(Pending Board Approval)

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2016, AT AMALGAMATED HOUSES
VLADEK HALL, 74 VAN CORTLANDT PARK SOUTH

PRESENT: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, A. Creaney, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Friedman, P. Friedman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, S. Gozland, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, R. Pochter Lowe, T. Moran, O. Murray, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, A. J. Robateau, D. Santiago, G. Santiago, J. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, M. Yamagata, H. Young

ABSENT: L. Croft, M. Donato, S. Froot, A. Guzman, I. Ladimer, S. Marquez, D. McCord, C. G. Moerdler, J. Rather, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff

STAFF: P. Manning – District Manager
M. Yawger – Intern

GUESTS: D. Clark Bronx District Attorney
J. Dinowitz – Assemblyman
A. Cohen - Councilman
E. Dinowitz – Democratic District Leader
A. Castano – Staff, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
R. Horry – Staff, District Attorney Darcel Clark
J. Stephenson – Staff, Councilman Andrew Cohen
E. Yaker – Amalgamated Houses
D. Spencer – Amalgamated Houses
K. Y. Armstrong – Amalgamated Houses NORC
R. Barbier – Riverdale Branch Library
L. Degibon
M. M. D'Alessandro
K. Green
K. Lavaca
E. Oliffs – Amalgamated Houses
C. Pallotte
J. Peland
R. Press – Bronx Voice
K. O'Reilly
M. Salazar
V. Scelzo
T. Sheppard – CUNY Graduate School of Journalism

Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Chairman thanked Doris Spencer for her valued assistance with arranging the meeting at Amalgamated Houses and for their wonderful hospitality.

1. Gallery Session

   A. Doris Spencer announced the following on behalf of Christina Taylor, Friends of Van Cortlandt Park: HIKE-toberfest will be held in Van Cortlandt Park on October 1, 2016, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm. Hikes start at 2:00pm and Octoberfest is from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Hikes will start at and Octoberfest will be held on grounds of the Van Cortlandt House Museum. German food and beers will be featured. Donations toward these events will be appreciated to upgrade the hiking trails.

   B. Rebecca Barbier, NYPL Riverdale, received grant for Early Childhood Literacy program, targeting children under five years. A monthly workshop will be held in schools with free registration. Oral history of Riverdale area continues until the end of October; approximately fifty people have provided information which is now saved in NYPL archives and on-line. The late esteemed Dr. Roscoe Brown, Tuskegee Airman, Educator, Humanitarian, had provided oral history of Riverdale recent to his death.

2. Chairman Padernacht welcomed Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark; Councilman Andrew Cohen; Eric Dinowitz, Democratic District Leader; Raeshawn Horry, Office of Bronx District Attorney; Mariel De Larric, Office of NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer; Christina Lang, Office of State Senator Jeffrey Klein; Andrea Castano, Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Lt Beal, 50th Police Precinct; Joshua Stephenson, Office of Councilman Andrew Cohen.

3. Chairman invited Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the Board.

   Assemblyman Dinowitz advised that the walking path between two fences at the Jerome Park Reservoir will be open twice yearly; The City will phase out the homeless housing project in the Van Cortland Motel; There are multiple proposals for homeless shelters in the area; The Assemblyman will sponsor his annual free flu shots program for community members of the 81st Assembly District on October 8th at Saint Gabriel's Church, 3250 Arlington Avenue from 10:00am to 2:00pm. This is in partnership with New York Presbyterian Ambulatory Care, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Congressman Eliot Engel, State Senator Jeff Klein, Councilman Andrew Cohen, and Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Van Cortlandt Development Corporation.

4. Chairman invited Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark to address the Board.

   District Attorney Clark discussed accomplishments achieved in the nine months she has been in office. There has been revamping of procedures and policies. The Office now handles prosecution of offenses on Rikers Island in a newly established office there. Additionally, there are plans to open a Rikers Island courtroom to speed up cases. Since July 1st to date, 1,500 cases were handled. The DA will host the borough's first ever "Another Chance" event on September 16, 2016 from 9:00am to 4:00pm, at Mt. Hope Community Center, East 175th Street and Townsend Avenue. This will provide an opportunity to those with outstanding warrants for low level offenses to have their records cleared. The Office has increased staff in the Community Affairs Unit to ensure

adequate representation at meetings of the Precinct Community Council, and various other community meetings. Additional hiring of legal staff is going forward. Check website for jobs at the DA's Office.

5. Chairman invited Lt. Beale, 50th Police Precinct to address the Board

Lt. Beale reported on the 28 day stats. Crime is down 17%. The burglary/robbery pattern has been closed out in connection with six commercial establishments that were burglarized in the evenings. The "Conditions Team" is addressing problems with parks on a daily basis. Officers are now required to perform a 30 minute patrol in Van Cortlandt Park before taking a meal break. Lt. Beale will look into the replacement of the Crossing Guard for PS 7 that was stationed at West 232nd and Corlear.

6. Chairman invited Councilman Andrew Cohen to address the Board

Councilman Cohen welcomed back the members from summer recess and expressed that he is looking forward to another productive year.

M. Wolpoff thanked him for sending staff member Kate Theobold to the Law, Rules & Ethics Committee meeting in June to discuss Council Intro 1135-2016 for creation of Neighborhood Support Teams. M. Wolpoff noted that following that meeting he sent a letter to Councilman Cohen expressing the Committee's concerns; that it felt that creating a new Mayoral agency was an unnecessary expansion, as it would be interfering and duplicative of community boards; and that the funds would be better expended if placed with existent community boards and/or Mayor's Community Assistance Unit. However, the Law, Rules and Ethics Committee did not hear back from the Council Member prior to the City Council voting on the legislation.

Councilman Cohen stated that he did hear concerns and he thinks they are over-stated, and does not think the new agency will diminish the role of the community board. He wants to wait and see how the new initiative works out.

7. Report from the Office of the Bronx Borough President

Chairman advised no report.

Chairman's Report

- A good amount of promotional materials were purchased and are being used to spread the word about the Board and to make community aware of Board's mission. Chairman thanked all those who participated over the summer at the various events.
- Board Member Committee assignments are out. Please review and advise of any changes so the list can be finalized this month.
- A resident from the Selfhelp building, 6469 Broadway came into the Board Office and stated they believe that homeless individuals are being moved into the building and that there has been a downgrade with cleanliness and maintenance in there. The matter will

be assigned to Land Use and Housing Committees and Selfhelp will be contacted. There has been no confirmation received on these complaints.

- Aside from serving as Chair of CB8, the chair stated that he is also a member of the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee and is serving as Chair of the CFMC this year. The Committee is working with DEP to allow another access tour this year around the inside of the Reservoir one weekend in either October or November. Details are being worked out. More will be known following the next meeting.
- The Chair participated with the District Manager today at Borough Budget Consultations, and moderated the session with the Department for Homeless Services. Concerns were raised regarding notification of sites to community boards before selection of facilities. Additionally, Cluster sites were discussed. Among many reasons, cluster sites are not desirable because often times they remove affordable housing from the rental stock.

8. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- Presented the Board's Budget report for FY 2017 that had been sent out. The budget is $233,912 which is slightly higher than last year. Personal Services is $176,343. The base amount for Other Than Personal Services budget is $57,568. Council Discretionary Funds received from Councilmen Fernando Cabrera and Ydanis Rodriguez were $5,000 each. Currently $50,221 is programmed, leaving $17,347 available funds. Additionally, the Office Staff's Leave Balances are included in the report.
- The Treasurer spoke about his role and the definition of "Treasurer." He stated that he had taken his role very seriously. He advised that as of July 1, 2016 he had stopped making financial transactions for the Board. He announced that as of September 30th, 2016 he would be stepping down as Treasurer.

Chair Padernacht thanked P. Friedman for his service as Treasurer.

9. District Manager's Report – P. Manning

- Advised that the Board Office had been short-staffed over the summer. She conveyed appreciation to K. Pesce, L. Daub, A. Robateau and S. Alexander for coming in to help out.
- Introduced new Social Media Intern Morgan Yawger, who is a student at the College of Mount Saint Vincent. Morgan will be working in Board Office one day a week.
- Budget Consultations are going on now. Attended the 2nd round today, the final sessions will be held on October 6th.
- The Street Naming event for former District Manager Grace Belkin will occur on October 15, 2016, at 11:00am on the corner of West 246th Street and Henry Hudson Parkway West.
- The American Red Cross presented on Hurricane Readiness at the August Borough Board meeting. Part of the presentation highlighted their "Pillowcase" project geared to young children in grades three to four. The presentation is done in the schools. Children taking part in the project receives a preparedness workbook and a pillowcase

to create their own go-bag. Chairs of Education and Youth Committees have received this information to reach out to the schools and community centers to advise them of the American Red Cross' offer.

10. Committee Reports

A. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

1. At the last meeting in June, there was full discussion on Library needs for District 8's five branch libraries. The funding mechanism is entangled with three systems. This makes it necessary to lobby elected officials for funding.

B. Parks and Recreation – B. Bender

1. B. Bender presented the following resolution for construction of a spray shower at the Spuyten Duyvil Playground located behind PS 24. Funding has been allocated by State Senator Jeff Klein, and Councilman Andrew Cohen:

Whereas representatives of the Department of Parks and Recreation appeared at the June 22, 2016 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee to present a design for a new spray shower in Spuyten Duyvil playground, and

Whereas this spray shower will consist of two separate areas designed for younger children, ages two to five, and separately for children older than five, and

Whereas the spray showers will replace a disused wading pool and a sandbox in the playground, and

Whereas much of the playground will remain open while the construction area is fenced off during construction of the new spray-shower area, and

Whereas Councilman Cohen appeared before the committee to express his support for the design, and

Whereas committee members also expressed support for the design, and

Whereas the representatives from the Department of Parks & Recreation asked the committee for a letter formally endorsing the design, therefore

Be It Resolved that the Parks & Recreation Committee recommends sending a letter to the Bronx Commissioner approving the design of the spray showers proposed for Spuyten Duyvil playground.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor -

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

2. Jane Goodall will be in Van Cortlandt Park on Saturday, September 17th, from Noon - 3:00 PM with a program for children. The event will take place in ballfield behind stadium.
3. Michelob ULTRA is providing funding for hiking trails. All are encouraged to visit Friends of Van Cortlandt Park's website and vote for restoration funding for John Muir Trail.

   Chairman Padernacht advised that the link received from Friends of Van Cortlandt Park will be sent out with a disclaimer that Bronx Community Board 8 is not supporting Michelob ULTRA.

4. The next meeting will be held on September 28th, at Riverdale Mental Health Association, at 7:00 PM.

C. Public Safety – J. O'Brien

J. O'Brien presented the following resolutions for liquor license applications:

Whereas, Doppio Toro, 3625 Kingsbridge Avenue appeared before the Public Safety Community on August 25, 2016 for a new, full liquor license; and whereas no adverse information was presented; and whereas the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application.

Whereas, A1 & J1 Rest. Inc., 5977 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Community on August 25, 2016 for a new, full liquor license; and whereas no adverse information was presented; and whereas the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application.

Whereas, Five Kids Five Inc., DBA Riverdale City Grill, 3541 Riverdale Ave., appeared before the Public Safety Community on August 25, 2016 for a full liquor license renewal and a 30-day waiver for the SLA due to an illness in the family; and whereas there were police complaints of minor being served on several occasions; and whereas the applicant agreed to enforce a minimum age of 23 for service and to close at 2 a.m. for a full year; and whereas the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved the application and letter; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application.

Whereas, Hudson Events Corporation, d/b/a Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on July 21, 2016 for a new full liquor

license; and whereas no adverse information was presented; and whereas the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application.

Whereas, 5686 Rest of Riverdale Inc. (Madison's) 5686 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Community on July 21, 2016 for a full liquor license renewal; and whereas no adverse information was presented; and whereas the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application.

The vote was carried unanimously in favor on the five resolutions presented.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor -

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

The next meeting will be held on September 15th, at the 50th Police Precinct

D. Traffic and Transportation – M. Heller

1. The next meeting will be held on September 20th, at the Fieldston Lodge Care Center, 666 Kappock Street. The MTA Bridge and Tunnel Authority will present on progress on the Henry Hudson Bridge project provide an update on the next phase to remove the toll booths. Will also discuss feasibility for using parts of lower level of bridge to expand bikes and pedestrian pathway. Playstreet applications for Horace Mann School, Saint Margaret's School, and PS 307 are also on the agenda.

2. This semester's meetings will include MTA subway issues that they have asking to discuss; Request to DOT for sidewalk construction on West 254th from Metro North Station to Riverdale Avenue for pedestrian safety; North Riverdale Merchant's Association proposal for changes in traffic patterns and reconfigurations in Riverdale. In preparation for the meeting it was recommended to view the plan on the Riverdale Merchants Association's website.

E. Youth – L. Parker

1. The Youth Committee's annual summer youth Golf event at Van Cortlandt Park was very successful with 127 kids participating. It was a fun day for all.
2. The Committee's next meeting will be held on September 28th, at the Board Office at 1:00 PM.

F. Aging – L. Daub

1. The next meeting will be held on September 20th, at Riverdale House, at 3:15 PM. There will be a Guest Speaker from the Riverdale Branch Library.

G. Budget – M. Yamagata

1. Prioritizing budget requests for budget hearing which will be held before the October Board meeting.
2. Expressed appreciation to the Committees for their submissions. Asked to please advise any questions or suggestions on the budget requests.

H. Economic Development – Vice Chair, S. Sarao

1. Refer to June minutes.
2. The next meeting will be held on September 22nd, at Yo Burger, at 7:30 PM.

I. Education – S. Alexander

1. The next meeting will be held on September 27th, at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM.
2. School Construction Authority will be guest speaker. Will discuss problem with school sites being decided with no notice to Community Board. There is a need to find a good way to communicate with DOE to know best how to plan budget request items.

J. Environment and Sanitation – L. Spalter

1. The next meeting will be held on September 21st, at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM.
2. Will work on planning and priorities for 2016/17.
3. Will have report of status of Water Working Group

K. Health, Hospitals & Social Services – D. Escano, Vice Chair

1. The next meeting will be held on September 19th, at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM.
2. There will be a presentation by Presbyterian Senior Services providing information on programs for families care giver services, focusing on Alzheimer and other dementias.

L. Housing – P. Ellis

1. The Committee met after the June Board meeting. The working group on Housing Resource Guide almost completed the guide, and should be done in next month or so. The budget priorities were completed.

2. Attended Budget Consultations with NYCHA on September 8th. Discussed heat and hot water issues.
3. Considering what heat and hot water issues last winter at Fort Independence Houses and the late year response from NYCHA, the Committee will hold a forum on the topic in October.
4. The Committee will meet on September 26th, at the Riverdale Y, at 7:00 PM. Will plan October's heat and hot water forum; complete Housing Resource guide, and plan forum for financing Affordable Housing.

M. Land Use – M. Wolpoff, Vice Chair

1. Gave status on 640 West 246th Street. The applicant was back before the Land Use Committee July 21st, however, the surveys presented by the developer and the Blackstone Place residents were different. The developer and neighbors agreed to have an independent survey done and to ask Department of City Planning to hold off on hearing for one month. Subsequent to that meeting, the developer informed the Board that he would not deal with Community Board 8 anymore. Chair Padernacht noted that a vote was taken to lay over the application and a letter was sent to DCP.

N. Law, Rules and Ethics – M. Wolpoff

1. Will look at voting procedure concerning "Abstention for Cause."
2. Active political candidates will not be invited to speak at Civics meetings. Letter will be sent to Senior centers to engage interest.
3. Will be looking at Bylaw changes with respect to imposing "penalties" on members for non-compliance; Community Members on committees of Law, Rules & Ethics, Land Use, Nominating Committee.
4. Will look at Bylaw amendment regarding Treasurer's job function. Will go before Executive Committee first, and then twice on the Board meeting agenda. M. Wolpoff further stated his disappointment with the Treasurer's decision to step down.

11. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2016

Minutes were unanimously approved.

12. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2016

Add D. Escano, and L. Spalter to attendance.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM.

Submitted by,

Karen Pesce, Secretary

Patricia Manning, District Manager