

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2010 AT  
RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
4763 HENRY HUDSON PKWY**

**PRESENT:** R. G. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Catechis, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Feinberg, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, D. Kirksey-Floyd, S. Froot, R. Ginty, N. Graham, V. Gray, C. Hanley, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, A. L. Moore, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, R. Press, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

**ABSENT:** S. Balicer, R. Bender, D. Bowden, B. Contant, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, M. Heller, G. O. Koppell, T. Lim, P. Mullen, J. O'Reilly, P. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, A. Zizmor

**STAFF:** N. Stent - District Manager, CB 8  
D. Bay – Community Associate, CB 8  
P. Manning – Community Associate, CB8

**GUESTS:** J. Dinowitz – Assemblyman  
J. DeSio – rep. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.  
N. Danyluk – NYC Department of City Planning  
R. Martos – Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz' Office  
P. Shomo – rep. Assemblyman Adriano Espaillat  
A. Sandler – rep. Councilman G. Oliver Koppell  
L. Acevedo – NYPL  
S. Cox – Office of Child Support  
J. Klein  
J. Klugman  
J. Lowth  
B. McHugh – Riverdale Review  
P. Moerdler  
P. O. Ramos – 50<sup>th</sup> Pct, NYPD  
V. Simmons – NYPL  
J. Sinclair  
S. Vega

Chairman McShane called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

1. Gallery Session –

S. Cox, Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) advised that the child support program provides custodial parents with assistance in obtaining financial support and medical insurance coverage for their children by locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing support orders, and collecting and distributing child support payments. Ms. Cox left a collection of reference material with helpful resource information. Presentations by OCSE are offered to anyone making the request.

2. Approval of regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2010

R. Press noted that the Board Meeting was held at Vladek Hall, and not at the Riverdale YM/WHA. The minutes were amended to reflect the correction and approved unanimously.

### 3. Discussion of Executive Board Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2010

Sylvia Alexander pointed out that her first name was not spelled out in the attendance in conformity with the others.

### 4. Chairman invited Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the Board.

Assemblyman Dinowitz announced his sponsorship of the "Canned Food" drive for local pantries; Discussed the complaints and problems reported with the new voting ballot system, which were mainly about reading difficulty of the small print, double sided ballot, order of candidates, broken scanners, and more. He mentioned the City's plans to conduct a public hearing on issues with new system.

### 5. Report from the Bronx Borough President's Office – J. DeSio

- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation will host a special "Legal Review Forum" on the Small Business Survival Act, City Council Int. 0154-2010, to evaluate the legal arguments and the supportive case law dealing with the constitutionality of the proposed law. The Forum will be held on November 12, 2010, Borough Hall, 851 Grand Concourse, Rotunda, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. has allocated discretionary funds through the Department for the Aging for the following programs in Community Board 8: Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, JASA Van Cortlandt Senior Center, Riverdale YM-YWHA MOW program, Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, Riverdale Senior Services – Tri-Center Transportation, Riverdale Neighborhood House.
- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. invites all Bronx residents to make a difference in their community by joining their local Community Board. Applications will be available beginning November 10<sup>th</sup>. Interested applicants may obtain applications by calling the Borough President's Community Board office at 718-590-3914 or online at [bronxboropres.nyc.gov](http://bronxboropres.nyc.gov). The deadline for submission is February 4, 2011. Reappointment applications will be sent to members whose term expires in 2011 by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. has advised of his disagreement regarding the plans for the Muller Army Reserve Center located in CB 12, whereby it was recently learned that the Muller Local Redevelopment Authority had scheduled a vote for the facility to be used for housing for the homeless, despite the fact that three new homeless facilities are planned in the immediate area. The Borough President prefers that the facility become the next home of the National Guard units currently located at the Kingsbridge Armory. The vote on any proposal for the use of the facility must be a quorum of all three of the Muller LRA, and the Borough President will not vote if there is a homeless shelter on the table and not until there is agreement on the reuse of the facility that will take into account the wishes of the people of the Bronx.

### 6. Chairman's Report

- Refer to the Executive Board Minutes for report.
- Chairman reminded Board Members to follow Board protocol and be recognized by the Chair before addressing the board.
- Chairman introduced and welcomed new Board Member Georgia Santiago. Chairman invited Ms. Santiago to address the Board.
- Ms. Santiago thanked Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez for the appointment and Councilman G. Oliver Koppell for allowing her the opportunity to perform community service work. She stated she lived in Marble Hill and is a member of the Carolina Baptist

Church. She is active in community activities and regularly attends the monthly 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meetings, participates with Health Outreach and Allen Pavilion. She praised the Board's creation of the Marble Hill Youthmarket. Lastly, she thanked Tom Durham for inspiring her.

I. W. Stone thanked the Board for their show of sympathy over the loss of his son Howie.

#### 7. Report from the Department of City Planning – N. Danyluk

No new applications.

#### 8. Committee Reports

##### A. Economic Development – M. Khury

1. M. Khury will attend the Small Business Survival Act Forum on November 12, 2010.
2. The Committee meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> was very successful. It featured a business card exchange.
3. The next meeting will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be spearheaded by the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation.
4. January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a Bankers forum and will be held at Ibiza Lounge.

##### B. Education – S. Alexander, Vice Chair

1. Refer to Committee minutes of October 26<sup>th</sup>.
2. The next meeting will be held November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Riverdale Mental Health Association at 7:30 PM. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz will speak on Education Reform.
3. Chancellor Joel Klein has resigned. The new Chancellor is Cathie Black.
4. Earlier, Channel 7 News carried a program on "Bullying." Call 1-800-78CRIME to report incursion of this activity, including cyber bullying.

##### C. Environment & Sanitation

Chairman McShane read the report submitted by S. Scheinbach.

1. The committee meeting was held *Al Fresco*, a walk-around to look at the damage due to invasive vines growing in and around Riverdale Park. Invasive vines, mostly porcelain berry, threaten to kill many trees in the park and are engulfing adjacent private property. Homeowners should remove them. The community worked hard to place the area under special natural area designation protection (SNAD) for its natural beauty, the vines will destroy it.
2. Sanitation collection night operation will begin November 15<sup>th</sup>, midnight to 8:00 AM. Recycling is from October 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 PM to midnight. Material may be placed out for collection after 4:00 PM to midnight. The routes are available at the Board office.

##### D. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – S. Froot

1. Minutes have been posted.
2. Community Board 8's forum on Health Care Reform Legislation will occur on December 8<sup>th</sup>, at Manhattan College School of Engineering, Leo Hall, 7:00 PM to 9:15 PM. It will be moderated by Gary Axelbank. Participating panelists are Congressman Eliot Engel; Donald Ashkenase, Montefiore Medical Center; Joe Baker, Medicare Rights Center; Elisabeth Benjamin, Community Service Society; and Jeffrey Chansler, EmblemHealth. Parking is available.

#### E. Housing – T. Durham

1. Refer to minutes.
2. The Committee meeting has been rescheduled to November 29<sup>th</sup> in order to provide sufficient time for Mr. Ismael Fernandez, developer of 3882 Cannon Place to respond to a letter sent to him inquiring of future plans for the property and to be able to report at the meeting.
3. The Chair will be attending the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee meeting to hear the speaker from the Veterans Administration regarding veteran housing issues.
4. The chair will attend a Town Hall meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> regarding ongoing restoration issues at the Promenade Apartments. The meeting is being held by Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez, and Assemblyman Adriano Espaillat will be a co-sponsor. It will be held at St. Stephen's Methodist Church, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

#### F. Land Use – C. Moerdler

1. Thanked the members of the Board for enduring the long extended Land Use meeting the night before, on November 9<sup>th</sup> regarding the SAR application. SAR's application was submitted to the City Planning. Meetings of the Land Use Committee in conjunction with subcommittee meetings have been held to review the recommended changes. Letters of comments from surrounding neighbors have also been reviewed and taken into consideration. The Committee has proposed significant changes and SAR has agreed to most. For instance, the issue of the location for the garbage storage appears to be resolved, thanks to B. Bender's recommendation. Remaining issues include parking and water run-off. Both will be undertaken by Land Use Committee at its next meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for the Board's 60 day review period is approaching. SAR has agreed to layover the application until December 15, 2010 to allow for another committee meeting and for the full Board vote at its regular meeting on December 14, 2010.
2. The next Land Use Committee meeting will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Conservative Synagogue, at 7:00 PM. The agenda will include SAR and the Bloomfield property at 4631 Livingston Road, 4670/80/90 Fieldston Road. He recommended visiting the Bloomfield site before the meeting for better assessment of the property and its close proximity to the pond.
3. C. Moerdler made a motion to adopt resolution for request of layover of SAR's City Planning application until December 15, 2010. Motion seconded, and carried unanimously in favor.

#### G. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

The committee met before the Board meeting. The following three decisions were made:

1. Review Bylaws for any changes
2. Reach out to community to provide information on how government works. Committee encourages advice from the Board in this endeavor.
3. Monitor Silver Alert bill passed by City Council to the extent that police are sufficiently trained to recognize individuals whose different behavior may be attributed to medical problems.

#### H. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

1. Victor Simmons is the new site manager at Kingsbridge Library.

2. Announced the Annual Interfaith Council's Community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Conservative Synagogue at 7:45 PM. All are invited.

I. Parks and Recreation

Y. Levy reported on behalf of B. Bender.

1. At the October meeting, the Department of Parks presented renovation plans for the Van Cortlandt Park Golf Club House. The storage facility will be consolidated into a maintenance building and will be out of site. The current maintenance building is being demolished. All renovations are being paid by the current concessionaire.
2. Y. Levy along with B. Bender and D. McShane attended the NY Metropolitan Council meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Topic of discussion was proposed Hudson River Greenway routes. Initially there were four, now there are two. Public comments will be reviewed, and another meeting will be scheduled.
3. The Committee's next meeting will be held November 24<sup>th</sup>, Board Office, at 7:00 PM.

J. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

1. The Committee's next meeting will be held November 18<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct, at 7:00 PM.
2. The Committee will be more proactive with businesses holding State Liquor Authority Licenses.
3. The Bronx District Attorney Office will host an Identity Theft Workshop on November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 198 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street, from 5:45PM to 8:00 PM. For more information call 718-838-7005 or log onto [www.bronxda.nyc.gov](http://www.bronxda.nyc.gov).
4. Thanked S. Froot for his efforts with the "bait car" donation for police, however the offer was not able to be accepted.

K. Traffic and Transportation – D. Padernacht

1. Minutes have been posted.
2. The Committee's next meeting will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup>, Riverdale Mental Health Association, at 7:00 PM. Agenda will include a proposal for Street Naming of Giles Place for Howard Padernacht; Dyckman Street train station reconstruction; and SAR traffic issues.

L. Youth Services – A. Cohen

1. The Committee held its first meeting under his chairmanship in October. A. Cohen thanked N. Stent for attending. Candidates for Yankee Youth Leadership Awards were discussed.
2. The meeting time will remain at 1:00 PM.
3. The Committee's next meeting will be held November 24<sup>th</sup>, Board Office.

M. Aging – K. Pesce

The Committee's next meeting will be held November 23<sup>rd</sup>, location to be announced.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted  
Patricia Manning  
Community Associate