

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 25TH, 2009 AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

Present

Thomas C. Durham
Anne Gray
Jessica Cuezras
Charlie Schiller

Affiliation

Co-Chair
Riverdale Community Center
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Riverdale YM/YWHA

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

Co-Chair's Report

- The appointment of Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr. to President O'Bama's administration of being new Director of Urban Development was announced. With this appointment the Bronx is hoping that Mr. Carrion will bring the issues of urban youth to President Obama's administration.

The Chair urges all youth centers and organizations to submit their budget requests. Even though all branches of local government are declaring negative budgets, you should still submit your needs. If there is (Federal) stimulus money available that may reach the youth organizations, not submitting for financial help will make it appear that our community youth are not in need when all of our programs truly are struggling.

- Please submit budget needs to CB8/Youth Committee.

Old Business

- Youth Committee Chairperson, Ms. Cassandra Prentice submitted a resolution. In previous meetings the Youth Chairperson discussed the idea of having two minors (ages 16, 17) appointed to the Community Board. These appointments are allowed by city charter with the understanding, they will be allowed to attend any and all board and committee meetings. However being under the age of 18, by law they are not eligible to vote.

New Business

- The organizations in attendance all reported how budget cuts are affecting their programs. Some programs have been suspended, forcing staff members into early retirement and firing non-union maintenance staffers.
- They are all keeping sharp eyes on office supplies and phone and utility bills, stretching all recourses. Some have raised money with fund raising activities such as flea markets, bake and rummage sales.

- We exchanged other fund raising ideas and discussed exploring other fund raising opportunities. The biggest message agreed by the youth committee was to make sure our voices are heard on all fronts.

Keep the youth organizations and centers in the ears of all of our community leaders every chance we get.

Adjourned Meeting

A motion to adjourn was put before the committee, all of whom agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM and a date of April 22nd, 2009 was set for the next meeting.

Submitted by,

Mr. Thomas C. Durham, Co-Chair
Cassandra Prentice
Chairperson
Youth Committee

TCD/CP:db