



The City of New York
Bronx Community Board Three

1426 Boston Road, Bronx, NY 10456
 Telephone No.:(718)378-8054 – Fax No.:(718)378-8188/8226
 E-mail Address: brxcomm3@optonline.net

DIAL	Government Services
311	& Information for NYC

Comm. Bd. Info go to: bronxmall.com

RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT

GLORIA ALSTON
CHAIRWOMAN

JOHN W. DUDLEY
DISTRICT MANAGER

BOARD MINUTES

Date: 3/11/14
 Place: 1426 Boston Road
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

- Gloria Alston
- Valerie Bailey
- Winifred Bama
- Nicole Brown
- Janet Bullock
- Dea. Ernest Dawkins
- Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson
- Gail Gadsden
- Ernestine Graham Wright
- Juanita Hamilton
- Abdul Johnson
- Linda Kemp
- Una Lawrence
- Elizabeth Luciany
- Marlon Molina
- Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
- Jose Perez
- Terrence Podolsky
- Allen Rey
- Rev. Bruce Rivera
- Rafael Rivera
- Deborah Terrell
- Walter Thomas
- Joanne Webb-Dixon
- Rev. Monte Witherspoon-Brown

Guests

- Constance Moran-Riley, DOT
- Keith Kalb, DOT
- Michael Benjamin, SHARE
- Susan Albrecht, ARCHNY
- Taylor Reiss, DOT
- Father Thomas Fenlon, St. Augustine LLC

Staff Present

- Etta F. Ritter
- John W. Dudley

Members Excused

- Xiomara Arriola
- Wilbert Tee Lawton
- Kathy Johnson-Morris
- Leslie Phipps
- Edna Quinones
- Clyde Thompson
- John Watson

Members Absent

- Rev. Joel M. Bauza
- Shirley Conyers
- Ahmadou Diallo
- Wanda Ellis
- Cordelia Gilford
- Rita Jones
- Dave Dominick Reid

Councilwoman Vanessa L. Gibson's Office

Yves Filius

Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office

Latoya Matthew

Bronx Borough President's Office

Tom Lucania

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Bruce Rivera | Dave Dominick Reid | Gail Gadsden | Juanita Hamilton | Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. |
| 1 st Vice-Chairperson | 2 nd Vice-Chairperson | Secretary | Treasurer | Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian |

Councilman Ritchie Torres's Office

Rafael Moure

Senator Ruben Diaz's Office

Samans Gross

Guests Names

Susan Albrecht, Association of NY Catholic Homes
Denise Bauer, Beacon of Hope
Constance Moran, DOT
Keith Kalb, DOT
Taylor Reiss, DOT
Thomas Fenlon, St. Augustine Apartments LLC
Magnus Magnusson, Magnusson Architecture and Planning PC
All Other Guests Names on File

Call To Order

Ms. Gloria Alston, chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Invocation

Rev. Abraham Jones led us in prayer.

Community Concerns/Exchange of Information

- Mr. Damyn Kelly, executive director at South East Bronx Neighborhood Centers, Inc. (SEBNC), introduced himself to the community at-large. Mr. Kelly noted that he will be attending community board meetings when time permits.
- Rev. Calvin Kendricks, director at one of the Early Learn Centers at the South East Bronx Neighborhood Centers, Inc. (SEBNC), distributed flyers and information relating to Universal Pre-K open enrollment at three of the Day Care Centers managed by SEBNC.
- Ms. Janet Bullock, board member, requested Bronx Community Board Three's assistance relating to replacement of the park benches around the perimeter of Crotona Park along Crotona Park East which have been removed.
- Mr. Terrence Podolksy, board member, requested assistance from Bronx Community Board Three relating to bus drivers who drive the BX. 21, BX 19, BX. 11, BX 41 & BX. 15 wherein they slam the bus door in riders faces and they don't re-open the doors. Mr. Podolksy requested that correspondence be sent to the NYC MTA regarding this matter.

Roll Call

Ms. Gail Gadsden, secretary, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Members Requesting to be Excused

Xiomara Arriola
Kathy Johnson-Morris
Wilbert Tee Lawton
Leslie Phipps
Edna Quinones
Clyde Thompson
John Watson

Motion

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Bruce Rivera
1st Vice-Chairperson

Dave Dominick Reid
2nd Vice-Chairperson

Gail Gadsden
Secretary

Juanita Hamilton
Treasurer

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

It was motioned and seconded to excuse the following member(s):

Xiomara Arriola
Kathy Johnson-Morris
Wilbert Tee Lawton
Leslie Phipps
Edna Quinones
Clyde Thompson
John Watson

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Amendments to the Agenda

Ms. Gloria Alston stated that Mr. Michael Benjamin, former Assemblyman of the 79th District, will be making a presentation regarding Safe Healthy Affordable Reliable Energy (SHARE) to those in attendance.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Motion

It was motioned and seconded to approve the minutes of the prior meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 with the necessary corrections, if there be any.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Presentation(s)

Constance Moran, Bronx Borough Commissioner, Keith Kalb, Director of Community Boards and Taylor Reiss, Project Manager at the NYC Department of Transportation

Rev. Bruce Rivera, 2nd Vice-Chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, introduced Ms. Constance Moran, Bronx Borough Commissioner, to those in attendance. Ms. Moran thanked Community Board Three for the illustrious introduction and noted that it is always a pleasure to come before Bronx Community Board Three. Ms. Constance Moran and her team came before the community at-large to discuss and provide an update on the capital project improvements along the Webster Avenue Select Bus Service (SBS) corridor aimed at increasing the reliability of this route and to make bus travel faster.

Ms. Moran introduced Ms. Taylor Reiss, project manager to those in attendance. Ms. Reiss stated that **Phase 1** of the BX 41 Select Bus Service 2013 improvements has been completed. The partnership between NYC DOT and MTA New York Transit (NYCT) to implement street design and safety improvements on the BX 41 bus route along the Webster Avenue corridor (E. 149 St. to White Plains Rd/E. Gunhill Road), included the follow:

- Resurfacing the majority of Webster Avenue between East 165th Street and East 204th Street
- Red painted bus lanes on Webster Avenue between East 165th Street and E. Gun Hill Road
- Pedestrian safety islands at key locations
- Traffic/parking improvements at key locations
- Traffic signal optimization along the entire route – installation of real-time bus schedules

Ms. Reiss stated that **Phase 2** 2015-16 Capital Project to build more improvements along Webster Avenue are anticipated to begin in 2015. The NYC Department of Transportation has partnered with the NYC Department of Design and Construction for Phase 2 and the project will include:

- Resurfacing the remaining portions of Webster Avenue south of East 204th Street that were not resurfaced in 2013
- Building bus bulbs (expanded sidewalks) at SBS stations on Webster Avenue – 12 bus bulbs are planned
- Planting additional street trees and building planted medians, where possible
- Additional pedestrian safety improvements, such as neckdowns and extended sidewalks
- Pedestrian wayfinding will include custom maps and real-time bus arrival information

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Bruce Rivera 1 st Vice-Chairperson	Dave Dominick Reid 2 nd Vice-Chairperson	Gail Gadsden Secretary	Juanita Hamilton Treasurer	Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian
---	--	---------------------------	-------------------------------	--

Ms. Reiss noted that DOT is looking for a maintenance partner to take care of the planted medians.

The "Select Bust Service" (SBS) line benefits include:

- 15% to 20 % faster trips
- 33% reduction in wait time at bus stops
- 10% reduction in overall travel time
- 95% customer satisfaction
- 10% ridership increase on the entire route, including SBS and local

The NYC DOT anticipates completion of the final design in spring 2015; construction is anticipated to commence in summer 2015 and completion is anticipated by fall 2016.

At this time, questions were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

Michael Benjamin, Consultant, Safe Healthy Affordable Reliable Energy (SHARE)

Rev. Bruce Rivera, introduced Mr. Michael Benjamin, Consultant at Safe, Healthy, Affordable, Reliable, Energy (SHARE), to those in attendance.

Mr. Benjamin came before the community at-large to inform them that the reliability and affordability of electricity is now threatened by the New York Public Service Commission's (PSC) irresponsible proposal to replace the power currently provided by the Indian Point Energy Center. The Public Service proposal would require Con Edison to spend nearly \$1 billion of our precious ratepayer dollars to replace Indian Point's energy. Presently, Indian Point provides 25% of the electricity for New York City and the lower Hudson Valley. NYC and the Bronx need to maintain reliable sources of power while strengthening our energy infrastructure in ways that do not disrupt economic development.

SHARE is committed to ensuring that New York's energy supply is clean and affordable while growing the number of good paying jobs. SHARE supports the use of nuclear energy as it is one of the cleanest sources of power that has virtually no greenhouse gas emissions. SHARE is fighting to keep Indian Point open because it provides New York with nuclear energy, amongst the most affordable energy sources. Nuclear power is 43% cheaper than coal and less than half the cost of natural gas.

Mr. Benjamin noted that federal data released in 2013, stated that New Yorkers paid the second highest residential electrical rates in the nation in 2011. SHARE is fighting for reliable energy and as one of the most affordable and clean energy sources, nuclear power must remain a part of the energy mix. 1,100 highly skilled workers earn their living at the Indian Point Energy Center. The annual economic impact of Indian Point employee salaries combined with local purchases is approximately \$1 billion.

Mr. Michael Benjamin concluded by requesting that the community at-large send correspondence to their elected officials in support of keeping Indian Point Energy Center open, invest in solar power, wind power and keep rates affordable.

At this time, questions were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

State Senator Gustavo Rivera

Ms. Latoya Matthew, representative from State Senator Gustavo Rivera's office, stated that there is an on-site attorney in the senator's office now. Ms. Matthew distributed the following time-sensitive information:

- Community Centers Offering **Free Tax Preparation Assistance** in State Senator Gustavo Rivera's District & the Surrounding Areas
- NYS Senator Gustavo Rivera launches **Legal Clinics/Workshops** on Monday, March 17th, from 11:00am-12:30pm; "**Elder Law Workshop**" at William Hodson Senior Center located at 1320 Webster Avenue and on Wednesday, March 26th from 6:30pm-7:30pm "**Housing Court: Tenant Rights Legal Clinic**" (Part 2), at 2311 Southern Boulevard, Suite 201

Councilwoman Vanessa L. Gibson

Mr. Yves Filius, chief of staff, distributed the following flyers:

- **News...From Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson** which provides a listing of the Community Council meeting dates, times and location for the month of March
- **Women's History Month** on Friday, March 28, 2014, 4:00pm at William Hodson Senior Center, located at 1320 Webster Avenue

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Bruce Rivera
1st Vice-Chairperson

Dave Dominick Reid
2nd Vice-Chairperson

Gail Gadsden
Secretary

Juanita Hamilton
Treasurer

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

- **"How Does Housing Court Work?"** Workshop and Housing Legal Clinic on Saturday, March 15th from 11:00am-2:00pm at 35 Marcy Place
- Council Member Vanessa Gibson invites you to attend a **"Free Citizenship Application Assistance"** on Saturday, March 15th from 11:00am-2:00pm, at Hostos Community College 450 Grand Concourse, 3rd Fl.
- Council Woman Vanessa L. Gibson & Martin Luther King Jr. Resource Center for Nonviolence, presents their **2nd Annual "FREE Job Fair"** on Thursday, April 17th from 10:00am-2:00pm at Harriet Tubman Charter School, located at 1176 Franklin Avenue

Ruben Diaz, Jr.-Borough President's Report

Mr. Tom Lucania, director of community boards for the Bronx Borough President's Office, provided the following Bronx Borough President's Report for the month of March, not limited to the following:

- Mr. Tom Lucania stated that the Community Board's FY'2015 budget has been stabilized and they are looking to increase the 59 Community Boards budgets in the future.
- Council Member James Vacca has introduced two (2) bills: T2014-0302 Oversight: The Implementation of Local Law 103 of 2013 "Requiring that all Public Meetings Be Webcast" and Introductory 0028-2014 "A Local Law to amend the New York City Charter, in relation to requiring that all community board full board meetings be webcast.
- Borough President Diaz Launches **"Respect our Block"** Poster Contest – The contest is aimed to encourage borough students to help keep their neighborhoods clean. The contest is open to elementary, middle and high school students across the borough, and will invite individual students or groups of students, to create a poster urging their neighbors to **"Respect Our Block"**.
- Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. invites everyone to attend **"Women's History Month"** celebration on Thursday, March 20th at 10:00am at The New York Botanical Garden
- Borough President Diaz releases **"Annual Development Report"**, highlighting a total of \$5.7 billion of development seen in the Bronx since he first took office in 2009.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Rev. Bruce Rivera, 2nd Vice Chairperson, requested that anyone who would like to testify regarding the **FY'2015 Preliminary Budget**, sign the Public Hearing Speakers List.

PUBLIC HEARING – OPEN

- Mr. Colbert Nembhard, branch librarian at Morrisania Public Library, requested a full renovation of the library's basement totaling \$8.5 mil.
- Mr. Abraham Jones, executive director at Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc. requested an upgrade of the center. The district manager requested that he put his request in writing with cost estimates.

Mr. John W. Dudley, district manager, stated that Bronx Community Board Three will be submitting a statement regarding the FY'15 Preliminary Budget.

PUBLIC HEARING – CLOSED

Quality of Life Concerns

- Ms. Una Lawrence, board member, requested assistance in ascertaining when the completion of the sidewalk condition across from 445 East 170th Street would be completed.
- Ms. Linda Kemp, board member, requested that the street lighting be increased on East 169th Street between Fulton and Third Avenues. The district manager will send a letter to the NYC Department of Transportation requesting said.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Bruce Rivera
1st Vice-Chairperson

Dave Dominick Reid
2nd Vice-Chairperson

Gail Gadsden
Secretary

Juanita Hamilton
Treasurer

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Committee Reports

Housing, Land-Use and Economic Development Committee

Rev. Bruce Rivera stated that the Housing, Land-Use & Economic Development Committee met with St. Augustine Apartments, LLC team wherein they requested a letter of support for the development of 1180 Fulton Avenue and 1183 Franklin Avenue (Block 2611, Lots 1, 13 and 52); a permanent mixed-use 12 story, 108 unit residential building within Community District 3 with the following conditions: create a Community Advisory Board, determine the AMI within the Bronx or within Community District Three for tenant eligibility purposes and develop a marketing strategy to be outlined and discussed.

Susan Albrecht, Executive Director, Association of NY Catholic Homes, stated that the area median income to be used will be for the entire Bronx. However, financing is still being worked out. A rent comparability study has to be conducted. Financing approved by the City will allow for a 50% Community Board 3 preferences. If financed through the State, the numbers may be slightly higher.

At this time, Rev. Bruce Rivera requested that a motion be considered:

MOTION

It was motioned and seconded to approve a letter of support for the development of 1180 Fulton Avenue and 1183 Franklin Avenue (Block 2611, Lots 1, 13 and 52); a permanent mixed-use 12 story, 108 unit residential building within Community District Three with the following conditions: Creation of a Community Advisory Board and the creation of a marketing plan.

MOTION

YES	ABSTAIN	NO
19	1	3

MOTION CARRIED

C-Ball – Update

Mr. Abdul Johnson, member of the Parks and Recreation/Youth Services Committee, stated that the next regular C-Ball event will take place on Saturday, April 5th at CS 213 located at 1970 West Farms Road.

New Business

Ms. Kerry McLean, director of Community Development at WHEDCo, stated that they have collected approximately 799 “Melrose Surveys” and that their goal is to collect 1,000. Ms. McLean informed those in attendance that she had paper copies for those who did not complete the survey yet and she also instructed them to go to WHEDCo’s website.

Birthday/Sickness and Distress

Ms. Hamilton requested that all those born in the month of March stand and be acknowledged. The committee members sang Happy Birthday to the March babies.

Benediction

Rev. Bruce Rivera led us in prayer.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Bruce Rivera 1 st Vice-Chairperson	Dave Dominick Reid 2 nd Vice-Chairperson	Gail Gadsden Secretary	Juanita Hamilton Treasurer	Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian
---	--	---------------------------	-------------------------------	--