



THE CITY OF NEW YORK BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 5
Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr., *Bronx Borough President*

Chairperson
Dr. Bola Omotosho

District Manager
Xavier Rodriguez

Community Board 5
General Board Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2008

A meeting of the General Board of Community Board 5 was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at Bronx Job Corp's Auditorium.

Dr. Bola Omotosho, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

PRESENT

J. Allah, C. Bess, D. Caraballo, J. Caraballo, A. Dawson, M. Dumont, L. Johnson, B. Moore, B. Omotosho, J. Reyes, K. Speller, D. Williams, B. Williams

EXCUSED

F. Morales, B. Smith, R. P.-Spriggs, T. Garcia

ABSENT

C. Charles, A. Chase, L. Daniels, N. De Sane-Love, S. Dowling, M. Estrella, V. Serra

A motion to move agenda items was made by Mr. Jose Caraballo and seconded by Mr. Leon Johnson.

MINUTES

The approval of the minutes was tabled.

BCC Campus • McCracken Hall, Rms. 12 & 13 • W. 181st Street & Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. • Bronx, New York 10453
Telephone (718) 364-2030 • Facsimile (718) 220-1767 • Facsimile (718) 220-8426 • brxcb5@optonline.net • bx05@cb.nyc.gov

Serving these Neighborhoods:
Fordham, Morris Heights, Mount Hope, University Heights

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

Mr. Andy Toledo, Bronx Borough President's Office representative, informed that Borough President Carrion delivered his seventh State of the Bronx Borough Address. Positive points in the Address were the large investment that has been made in the borough. Unfortunately, one of the negative points was crime. Mr. Toledo advised that several seminars are being held in the borough throughout the week and he will keep us posted. He announced that on Friday, February 27th a job fair will be held at the 161st Street Rotunda. In addition, there will be an Irish Heritage function next month.

Mr. Eric Rivera, Sen. Serrano's office representative, informed about the Caucus in Albany between Latinos and Blacks and the pursuits of smaller organizations trying to acquire funding. An African American Heritage function was held. Next month and educational workshop will be held on April 17th at Patterson Houses regarding school closings.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dr. Bola Omotosho reported on the State of the Bronx Borough Report that included focused projects that deal with students in the real world, the initiative of business improvements. On February 8 there will be a Borough Board meeting and budget hearing among other items. Dr. Bola spoke about the senior citizens centers NYC score card and the fact that CB 5 score is low. He advised that Bronx Lebanon Hospital made a presentation on their Digital Mammography Unit. At the Executive Committee meeting a full budget hearing was given; our request focuses on our youth needs, for example, summer jobs and youth centers. At the One Hundred Women Breakfast at Bronx Lebanon a discussion held on score cards showed that schools are doing better under the Bloomberg administration and when compared with other areas of the City, schools are doing ok.

REPORT FROM THE HUMAN SERVICES, HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEES

Mrs. Bernice Williams, Chairperson of the Human Services Committee, gave the report of the Committees' meeting held on February 6, 2008 at Davidson Community Center. Presentations were given by Services for the Underserved and St. Barnabas Hospital. Please see copy of report attached.

REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT MANAGER

Please see attached.

REPORT FROM THE 46th PRECINCT

Officer Melendez informed that current statistics were unavailable. He addressed a truck situation and advised that the drivers got a \$600 fine. Items he discussed were the Mt. Hope and lap-top incidents. In regards to question about youth crime, Officer Melendez spoke about the Dominican Independence Day fight between two Dominican gangs. Dr. Bola informed his concern about cars being broken into.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club – Mr. David Quintero, C.E.O, gave a status report. The Club's location is at 1385 University Avenue with a 28,000 sq. ft. Mr. Quintero's report included that a contractor has been chosen, cost approximately \$12.5 million, closing date is scheduled for March 2008, two-thirds of the money is from public funds, some from the Borough President's Office and Maria Baez is providing between \$3-4 million in funding. Construction will commence around April 1-15 with a 14 month schedule for completion. The Center will house 500 youths and membership will be approximately 3,000. In addition, the Center will provide many programs, employee about 1,000 teenagers at Center and will include youth development programs among the many programs. The facility located at 1925 University Avenue is giving services. Mr. Quintero also advised that the membership fee is \$5 annually, that there are scholarships available, that the Center uses a camp in Lake Sebago in Harriman, New York and that the age range for the group is 6 to 18 and 19 if still in high school.

St. Barnabas Hospital – presentation on the 2050 Grand Concourse Construction Project. Representatives included SBH's Sr. Vice Presidents Allende, Belair and Wolf, Messrs. Ferraro and Murray and Ms. Spellman. Also, Steve Jureller, the contractor representative from Cauldwell Wingate (CW) and Henry Meltzer, the architect from Stonehill & Taylor were also present. Mr. Meltzer gave info and showed pictures of the building's layout. Ms. Belair gave information as to why SBH is moving its clinical services from 2021 Grand Concourse to 2050 Grand Concourse. In addition, SBH representative distributed a fact sheet listing the services that they are presently providing at 2021 Grand Concourse and will be provided at 2050 Grand Concourse (see attached copy). Mr. Jureller advised that CW would hold a forum encouraging Bronx based sub-contractors involvement in building the facility. Dr. Bola advised of CB5 support of this project.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Jose Serrano informed everyone about the Morris Heights groundbreaking ceremony at Burnside and Harrison Avenues.

Ms. Sally Smith requested that community residents be informed when the Grand Concourse is being closed. Dr. Bola advised to check Channel 12 because it has that information. Mr. Rodriguez advised that if the Borough President's Office closes the Grand Concourse, they inform CB5's office.

Notice of March 4, 2008 Meeting – Dr. Bola addressed the notice that some community residents distributed regarding a meeting to be held on March 4th. He advised that the notice did not come from CB5 even though it contains a Bronx Community Board 5 heading. After some discussion, Ms. Louella Hatch initialed the notice for the record and confirmed that it was a community meeting.

Letter of Support Request - a request for a letter of support for library funding and non-reduction of library hours was made. Dr. Bola advised that a NYC support letter is being prepared.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Leon Johnson, Board Member, spoke about the Community Partnership Program with six modules.

Ms. Roselyn Spriggs and Mr. Teddy Garcia, Chairpersons of the Youth and Education Committees spoke about a situation at 1974 Townsend Avenue and the anti-violence youth meeting to be held at the Davidson Avenue Center on March 13th. Mr. Garcia attended a public school system meeting. Among issues discussed at the meeting was the lack of education and conditions of the schools. He stressed more people involvement.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS/REMARKS

1st Vice Chairperson, Ms. Bernice Williams, confirmed the consensus by the Human Services, Health and Housing Committees members of their support and approval of the SBH project.

Ms. Kathy Speller, Board Member, requested community involvement in the committees.

Mr. David Williams, Board Member, spoke about the SBH 2050 Grand Concourse project. Although he does not completely understand the Board procedure being a new member, his feelings are that this is a done-deal. In addition, we should be working with SBH regarding the use of the community room included in the project and that their making available to us.

Dr. Brown, community member, supported the idea of another health facility in the community because there are enough patients' needs in this community that need to be addressed - the more facilities, the better.

A Job Corp youth discussed and requested the Board's support for a roller skating rink in the community.

The next CB5 meeting will be held on March 26, 2008 at St. Simon Stock School.

Motion to adjourn was made by D. Williams and seconded by L. Johnson. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A.Maggie Dumont
Board Member