

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITALS & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, June 16, 2014

PRESENT

Steven Froot
Joyce Pilsner
Lisa Daub
Sylvia Alexander
Beverly Fettman
Dana Lennon
Xaxia Sanchez
Julia Gomez
Stan Cohen

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair
CB 8 – Committee member
Community Committee member
Riverdale Urgent Care

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. at the Board Office.

Minutes: minutes of May 19, 2014 meeting in preparation

Chair's Report

The scheduled speaker from the Office of Community Relations of Montefiore Medical Center did not attend.

Mr. Froot discussed the upcoming public hearing scheduled for Monday, June 30, 2014, at the offices of the Riverdale Mental Health Association, to consider the proposal of Special Citizens Futures Unlimited ("SCFU") under the Padavan Law for an Individual Residential Alternative ("IRA") group home, to be located on the second floor of a two-family home at 251 West 261st Street, on the corner of Huxley Avenue. The four individuals who are to occupy the four-bedroom rental unit are individuals with disabilities on the autism spectrum, which is the population served by SCFU at other locations in the Bronx and Westchester. Three of the individuals would be moving from an institution to a group home setting. The Chair thanked the Committee members for their willingness to meet a second time within the month in order to accommodate SCFU's request.

Follow-up Business – Budget Priorities

In the absence of new suggestions, the Chair identified one expense request and one capital request for consideration, drawn from the last budget cycle. The Committee unanimously approved, by acclamation, a budget priority expense request for funding the Riverdale Mental Health Association's Geriatric Program.

The Committee then discussed whether to renew a capital request for funding the establishment of an EMS restocking/decontamination station within Bronx Community Board 8 to replace the former interim EMS station at the NYPD 50th Precinct, which closed with the opening of a new EMS station in Woodlawn. The Chair recounted the history of the Committee's support for a new station; the Fire Department's suggestion two years ago that a site at Mosholu Avenue just east of Broadway, near the stables in Van Cortland Park, might be appropriate; that such support was subsequently withdrawn; the fact that the increased proximity of a new EMS station in Community Board 8 to the location of ambulances stationed here would only apply twice each day during shift changes, because at other times ambulances report to the nearest restocking & decontamination station anywhere in New York City at the conclusion of a response call; and the responses from EMS in recent years that it did not consider that a new station was needed given the proximity of the Woodlawn Station to Community Board 8. The Committee then voted 5-3 not to include this item as a capital expense request in the new round of budget priorities:

Against: X. Sanchez, L. Daub, D. Lennon, S. Froot, J. Gomez.

In Favor: Alexander, Fettman, Pilsner.

Joyce Pilsner suggested that in future years the Committee should reach out or the Board should send letters to community institutions to alert them to the budget priority request process. Stan Cohen suggested that there might be neighborhood advisory boards for certain agencies, like DYCD, that the Committee might contact regarding possible budget priorities.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9 pm.

The Committee will hold its next meeting (preceded by a public hearing, as discussed above), on Monday, June 30, 2014, at 7:30 pm, at the Conference Room of the Riverdale Mental Health Association, 5676 Riverdale Avenue, 2nd Floor.

Prepared by Steven Froot, Chair
Health, Hospitals & Social Services Committee