

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 13TH, 2007, AT WAVE HILL, 675 WEST 252ND STREET**

PRESENT: R. Abbott, R. Bender, D. Bowden, A. P. Cassino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, G. O. Koppell, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, V. Gray Lewis, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Plaza, C. Prentice, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, L. Vazquez, H. Young

ABSENT: E. A. Dennison, Rev. N. Dixon, W. Dolny, B. Feinberg, J. Giegerich, L. Grossman, J. Higgins, M. Katzenstein, M. Khury, J. O'Reilly, L. Spalter, M. Wolpoff

STAFF: T. Lucania – rep. Borough President Adolfo Carrion
J. Sonett – rep. State Senator Eric Schneiderman
R. Martos – rep. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
J. Gordon – Councilman G. Oliver Koppell's Ofc.
N. Danyluk – Department of City Planning
S. Alexander – Clerical Associate, CB 8
D. Bay – Community Associate, CB 8
P. Manning – Community Associate, CB 8

GUESTS: M. Perron – Administrator, VCP
J. Payne – Riverdale Press
Capt. D. Shea – 50th Pct.
R. Montesano – FDNY
C. Ramos – rep. Comptroller William Thompson
D. Contreras – rep. Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum
G. Bova – Interfaith/Schervier
R. Press, R. Martinez, & T. Rivecchio – 100 Democrats
A. J. Stratford – Troop 240 Boy Scouts of America
M. Guzman
H. Kitasei – HHP Taskforce
M. Muniz
C. Guguelmo
M. Silverstein
P. Beck
M. Conghlan
P. & W. McFeeley
E. Rivera
R. Murray – NYPL, Riverdale Branch
J. & M. St. John
B. R. Michaels
J. Haller
K. Davidson
M. Smith
E. O. & R. Mauge
J. & B. Walker
D. Harper
E. Volpe
J. Acquafredda
M. A. Panossian
M. Kirby
P. Schaefer
H. Schoffel
R. & R. Ross
L. Borons
H. Ring
L. Bellurio

Chairman Cassino convened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Chairman thanked Kate French, Director, Wave Hill, for graciously hosting the Board's June meeting, a time when the grounds are particularly beautiful. Chairman then extended special thanks to Board member Juan Goris for his generosity with the provision of food and wine as well as to all other members for their contributions for the Board's year end reception enjoyed earlier.

1. Chairman invited Councilman G. Oliver Koppell to address the Board.

Councilman G. O. Koppell complimented the Board's membership and expressed pride in serving in Board 8's district. He discussed the City's abundant Budget surplus and reviewed a litany of budget items passed by the Council that would benefit the Board.

Chairman took the opportunity to thank Councilmember Koppell and Borough President Carrion for being respectful to the Board and not getting involved with replacement process of the Board's District Manager.

2. Gallery Session

- A. Betty Figueroa, Riverdale Choral Society, presented information on the group which presently has a membership of 160 voluntary members. Their next performance "Summer Sing" will be held on June 25th, at Christ Church of Riverdale. Ms. Figueroa encouraged those interested to sign up with the group. Flyers were provided.
- B. Peter Beck and Mark Silverstein, residents on West 258th Street off Riverdale Avenue, stated their opposition to the proposal by management of 5676 Riverdale Avenue to relocate the building's dumpster to the northwest corner of the parking lot, closer to homes along West 258th Street and erect a 7' fence. They recommended that the dumpster be placed in front of the building on Riverdale Avenue instead, where it had been in previous years.

Chairman Cassino advised that the Board is following-up on those issues.

- C. Hillary Kitasei, Chairwoman, Henry Hudson Parkway Task Force, spoke in support of the Traffic and Transportation Committee's resolution regarding the development of the Parkway's Corridor Management Plan for establishment of its scenic byway. Thus far Manhattan Community Boards 7, 9 and 12 are in line with their support.
- D. Patsy Smyth, discussed the recent shooting on Greystone Avenue just outside her residence and the emotional distress of having the deceased lying on the street within her sight.
- E. Roger Montesano and Milton Guzman discussed the continuing problem with Belgium block assaults and vandalism on Stevenson/Sedgwick Avenues and in Ft. Independence Park. Mr. Guzman was a recent victim who was attacked and struck on the head with rocks. Additionally, his car was vandalized. Three arrests of two 15 year olds and one 14 year old were made for the assault.
- F. Albert Spekman, Treasurer, Mutual Housing, also discussed the problems related to quality of life issues in and around Ft. Independence Park. He advised that he had personally witnessed one of the incidents involving Belgium blocks being thrown over the Park fence, and he displayed the same type block; to that end he requested the Board's support in arranging for installation of a 15 foot fence along the back of the Park, and along Stevenson Pl, the back of the parking lot of 3850 Sedgwick; aggressive police patrol especially between the hours of 9:00 PM to midnight, and enforcement of no trespassing after Park is closed; nightly check for loose Belgium blocks; and establishment of evening recreational programs in a nearby school.

Chairman advised that the criminal issues would be addressed with Captain Shea.

- G. Ricky Martinez, Committee of 100 Democrats, thanked Chairman Cassino for attending the meeting at MS 80 on Gang Violence. He announced the annual barbeque and plans to honor Councilman G. Oliver Koppell at that time.
 - H. Tony Rivecchio thanked Chairman Cassino for assisting with Board 8's Annual Night Out event.
 - I. Nat Solomon discussed the problems at Ft. Independence Park as well. He noted that a total of 13 phone calls from May 24th to June 7th were made by him alone to report vandalism to 311, Parks, Public Advocate, and the 50th Precinct. Accordingly, Mr. Solomon stated the need for regular police presence and enforcement of 9:00 PM Park close time.
 - J. Margot Perron, Administrator, Van Cortlandt Park, announced the Barefoot Dancing series and provided flyers.
3. Approval of Regular Board Minutes of May 8, 2007
- The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Discussion of Executive Board Minutes of May 2, 2007
- The minutes were accepted as written.
5. Chairman's Report
- A. Chairman welcomed and introduced the following new Board Members:
 - Evelyn Tossas Tucker – resident of Kappock Street; Immigration Attorney, self employed
 - Cassandra Prentice – resident of Putnam Avenue; employed at Argus Community Inc.; involved with Putnam Avenue Tenants Association
 - Victoria Gray Lewis – resident of West 230th Street; employed at Hunter College School of Education, Research Assistant; former teacher and presently doctoral student
 - Thomas Giallorenzi - Netherland Avenue resident; Tax accountant; retired from Deloitte and Touche, Sr. Manager Tax Information Reporting
 - B. The District Manager's Search Committee has been engaged in interviewing candidates. The Committee will make its recommendation to the Board at a special meeting on July 10, 2007.
6. Chairman welcomed Thomas Lucania, representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion; Judith Sonett, representing State Senator Eric Schneiderman; Randi Martos, representing Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Joseph Gordon, Office of Councilman G. Oliver Koppell; Daniel Contreras, representing Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum; Carlos Ramos, representing Comptroller William Thompson; Margot Perron, Administrator, Van Cortlandt Park; Roger Montesano, FDNY; Nestor Danyluk, Department of City Planning; Captain Dermot Shea, 50th Precinct; Rosemary Murray, NYPL, Riverdale Branch; and Josh Payne, Riverdale Press.

Chairman invited Capt. Shea to address the Board.

Capt. Shea reported on the shooting that occurred in front of 3900 Greystone Avenue, male victim from Woodside Queens. Investigation is still underway.

With respect to the incidents at Ft. Independence Park, discussed during Gallery, arrests were made and Park sweeps are ongoing. Plain clothes officers patrol has been stepped up in the Park.

Capt. Shea also reported on incidents involving a home invasion/burglary where individuals were tied up at 2777 University; two purse snatchings on street within last two weeks – perpetrator escaped in small white car.

Capt. Shea thanked Mark Botnick, Mayor's Community Assistance Unit for providing supplies and equipment for graffiti cleanups to the Explorers Club.

7. Report from the Borough President's Office – T. Lucania

- On behalf of Borough President Carrion, T. Lucania welcomed the new Board members and congratulated the members who were reappointed. The Borough President also thanks those members who did not re-apply for their past service.
- The Borough President apologizes for being unable to attend the honoring held for former District Manager Grace Belkin, as he was stuck in traffic.
- A letter was sent to Chestnut Holding (5676 Riverdale Avenue) regarding the issues and concerns of the residents on West 258th Street. Representatives from the Borough President's Office have already conducted a site visit and Mr. Wiener, owner, is willing to sit down with the neighbors.
- Bronx Week commences June 16th – 24th. The Bronx Ball will be hosted at Utopia's Paradise Theater. For further information visit www.bronxweekevents.com; The Hall of Fame program will be hosted by Bronx Community College on June 18th. A Certificate of Merit will be bestowed upon each Board member by Borough President Carrion.

The remainder of the report will be submitted for the record to the Board office.

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

There are no new applications at this time.

C. Moerdler advised that the Board had not been notified of the present status of the Telshe Yeshiva's application, yet work is proceeding. N. Danyluk explained that "Certifications" which is the case with Telshe, are not submitted to the Board. C. Moerdler asked that it be done as a courtesy.

9. Community Services Awards – D. McShane

D. McShane called upon the following honorees for presentation of the Board's Community Services Award:

- A. Bessie Walker – Awarded for lending her time, talent and experience to the community as a volunteer with numerous organizations including Interfaith Caregivers, participating in voter registration, a member of the Lehman College Choral group, and other charitable causes.
- B. Jessica Haller – Awarded for dedicating her time to educate the community and raise awareness of Global Warming through numerous lectures she gives to local organizations.
- C. Troop 240 of the Boys Scouts of America – Awarded for helping to shape the lives of generations of children; for the dedication of the scouts and leaders in their volunteer efforts throughout the community.

10. Report of the Nominating Committee – D. McShane

D. McShane presented the following slate approved by the Nominating Committee:

OFFICERS

Chairman	Anthony P. Cassino
Vice Chairman	Damian McShane
Secretary	Joyce M. Pilsner
Treasurer	Laura Spalter

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Aging	Karen Pesce
Budget	Ken O'Brien
Economic Development	Julie Reyes
Education	Debbie Bowden
Environment & Sanitation	Saul Scheinbach

Health, Hospitals & Social Services	Martin Katzenstein
Housing	Jerald Kreppel
Land Use	Charles G. Moerdler
Law, Rules & Ethics	Robert M. Moll
Libraries & Cultural Affairs	Libby Vazquez
Parks & Recreation	Nicole Stent
Public Safety	Arlene Garbett Feldmeier
Traffic & Transportation	Bradford Trebach

Chairman Cassino opened the floor for any other nominations. Hearing none the question was called and seconded for a vote on the entire slate.

Vote: 33 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

In Favor –

R. Abbott, R. Bender, D. Bowden, A. P. Cassino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Goris, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, V. Gray Lewis, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Plaza, C. Prentice, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, L. Vazquez, H. Young

11. Committee Reports

A. Law & Legislature – R. Moll

No report.

B. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – L. Vazquez

1. The Committee met on June 11th, discussed the forum held on May 11th at the newly renovated Jerome Park Branch.
2. Kingsbridge new target date for construction is October 2007.
3. The Committee is considering an artist/essay contest.

C. Parks & Recreation – N. Stent

1. Van Cortlandt Park stadium has been allocated \$100,000 federal monies for feasibility study.
2. Ft. Independence Park dog run update – working toward two hour opening delay on weekends.
3. Van Cortlandt Memorial Grove site will be reviewed by Parks head of Arts and Antiquities in the summer.
4. re vandalism in Ft. Independence Park, PEP is removing any loose rocks in the Park and has increase patrolling.

D. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

The following resolution was presented:

Whereas, the Mulgriff Tavern located on Broadway, Bronx, New York, d/b/a the Punch Bowl, has been the site of numerous disturbances adversely affecting the quality of life in our community, and has been cited for serving underage patrons and for serving contaminated alcohol; and

On recommendation of the 50th Police Precinct, and

Following unanimous vote of the Board's Public Safety Committee,

by vote at the regular Board meeting on June 13, 2007, Community Board 8, Bronx, New York recommends that the application to renew the liquor license for said establishment be denied.

Vote: 32 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention

In Favor –

R. Abbott, R. Bender, D. Bowden, A. P. Cassino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, V. Gray Lewis, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Plaza, C. Prentice, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, L. Vazquez, H. Young

Abstention -

Juan Goris

E. Traffic & Transportation

D. McShane reported in the absence of J. O'Reilly

1. The street renaming resolution for P.O. Forester will be held over for September for verification of the actual street corner.
2. The following resolution regarding the Henry Hudson Parkway Corridor Management plan was presented:

WHEREAS, the Henry Hudson Parkway is a parkway of historic significance to the City, the State and the Nation, as now documented by the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), and is a candidate for designation as a New York State Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, the Parkway was designed to capture scenic views of the city's architectural and natural features in the communities through which it passed; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the residents of Riverdale and Spuyten Duyvil live in close proximity to the Parkway, in buildings that were designed to line this landscaped and scenic corridor in the manner of an urban boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the Parkway included nine vehicular and pedestrian bridges that are major unifying and aesthetic elements of the community, and which serve as vital connectors for the residents of the community to walk to the schools, religious institutions and parks on either side; and

WHEREAS, the natural and designed landscapes of the parkway Were intended to buffer the neighborhoods from the noise and pollution of the roadway, and play a critical ecological role in enhancing the quality of the air in this community and the quality of the Hudson River;

WHEREAS, the built components of the parkway were aesthetic as well as safety features, highlighting the unique character of its various sections; and

WHEREAS, preserving and enhancing the historic and park-like character of the Henry Hudson Parkway supports the community's Special Natural Area District, two designated historic districts, multiple landmarks that form the context of this roadway, as well as its 197-a Plan; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 has taken a leadership role in raising support among its counterparts in Manhattan (7, 9, and 12) who

share this important park and road corridor, and citywide, in requesting that the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council oversee the development of a Corridor Management Plan by the stakeholder agencies and communities to protect the Henry Hudson Parkway as a significant architectural, environmental, historic, recreational and scenic resource;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bronx Community Board 8 urges the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council to carry out the Corridor Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Bronx Community Board 8 urges the designation of the Henry Hudson Parkway as a New York Scenic Byway.

Vote: 33 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

R. Abbott, R. Bender, D. Bowden, A. P. Cassino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Goris, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, V. Gray Lewis, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Plaza, C. Prentice, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, L. Vazquez, H. Young

3. Chairman Cassino discussed the parking issue at Wave Hill at 249th Street & Independence Avenue, where patrons have parked for many years, and where no signs are posted, but lately tickets have been issued. Wave Hill has contacted the Board requesting support for the parking to continue at that location. As approved by the Executive Board, a letter of support will be drafted and sent from the Board.

F. Land Use – C. Moerdler

The Rules for Fieldston Historic District Landmarking will be duplicated and distributed to the members of the Board.

G. Youth – T. Feerick

Refer to minutes.

H. Aging – K. Pesce

Refer to minutes.

I. Budget

No report.

J. Economic Development – J. Reyes

1. The following resolution was presented from the Economic Development Committee in conjunction with the Education Committee to reaffirm the Board's request for an EMS station in the Board's area:

Whereas, Community Board No. 8 Bronx has been recently advised by the NYC Fire Department of their abrupt decision not to place an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) garage station at *their* designated site within our community, and

Whereas, this indefensible decision will impose another lengthy search to accommodate this exceptionally needed facility, and

Whereas, the placing of an EMS garage station has been a necessity and priority for over 12 years in Community Board No. 8 Bronx, and

Whereas, it has taken more than that many years to find a location suitable to place an EMS garage station, and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee seeks to improve our economic growth *and* enhance the community's health care services, now therefore

It is resolved that Community Board No. 8 Bronx reaffirms its commitment to place an EMS garage station in the confines of Community Board No. 8 Bronx.

Vote: 33 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, R. Bender, D. Bowden, A. P. Cassino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, B. Fettman, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, J. Goris, J. Kreppel, I. Ladimer, V. Gray Lewis, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, R. Moll, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Plaza, C. Prentice, J. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, N. Stent, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, L. Vazquez, H. Young

2. Announced summer jobs for youth.
3. Dress for Success organization is requesting donations of business outfits for their job seekers when attending job interviews.
4. The trolley route is under discussion, will take feedback.
5. J. Reyes thanked R. Fanuzzi for filling in with the meetings during her absence.
6. The meeting planned for June 28th at Polombo's Bakery on Riverdale Avenue has been cancelled due to handicap inaccessibility for the upper level, where the meeting would have been held.
7. J. Reyes thanked KRV CDC for all their assistance to the Committee.

K. Education – D. Bowden

1. PS 24's principal will be announced by June 15th.
2. 20,000 – 30,000 pre-kindergarten seats are needed throughout the City.

L. Environment & Sanitation – S. Scheinbach

1. The filtration plant costs have escalated close to \$3 billion.
2. The Filtration Plant Monitoring Committee held a public meeting on June 30th.
3. The Environment and Sanitation Committee met on June 19th – Will consider a resolution on the Filtration plant costs overruns.
4. The Coalition against Con Edison's high voltage line proposal lost the Decision.

Chairman Cassino thanked S. Scheinbach for all his hard work.

M. Health, Hospitals & Social Services – M. Katzenstein

Refer to minutes.

The Board's budget request for EMS site is not funded.

The Committee's next meeting will be held on June 27th, at 6:30 PM, Board Office.

N. Housing – J. Kreppel

Welcomed new members and invited them to join the Committee.

Report is as stated in the minutes.

Before adjourning the meeting, Chairman thanked Joyce Pilsner for her many years of service as 2nd Vice Chair; and thanked the members of staff, Pat Manning, Sylvia Alexander, and Diane Bay for all they do.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning
Community Associate