PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 14, 2016
AT MANHATTAN COLLEGE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
3825 CORLEAR AVENUE

PRESENT: S. Alexander, E. Bell, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, Diomarys Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, G. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

ABSENT: M. Donato, R. Fanuzzi, N. Friedman, D. Fuchs, S. Gozland, M. Goodman, A. Guzman, S. Marquez, D. McCord, J. Rather,

STAFF: P. Manning – District Manager
D. Bay – Community Associate

GUESTS: J. Stephenson – rep. Councilman Andrew Cohen
J. Lugo – rep. Councilman Cabrera
M. Rodriguez – rep. Assemblyman Guillermo Linares
T. Miller – rep. State Senator Gustavo Rivera
A. Castano – rep. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
A. Toledo – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
A. Walters – Mayor's Community Affairs Unit
R. Cintron - NYPD, 50th Police Precinct
R. Press
A. Sleep Johnson
L. Chong
J. Sims
E. O'Connor
Dr. R. Morrow
C. Lambert
B. Cintron
O. Cintron
C. Roman
C. Green

Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

1. Gallery Session –

- Robert Press announced that he is no longer a board member. He thanked Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr, the Bronx County Democratic organization and Bronx Community Board 8 board members for the past 6 years he served as a community board member.
- Sleep Johnson is founder and CEO of Community Board Athletic Leadership League (C-Ball). It is a non-profit organization that encourages each youth athlete to become leaders in the community. They hold basketball events. He has formed a membership for each 12 community boards and wants to have 30 members from each district. There are currently 7 youth from this district and 23 more are needed. He will encourage these members to attend community board meetings, youth meetings and city council meetings so they can express what is going on in their neighborhood. He has a television show on

BronxNet each Sunday from 12:30 to 1:00PM and a radio show on-line. Flyers and sign-up sheets were left on the table.

- Colin Greene, Principal of Atmosphere Academy Charter School stated that the school came to Community Board 6 and 7 when they planned to open their school in Community Board 8. They received approval to open their school from Community Board 6 and 7. This year, Atmosphere Academy had140 students and they plan on having 250 students next year and over 300 the following year. Their school was featured on the news for problems with parking issues and school bus traffic. He is welcome to hear any concerns/complaints. He stated that there are 39 families from Community Board 8 who are applying to the school.
- Bernice Cintron of Marble Hill reported that Atmosphere Academy Charter School did not come to the community and advise them that they were opening a school on Marble Hill Avenue. There is a big problem with busses, cars and double parking in the neighborhood. NYPD has been called but their response time is about 2 hours. By that time the busses and cars have departed. The Chair will have the Traffic & Transportation and Education Committee's discuss these issues at a meeting.
- Dr. Robert Morrow reported a flooding problem at 5997 Riverdale Avenue caused by the drainage systems used by SAR. He reported this since 2011 and has never received a response. C. Moerdler reached out to the Principal of the lower school who will discuss this with their administration. He also urged Dr. Morrow to contact the community board when this problem re-occurs. He also spoke about a company seeking to operate a heliport that will fly sightseeing helicopters up and down the Hudson River from Yonkers to Battery Park 12 hours a day, 365 days a year, every 10 minutes. He urged all to rally against this proposal.

2. Introduction of Special Guests

   Chairman announced J. Lugo, office of Councilman Cabrera, M. Rodriguez, office of Assemblyman Guillermo Linares, J. Stephenson, office of Councilman Cohen, A. Toledo, rep. Bronx Borough President, T. Miller, office of Senator Gustavo Rivera, A. Walters, office of Mayor Bill deBlasio and NYPD P.O. R. Cintron from the 50th Police Precinct.

3. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – P.O. R. Cintron

   - He reported on the shootings in Van Cortlandt Park and that there are now increased patrols.
   - NYPD personnel will be deployed to high crime areas in the Bronx. CB8 does not fit that criterion.

4. Report from the Bronx Borough President's Office – A. Toledo

   - The annual development report was released. 9.5 billion dollars have been invested in the Bronx since 2009.
   - Employment numbers have improved.
   - Ramadan prayer event on June 16, 7PM at Lehman College.
   - Celebrate Carribean Heritage month on June 23.
   - Vigil at Bronx County Courthouse, 5-7pm to honor Orlando victims.
   - Welcomed new community board members and informed them of an orientation over the summer.

5. Chairman's Report – Daniel Padernacht

   - Three people were shot in Van Cortlandt Park 5/29/16 at 10:30pm. The park officially closes at 10pm and there were no permits for a DJ or a large group. The District Manager is arranging a meeting with the Deputy Inspector and the Parks Department to discuss the Parks in general and to address these issues.
   - Riverfest was a success and thanked the board members who volunteered.
   - The Chair thanked the District Manager and the Mayor's office for getting information on the homeless individuals placed in Van Cortlandt Motel.

- The Borough President wants Community Boards to discuss platforms for veterans' affairs within the community boards. A resolution to approve the establishment of a Special Committee on Veterans Services will be presented tonight.
- Marketing for CB 8 will continue. A Spanish translator was hired to convert the Aging Resource Guide and the bookmarks into Spanish.
- Community Board 8 meet and greet is scheduled for 7/20/16, 6:30pm at Bronx Barbeque Pit, West 233 Street between Broadway and Bailey.
- Six new board members were appointed. An informal orientation was held before the board meeting with the Chair and some of the officers. The Chair welcomed the following new board members except for 16 year old Shalva Gozland who was unable to attend the board meeting:

  Eric Bell, a resident for 3 ½ years, is a video producer, a drummer, a member of the Bronx County Historical Society, and a transportation advocate.

  Diomarys Escano, a Kingsbridge resident all her life, attended schools in the area, went to law school and is a Bronx Court attorney in Bronx Supreme Court.

  Tao Moran, a 12 year resident, is an educator in special education and is very interested in community events.

  Diego Santiago, 2 year resident of Riverdale, is a Court Attorney for Family Court in the Bronx.

  James Santiago, U.S. Marine Corp Veteran, Bronx resident all his life, passion in Youth, Housing and Veteran issues.

6. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

   No report.

7. District Manager's Report – P. Manning

- District Manager welcomed the new board members. She told them to call the board office if they need any assistance.
- The Postmaster General attended the District Cabinet meeting to discuss plans for the post office on Broadway/228th. The post office has a lease until 2019 and it will be re-negotiated in 2017. Complaints about mailboxes can be called into 311.
- A woman who was robbing neighborhood banks was captured.
- The DM urged the Chairs to continue gathering their budget priorities.
- Some board members have had problems receiving their mail. The District Manager will contact the Postmaster General.

8. City Planning – no representative

9. Nominating Committee Report – M. Heller

   M. Heller presented the following slate:

OFFICERS

Chairperson	Daniel Padernacht
Vice-Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Treasurer	Philip Friedman
Secretary	Karen Pesce

Vote: In favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1

S. Alexander, E. Bell, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

Abstention: B. Bender

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Aging	Lisa Daub
Budget	Mary Yamagata
Economic Development	Sergio Villaverde
Education	Sylvia Alexander
Environment and Sanitation	Laura Spalter
Health, Hospitals and Social Services	Lenora Croft
Housing	Paul Ellis
Land Use	Charles Moerdler
Law, Rules and Ethics	Martin Wolpoff
Libraries	Marvin Goodman
Parks and Recreation	Bob Bender
Public Safety	Joseph O'Brien
Traffic and Transportation	Michael Heller
Youth	Lamont Parker

Chair Padernacht said that although the nominating committee puts forth a slate, all board members have the right to nominate themselves or other board members from the floor for any position. There being no nominations from the floor, the Chair moved the vote.

Vote

In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

10. Committee Sign Up – D. Padernact

- Committee sign-up sheets were distributed.

11. Presentation by the Special Greenway Committee – B. Bender

- Minutes of the Special Greenway Committee were distributed over the past year.
- A study of the greenway will be done by Metro North – this was commissioned by Senator Klein.
- The committee hopes to work with a grant writer to raise funds.
- Outreach to different city and state agencies will continue.

12. Vote on the Extension of the Special Greenway Committee – B. Bender

The following resolution to continue the Special Committee on the Hudson River Greenway was presented:

WHEREAS, residents of Bronx Community Board 8 ("CB #8") support a Hudson River Greenway extending from Spuyten Duyvil to Yonkers and

WHEREAS, CB #8 has resolved that consideration of an all-river Greenway route should continue under the auspices of the Board in cooperation with local residents, community groups, elected officials, government agencies, the affected rail companies and any other stakeholders and

WHEREAS, CB # 8 on September 3, 2015 adopted a resolution in accordance with its By-Law Article VI, Section 5 to create a Special Greenway Committee comprised of three members who were Robert Bender, Michael Heller and Laura Spalter and

WHEREAS, the Special Greenway Committee considered the continuation of an all-river route in an efficient, transparent and inclusive manner and

WHEREAS, according to the By-Laws of CB #8, a Special Committee "….shall be deemed discontinued immediately following the annual Board elections next succeeding its creation, unless such committee or subcommittee is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by public declaration of the newly elected Chairperson….."

BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Greenway Committee be continued for one more year with the same membership for the same purpose it was originally created and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee continue to engage local residents, community groups, elected officials, government agencies, the affected rail companies and any other stakeholders and hold public meetings to further the planning and development of an all-river route and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee report to the Community Board its findings and recommendations leading to implementation of a resolution, if any, on the creation of an all river Greenway route;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee be discontinued immediately following the next Annual Board elections unless it is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by public declaration of the newly elected Chairperson, which declaration shall be recorded in the minutes.

Vote: In favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstention for cause: 1

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

Abstention for cause: C. G. Moerdler

13. Vote on Resolution of the Special Committee on Veterans Services – D. Padernacht

WHEREAS, currently there are 22 million veterans living in the United States and 33,000 live in The Bronx;

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 supports all efforts to assist those who have served in the United States Military especially those who have returned to be residents of our Community Board;

WHEREAS, the needs of veterans can involve jobs, education, housing, health and mental health, financial assistance and support services;

WHEREAS, the City of New York has created a new Department of Veterans' Services and the Bronx Borough President has called upon the borough's community boards to form committees to address the needs of our veterans;

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 desires to give consideration to the needs of our veterans in

cooperation with local residents, community groups, elected officials, government agencies, and any other stakeholders in a public and inclusive manner;

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Article VI, Section 5 of our By-laws, a Special Committee be created to hold public meetings or informational forums and report to the Community Board its findings and recommendations, if any, on the issues concerning our residents who are United States Veterans;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee be named the "Special Committee on Veterans Services" and be comprised of six (6) members who shall be Anthony Creaney, Joseph O'Brien, Amy Joy Robateau, I. William Stone, Sergio Villaverde and Herbert Young;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee shall select a Chairperson by majority vote of its members;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Committee be discontinued immediately following the next Annual Board elections unless it is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by public declaration of the newly elected chairperson of the Board, which declaration shall be recorded in the minutes.

The Chairman amended the resolution to add James Santiago as a member of this committee, now making him the (7) member of the committee:

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

14. Committee Reports

1. Law, Rules & Ethics – M. Wolpoff

    - The next meeting is scheduled for June 30 in the board office.
    - Work will continue on the Ethical Guidance Manual.
    - There will be a civics meeting on Thursday, June 16, in the board office.

2. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – no report

3. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

There was a vote on the following resolution to send a letter to the Bronx Parks Commissioner noting the boards support for the playground at the Broadway and Mosholu Avenue entrance to Van Cortlandt Park.

Whereas representatives from the Capital Projects division of the Department of Parks & Recreation presented a design for a proposed new playground at the Broadway and Mosholu Avenue entrance to Van Cortlandt Park at the committee's April 2016 meeting; and

Whereas committee members asked that the footprint of the playground be reduced as much as possible to preserve green space in this portion of the park; and

Whereas the same representatives appeared at the committee's May meeting with a modified design in which the area of the playground was reduced by approximately 20% without sacrificing any important elements of the playground; and

Whereas the committee members voted 7-0-0 at the meeting to approve the modified design; and

Whereas the North Riverdale community is currently served by only one public playground and this proposed playground is badly needed; and

Whereas the Department of Parks & Recreation requested a letter from the committee recording its support for the playground as presented at the committee's May meeting;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the committee proposes to send a letter to the Bronx Parks Commissioner noting the committee's support for the playground for the reasons expressed in this resolution.

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

- Concerns about the lack of mowing in the district – B. Bender reported that the mower used in CB8 broke down, the backup mower broke down and there is a service mower that services the Bronx which will be given to this district from time to time. Mainteinance equipment is at the top of the committee's budget priorities.
- VCP was one of the 8 Parks chosen citywide for Parks without Borders. The specific area chosen is Broadway and West 242 Street. Money will be allocated to improve this entrance. The review process is the same as capital projects; a scoping meeting and a design presentation will be forthcoming.
- The Philharmonic is on Tuesday, June 21.
- The Parks & Recreation meeting is on Wednesday, June 22, 7PM, at Riverdale Mental Health Association. B. Bender welcomed new board members to join his committee.

4. Public Safety – J. O'Brien

The following resolution was presented:

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE

Whereas, Kelly Ryan's Restaurant, 5790 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee on May 19, 2016 for a full liquor license renewal; and whereas no adverse information was presented; and whereas the committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Committee Board 8 approves the application.

Vote – in favor: 34 opposed: 0 abstentions: 0

In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

- J. O'Brien welcomed all board members to join his committee.
- The Public Safety Committee meeting is on June 16, 7PM in the 50 Precinct.

5. Traffic & Transportation – M. Heller

The following resolutions were approved by the Traffic & Transportation and presented for a board vote:

RESOLUTION FOR PROPOSED STREET NAMING FOR GRACE BELKIN – 2nd vote

Whereas, Grace Belkin, former and first District Manager of Bronx Community Board 8 ("BXCB8"), died on June 18, 2013, and this resolution is brought more than two years after her death; and

Whereas, Grace Belkin began her career as Secretary with Community Planning Board 14 that became BXCB8 as established under the New York City Charter in 1977; and

Whereas, Grace Belkin was hired as District Manager of BXCB8 and remained in that role for 30 years becoming one of the original district managers to serve in that capacity; and

Whereas, over the many years of her tenure, she acquired a citywide reputation as one of the foremost leaders in her field; and

Whereas, through her cooperative spirit, she was always ready to assist colleagues and members of the public to address even the most complex issues; and

Whereas, as a result of her policy expertise in the many areas faced by city government, representatives of the city agencies that community boards work with came to rely on her knowledge and value her judgement; and

Whereas, Grace Belkin was a main force in seeking development and funding for BXCB8's 197-a Plan that established stable zoning to match the character of our neighborhoods and preservation of the Special Natural Area District; and

Whereas, Grace Belkin, in an attempt to reduce classroom overcrowding, she was a strong opponent to the use of the City's property adjacent to the Kennedy Campus being used for anything other than school construction; and

Whereas, Community Board 8 would not have its own local salt storage for Sanitation's snow crews easy and quick accessibility without Grace Belkin's advocacy and interest of safety for the community; and

Whereas, through her intervention and strong persuasion many capital budget projects reached fruition, which included reconstruction of the Johnson Avenue retaining wall, and the Palisade Avenue retaining wall; and

Whereas, this proposed street renaming comes with the strong support of many community associations such as the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, Riverdale Neighborhood House, Fort Independence Park Neighborhood Association, Riverdale Mental Health Association, and the Kingsbridge Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association; and

Whereas, even after her passing, her legacy left in place a strong community board structure that is able to adapt to new issues as they arise, giving local residents the quality local government they demand;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the southwest corner of West 246 Street and Henry Hudson Parkway should be renamed "Grace Belkin Way."

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

A LETTER OF SUPPORT - GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE BIKE LANE WIDENING

As part of the upcoming $1.9 billion re-cabling and restoration project, Bronx Community Board 8 calls on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to include widening of the bicycle-pedestrian paths on the George Washington Bridge to comply with national standards. The board believes that a widened GWB

path will enhance sustainability and resiliency, competitiveness and economic development throughout the region. It will better connect existing bicycle-pedestrian facilities in both NY and NJ, affording residents of both states extended opportunities for travel and exercise.

The letter will be amended to state that the board urges the Port Authority to examine the feasibility of widening the bicycle-pedestrian paths. The language of the letter will be determined by M. Heller and the District Manager.

Vote: In favor: 32 Opposed: 1 Abstention for cause: 1

In favor:
S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

Opposed: R. Ginty

Abstention for cause: C. G. Moerdler

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARKING CHANGES ON SYCAMORE AVENUE

Bronx Community Board 8 supports a compromise plan to provide limited parking on Sycamore Avenue, south of West 254th Street. In accordance with NYCDOT standards, the plan provides daytime legal parking for 6-7 cars in a manner that does not obstruct traffic as follows:

Daytime parking is permitted only in front of 5286 & 5270 Sycamore Avenue. This provides approximately 6-7 parallel parking spaces. The north limit should be south of 5286 Sycamore Avenue's entry gate. The south limit should be the utility pole at the southern edge of 5270 Sycamore Ave. All daytime parking is eliminated south of 5270 Sycamore Ave. All parking is eliminated from the corner of West 254th Street to 5286 Sycamore Ave.

NYCDOT has inspected and is in accordance with this plan.

Vote: In favor: 22 Opposed: 10 Abstentions: 2

In favor: S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, Diomarys Escano, S. Froot, D. Gellman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, T. Moran, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde

Opposed: E. Bell, P. Friedman, R. Ginty, C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, M. Yamagata, H. Young

Abstention: A.J. Robateau, M. Wolpoff

Three NYCDOT Intersection Improvements Passed at May 17, 2016 Traffic and Transportation Committee

1. Kappock Street Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Proposed realignment of the geometry of two intersections along Kappock Street by clarifying traffic movements and calming traffic, delineating pedestrian paths and shortening crossings.

2. Construction of two expanded medians at Broadway and West 225 Street to shorten the pedestrian crossings on Broadway and also plans to install new lane marking to normalize moving lanes.

3. For the bus stop located at Bus Stop at W 228th Street & Broadway, construction of a raised bus island where the current bus stop for the Bx9, Bx20 and Bx7. Expansion of two medians to shorten the pedestrian crossings on Broadway and installation of a new lane marking to normalize moving lane.

NYCDOT staff provided two presentations (#2 and #3 were combined) on three intersections deemed to currently pose safety hazards to pedestrians attempting cross difficult intersections and board buses. Rationalized crosswalks are created, and bus boarding areas are improved. All work is to be done with in-house forces. The committee inquired as various aspects of the project and recommended that certain tweaks be considered.

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

- M. Heller will get clarification from the Department of Transportation and how they regulate certain streets.

6. Youth – L. Parker

- Refer to minutes
- The Youth meeting is on June 22, 1PM at the board office

The Deputy Inspector proposed playstreets in the district for safety reasons. The following amended resolution, for a playstreet at Visitation School was presented:

WHEREAS, Visitation School has made an application to the NYC Department of Health under the Playstreets Program to close West 239th Street between Putnam Avenue West and Review Place at certain times during the school day;

WHEREAS, barriers will be posted at both cross streets to close the street to traffic and insure the safety of children from 8:00am-8:45am and 2:15pm-3:15pm on Monday through Friday of each week that school is in session;

WHEREAS, there will be at least two adult safety representatives for supervision of the street during the street closure;

WHEREAS, the representatives will make sure signs are in place regarding traffic diversion during the closure of the street;

WHEREAS, the representatives will remove any garbage and debris from the site caused by the closure of the street;

WHEREAS, the applicant shall have the proper permit in place for inspection;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Bronx Community Board No. 8 supports the playstreet application for West 239th Street between Putnam Avenue West and Review Place presented by Visitation School at certain times during the school day.

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

7. Aging – L. Daub

- Refer to the minutes for the April meeting.
- There was no May meeting.
- The Aging Committee met on June 7 at 3:30PM. They reviewed their accomplishments over the year, their budget priorities and their future plans.
- L. Daub welcomed board members to join the Aging Committee.

8. Budget – M. Yamagata

- No report

9. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- June 21 committee meeting is at Kelly Ryans.
- S. Villaverde welcomed board members to join his committee.

10. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes. The budget is listed in the minutes.
- S. Alexander congratulated the new board members and welcomed them to join the Education Committee.

11. Environment & Sanitation – Vice Chair, L. Spalter

- Refer to the minutes.
- At the May meeting the coordinator of DEP stormwater management program reported on DEP's MS4 permit program. The goal of the program is to improve water quality by reducing the amount of storm water run-off that causes pollution of our waterways. There is a citywide meeting on June 22.
- There's no E&S meeting in June. L. Spalter welcomed board members to join the committee.

12. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – S. Froot

The following resolution as amended was presented to the board:

RE: Affinity Health Plan -- Letter of Support for June 25, 2016 Event in Van Cortlandt Park

WHEREAS, Affinity Health Plan ("Affinity") is a non-profit Medicaid and Medicare managed care insurance organization that was started in the Bronx approximately 30 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Affinity currently offers managed care health plans to Medicaid and Medicare consumers in the New York Metropolitan Area, including the Bronx; and

WHEREAS, Affinity wishes to hold a 30th Anniversary Summer Bash in Van Cortlandt Park on a ball field near Van Cortlandt Park South on Saturday, June 25, 2016, from 12 Noon to 5 P.M. ("the Event"), and has asked the Board to submit a letter in support of the Event to the Community Affairs division of the 50th Precinct of the NYPD; and

WHEREAS, Affinity has submitted written materials to Bronx Community Board No. 8 ('the Board") and the Health, Hospitals & Social Services Committee ("the HHSS Committee") indicating that the Event will consist of family entertainment including carnival games, inflatable rides, arts & crafts and live musical entertainment

suitable for families with children, as well as promotions by corporate sponsors, and that admission to the Event will be free of charge; and

WHEREAS, Affinity has informed the Board and the HHSS Committee that the Event will include a health pavilion featuring dental screenings, blood pressure screenings and other health services, and that Affinity also hopes to arrange nutritional demonstrations; and

WHEREAS, a representative of Affinity appeared at the HHSS Committee's May 16 meeting to describe the Event and answer the HHSS Committee's questions;

WHEREAS, Affinity reported to the HHSS Committee that it has held similar events for the past 14 years in other locations, most recently in St. Albans Park in Queens, and provided the HHSS Committee with references, including Queens Community Board No. 12, the Queens Parks Department Office and Queens City Councilman Daneek Miller's Office; and

WHEREAS, the HHSS Committee unanimously authorized the HHSS Chair to send a letter of support for the Event to the 50th Precinct if the references provided by Affinity responded positively with respect to similar Affinity events held in recent years in Queens:

Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining; **In Favor –** N. Friedman, K. Pesce, M. Heller, S. Froot

WHEREAS, the Chair of the HHSS Committee contacted all three of the references about their previous experience with similar events held by Affinity, and all the references spoke highly of Affinity's planning and operation of the events, indicated that Affinity had involved the local community in the planning process and stated that the events had been successful and well received by the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board is informed by Van Cortlandt Park Administrator Margot Perron that the Bronx Borough Office of the Parks Department has approved the Event; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Bronx Community Board No. 8 directs that the District Manager or the Chair of the Board send a letter to the Community Affairs division of the 50th Precinct of the NYPD expressing the Board has no objection for Affinity Health Plan holding its 30th Anniversary Summer Bash in Van Cortlandt Park on Saturday, June 25, 2016, from 12 Noon to 5 P.M.

Vote – in favor: 33 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

Opposed: T. Moran

- Thrive NYC Mental Health awareness forum will be held 7PM on June 20 at Amalgamated Houses, Vladek Hall. The Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee will also hold its committee meeting.
- S. Froot urged all board members to join the committee.
- L. Croft thanked all for nominating her to be committee chair and she also thanked S. Froot for the great he did as Chair of the committee.

13. Housing – P. Ellis

- DOB gave a report at the May meeting.
- The Housing Resource Guide Working Group held many meetings throughout the year. He thanked them for their hard work to complete the guide.
- P. Manning, P. Ellis and T. Miller did a walk thru to see the ongoing garbage problems in Marble Hill. Photographs were taken and distributed to NYCHA.

- The next meeting is June 27 at the Riverdale Neighborhood House.
- P. Ellis thanked the committee for a productive year. There were five forums during the year; Two on Affordable Housing, NYCHA, Housing Court, and Mitchell Llama.

14. Land Use – C. Moerdler

The following resolutions were presented:

RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves City Planning Commission Application Nos. N 160345 ZAX, N 160346 ZAX, N 160347 ZAX and N 160348 ZAX for the grant of authorizations for a modification of topographic features on Tier I sites, for modification of a portion of a zoning lot having a steep slope or a steep slope buffer, for modification of botanic environment and tree preservation and planting requirements and for modification of lot coverage controls to allow the construction of a horizontal enlargement of an existing 3,627 sf single-family residence located at **4530 Livingston Avenue** (Block 5810, Lot 414) within the Special Natural Area District (NA-2).

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves Landmarks Preservation Commission application re 4680 Livingston Avenue, Fieldston Historic District, for minor modifications to existing residence including new windows, a side door and exterior lighting.

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

C. G. Moerdler made a motion to renew the standard resolution of Bronx Community Board 8 empowering the Land Use Committee to act on behalf of the full Board during the summer recess:

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

- The Department of City Planning will make a presentation on the modifications of the Special Natural Area Districts at the next Land Use meeting in July.
- The Van Cortlandt motel was operating as a Department of Homeless Services facility. The elected officials responded to the community's opposition to this and it will be closing in September.

15. Approval of Board Minutes of May 10, 2016.

Vote: In favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. P. Creaney, L. Croft, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T.

Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. Reyes, A.J. Robateau, D. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young

16. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2016.

- No comments.

17. Miscellaneous Business

- No comments.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30PM.

Submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate