Riverdale Community Center if anyone is interested in attending the class.

The youth chair wanted to let everyone know about a C-Ball Tournament that occurs the first Saturday of each month. It is run by the Police Athletic League. Tournaments are held at different locations so to find out more about this event/locations log onto [www.c-ball.org](http://www.c-ball.org) The Community Board No.8 defeated the District Attorney's office this past Saturday, March 1, 2014. The youth chair is looking for individuals 18yrs or older, to represent the Community Board 8 at these tournaments. Interested individuals should contact the Community Board 8 office, for further information.

The youth chair is asking that all of the community centers bring their concerns/issues currently affecting their centers to the next meeting. The chair will be working with each center starting with Fort Independence, to assist/advocate their concerns while providing guidance on polices and guidelines that should be followed.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm. Next board meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2014 at Community Board No. 8 office.

Lamont Parker, Chair  
Youth Committee