

The Throggs Neck Community Action Partnership is a group of committed public, private, and religious organizations and concerned individuals whose goals are to develop an awareness of and devise solutions to the alcohol and substance abuse problems and other high-risk behaviors among youth in our community. The partnership meets and works to strengthen the coalition and implement prevention and intervention strategies through community collaboration. Our goal is to prevent the use and reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use and its negative effects on children and families. To achieve these goals, we advocate for healthy and productive lifestyles and respect for the diverse needs of the Throggs Neck community.

TNCAP Monthly Meeting Minutes-
December 4, 2024, from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

PRESENT		
NAME	AGENCY/ORGANIZATION	SECTOR
Christine Cavallucci	<i>ADAPP SA Prevention</i>	
Dawn Rodriguez-Insanalli	<i>ADAPP SA Prevention</i>	
Kaaren Shoulders	<i>ADAPP SA Prevention</i>	
Patrick Caruso	<i>Community Board 10</i>	
Sgt. Kevin Major	<i>NYPD 45th Pct.</i>	(Law Enforcement)
Rhonda Devlin	<i>Retired Police Officer/Former Liaison 45th Precinct</i>	(Law Enforcement)
Richard Loutifi	<i>NY National Guard Counter Drug Task Force</i>	(Government)
Felicia Mitchell	<i>P & J Beacon</i>	(Youth Serving Organization)
Veronica Brugman	<i>Parent Coordinator, PS 72</i>	(Education/School)
Ronni Katz	<i>NYC PRC SA Prevention</i>	
Greta Ratjen, Principal	<i>Principal, PS 72</i>	(Education/School)
Venus Moore	<i>NY Problem Gambling</i>	(Youth Serving Organization)
Zoe Cruz	<i>Health Solutions</i>	
Edwin Scott	<i>P & J Beacon</i>	(Youth Serving Organization)
ABSENT		
Aurora Ronda	<i>Community Education Council</i>	(Education/School)
Fabian Wander	<i>Wander Counseling</i>	(Business Org.)
SSG Oscar Ponce	<i>NY National Guard Counter Drug Task Force</i>	(State Government)
Peter DelDebbio	<i>American Legion</i>	(Fraternal Organization)
Guillermo Flores	<i>NYC Smoke-Free</i>	
Suzette DiCecco	<i>Parent Coordinator, PS 14</i>	(Education/School)

Millie Stone, Gwendolyn Tucker	<i>Fort Schuyler Presbyterian Church</i>	(Religious)
Sr. Patricia Warner	<i>Preston Center for Compassion</i>	(Education/School)
Teresa Wong	<i>Parent Coordinator, MS 101</i>	(Education/School)
Sherrill Cropper	<i>Throggs Neck Merchants Association</i>	(Business Organization)
Jonathan Polanco Anthony Spinell	<i>Polanco Wealth Strategies (New Member)</i>	(Business Organization)
Betty Williams	<i>Parent Coordinator, PS 182</i>	(Education/School)
Robert Spencer	<i>Office of Bronx DA</i>	
Tamika Morales	<i>Outreach Coordinator, Montefiore Division of Substance Abuse</i>	(SAPrevention Organization)
Lily Urban	<i>Parent Coordinator, PS 392 Delta School 192</i>	(Education/School)
Chevar Francis, Milo Ward Fatima Sindhu	<i>NYC PRC SA Prevention</i>	
Paul Gumina	<i>Renaissance HS</i>	(Education/School)
Turan Balik	<i>Bronx Arts & Science Charter School</i>	(Education/School)
Deborah Acevedo Claudio	<i>Parent Coordinator, U/M</i>	(Education/School)
Johanna Guerro	<i>A rep for: Nathalia Fernandez</i>	(Government)

Patrick Caruso: Members approved the November Minutes.

Christopher Jewett: Christopher Jewett, Senior Vice President of Corporate Development at Bally’s presented the Bally’s Casino/Hotel proposal focusing on six key elements: Project Benefits, Project Overview, Transportation Mitigation, Parkland Alienation, Public Safety, and Environmental Impact. The development site is a 19-acre parcel located entirely within Bally’s Golf Links at Ferry Point, a 222-acre public golf course in the Bronx. It encompasses the parking lot, clubhouse, and a portion of the practice area and would be the largest privately funded development in the Bronx. This development is expected to become the second-largest employer in the area, after Montefiore Einstein Medical Center. The project is forecasted to create 15,000 construction jobs and 3,500 permanent jobs with commitments to living wages and union representation. The project involves tens of millions of dollars for privately funded transportation upgrades and parkland improvements within the catchment area and surrounding neighborhoods, emphasizing local hiring, partnerships, and opportunities. A Q&A session followed the presentation, where questions and concerns were addressed. The presentation and Q&A session lasted 45 minutes, after which Bally’s staff exited the TNCAP Zoom Meeting.

Sgt. Kevin Major: Gave an update on the 45th Precinct activities in the community. During the month of November, there were two Enforcement Initiatives for Underage Alcohol Compliance Checks on 11/8/24 and 11/27/24. On 11/08/24, three locations were checked, resulting in one

positive location at Finest Deli. An Oath Summons was issued when an underage defendant was observed on a public NYC street consuming an open Twisted Tea. Another Oath Summons was issued when an officer observed a defendant on a public sidewalk holding a Twisted Tea/Voodoo Ranger IPA can in plain view. Additionally, an Oath Summons was issued when an officer observed a male subject consuming an open Twisted Tea on a public NYC street. A Criminal Court summons was issued when an officer observed three males drinking in public view outside the premises. Upon further investigation, the three males stated that the premises sold alcohol without asking for ID. Investigations at the other two locations, Deli & Grocery and JD Food Market, resulted in negative findings. On 11/27/24, underage compliance checks were conducted at nine locations, all resulting in negative findings. The locations included Legendary Bar & Grill, HK Kitchen & Draft House, McDermott's Pub in the Neck, The Wicked Wolf, Bridges Bar, LaVie Mex, Finest Deli, Paddy's on the Bay, and Brady's Bar & Restaurant.

Christine Cavallucci: Stated that due to time constraints, she will present the discussion to initiate legislation for mandatory ATAP training at the January 8th in-person meeting.

Kaaren Shoulders: Provided a recap of the Fall Community Learning Walk at PS 72 on November 20th. The Fall Community Learning Walk at PS 72 offered a fantastic opportunity for local officials, parents, and community members to tour the school and visit classes across all grades to observe teaching and learning in action. During the visit, participants observed what and how the children are learning, as well as various classroom features and practices, such as sound walls and phonics instruction. Appreciation was extended to Principal Greta Ratjen and Veronica Brugman, Parent Coordinator, for the invitation to this wonderful event.

Dawn Insanalli: Reported that the Fentanyl Opioid Campaign is underway. There are four posters printed on 11x17 poster paper and 5x7 magnets which will be distributed throughout stores in 10465, primarily in Tremont. However, any store within this zip code can promote the campaign for our community. Distribution will commence in January and all members are asked to pick a block or two to distribute posters to all stores on that block. Assignments will be made by January 6, and posters will be distributed to members at the January 8 in-person meeting.

Informed the Coalition that TNCAP needs to conduct another workshop with a different group of students before the end of December and is asking TNCAP members for help recommending any youth who would like to participate. We are looking for 5 or 6 youths between the ages of 14-18 to participate in this workshop at ADAPP on a Saturday, if possible. December 7, 14, or 21 are options from 9 am to 3 pm. This will satisfy the grant requirement. The two facilitators will each receive a \$1200 stipend for the workshop. The only stipulation is that they live in 10465. Parental consent will also be needed.

The meeting concluded at 1:06 pm.