

Call To Order

The General Board meeting commenced at 6:10 PM by Dr. Karie Nabinet Acting Board Chair. All were welcomed to the meeting.

Invocation

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bishop Earl McKay.

Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget

The District Manager gave a brief overview of the Board's role in the budget process with specific emphasis on the Board's responsibility to respond to the Mayor's Preliminary Budget. He then began to read through the Board's Capital and Expense priorities with agency response.

The Acting Board Chair called for any questions from Board Members and then the general public.

Community Members made comments regarding funding to Children Service Programs.

Pastor Jackson asked that the Board address the agency's response to priority 15, 2, 6, and 12 of the Board's Capital items.

Public Hearing on the proposed Middle School in Highbridge

Bishop McKay chaired this portion of the meeting. The School Construction Authority gave a full power point presentation of the proposed facility.

Council Member Arroyo addressed the Board and asked that the SCA look into developing a larger facility.

Board Members raised concerns raging from environmental equipment, placement of Special Education Classes, entrance of the School, and more seating.

Community Members made comments regarding the buildings LEED certification status, and more seating.

Review/Correction/Adoption of Previous Minutes

Dr. Nabinet called for a motion on the January General Board Meeting Minutes for adoption. A motion was moved by Ms. Felice Bradford-Richard to approve the January General Board Meeting Minutes and seconded by Mr. Naimbele Bourema. The motion duly carried.

Remarks By The District Manager

In an effort to reaffirm our office's commitment to remain vigilant that our community receives its "fair share" of charter-mandated resources I started to again meet and re-introduce myself to Community Based Organizations in our District. The overall goal is to hear any new issues or developments with their organization, and /or concerns they have, should there be any.

These meetings are extremely vital to the work that I do for gives me the opportunity to first hand hear about their concerns and allows me to properly advocate on their behalf.

Furthermore, it will assist in developing a true District Needs Assessment based on actual circumstances.

It is my experience, if given a well thought out assessment and recommendations the City would be more amenable to move on them. We need to work at developing partnerships when opportunities present themselves and to continue to question policies and procedures that may not benefit our neighborhoods.

Our CBO's and Community Leaders know this neighborhood and know what is happening and must be included in the process. The operative word in community development is "community". Community as defined in Webster's Dictionary as "common ownership or participation". We need to ensure we appropriately advocate on behalf of our community. As Borough President Diaz has stated if you want a Community Benefits Agreement you must benefit the community. As your District Manager I will carry this as my mantra and help guide this board with your leadership to advance the needs of this Community District.

Report by Local Elected Officials

Report from Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.

- Ms. Aurea Mangual, representing the Borough President gave an overview of his initiatives over the past month

Remarks by Hon. Assembly Member Vanessa Gibson

- Mr. Edu Hermelyn, representing NYS Assemblywoman Vanessa Gibson spoke of meetings, legislative concerns and initiatives that the Assembly Member has been working on.

Remarks by Hon Bill De Blasio, NYC Public Advocate

- The Public Advocate gave an overview of his office and spoke at length about the Charter Revision process.

Report by NYPD 44th Precinct, Police Officer Hilda Estrella

- Officer Estrella gave a progress report and statistical information.

Committee Reports:

Economic Development

- Committee Chair Ms. Martha Reyes made a motion for a letter of Support for Stan's Sports Bar. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mildred James. The motion was duly carried.

Health and Human Services

- Committee Chair Mr. George Robinson made a motion for a letter of Support for Bronx Health Link. The motion was seconded by Pastor Jackson. The motion passed

Municipal Services

- Ms. Sanders asked if the Acting Board Chair would allow for a motion to be called regarding a letter of support for a street re-naming brought to the Committee by the Children's Aid Society. The motion was made by Ms. Mildred James and seconded by Ms. Beverly Bond. The motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Committee

- Pastor Jackson made a motion to provide a letter of support to Community Board 3 for their C-Ball sports initiative. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Barry Nissen and the motion passed.
- A second motion was made by Pastor Jackson to support the re-naming of Bridge Park. The motion was seconded by Ms. Llinet Beltre-Rosado and the motion passed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: Mr. Jose Rodriguez, District Manager for
Mr. Oscar Real, Recording Secretary