

*The City of New York*  
**Bronx Community Board Four**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes**  
**For Tuesday, June 22 2010**  
**BRONX LEBANON HOSPITAL CENTER**  
**MURRAY COHEN AUDITORIUM**  
**1650 Grand Concourse**

- **Pastor Wenzell P. Jackson, Board Chair** opened the meeting by welcoming all to our General Board Meeting.
- **Bishop Earl McKay** lead the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
- **Review/Correction/Adoption of General Board Meeting minutes.**  
The Motion was made by Ms. Martha Reyes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Barry Nissen. The motion duly carried.
- **Pastor Wenzell P. Jackson, Board Chair** introduced the newly appointed Board Members. Each member stated their name and introduced themselves to the Board and the General Public.

- **Election of the Executive Committee: Bishop Earl McKay**

Bishop McKay outlined the following individuals that were nominated by the Nominations Committee:

- Wenzell P. Jackson, Board Chair
- Ms. Kathleen Saunders, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
- Ms. Llinet Beltre-Rosado, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair
- Patricia Titley, Recording Secretary
- Barry Nissen, Treasurer
- Michael Rendino, Chair of Economic Development
- Bishop Earl McKay, Chair of Housing and Land Use
- Martha Reyes, Chair of Health and Human Services
- Mildred James, Chair of Municipal Services
- Melody Frazer, Chair of Parks and Recreation
- Jean Mirvil, Chair of Youth

Ms. Bilal made a motion to except the Bishop McKay's report. Ms. Frazer seconded the motion and the motion duly carried

- **Pastor Wenzell P. Jackson, Board Chair** Mr. Robinson made a motion to accept Pastor Wenzell P. Jackson as Board Chair. Mrs. Saunders seconded the motion. Once the Board Chair position was confirmed, with no other nominations Pastor Jackson Chaired this portion of the meeting. He proceeded to call the each position with nominee and after every nominee, as presented by the Nominations Committee was called, the Board Chair asked for nominations from the floor. None were called thus each member was duly confirmed

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Ms Saunders-Motion by Ms. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Niambele

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Ms. Llinet Beltre-Rosado-Motion by Ms. Reyes and seconded by Ms. Frazer

Secretary Ms. Titley-Motion by Mr. Naimbele and seconded by Mr. Nissen

Economic Development Mr. Rendino-Motion by Ms. James and seconded by Mr. Nissen

Housing and Land Use Bishop Earl McKay-Motion by Ms. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Niambele

Municipal/Educational Services Ms James-Motion by Ms. Dawson and seconded by Ms. Bilal

Health & Human Services Ms. Reyes-Motion by Ms. James and seconded by Rendino

Youth Mr. Mirvil-Motion by Ms. Smitherman and seconded by Ms. James

Parks Ms. Frazer-Motion by Ms. Bilal and seconded by Ms. James

- **District Manager Mr. José Rodriguez** presented the following segment from his report. Bronx Community Board Four has expressed its frustration and concerns regarding the Department of Homeless Services' siting policies and how they relate to community review.

The notification procedure that DHS has opted to use is inadequate. There is no meaningful dialogue and consultation with the affected community and no consideration for community input. For several decades, this district has been used as a continuous hosting site by the City to bring in services that have detrimentally impacted the overall wellbeing of our neighborhoods. The City has systematically kept residents and those charged to care for community residents, such as Community Boards from knowing their full intentions. The failure of DHS to fully take into consideration the needs and concerns of community residents, both young and elderly continues to illustrate the callousness of an agency charged to take care of those who are in need of services without thinking about the burden that is placed on others.

When it comes to less affluent communities, it appears all the guidelines of "fair share" policy and indeed, fair play, are forgotten. The Charter grants that neighborhoods should have input into planning its environs. We strongly maintain that the City should truly keep to its "Fair Share" policy. It is unconscionable that an agency with the duty, authority and powers that can change the quality of life of entire neighborhoods go about their business without substantial public review. Such a practice is unacceptable for any community especially Community District Four and so we continue to petition the Council that there must be enforcement of mandated consideration of the review.

Due to our involvement in opposition to the new In-Take Center at 151<sup>st</sup> Street the following transpired: Organized press conferences and tours were taken of the facility, and public consciousness was raised about the mistreatment of homeless people in the facility and its negative impact on the neighborhood.

By 2004-2005, the outrage expressed by CB4 was clear and the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) **discontinued communication**. Shortly thereafter, the EAU was moved to Powers Street (In the Bronx), the old building was razed, and the general understanding was that the issue had cleared up.

CB4 and other city and state agencies and officials were kept 'out of the loop' as the DHS continued its plans to rebuild a 7-story Family Intake Center (FIC) designed to serve all homeless families in all of New York City's five boroughs without the community's input and without including other officials and agencies apprised of the plan. In December of 2007, then Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion hosted a meeting and CB4 was invited to speak to then Commissioner Hess. At said meeting Commissioner Hess indicated that he'd address the concerns at a later date. He finally met with us in September of 2008 but by then construction had started. The public hearing/meeting we organized was designed to funnel the community's efforts to stop the building of the city-wide FIC through Community Board Four. Our efforts to directly address the commissioner with what we wanted to propose or consider alternatives for negotiation were to no avail. It is distressing to know that the City continues to ignore its own mandate to grant neighborhoods input into planning its environs. Again we strongly maintain that the City should truly keep to its "Fair Share" policy.

- Report by the Offices of the **Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz, Jr.-Representative Aurea Mangual**
  - Announcement of the "Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act" and launched the "Living Wage NYC" campaign.
  - Borough President's Community Board Appointments
  - Charter Revision Commission
  - Borough President's Bronx Walk of Fame
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual DiVA Spa
  - End of Riverbay Corporation lockout

- **Committee Reports**

Housing and Land Use Chair Bishop McKay gave an overview of BSA Calendar No. 45-10-BZ Block 2521, Lot 15; 1413-1429 Edward L. Grant Highway . The applicant filed a special permit application that has been filed with the Board of Standards and Appeals- Joshua Rinesmith , Esq., on behalf of Leemilt's Petroleum, Inc. stated that the application seeks to re-instate and extend the term of the previously granted variance that permits the operation of a gasoline service station at eth premises.

The Board Chair called for general consensus vote and the full board unanimously approved BSA Calendar No. 45-10-BZ Block 2521, Lot 15; 1413-1429 Edward L. Grant Highway.

- Report by **Local Elected Officials** or their representatives.
  - Representatives from Council Member Cabrera's Office
    - Text your Councilman Initiative

Submitted by Jose Rodriguez, District Manager on behalf of Patricia Titley, Recording Secretary.