Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. He thanked St. Patrick’s Home for hosting the board meeting.

1. Gallery Session -
• Meiling Viera, representative from The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) reported that the DOHMH has been actively informing the entire City on the Zika Virus since February 2016. Meetings can be arranged if requested. The following information was communicated:
  - Pregnant women should consult with their OBGYN if they plan to travel or if your partner spent time in a Zika affected area
  - use insect repellants approved by the EPA, apply sunscreen first, then repellant;
  - Insect repellant is safe for pregnant women
  - wear long sleeves and pants and wear clothing treated with permethrin (a chemical that repels insects)
• Daniel Miner of Sustainable South Bronx, a community outreach partner for the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) announced the Home Performance with Energy Star Program that offers a free comprehensive home energy assessment. You can learn what causes high energy bills and what you can do to stop the waste, then you can take advantage of programs to assist you in these upgrades such as grants, discounts and affordable low-interest financing. Contact information is 646-400-5457, smercado@ssbx.org.
• Daniel Williams spoke of a Charter School proposal to open in District 10, specifically in Kingsbridge. The focus will be on entrepreneurship and discipline. They will accommodate special needs students. Mr. Williams attended the Education Committee meeting in March where the committee gave input and they were open to their suggestions.
• Rebecca Barbier of the Riverdale Library Branch announced a Riverdale Oral History Project they are conducting. Volunteers are needed to tell their stories and volunteers are needed to record them. Another program announced was Picturing the Northwest Bronx. Participants are encouraged to send up to three 11 by 14 digital photographs showcasing the beauty of the Northwest Bronx. Contact the library if interested in the above programs.
• Elvin Garcia, the Bronx Borough Director of the Mayor’s Community Affairs Unit announced the following:
  - The City will create HOME-STAT – Homeless Outreach & Mobile Engagement Street Action Teams. The initiative will partner existing homeless response and prevention programs with a series of new initiatives designed to better identify, engage, and transition homeless New Yorkers to appropriate services and, ultimately, permanent housing. C. Moerdler noted that the NYC Housing Authority received 415 million dollars in 2014 to fix elevators and repair roof’s but none of those monies were allocated to CB8. E. Garcia will follow up on this.
  - Monies have been secured by the State Assembly for programs such as paid family leave, funding for schools, minimum wage increase and more. E. Garcia thanked Assemblyman Dinowitz for his participation in securing these funds when passing the budget.
  - R. Ginty questioned the status of 2810 Webb Avenue being a homeless shelter and that the Department of Building’s was denied access to inspect the premises. E. Garcia said it is an emergency housing facility, it is not a homeless shelter, it is a site that assists individuals living with AIDS or HIV illness to live healthier, more independent lives. He will investigate DOB’s denial to access the home and will continue to work with the community board and NYPD with any concerns.

2. Introduction of Special Guests


Chairman welcomed Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the board

• There are four Charter Schools in Kingsbridge in a two block radius so the Assemblyman suggested
that the proposed Charter School announced earlier reconsider the Kingsbridge location
- Last year the State Assembly budget allocated 100 million dollars last year for NYCHA. The money will be spent on better lighting, improve security and beautification of the property for the Marble Hill and Ft. Independence Houses
- The State Assembly Budget for 2017 passed. The NYC minimum wage will rise over a period of 3 years, paid family leave over a four year period, preserved monies for CUNY, increased State Education funding and prevented Medicaid cuts.
- Assemblyman Dinowitz would like the 421A benefit for developers to remain expired because he feels we lose tax revenue and there is no return for our money. Not enough affordable housing is built.

Chairman welcomed Councilman Cohen to address the board
- The voting has ended for the participatory budget. Over 2,000 voted. Results will be announced early next week.
- For six months, starting next month, trash will be picked up on Sundays on Johnson Avenue
- 144 citizenship applications were processed at an event held by Councilman Cohen at Tracey Towers. There were over 100 volunteers who helped.

Chairman welcomed Councilman Cabrera to address the board
- Councilman Cabrera commended L. Daub for producing the Senior Resource Guide.
- The Councilman will approve $5,000.00 discretionary funding to Community Board 8 this year
- The Councilman had a powerful event at the Israeli consulate with APAC, Jewish National Groups and the Latino community. There were four working groups and the outcome is very promising.
- The Councilman had his first bill passed. The community board and the local council member will now receive notices whenever a developer wants to build in the district.
- The Councilman is proposing a funeral home bill of rights. This is a consumer protection bill to ensure that the funeral home does not take advantage of grieving customers.
- Proposing a bill to prohibit smoking in vehicles with children under the age of 8 years old
- Proposing a bill for the City of New York to provide SCRIE benefits to seniors at the rent they were paying when they first qualified rather the rent they will be paying when they enrolled in the program
- Proposing to allow expansion of current emergency vehicle prevention techniques
- Resolution calling upon NYS to allow voters to vote early
- The Star Wars movie will be aired in St. James Park on May 7. The event will begin with sports clinics, health screenings and refreshments at 2PM and the movie will be aired at 7PM.
- Kingsbridge National Ice Center (KNIC) were given an opportunity to develop the Kingsbridge Armory. They have not been able to secure the finances and were given another month to do so.

3. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – Captain Avesono
- Captain O’Toole was recently promoted to Deputy Inspector
- Crime is up slightly. There is a spike in robberies with 9 robberies and 4 arrests, grand larceny auto up and shootings down
- All knives are illegal to possess
- There were many reports of a group of young people disrupting a business at 2857 Sedgwick Avenue that led to a felony assault. The police will follow up.
- There was a slashing in Van Cortlandt Park, no arrest. The Detective squad is investigating. Patrols in the Park occur at different times of the day.
- Summonses are given at the schools when there is double and triple parking.
- Clubs are monitored in the area. Summonses have been issued for double parking and noise complaints.

4. Presentation of the Comeback Kid Award – L. Parker
This award was created to acknowledge students who have overcome challenges and demonstrated improvement, over a period of time. It is our belief that by recognizing our student participants in committed community centers, we can in some small way reward those youth who are working hard to improve their future and inspire others to follow their example.

This year’s recipients of the award are Edgardo Marrero, Kamaris Kelly, Brandon Pichardo, Cheyenne Francis, Shakira Marrero and Victor Pacheco.

Shakira Marrero and Brandon Pichardo were unable to attend the meeting. Mr. William Figueroa, Director of Ft. Independence Community Center accepted the awards on their behalf.

5. Report from the Bronx Borough President’s Office – no representative

6. Chairman’s Report – Daniel Padernacht

- The Chair thanked St. Patrick’s Nursing Home for hosting the meeting.
- The Chair picked up 300 complimentary tickets from the New Yankees to disperse within the community. The Executive Committee agreed that coaches from the little league teams will receive tickets, new venues who hosted our meetings and various institutions.
- The FBI’s Community Outreach Specialist contacted the Community Board with an offer to educate the public about the FBI on a variety of topics.
- BSA approved the reduced number of parking spots for 6469 Broadway (Self Help).
- The officers are still advocating to relocate the board office. A revised application will be submitted. Since this may take some time, the District Manager is searching for different architects who are city vendors to advise us on how we can improve the design of the current office.
- HRA put in an emergency housing center at 2810 Webb Avenue.
- The Chair and Economic Development Chair S. Villaverde attended a ribbon cutting ceremony at Lloyds Carrot cake celebrating its 30th anniversary on April 9. They are also getting ready to open a juice bar next door.
- The board policy during board meetings is that elected officials can address the board but staff members cannot since it would be very time consuming. This issue will be discussed at the next Executive meeting.
- The Chair announced that L. Baez, M. Felix, A. Moore, J. Pilsner and D. Toledo have not reapplied to the board.

7. Treasurer’s Report – P. Friedman

- The report was distributed. The purpose of the Treasurer’s report is for board members to use it as a tool to see how the funds are used. Any suggestions can be sent to the board office. Chair Padernacht acknowledged all the work Phil does behind the scenes as the security officer and thanked him.

8. District Manager’s Report – P. Manning

- P. Manning reminded board members how disappointed they were when OMB flipped their budget requests and changed the order in which the board submitted them. A representative of OMB was at the last borough service/borough board meeting and acknowledged our concerns. They are planning workshops for this very purpose.
- The Department of Sanitation will have a dumpster placed near the Riverdale Jewish Center at the southeast corner of West 237th Street and Independence Avenue to help accommodate the end of the traditional chomezt disposal that precedes the Jewish festival of Passover. It will be installed by 7:00AM and removed by 2:00PM on Friday, April 22, 2016.

9. City Planning – no representative
10. Election of Nominating Committee

Chairman Padernacht read the following Rules of the Nominating Committee to the Board:

*The Law Committee believes that it is impractical and inadvisable to establish specific qualifications, criteria, or quotas which would either limit Board Members in choosing a Nominating Committee, or limit the Nominating Committee in choosing a slate of Officers and Committee Chairs. Nevertheless, Board Members who are putting together a proposed slate, should make their choice, bearing in mind that it is both good policy as well as conducive to the smooth functioning of the Board to strive for a Nominating Committee and a slate of proposed Officers and Committee Chairs who represent diverse geographic areas within the Board, diverse communities, diverse ethnic and racial groups, and diverse professional and work backgrounds. The choices made should also consider the experience of any nominee as a Board Member and the extent of the interest shown by any such nominee in participating in Board matters. These factors, while not meant to impel any particular individual choice, should always serve as general guidance.*

The following seven members were nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee:


**Paper ballots were distributed for board members to vote on up to five (5) of the nominees. Chairman continued with the meeting as the votes were being tallied.**

11. Committee Reports

1. Housing – P. Ellis

   - In March the committee held a Housing forum on Affordable Housing finance. P. Ellis thanked the affordable housing working group, D. Gellman, D. Kornbluh, L. Croft and S. Marquez, and M. Donato, A. J. Robateau who handled the publicity
   - The Housing Resource Guide is being worked on by members L. Croft, D. Gellman, S. Marquez, A.J. Robateau, M. Donato, R. Palma, L. Mercado,
   - There are continuing complaints of garbage in the Marble Hill Houses.
   - The next meeting is on April 25 at Kingsbridge Arms. There will be a number of topics including budget requests.

2. Land Use – C. Moerdler

The following resolutions were voted on at the March 29 Land Use meeting and presented for a board vote:

i. **RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8** **DISAPPROVES** Board of Standards and Appeals Calendar No. 231-15-BZ – Proposed construction at 5278 Post Road for 9-story, 120 unit multiple dwelling with cellar community facility (doctors, 6074 sq. ft.) and sub-cellar retail pharmacy.

   **Vote:** 33 In Favor  Opposed: 0  Abstention: 0


ii. **RESOLVED,** Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves Department of City Planning Application No. N 160150ZAX / N 160151 ZAX - Special Natura Area District (NA-2):
5264 Independence Avenue, Block 5942, Lot 285, Bronx, for the grant of authorizations for a modification of topographic features on Tier I sites and for modification of botanic environment and tree preservation and planting requirements to permit the construction of a single-family residence.

Vote: 27 In Favor  Opposed: 6  Abstention: 0


iii. RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves Department of City Planning Application Nos. N 160223 ZAX and N 160224 ZAX – Submitted by Philip Michael pursuant to Sections 105-421 and 105-425 of the Zoning Resolution, for the grant of authorizations for a modification of topographic features on Tier I sites and for modification of botanic environment and tree preservation and planting requirements to allow the construction of an in-ground pool in the backyard of an existing single-family residence located at 326 West 246th Street (Block 5809, Lot 505) within the Special Natural Area District (NA-2), within Community District 8, Borough of The Bronx.

Vote: 33 In Favor  Opposed: 0  Abstention: 0


- A developer is planning on building a 3 story, 6 unit residential building at 3019 Corlear Avenue. Because of water issues in the area it was suggested that they take another look at the property.
- P. Ellis, L. Spalter and B. Spalter attended a BSA hearing on 6469 Broadway (Self Help), who filed a variance to reduce the number of parking spaces from 19 to 11. This request was approved. The deciding factor was an in-house parking study done by one of the BSA Commissioners who went out to the site for a month, observed parking near the site and then determined that there was sufficient parking. P. Ellis noted that BSA doing an in-house study is very troublesome since they're supposed to be the arbiter. It was suggested to P. Ellis that the Self Help Working Group continue to exist to review this decision. P. Ellis will contact working group members and report back.

3. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- Refer to minutes.

4. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- The March minutes were circulated. There was a presentation on design renovations at Henry Hudson Park. Modifications were made by the committee and were well received by the Parks Department.
- The April meeting will take place on April 27 at the Riverdale Neighborhood House. There will be a design presentation on a new playground in Van Cortlandt Park at Broadway and Mosholu. The public will be notified.
- The Special Committee on the Hudson River Greenway will meet tomorrow night at the Riverdale YM/YWHA in the Teen Lounge. They will be discussing funding that has been specifically allocated by Senator Klein and other funding possibilities.
5. **Public Safety – M. Yamagata, Vice Chair**

   - Chair Padernacht announced that J. O’Brien has appointed M. Yamagata as his Vice Chair.

6. **Traffic & Transportation – M. Heller**

   - The next committee meeting is on April 19, 2016 at the Riverdale Mental Health Association, 2nd floor conference room. The agenda was submitted today but will add capital budget items to the agenda.

The following resolutions were approved by the Traffic & Transportation Committee on March 15, 2016 and was presented for a board vote:

1) **Bronx Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled “Lag B’Omer Picnic and Block Party.” May 26, 2016, 1-9 PM, West 235 street between Independence and Douglas Avenue. The event has taken place before.**

   - **Vote:** 34 In Favor  
     - Opposed: 0  
     - Abstention: 0


2) **Resolution Supporting Restoration of BX1 Starting Location to Original Location**

   - **Whereas,** the provision of safe and convenient public transportation serving local residents, commuters and visitors is a goal of Bronx Community Board #8, and

   - **Whereas,** the Bx1 bus route is a major trunk line connecting Riverdale and Kingsbridge with the Grand Concourse and the communities therein, and

   - **Whereas,** a number of years ago, a new terminal was constructed at the junction of Riverdale Avenue and Irwin Avenue, between West 230 and West 231 streets to serve as a safe turnaround and layup location for Bx1 buses preparing to start their Southbound runs, and

   - **Whereas,** the starting location on the northbound side of Riverdale Avenue, immediately south of West 231 street, has effectively served the bus riding community for years, and

   - **Whereas,** the bus stop is designated only for the pickup of passengers as buses begin their runs, is not used for layovers, and buses have no reason to idle there for extensive periods, and

   - **Whereas,** the temporary location around the corner of west 231 street, when combined with existing bus stops serving the Bx7, Bx10 and Bx20 routes only exacerbates crowding on the curb by students from local schools headed home, and

   - **Whereas,** there is nothing inherently dangerous about a public bus stop being located in front of a school, which is commonplace elsewhere, now, therefore,

   - **BE IT RESOLVED,** the Bronx Community Board #8 requests that the Bx1 bus stop in question be restored to its original location on the east side Riverdale Avenue, just South of West 231 Street.

   - **Vote:** 33 In Favor  
     - Opposed: 0  
     - Abstention with cause: 1

Abstention with cause: C. G. Moerdler

- C. G. Moerdler has asked that the MTA give the community boards two weeks notice before any proposed changes to bus schedules. This would allow community boards to make comments before any changes occur.

7. Youth – L. Parker

- Refer to minutes.

8. Aging – L. Daub

- Refer to March minutes.
- The next meeting is on April 19, 3:30, at a new venue, Jericho Project at 2701 Kingsbridge Terrace, which is Housing for Veterans. A speaker from the VA and former board member, Bridget Maybury will talk about suicide prevention. L. Daub thanked A. Creaney for securing the speaker. Committee members can call L. Daub if they have difficulty getting to the meeting. There is a plan B. She will also try to end the meeting early so people can vote since it is primary day.
- I. Ladimer thanked L. Daub for putting together the Senior Resource Guide.
- R. Ginty noted that Councilman Cabrera should receive more guides since he is running out of them.


- R. Press will attend the budget workshops with the District Manager. He does feel the budget requests have to reworded/updated as they were in previous years.
- B. Bender stated that no matter how his requests are worded The Parks Department’s response is that there is no funding and refer the request to our elected officials.

10. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- S. Villaverde and Chair Padernacht attended a grand opening of Lloyd’s Carrot Cakes new juice bar and also celebrated their 30th anniversary.
- S. Villaverde has received many calls regarding disturbances at a Chinese Restaurant on Kingsbridge Avenue. He will follow up with the 50th Precinct and the Public Safety Committee.
- The next committee meeting will be on May 11.
- Refer to minutes.

11. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes.
- A speaker from the Riverdale Mental Health Associate will be at the May 3rd Education meeting to discuss bullying. S. Alexander thanked D. Kornbluh for raising this issue and also thanked S. Villaverde for allowing her use his meeting date. The meeting will be held in the board office at 7:30PM.

The following resolution was approved by the Environment & Sanitation Committee on March 16, 2016 and was presented for a vote:

**Whereas**, daylighting Tibbetts Brook, that is, bringing it back to the surface instead of burying it underground to flow through our sewer system, is a key project in the Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan endorsed by Community Board 8;

**Whereas**, a Coalition for the Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook, spearheaded by the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park, has begun an advocacy campaign and asks that Bronx Community Board 8 join with other community and environmental groups in support;

**Whereas**, according to the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), when there are heavy rains and the sewer system is at full capacity, a mixture of rainwater and raw sewage may overflow into local waterways as a combined sewer overflow (CSO);

**Whereas**, during and after rainstorms, the large volume of clean water from Tibbetts Brook overwhelms the Wards Island Stormwater Treatment Plant beyond its capacity, causing raw sewage to be discharged into the Harlem River, violating the Clean Water Act and contributing to an environmental and public health hazard;

**Whereas**, during both wet and dry weather large volumes of clean water from Tibbetts Brook overwhelm Van Cortlandt Park, as there is no municipal separate storm water sewer system (MS4) within its more than one thousand acres;

**Whereas**, this is an environmental problem which involves many agencies including the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) and the use of their CSO and MS4 programs both in and outside Van Cortlandt Park;

**Whereas**, daylighting Tibbetts Brook will not only reduce CSO’s and pollution in our water bodies, but will help with severe flooding issues along the Broadway corridor;

**Whereas**, the Environment and Sanitation committee has a long history of supporting the Coalition’s goal of daylighting the stream inside and outside of the park to relive the problem caused by either CSO’s or the absence of MS4, and has held numerous meetings including a joint meeting with the Parks Committee in 2015 to explore these issues;

**Therefore be it resolved**, that the Environment and Sanitation Committee recommends that Community Board 8 support the efforts of the Coalition for the Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook.

Vote: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstention: 0


- The next E&S meeting is on April 20, 2016 at the board office.

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

- There is no meeting in April. The next meeting is Monday, May 16 at Citadel Rehabilitation and Nursing Center at 3400 Cannon Place. This was the Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation Center, which is under new management. They have also done renovations and will give the committee a report.
- S. Froot asked committee members to come prepared to their next meeting with budget requests.

Vote: 34 In Favor Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0


15. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2016.

- A board member asked how the Yankee tickets would be distributed. D. Padernacht reported that they will be distributed to the little league coaches, new venues and institutions that host our meetings.

16. Law, Rules & Ethics – M. Wolpoff

- There will be no April meeting due to Passover.
- The committee discussed regulations concerning how one votes. This will be on the agenda at the May LRE meeting.

17. Miscellaneous Business

- B. Bender requested a formal thank you be sent to Councilman Cabrera for providing the board with $5000.00 discretionary funding.
- D. Gellman is receiving his emails hours after the board office sends them out. The District Manager said this is an internet carrier problem. D. Gellman requested that the District Manager check with DOITT to make sure the emails are not going into spam.

Chairman announced the votes of the Nominating Committee slate as follows:

G. Santiago – 32

The following members will serve on the Nominating Committee: S. Alexander, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, J. O’Brien, G. Santiago

The candidates received the following IN FAVOR votes:

S. Alexander: 23 In Favor

L. Croft: 13 In Favor

M. Heller: 27 In Favor
D. Kornbluh: 23 In Favor

J. O'Brien: 23 In Favor

A. J. Robateau: 16 In Favor

G. Santiago: 32 In Favor

Meeting adjourned at 10:15PM.

Submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate