

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING**

**Held on November 18, 2010**

**RIVERBAY CORP.**

**2049 Bartow Avenue – Room 31**

**Bronx, New York 10475**

**PRESENT:** H. Acampora; R. Baez; R. Bieder; L. Blascovich; L. Burrowes; P. Cantillo; V. M. Gallagher; L. Goldstein, A. Jack; R. Kurz; S. Lask; J. Marano; J. McQuade; J. Misiurski; M.J. Musano; K. Neddermeyer; Rev. C. Owens; C. Papastefanou; B. Pitt; M. Pricoli; M. Prince; M. Prohaska; J. Regina; A. Ribustello; J. Russo; A. Santiago; R. Sawyer (27)

**ABSENT:** Col. W. Chin; A. Chirico; P. Devine; R. Dominquez; R. Foley; B. Heaney; D. Howard; C. Hughes; D. Hunt; P. LaScala; D. Lock; K. Lynch; S.P. Lynch; J. Miller; D. Pouchie; M. Romano; Rev. A. Rosario; P. Sullivan; R. Talarico; F. Ventola (20)

**Community Liaisons:** Thomas Lucania - representing Bronx Borough President Diaz  
Thomas Messina – representing Congressman Joseph Crowley  
Nicole Pedi - representing State Senator Jeffrey Klein  
Ben Randazzo - representing Assemblyman Michael Benedetto

**Board #10 Staff:** Kenneth Kearns - District Manager – Bronx Community Board #10  
Mrs. Marra - Clerical Associate

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First Vice-Chair Martin Prince convened the meeting at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Prince thanked the Riverbay Corp. for the use of their facility this evening.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SECTION:**

1. Mark Bruh – Founder/CEO of the organization called “From the War Front to the Home Front Foundation”. He asked all present to participate in his program ‘Operation Cards 4 Troops’, by sending cards, letters or anything that could say “HAPPY HOLIDAYS” to the men that are on the warfront to let them know they have our support. These cards can be dropped off or sent to: Operation Cards 4 Troops c/o American Legion Post 1871  
135 Einstein Loop – Room 41  
Bronx, New York 10475  
Att: Charles Liorio or Mark Bruh  
E-Mail: [www.warfront2homefrontfoundation.org](http://www.warfront2homefrontfoundation.org)

The dates for this program are: December 6<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>

2. The residents of Elgar Place all spoke regarding recent ticketing at this location. The speakers are handicapped residents all living on Elgar Place and have permits to park in these spaces, but keep getting ticketed due to parking at an angle which is necessary due to limited space. One of the reasons ticketing is so prevalent, is that City Agency cars use this space and leave no room for the handicapped residents. The agency in charge of this operation is the Bureau of Traffic Enforcement, not the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Mr. Prince assured the speakers that this Board will follow this issue up with a letter to the Bureau of Traffic Enforcement. District Manager, Mr. Kearns concurred with Mr. Prince. The handicapped residents of Elgar Place spoke regarding the ticketing problem. Martin Linder and Albert Abel gave up their speaking time in order to have Beverly Davidoff; Jean Waters; and Leslie Goffigan speak for them.
3. Anita Valenti – Vice-President of the Pelham Bay Taxpayers & Civic Association spoke of the need for St. Paul Avenue to be reversed to the original southbound traffic pattern. She spoke of the efforts of the Pelham Bay Taxpayers Association to have it reversed and asked the Board to support her request for the reversal of St. Paul Avenue.
4. Edith Simmons – resident of Pelham Parkway South – spoke of how the bottleneck at Pelham Bay Station delays the buses on Bartow Avenue for those that have to go to work in the morning
5. Michael Michetti – resident of Arnow Place  
Spoke in favor of the reversal of St. Paul Avenue.
6. Patrick Stranzl- resident of St. Paul Avenue – spoke in opposition of the reversal of St. Paul Avenue. Mr. Stranzl left a statement.
7. Ingris Martinez – resident of St. Paul Avenue – reiterated Mr. Stranzl’s opposition.
8. Novella Thomson - Co-op City resident  
Spoke on several Quality of Life issues in Co-op City; i.e. MTA, handicap accessibility for parking; poor sanitation pick-up; need for a review of traffic at Bartow Avenue and Gunhill Rd.; Boston Road and Baychester Avenue; 233<sup>rd</sup> Street and Provost Avenue. Ms. Thomson left a statement.
- 9, Michelle Marbury – Vice-President of Building 21 Association – Bellamy Loop  
The handicapped sign at 140 Bellamy Loop has been knocked down and needs to be replaced. Many requests have gone unheeded. When it snows, removal is never done. Mr. Prince assured Ms. Marbury that the Board would see that the sign is replaced.

10. Josie Ferguson – President of Association of Building 14 Cooperators – 140 Casals Place  
There is a need for a Recreation Center to serve the youth of the community. Property near Home Depot, is available and she would like to see it used for this purpose. There is a large pipe creating a bump across Casals Place and flooding along the curb and almost up to car doors when it rains.
11. Leslie Brown – Manager of Baychester Branch of N.Y. Public Library  
invited all to utilize this branch. . There is news and updates all the time.  
For information, she can be reached at 1-718-379-6700 or [LBROWN@NYPL.ORG](mailto:LBROWN@NYPL.ORG)
12. Ed Goins – resident at 100Aldrich Street – handicap button that opens the door for handicapped residents has been broken. Mr. Prince assured Mr. Goins that our Board will make the right contact to have it repaired. Mr. Goins also mentioned that there is a sanitation problem on the overpass near the school, and that rats have been sighted.
13. Stacy R. Andres – resident of De Kruif Place – Asked for support for the New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan
14. Dirk McCall – Executive Director of the Bronx Community Pride Center  
asked that the Board vote in favor of the Anti-Bullying resolution this evening.

Motion to close Public Participation Section made by Mr Blascovich, seconded by Mr. Russo. Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

Motion to accept minutes of October 21, 2010 Community Board #10 meeting made by Mr. Ribustello, seconded by Mr. McQuade. Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

**BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Thomas Lucania

1. Mr. Lucania thanked the Board for their attendance.
2. Applications for Community Board #10 membership are available this evening, or at the Board #10 office.
3. Borough President Diaz’ senior citizen discretionary funds have been allocated to the budget of the Department for the Aging, and will be awarded to the following organizations in Community Board #10: AARP Throggs Neck Chapter; Bartow Senior Center; Co-op Senior Center; Dreiser Senior Center; HANAC & R & REC JASA Throggs Neck Senior Center; Northeast Bronx Senior Citizen Center; PSS City Island Community Center; RAIN Middletown Senior Center; RAIN Multi-Services for Seniors; Santa Maria Seniors & Association Seniors Helping Seniors.
4. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Borough President Diaz brought his anti-gun violence Peace in our Streets Initiative to the Melrose section of the Bronx. He also stressed his NYPD 866 GUN-STOP program . This program offers \$1,000 to anonymous callers for information leading to the arrest of an individual with an illegal gun.

5. Borough President Diaz has named Monica Major as Bronx Representative to the Panel for Education Policy. She is a former president of the Community Education Council of School District #11 (CEC). Ms. Major is a longtime advocate on Educational issues.
6. Statistics on the 2010 Census were very encouraging. The Bronx went from 56% participation in 2000 to 65% this year. The Bronx has the third highest participation in the New York City area.
7. The Bronx Children's Museum will hold its First Community Forum for Parents, Caregivers and Community Residents on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00AM to 1:00PM at the BronxWorks – 1130 Grand Concourse, Community Room (between E. 166th Street and McClellan Street). For further information you may call 1-347-8343-7378.
8. With regard to the Resolution being presented tonight, the Borough President wishes to say that he denounces bullying and attacks of all kinds.

**DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:** Kenneth Kearns

1. Mr. Kearns attended all of the sessions of the Budget Consultations, both at the Borough President's Office and at Fordham Prep. The meetings were used to discuss the Capital and Expense projects for the Board's service areas. We will be getting some of what we requested, however the news regarding the Budget is not good.
2. We have gotten 4 new Police Officers and 4 new Sergeants at the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct.
3. Community Board #10 is working on Educational issues at PS.14.
4. Westchester Square Station is newly renovated and ready to operate. Planned renovations exist for other stations such as Middletown Road and Buhre Avenue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Martin Prince (for John Marano)

Mr. Prince read the minutes which were self-explanatory.

**PLANNING & BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Julian Misiurski

This Committee did not meet in November. The Mayor has alluded to the use of lay-offs, as a means of resolving the City's shortfall budget crisis.

**HOUSING & ZONING COMMITTEE:** Kenneth Kearns (in Mr. Sullivan's absence)

Minutes were self-explanatory. Mr. Kearns then read the following Resolution:

**“Resolved...**At the recommendation of the Housing & Zoning Committee to accept the changes in the Zoning Resolution as presented by the Department of City Planning's Key Terms Clarification Text Amendment and bring it to a vote before the full Board.”

The resolution was unanimously approved by the entire Committee.

Motion to accept this Resolution made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mr. Prohaska.

Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE:** James McQuade

These Committees met jointly due to Educational issues, which if not met, would affect the business community. Mr. Kearns summed up the issues as follows:

At the combined meeting, the Board reacted to the parents of children attending P.S. 14. The school has gone from an “A” rating to a “C”, Community Board #10 has written to Chancellor Klein expressing their disappointment in the kind of hostile work and learning environment that the children at this school endure. Chancellor Klein called on Mr. McDonald of the Community Educational Council (CEC) and will meet with him. Board #10 will be invited to that meeting. Chancellor Klein acknowledged receipt of our letter, and we are awaiting his response.

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Virginia M. Gallagher

Mrs. Gallagher read the minutes which were self-explanatory. The golf course at Ferry Point Park East is scheduled to open in the fall of 2012. The waterfront park is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013.

Mrs. Gallagher went on to discuss having a ‘smoke-free environment’, i.e. no smoking in public parks, plazas, beaches, etc. There was discussion regarding this subject and the following resolution was presented to the Board;

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the Board support City Council Intro 332, a Smoke-Free Public Policy at New York City Parks, Plazas and Beaches.”

Prior to the vote, board member Mr. Goldstein spoke, strongly urging the passage of the Resolution, as presented to the Board by Bronx Smokefree Partnership. After much discussion, pro and con, Mrs. Gallagher motioned to accept this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Jack.

Vote was taken as follows:

Vote: 15 in favor – 8 opposed; Mr. Bieder, Mr. Regina, Mr. Ribustello, Mr. Kurz

Mrs. Acampora; Mr. Prince, Mr. Russo, Mr. Cantillo, 4 abstentions: Mr. Misiurski, Mr. Pricoli, Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Blascovich

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Joseph Russo

Minutes were self-explanatory. Mr. Russo read the following Resolutions:

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 to approve the Street Activity Permit Applications for the following:

St. Theresa Street Festival, July 21, 2011 through July 25, 2011 between the hours of 3:00PM and 11:30PM. The Festival will take place between Westchester Avenue and Hutchinson River Parkway, and on Pilgrim Avenue between Buhre Avenue and Santo Donato Place.

City Island Spring Arts and Crafts Fair, June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>, 11AM to 7PM, City Island between Schofield Street and Bay Street. This is a sidewalk event and no street closure is required. No parking along the route from 8am to 11am is required for set up.

City Island Fall Arts and Crafts Fair, September 10<sup>th</sup> and September 11<sup>th</sup>, 11AM to 7PM, City Island Avenue between Schofield Street and Bay Street. This is a sidewalk event and no street closure is required. No parking along the route from 8am to 11am is required for set up.”

The resolution for street activity permit applications was unanimously approved by the Committee. Motion to accept this resolution made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Jack.

Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that we confirm the letter from New York City DOT dated November 4, 2010, which advises, that they will reverse traffic on St. Paul Avenue between E. 196<sup>th</sup> Street and Pelham Parkway South from a northbound to a southbound direction and install a speed hump. We will strongly request that both these measures (the traffic reversal and installation of the speed hump) occur concurrently.”

Motion to accept made by Mrs. Jack, seconded by Mr. Misiurski.

Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that New York City DOT install a speed hump on St. Paul between Westchester Avenue and E. 196<sup>th</sup> Street, due to the coming reversal of traffic on St. Paul Avenue between E. 196<sup>th</sup> Street and Pelham Parkway South from a northbound to a southbound direction, traffic will increase on St. Paul Avenue between Westchester Avenue and E. 196<sup>th</sup>

Street. A speed hump on the block will reduce speeding and maintain the quality of life for  
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the residents.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Misiurski, seconded by Mr. Regina.  
Vote: Unanimous in favor (27)

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the application from Fairway Car Service to operate a radio based car service from 1466 Saint Peters Avenue be disapproved, for in the Committee’s opinion, the proposed operator does not fully comprehend the regulations for conducting such a business, as promulgated by the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission, and that furthermore, the proposed operator has a history of non-community friendly business activities, stemming from his operation of a real estate entity, and that this information be forwarded to the full Board for its approval. Upon approval, the Resolution recommending denial will be communicated to the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission.” Mr. Ribustello spoke against this operator’s business practices. Motion to accept Resolution of denial, made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Acampora. Vote: Unanimous in favor of denying the operation of this business. (27)

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the Board condemns the recent violent acts committed against gays in the Bronx and elsewhere. Be it further resolved that Bronx Community Board #10 calls upon all schools, civic organizations and City agencies to work with Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and all organizations committed to combating acts of violence and bullying of not only our gay youth, but also acts committed against anybody based on disability race, religion, national background, gender, height, weight, or other body features.”

This Resolution was discussed in detail with much opposition from some Board members. At the end of the discussion, the Resolution was amended to read as follows:

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the Board condemns the recent violent acts committed against gays in the Bronx and elsewhere. Be it further resolved that Bronx Community Board #10 calls upon all schools, civic organizations and City agencies to work with Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and all organizations committed to combating acts of discrimination, violence and bullying.” Mr. Goldstein read a statement on this subject and left it for the Board. Motion to accept amended resolution made by Mr. Ribustello, seconded by Mr. Bieder. Vote: 22 in favor; 4 opposed – Mr. Regina, Mr. Papastefanou, Mrs. Jack, Mr. Russo  
1 abstention: Mr. Misiurski

**YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Robert Bieder

Mr. Bieder read the minutes which were self-explanatory, but went over some of the matter in detail. There was discussion regarding issues with alcohol and substance abuse on City Island. Possible solutions were noted in their minutes.

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Robert Bieder (for Deborah Hunt)

Minutes were read and self-explanatory. Mr. Bieder read the minutes compiled by Mrs. Hunt, which included a description of the Archdiocese Drug Abuse Program (ADAPP) on behalf of the Throggs Neck Community Action Partnership (TNCAP), and the fact that they are requesting that Community Board #10 support proposed legislation for a Smoke-Free Public Policy at NYC Parks, Plazas and Beaches. The Committee did not support this Resolution. However, it had passed through the Parks and Recreation Committee successfully and enjoyed the full support of the Board.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Gallagher informed the Board that Ms. Debbie Bates, Postal Worker on City Island for many years, recently passed on. She is asking the Board's support in having a bench placed in front of the Post Office with her name on it to honor her for her years of service. She asked that the Community Board write a letter of support so that it can be accomplished.

Mr. Pricoli spoke on the Mayor's decision to initiate staff reductions of provisional government workers. He feels that we should confront the Mayor with a letter in opposition of this possibility. The Board showed support for this suggestion.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Prohaska, seconded by Mr. Ribustello.  
Vote: Unanimous (27)

Meeting adjourned at 9:50PM.  
Respectfully submitted by Mrs. Marra, Clerical Associate