



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS / LONG TERM PLANNING & LONG-TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

### Tuesday, April 28, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

#### I. General Discussion

A. Recapped: To date, we've heard from eight committees about what projects they'd like to see the LTP committee take on, we need to prioritize and decide what we want to take on:

1. Parks & Recreation Committee:
  - a. Development of the Harlem Waterfront and more specifically, the development of Regatta Park
2. Economic Development Committee:
  - a. Development of the neighborhoods around the Kingsbridge Armory
  - b. Development of Webster Avenue, in particular development of Webster and Gunhill Avenue (where some properties are currently owned by MMC and MPC)
  - c. Development of stronger partnerships with the major institutions in CD 7 neighborhoods
3. Traffic & Transportation Committee:
  - a. Creation of three new bus Routes:
    1. Fordham Rd to La Guardia Airport
    2. Extension of the #12 bus route
    3. Bus route on Webster between East 233<sup>rd</sup> Street and Gun Hill Road
  - b. Add shelters and benches to bus stops as needed
  - c. Add bike racks to neighborhood
  - d. Ensure that roadway underpasses have adequate lighting, don't flood, and are free of trash
4. Education, Libraries, Cultural Affairs & Youth Services Committee:
  - a. Access to affordable or free enrichment programs for all students until 6:30pm (lessons in drama, art, literature, foreign languages, math, technology, financial literacy, community service, dance, and sports)
  - b. Reduced class size with a cap of 24 students
  - c. Access to special education and gifted and talented programs
  - d. Access to continuing education opportunities for teens and adults (vocational and non-vocational training, GD, ESL, citizenship, healthy living, sports and fitness)
  - e. Additional community center
  - f. Two additional libraries



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- g. Extending library hours and programs
- h. Public art requirement for all new construction projects
- 5. Health & Hospitals Committee:
  - a. Links on CB7 website to local health concern resources
  - b. Outreach vans for health conditions (diabetes, obesity, HIV testing, mammogram)
  - c. Backpack program to combat hunger by having schools identify those students who need extra food
  - d. Senior nutrition program
  - e. Free weight loss programs via the NYC Department of Health
- 6. Housing / Land Use & Zoning:
  - a. More Commercial areas for shopping and services.
  - b. The expansion and development of Merchant Associations as well as the Chamber of Commerce
  - c. Contact the Dept. of City Planning and local Real Estate Brokers to see how to best encourage Commercial Development
  - d. Strict adherence to the Webster Avenue Vision Plan, which demands ground floor active use be put in place along CB7 corridor
  - e. Mixed income Developments that include 80-90% AMI
- 7. Public Safety and Quality of Life Committee:
  - a. Educate the residents of community board 7 on the 311 process and how to use it in conjunction with our local precinct in order to build a case against businesses and or other persons who are affecting the quality of life in our neighborhood
  - b. Bring awareness to the residents of community board 7 and beyond on the potentially dangerous effects of Synthetic Marijuana use and its impact on the community as a whole
  - c. Invite the Bronx DA's Office or possibility representatives from ACLU to provide an informational legal workshop on plea bargaining rights or other similar topics relevant to our community
  - d. Develop and implement a noise complaint system that tracks complaints against restaurants and bars; this would be especially useful tool as businesses are required to have a letter of recommendation from the board at liquor license renewal time
- 8. Environment & Sanitation Committee:
  - a. An Animal Shelter, which would not only help animals and their human companions, but it would bring obs and training programs like the Vet Tech Program that was housed at Dewitt Clinton High School
  - b. A better way to collect and process recycling



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- c. Changes to the use of rat poison in our community; there are concerns that rat poison is killing other wildlife it was not intended to harm
  - d. Monitoring of how garbage is removed from the areas where Business Improvement Districts (BIDS) are involved
  - e. More wide spread distribution of the Bronx Culture Card or a similar program that can not only offer discounted options for theater and museums, to bring in new audiences; but it could also be used to showcase Bronx talent by adding new offerings of venues that are not as well know
- II. No quorum:  
A. Because the Committee didn't have a quorum, the meeting was limited and the discussion was limited to the foregoing
- III. Meeting adjourned