

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON APRIL 22, 2015 AT
FORT INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY CENTER
3350 Bailey Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463

Attendees

Lamont Parker
Demetrius McCord
Cy Nesbit
Rita Pochter Lowe
Louis Poveda
Katherine Parra
Alyssa Leniham
Erick Maldonado

Affiliation

Youth Chair
Vice Chair
Community Board No. 8
Community Board No. 8
Fort Independence CC
Marble Hill Community Center
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Advocate of Words Poet

The Youth Chair let everyone introduce themselves and then read the agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 4:38PM.

Chair's Report

Youth Chair, Lamont Parker, reviewed the March minutes with all present. Motion was made to approve minutes from the March 2015 meeting. Minutes were approved.

Youth Chair, Lamont Parker, introduced Cy Nesbit officially as a Community Board No. 8 Youth Committee member.

Youth Chair, Lamont Parker thanked the Ft. Independence staff for letting the Community Board No.8 Youth Board use the facility.

Rita Pochter Lowe reported that Riverdale Temple had a day of service on Sunday, April 19th. Students from 368, Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy, and the Boys Scouts participated in the event.

Old Business

Needs Assessment – Vice Chair, D. McCord has completed the needs assessment and will share with the committee members shortly.

C-BALL – Manhattan College has agreed to be the host location for the C-BALL event on Saturday, September 5th, 2015.

2015 Youth Golf Day – Event will take place on Wednesday, July 15th. Katherine Pana has agreed to bring 60 kids. (Marble Hill)

Comeback Kid/ New York Yankees Youth Leadership Award @ Bronx Net – Come Back Kid award winner, Kiara Bucchan and New York Yankees Youth Leadership Award Winners (Waleed Aberdaddo, Christopher Ramirez, Raimundo Sanchez, Brian West, and Muslima Adams) will be on BRONX NET Thursday, April 23rd, at 7:00PM to discuss their awards. Youth Chair, will also promote Bronx Community Board No.8 and upcoming events.

2015 Youth Poetry Slam – Erik Maldonado “Advocate of Words” gave an update on the 2015 Youth Poetry Slam at Riverdale Neighborhood House. The event will take place on Wednesday, May 13th at RNH from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM. The event will be videotaped. The goal of the event is to teach effective community strategies, particularly public speaking. The contest will have two rounds. The poems can be about anything but should be under three minutes long. Participants will have three minutes to perform in front of five judges. (Hip Hop artist Special K and a Brio award winner will be judging the event.) The high and the low scores will be thrown out. The middle three scores will be tallied. There will be 16 - 18 contestants at the event. Four finalists will be selected. The top four poems will receive gifts (e.g. Apple products). The Youth Chair asked the community centers in attendance for input on prizes. The winners will also appear on Bronx Net. Erik and the Youth Chair are planning to build the Youth Poetry Slam into a monthly event.

Erik and the Youth Chair are working to ensure that the event brings a diverse group of youth for the Poetry Slam. Word@4F, New School Vision, and the local community centers will be sending participants. Vice Chair, Demetrius McCord will also reach out to Bronx Academy of Art and Dance and The Point. Participants must be 13 – 19 years old and will need two poems to compete. Erik is looking to have Marble Hill and SAR private Jewish school in attendance. Erik Maldonado will work with the participants to help refine the poems before the event. Saturday, May 2nd is the deadline for the community centers to submit three participants for the event. Please send all info to the board office. For further information please contact Erik Maldonado “Advocate of Words” at advocateofwordz@gmail.com.

Fort Independence Community Center – Louis Poveda, gave an update on the centers current developments:

- The FICC is unsure if it will be doing the summer camp this year. The Housing Authority may not have funding to support the summer camp. The staff does not know if they will be employed.

Marble Hill Community Center – Katherine Parra gave an update on the centers current developments:

- Summer Camp will be open after May 2nd. They will be able to open up to the community 125 slots available. Will be able to accept some kids from the Fort Independence Community Center if they do not have a program this year.
- Teen center just started some programs: Cooking Classes and Step Team
- Baseball Camp will begin shortly
- Recently hired an assistant

Kingsbridge Heights Community Center – Alyssa Leniham, Teen Education Coordinator gave an update on the centers current developments:

- Spring Programming has begun
- Moving up Ceremony to recognize the kids will take place in June
- College directions and Summer Bridge program to begin next month

Youth Chair, Lamont Parker asked the community center representatives to investigate if there would be any interest in a Chess tournament.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:21PM. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24th, 2015. (Time and location TBA)

Submitted by,
Lamont Parker, Chair
Youth Committee