

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 17TH, 2008
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

Present

Cassandra Prentice
Anne Gray
Jerome Harris
Charlie Schiller

Affiliation

CB #8 Committee Chair
Riverdale Community Center
Riverdale Neighborhood House
Riverdale YM/YWHA

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

Old Business

Jerome raised the issue of the Youth Services Directory. Nicole Stent who has been working on this project with the Board intern was not available to provide an update.

The Youth Services budget will remain as is, which will allow the Mayor and City Council to know that the Community Board Offices in Bronx Community Board No.8 cannot afford cuts.

New Business

The major issue addressed at the meeting was the potential for budget cuts for Youth Services, not only in Bronx Community Board No.8, but throughout the city. The committee members voiced their concerns regarding cuts that would scale down staffing. The Committee agreed that existing programs, along with staff, must remain in place, and the need for additional social programs that are not available in our community lends credence to the Committee's belief that any cuts to the existing contracts (when the time comes) would be catastrophic for the young people, their parents, and the community at large.

The committee briefly discussed the campaign for a bill to be put before the New York State Legislature which would allow for 16-17 year olds to become full Board Members. It was agreed that all committee members be available to vote on a resolution for this initiative.

A motion to adjourn was put before the committee, all of whom agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM and a date of February 25, 2009 would be set for the next meeting.

Submitted by,

Cassandra Prentice
Chairperson
Youth Committee