

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2011
AT THE RIVERDALE JEWISH CENTER
3700 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE**

PRESENT: R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, A. Cohen, E. Corcino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Fettman, D. Kirksey-Floyd, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, M. Ginzburg, M. Goodman, N. Graham, M. Heller, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, S. Marquez, D. McShane, A. Moore, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, A. Piscitelli, R. Press, J. Reyes, P. Reyes, X. Sanchez, G. Santiago, A. A. Spett, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde

ABSENT: D. Bowden, A. Cohen, B. Contant, A. G. Feldmeier, C. Hanley, T. Lim, C. Moerdler, P. Mullen, L. Spalter, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

STAFF: N. Stent – District Manager
D. Bay – Community Associate
P. Manning – Community Associate

GUESTS: J. Dinowitz – Assemblyman
A. Greene – Bronx Deputy Borough President
J. Doyle – rep. State Senator Jeffrey Klein
T. Edwards – rep. Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez
R. Fedderman – rep. Congressman Eliot Engel
R. Martos – Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz' Office
A. Sandler – Councilman G. Oliver Koppell's Office
J. Sonett – rep. State Senator Adriano Espaillat
P. Sanchez – rep. Councilman Fernando Cabrera
A. Toledo – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
J. Urena – rep. State Senator Gustavo Rivera
N. Danyluk – Department of City Planning
K. Broihier – Kingsbridge BID
Capt. K. Burke – Commander, 50th Precinct
H. Artiles – New School University
G. Feliciano
T. Fortgany
J. E. Gordon
K. Green – Community Member, Education Committee
H. J. Kim
J. Sook Kim
H. Krim
M. Lam
J. Yeon Lim
D. McLean
H. Parmer
V. Patel
A. Perez
M. Ros
T. Shelton - KRVC
T. Tureski – Spuyten Duyvil Library
H. Tyler

A. Wisnieski – Riverdale Press
L. Wolf
E. Zuppi

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

1. Gallery Session

- A. Tracy Shelton, KRVC, described the organization's first movie night in the Park as a huge success with more than 400 community members participating in Seton Park. KRVC hopes to secure funding to support a series of regular programming in the park; announced the Riverdale Festival of the Arts will be held on October 23rd from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at West 256th Street between Delafield and Mosholu Avenues.
- B. Helen Tyler, spoke on behalf of residents at 3636 Greystone Avenue regarding matters of neighborhood deterioration. She stated that the building had recently invested in capital improvements, and there is great concern about property values dropping due to public safety issues of criminal behavior related to drugs and prostitution activity at the nearby Majestic building. Ms. Tyler asked for Board support to rid the community of these illegal activities and quality of life issues.

Chairman Fanuzzi invited Ms. Tyler to attend the Public Safety Committee meeting on September 15th.

- C. Helen Krim, a Riverdale resident expressed a concern about SAR's high school activities with the ball field, i.e. planting of trees and greenery, no illumination of ballfield, etc. She also mentioned a restrictive covenant existed with a neighbor with mandates that were also not being upheld. She also reported there are cracks in the foundation on the border with Skyview and sought assistance in SAR's compliance to be a good neighbor.
- D. Dr. Dorothy McLean also discussed issues related to SAR High School's property including run-off problems that have caused flooding to properties along Riverdale Avenue.

Chairman Fanuzzi explained that the Board could not intervene with covenant compliance because it is between the private parties. However, the issues concerning foundation cracks and run-off could be reported to the appropriate governing City agencies, and he asked that such issues be submitted. He further assured that if called upon, the Board would make every effort to bring the parties together for discussion and resolution.

- E. Irving Ladimer announced an event for celebration of the US Constitution Day on September 16th being held at Riverdale Senior Services. Bronx Historian Lloyd Upton will present. Scheduled activities begin at 10:30 AM. All are invited.

2. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2011

Minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Discussion of Executive Board Committee Minutes of September 7, 2011

R. Abbott corrected the Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee report, last item to as follows: The new President of the New York Public Library will be sponsoring new programs...The change was accepted and the minutes were adopted.

4. Chairman welcomed Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene and invited her to address the Board.
 - The Deputy Borough President informed of the 9/11 Memorial event being sponsored by Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. on September 15th by the County Building from 12:00PM to 2:00PM.
 - The Borough President's much anticipated "Cradle to Career" Education Summit will also take place on October 15th, and will be an all day event. The Keynote Speaker is Dr. Diane Ravitch and Chancellor Dennis Walcott will also be present. Teachers and students will be involved; parents and others interested in the success and motivation of students should attend. This is the kick-off for ongoing workshop sessions that will be held periodically.
 - Borough President Diaz, Jr. is urging all Bronx citizens for feedback on The Bronx Well Being Survey. It is important that each segment of the borough participate to bring to the forefront the borough's needs and problems that can be measured to effectuate policy changes. It is preferred that the survey be completed online, however hard copies may be submitted. The survey will remain open until October 31st.
5. Chairman welcomed Captain Kevin Burke, new commanding officer of the 50th Precinct and invited him to address the Board.

Captain Burke greeted the Board and responded to various concerns. He will also check the issue concerning traffic safety in the vicinity of PS 24. He invited everyone to contact him with any problems.

6. Report from the Bronx Borough President – A. Toledo

Distributed Bronx Well Being surveys and discussed the importance of attending the Education Summit.

7. Chairman invited Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz to address the Board.

Assemblyman Dinowitz reported that he has introduced legislation for VIN etching of new cars proposed by the 50th Precinct's former commander, Deputy Inspector Del Pozo. Announced co-sponsored event for free car VIN etching event being held on September 15th, at Riverdale Neighborhood House, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. His annually sponsored free flu shots program will be conducted on October 3rd at the Riverdale YM/YWHA, October 6 at Saint Gabriel's School, and October 25th at Amalgamated Houses in Vladek Hall. Assemblyman Dinowitz will take part in a series of Town Hall meetings starting with October 25th at the Riverdale Temple, at 7:30 PM on environmental topics including hydrofracking. Discussed the recent hurricane and complimented Con Edison's performance as well as the Departments of Parks and Sanitation and the Police for their quick responses. Discussed plan to cut down trees and re-planting formula around Jerome Park Reservoir.

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

Councilman Koppell discussed the adoption of the City Budget for FY 2012. He reviewed a litany of budget items restored by the Council and even more wherein he provided discretionary funds. Teachers layoffs were averted, no fire house closings and

no closings of senior centers in Community Board 8's area. Library funding was increased. He allocated funds to JFK Campus, greenstreet at West 236th Street between Fieldston Road and Riverdale Avenue. Additionally, community boards funding was restored. Vinmont ball field is finally under construction.

9. Chairman's Report

- Chairman Fanuzzi welcomed and introduced new Board member Lamont Parker who had been appointed by Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez covering the Marble Hill area.
- Chairman welcomed back Board Member Pedro Reyes, who had actually been appointed a year ago by Councilman Fernando Cabrera but had not been in attendance until now because of his military deployment to the Gulf Coast.
- Chairman informed about the Board's press release on the initiative to recruit community members for Community Board 8 committees.
- Thanked the Office of Emergency Management for their swift response during the hurricane and Con Edison for providing regular updates.
- The Request for Proposal regarding the property at West 230th Street and Broadway deadline is October 24th. Chairman informed that he has created a group to work with the office of Economic Development Corp. The members include Chairman Fanuzzi, Vice Chair Khury, Economic Committee Chair Villaverde; Land Use Committee Chair Moerdler.
- Chairman thanked District Manager Nicole Stent along with staff members Diane Bay and Patricia Manning for assisting him; and he thanked former chairman Damian McShane for his support encouragement.

10. Treasurer's Report

P. Friedman advised that the FY 2012 Budget report has been distributed.

11. District Manager's Report

- N. Stent welcomed the Board back from summer hiatus and reminded everyone of the Board's office availability to assist in any way. She directed all to the Board's website for pertinent resource information and board updates. Also the Board's monthly E-newsletter can be a handy tool.
- Committee chairs have been invited to attend Borough Budget consultations being held on September 8th, 21st, and 27th.
- A second youth market was opened this past summer, the Kingsbridge Heights Youthmarket located on Barnhill Square at Kingsbridge Road and Reservoir Avenue. Ms. Stent thanked the community partners for supporting these markets, Bon Secours Health System/Schervier the primary funding, Riverdale Neighborhood House and Kingsbridge Heights Community Center for support in finding teens to work in the markets.
- Announced the board office hosted a free Census Workshop on September 13th for community based organizations in Board 8. The workshop was lead by a certified Census Information Services Specialist from the US Census Bureau. The workshop was well attended and provided online training in navigating the census website and will be useful grant writing, program development and planning services for the elderly or youth, to name a few.

12. Report from City Planning Commission – N. Danyluk

Several applications are pending. One application involving a pool at 4600 Palisade Avenue is expected to be referred soon.

13. Committee Reports

A. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

No report.

B. Parks and Recreation – B. Bender

1. The Committee met on September 13th. Minutes will be submitted.
2. The matter on the paving of the Putnam Trail is receiving many comments and was discussed at the meeting.
3. Councilman Koppell allocated funds for Vinmont ballfield and for Ewen and Seton Parks.
4. October meeting will be held on the regular fourth Wednesday.

R. Press made motion to add a resolution to the Board's agenda concerning NYC Franchise and Concession Review Committee. Following discussion and vote the motion was defeated by a vote of 4 in favor, 32 opposed, and 1 abstention

In favor -

J. Reyes, R. Press, D. Padernacht, R. Ginty

Opposed -

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, A. Cohen, E. Corcino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, B. Fettman, D. Kirksey-Floyd, P. Friedman, S. Froot, M. Ginzburg, M. Goodman, N. Graham, M. Heller, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, S. Marquez, D. McShane, A. Moore, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, A. Piscitelli, P. Reyes, X. Sanchez, A. A. Spett, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde

Abstained -

G. Santiago

C. Public Safety – Vice Committee Chair A. Creaney

Presented the following resolutions for NYS Liquor Authority license applications:

RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves the following **RENEWAL APPLICATIONS** for liquor licenses:

1. 5816 Restaurant Corp., 5816 Mosholu
2. Rockhoppers, 5704 Mosholu
3. Wine Spot, 6677C Broadway
4. Riverdale Gourmet Inc, 3543 Riverdale Avenue
5. El Malecon Restaurant, 5592 Broadway
6. Gleeson's Sports Bar and Grill, 6115 Broadway

RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves the following **NEW APPLICATIONS** for liquor licenses:

1. La Nueva Estrella Pizza & Deli Corp., 219 West 230th Street
2. New York Gaelic Athletic Association, 201 West 240th Street
3. Winners Restaurant and Lounge, 6697 Broadway
4. Bridge Tavern, Inc., 5753 Broadway

Vote: 32 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions, and 1 abstention with cause

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Balicer, R. Bender, E. Corcino, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, D. Kirksey-Floyd, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, M. Ginzburg, M. Goodman, N. Graham, M. Heller, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, S. Marquez, D. McShane, A. Moore, L. Parker, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, A. Piscitelli, J. Reyes, P. Reyes, X. Sanchez, G. Santiago, A. A. Spett, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde

Abstentions –

S. Alexander, R. Press

Abstention With Cause –

D. Padernact

D. Traffic and Transportation – D. Padernacht

1. Goulden Avenue is closed to traffic for DEP's operation related to the Croton Filtration Plant project.
2. The traffic safety improvement project for West 230th Street has been delayed.
3. Thanked Councilman Koppell for his support with installation of traffic light at West 234th Street and Broadway.
4. SAR removed the concrete from Palisade Avenue semi-circle and is pending plantings.
5. Reconstruction of stations on the No. 1 train line continues.
6. The Committee will hold its next meeting on September 20th, at 7:30 PM in the Board Office.

E. Youth – A. Cohen

The Committee will meet on September 28th, at 1:00 PM in the Board Office.

F. Aging – K. Pesce

The Committee will meet on September 27th, at 3:30 PM at Hudson Pointe. There will be a speaker from Housing Community Services.

G. Budget

N. Stent report on behalf of B. Contant.

The Board will conduct a public hearing on FY 2013 budget requests at the full board meeting on October 11th. The hearing will address the committees budget requests submissions that will be prioritized by the Budget Chairman for a final vote by the full board at the October 11th meeting.

H. Education – S. Alexander

1. The Committee will meet on September 27th.
2. A community role models program for incoming 9th graders was held over the summer at JFK campus, New Visions Charter School. Chairman Fanuzzi and M. Goodman participated.

I. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

1. The Committee met on September 1st. Development at West 230th and Broadway was discussed. The Committee will work with local merchants on the development.
2. The next meeting will be held on October 6th at the Uptown Sports Complex.

J. Environment and Sanitation – R. Ginty

1. No report.
2. Flooding conditions should be called into 311 and reported to the Board office.

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

1. The Committee will meet on September 19th, at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM. Meeting venues will alternate between the Board office, and the neighborhoods to the east and west in the Board district.
2. The Committee is seeking health vans for the community.

L. Housing – T. Durham

1. The Committee will meet on September 26th at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM. There will be a presentation on Smoking Cessation.
2. T. Durham met with representatives of Jericho Housing for veterans over the summer.

M. Land Use

Vice Chair Khury reported in the absence of the C. Moerdler.

1. The Committee met on September 12th.
2. There was a presentation by St. Patrick's Nursing Home regarding the application for construction of parking garage. The applicant will return for a second meeting.

N. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

1. The Committee will meet on September 22nd at the Board Office, at 7:30 PM.
2. The committee is limited to Board members and issues raised before it.
3. The Committee's Vice Chair is S. Marquez and Secretary is A. Spett.

Meeting adjourned 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning
Community Associate