

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON FEBRUARY 13, 2007 AT THE RIVERDALE TEMPLE  
WEST 246<sup>TH</sup> STREET & INDEPENDENCE AVENUE**

- PRESENT:** R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Creaney, A. Diacou, Rev. N. Dixon, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Feinberg, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Giegerich, J. Goris, L. Grossman, M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, D. McShane, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, J. Plaza, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, L. Spalter, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young
- ABSENT:** R. Abbott, D. Bowden, E. A. Dennison, W. Dolny, A. Fana, C. Hendricks, J. Higgins, G. O. Koppell, C. G. Moerdler, J. O'Reilly, K. Pesce, M. Pica, J. M. Pilsner, S. Scheinbach, L. Vazquez
- STAFF:** A. Toledo – rep. Borough President Adolfo Carrion  
N. Danyluk – Bronx Department of City Planning  
J. E. Gordon & J. Sewell – rep. Councilman G. Oliver Koppell  
J. Sonett – rep. State Senator Eric Schneiderman  
R. Martos – rep. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz  
R. Giuffre – rep. Senator Jeffrey Klein  
C. Ramos, Jr. – rep. NYC Comptroller Thompson  
S. Alexander – Clerical Associate, CB 8  
D. Bay – Community Associate, CB 8  
P. Manning – Community Associate, CB 8
- GUESTS:** NY Yankees Youth Leadership Awardees:  
M. Soriano, J. Myers, S. Pelle, W. Bishop, J. Levinger  
Capt. D. Shea & Det. L. Rodriguez– 50<sup>th</sup> Pct.  
M. Perron, VCP, & E. Connolly – Parks  
C. M. Giove – Riverdale Review, J. Payne – Riverdale Press  
R. Press  
N. Reyes – BOEDC/Bx Bus. Solutions Center  
S. Mahoney – Kingsbridge Heights C.C.  
J. A. Donaldson  
E. Gurcic  
A. Riviuccio  
D. Francis  
K. Green  
M & C Bishop  
H. J. Myers  
J. Mendizabal - DYCD  
M. Consani – NY Public Library, Riverdale Branch  
M. Alhamedi  
H. Levinger  
M. Kirby  
M. Cortoreal  
T. Giallorenzi  
A. Gray – Riverdale C.C.  
Dr. R. Brown – NY Yankees Community Council  
E. Tucker  
R. Martinez

Chairman Cassino convened the meeting at 7:30 PM and deferred to Budget Chairman Diacou to conduct the public hearing on the Board's Preliminary Budget Responses for FY'08.

A. Diacou advised that the Board's Budget for FY'08 consisted of 21 Capital, and 17 Expense requests. He reported on the responses as follows: Under the Capital Budget the ambulance station at 230<sup>th</sup> Street; and construction for phase II at Fort

Four Park will be funded. There will be no funding for libraries and parks projects. Under the Expense Budget, the senior centers/homebound meals; and tree pruning and planting funding will be maintained. Non-funded Expense items include after school programs, inspectors for DOB, homecare for frail elderly, park associate for Henry Hudson Park playground, inflation adjustments for senior day care centers, and benches along commercial corridors. Remaining items were directed to the various agencies/departments or application submissions.

A. Diacou opened the floor for anyone wishing to speak on the budget, hearing none, the session was closed.

Chairman Cassino convened the regular Board meeting.

1. Gallery Session

A. James Donaldson discussed the poor maintenance conditions at Van Cortlandt Park's handball court. He questioned the possibility of the Mayor's budget providing funding resources for the much needed repairs.

Chairman Cassino paused the Gallery Session to move to the presentation of the Youth leadership awards.

Chairman welcomed Dr. Roscoe Brown, Vice President of the NY Yankees Community Council and thanked him for taking the time to appear at the meeting to make the presentations of the youth leadership awards.

Dr. Brown advised about the Council's support and monetary awards to youth and various youth groups around the City. He credited George Steinbrenner and the Yankee organization for their dedication to youth endeavors and recognizing them for their leadership roles, which include the yearly award of \$500 to five individual youth leaders in each community board for their outstanding volunteer work. Dr. Brown proceeded to call upon the following five youths nominated to come forward to receive the award and at the same time take two minutes to explain why they had been nominated:

- William Bishop – Riverdale Y: Riverdale Rising Stars
- Joanna Lvinger – Riverdale Y: Riverdale Rising Stars
- Joshua Myers – Riverdale Neighborhood House: Teen Program, Youth Internship Program, and Youth Group
- Scott Pelle – Riverdale Community Center: Teen Center, After School Program
- Miguel Soriano – Kingsbridge Heights Community Center: Peer Mediator, Teen Center, Summer Camp and After School Program

The awardees were congratulated and applauded.

Gallery Session resumed -

- B. Irving Ladimer spoke on behalf of Mark Sawyer who was unable to attend. He advised of Mr. Sawyer's concern with the traffic problems at the Kappock Street underpass.
- C. Robert Press discussed the construction of the Henry Hudson Parkway overpasses, specifically debris left behind at 239<sup>th</sup> Street, and the condition of unfinished patched areas.
- D. Nestor Reyes, Bronx Business Solutions, presented information on the free services provided through the program useful to businesses.
- E. Anthony Riveccio, provided information on the Flea Market being sponsored by the Bedford Mosholu Community Association on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Donations are needed (no clothing). Items can be brought to their office at 400 East Mosholu Parkway South. He urged support of this effort. He also announced that a seminar on gang violence would be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at MS 80.
- F. Ricki Martinez reiterated information regarding the various programs dedicated to the eradication of gang violence.

G. David Francis, Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board, advised about the discussion at the Youth Committee meeting and wanted to follow-up with the Board on the need for increasing membership. He explained that due to previous complaints about the lengthiness of the application, it has now been streamlined.

2. Approval of regular Board Minutes of January 9, 2007

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Discussion of Executive Board Committee Minutes of February 7, 2007

The minutes were accepted as written.

4. Chairman thanked the Riverdale Temple for hosting the Board meeting.

Chairman welcomed Andy Toledo, representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion; Nestor Danyluk, Bronx Department of City Planning; Joseph E. Gordon & J. Sewell; representing Councilman G. Oliver Koppell; Judith Sonett, representing State Senator Eric Schneiderman; R. Martos, representing Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Robert Giuffre, representing State Senator Jeffrey Klein; Carlos Ramos, Jr., representing NYC Comptroller William Thompson; Capt. Dermot Shea & Det. Luis Rodriguez, 50<sup>th</sup> Pct.; Margot Perron, Administrator, Van Cortlandt Park & Eileen Connolly, Parks; Josh Payne, Riverdale Press; and Candice Giove, Riverdale Review.

5. Report from the Office of the Borough President – A. Toledo

- A synopsis of the Borough President's State of the Borough Address is available.
- The Borough President's public hearing on the Mayor's budget will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Borough President in conjunction with Verizon will sponsor a job fair on February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Workforce Career Center on East 149<sup>th</sup> Street. Verizon is seeking to hire over 700 employees this year.

6. Report from the Department of City Planning – N. Danyluk

The application for 4540 Palisade Avenue previously reviewed by the Board will be resubmitted shortly, due to some minor revisions.

7. Chairman invited Captain Dermot Shea to address the Board.

Captain Shea reported on the crime stats. There were no shootings during the first 7 weeks; within the last 5 weeks robberies have escalated. The Bodegas robbery pattern involving 2 male Hispanics has ceased in the last 5 weeks. A new robbery pattern involving 2 male blacks is now active. Two victims were robbed as they exited the train at 231<sup>st</sup> and walked toward Bailey Avenue.

Captain Shea discussed the Explorers program operated through the Police and the great opportunity afforded to youths ages 14-20.

8. Discussion and vote on the proposals from the Special Committee on Board Structure and Operations -

Chairman again thanked the Special Committee members, B. Trebach, R. Moll, D. McShane, and G. Belkin for their work on the Report.

Chairman Cassino reiterated the reasons for the creation of Special Committee on Board Structure and Operations and the need to examine the administration and efficiency of Board operations. He reviewed the proposals on structural change and opened the floor for discussion.

A motion was made on the proposal to eliminate the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair and passed by a vote of 24 in favor, 3 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

In favor –

R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Creaney, A. Diacou, Rev. N. Dixon,  
T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Feinberg, T. Feerick, B. Fettman,  
A. G. Feldmeier J. Goris, L. Grossman, J. Kreppel,  
D. McShane, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, J. Plaza, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein,  
L. Spalter, N. Stent, B. Trebach, H. Young

Opposed –

I. Ladimer, I. W. Stone, M. Wolpoff

Abstentions –

M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, P. Friedman, J. Giegerich

Motions did not move forward on the following proposals for committee mergers; therefore no formal adoption:

-Aging, Health, Hospitals & Social Services;  
-Economic Development & Housing;  
-Education & Libraries

Proposal for the merger of Ethics & Law Committees to merge as Law, Rules & Ethics was approved on motion by a unanimous vote of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

In favor –

R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Creaney, A. Diacou, Rev. N. Dixon,  
T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Feinberg, T. Feerick, B. Fettman,  
A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Giegerich, J. Goris, L. Grossman,  
M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, D. McShane, R. Moll,  
K. O'Brien, J. Plaza, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, L. Spalter, N. Stent,  
I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

J. Reyes inquired about procedure for handling a proposal from the floor, specifically, a proposal for consideration of term limits which was previously recommended but not considered in the Recommendation Report. Chairman advised that the Law Committee could address.

## 9. Committee Reports

### A. Environment and Sanitation

Committee Vice-Chair B. Trebach reported on behalf of S. Scheinbach.

A seminar on pollution controls at the Croton Water Shed was presented at the January meeting of the Croton Water Filtration Monitoring Committee.

Jobs for Bronx residents at the filtration plant are still an issue. Presently only 33 pre apprenticeship positions are open to Bronxites. Only 5% of 500 jobs there are held by Bronx residents.

I-87 alternate route proposal for Con Ed's power line was presented at the PSC public hearing.

### B. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – M. Katzenstein

A meeting was held the night before. EMS calls were discussed. The committee will invite EMS to its next meeting.

The Committee will meet with Atria at its premises on March 19th to discuss the problems that occurred during their black-out last summer. Also the hospice has been asked to attend the meeting, but has so far not consented. The meeting time is 7:00 PM. All are invited.

In response to B.Trebach's inquiry re protocol/training for the Board's defibrillator, M. Katzenstein advised that guidelines were drawn up and he will arrange for a cardiologist to attend a future meeting to provide better insight on the use of defibrillators.

C. Housing – J. Kreppel

The report is as stated in the Committee minutes.

D. Land Use

Committee Vice Chairman M. Wolpoff reported on behalf of C. Moerdler.

M. Wolpoff reported on the meeting held on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

He presented the following resolutions passed by the Land Use Committee:

**RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, approves the Landmarks Preservation Commission application; and the City Planning Commission application No. N060568ZAX for 4620 Delafield Avenue, Block 5822, Lot 2630, on condition that an effort will be made to replant in the event that the endangered red oak tree is required to be removed.

Vote: 29 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions

In favor –

R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Creaney, A. Diacou, Rev. N. Dixon, T. Durham, B. Feinberg, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, J. Giegerich, J. Goris, L. Grossman, M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, D. McShane, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, J. Plaza, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, L. Spalter, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Opposed

P. Friedman, R. Fanuzzi

**RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, approves the Landmarks Preservation Commission application for 5021 Fieldston Road to demolish and rebuild existing screened porch and greenhouse, style compatible with existing Gothic stone and stucco house.

Vote: 31 In favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

In favor

R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Creaney, A. Diacou, Rev. N. Dixon, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Feinberg, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Giegerich, J. Goris, L. Grossman, M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, D. McShane, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, J. Plaza, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, L. Spalter, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

The Committee postponed the hearing on the BSA applications for Chapel Farm Estates, Inc. d.b.a Villanova Heights Inc. for extension of DOB permits, to resume in one month following site inspection of the property.

Chairman Cassino advised that a committee of four would tour the construction site, C. Moerdler, H. Young, J. O'Reilly and Chairman Cassino.

E. Law & Legislative – R. Moll

A Committee meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Board office, at 7:00 PM for the purpose of incorporating the motions accepted and will address bylaw changes and discuss the term limit proposal.

F. Parks and Recreation – N. Stent

Refer to Committee minutes.

G. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

A. Feldmeier will attend the Health Committee meeting at the Atria.

CERT monitored the Heat Center set up on Bailey Avenue for two days.

The Committee will consider supporting a resolution regarding SLA hearings being held in community rather than Albany.

H. Traffic and Transportation

The next Committee meeting will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Board office, at 7:00 PM.

I. Youth – T. Feerick

Refer to minutes for report.

J. Budget – A. Diacou

No further report.

K. Economic Development – J. Reyes

J. Reyes provided job information for: snow shoveling, police exams, Manhattan CB 8, and wildlife conservation.

L. Education

Committee Vice Chairman I. W. Stone reported on behalf of D. Bowden.

He referred the Board to the Committee minutes for a full report.

M. Ethics – I. Ladimer

A response is expected from the General Counsel of the Conflicts of Interest Board following review of the Board's Ethical Guidance Manual.

Meeting adjourned 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning  
Community Associate