

Education Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Cedric McClester-Education Chairman

The meeting of the Education Committee of Bronx Community Board 2 was held in the offices of the Community Board at 1029 E. 163rd Street, Bronx NY 10459. Attending the meeting was the Chairman of the Community Board, Roberto Crespo. There were no voting items , all reports were informational.

Mr. Philip Panaritis, formerly the Director of social Studies for the NYCDOE, now retired, and Mr. Justin Czarka , teacher at PS 48 , in our Community Board district used the website , <http://hpsbg.weebly.com> to acquaint members of the work and history of the Hunts Point Burial Ground Project .

However, annoyances from the presenters regarding the time constraints of the presentation and a question from a member of the Education Committee who has been involved in discussions regarding the project drew the presentation to an unpleasant ending. Hopefully, differences can be resolved using a mediator, e.g. a political representative.

Con Edison needs to do work as well in the area surrounding the Hunts Point Burial Ground. They are reluctant because of the possibility that they will disturb grave sites.

Ms. Myishia Taylor-Myke of Bronx Charter School for the Arts spoke of the school opening a lottery to accept students for their new middle school location at 1440 Story Avenue in the Bx. CB9 area of the Bronx. The school will begin with the 6th grade at this co-located school. This new program will be in addition to their current location at 950 Longfellow Avenue , a K through 5 school. For further information call 718-893-1042 and go onto the website, www.bronxarts.net The lottery closes April 13th. Applications are available at the Community Board office, in both English and Spanish.

The Graham Windham Hunt's Point Beacon Program for Middle School to Adults is located at 730 Bryant Avenue, in the same building as MS 424 and Hyde Elementary and Middle School. The Beacon Program is open from 6PM to 10 PM on weekdays, and 9AM to 5PM on weekends. The presenters announced that a Health Fair will be on Saturday, April 14th from 10AM to 4PM in the adjoining schoolyard (in nice weather, in the building's gym in inclement weather).

Activities at the Beacon program include adult literacy classes, GED, Yoga and Zumba classes, and ESL. It is open for teenagers and adults. Some of the programs are for formerly incarcerated persons. There is a workforce development program also.

It was recommended to Dr. Darren Ferguson that other schools such as MS 302 could use his services. Contact 646-847-4213 for further details.

Richard P. Sherman
Member of Education Committee
Recorder