

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2009 AT THE
CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE, 475 WEST 250TH STREET**

- PRESENT:** R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, D. Bowden, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. Dolny, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, J. Goris, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, J. P. O'Reilly, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young
- ABSENT:** S. Balicer, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, B. Feinberg, V. Gray, C. Prentice
- STAFF:** N. Stent – District Manager
D. Bay – Community Associate
P. Manning – Community Associate
- GUESTS:** J. Dinowitz, Assemblyman
J. DeSio – rep. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
R. Fedderman – rep. Congressman Eliot Engel
R. Martos – rep. Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
A. McLaren – rep. Office of Councilman G. Oliver Koppell
N. Danyluk – Department of City Planning
P.O. M. Ramos – 50th Police Precinct
Det. L. Rodriguez – 50th Police Precinct
K. Broihier – Kingsbridge BID
M. Borell
A. Faustin – American Red Cross
C. Giove – Riverdale Review
H. Harrison – NYPL Van Cortlandt Branch
H. Hart
J. Lane – Bronx Council on Environmental Quality
C. Livesay
S. Martinez – American Red Cross
Sr. E. McGrory – Sisters of Charity
P. Moerdler
C. Moretti
R. Mackey – American Red Cross
R. Press – Bronx News
C. Richards – Van Cortlandt Park
S. Rivera
M. Roger

Chairman McShane convened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Gallery Session

- A. S. Martinez, American Red Cross, discussed the services provided , including assistance to fire victims whereby food and shelter is provided, emergency preparedness training, etc; The agency is seeking Board member applicants; Donations are needed; Office space in the Northwest Bronx is sought; Check website at www.nyredcross.org for additional information.
- B. C. Richards, Van Cortlandt Park, distributed the fall Newsletter with the events Calendar; Invited all to a free Outdoor Movie Night showing of the Lion King September 12th, on the lawn of Van Cortlandt House Museum, at 7:45 pm; Announced Volunteer Kickoff, September 26th and made a plea for volunteers; Check website at nyc.gov/parks for general information.
- C. A. Faustin, American Cancer Society, has been in existence since 1913; Discussed advocacy for cancer programs and advised of the many free cancer screening services; Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk will be held October 18th; November is Prostate Cancer Awareness month.

1. Approval of Regular Board Minutes of June 9, 2009

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Discussion of the Executive Board Committee Minutes of September 2, 2009

The minutes were accepted as written.

3. Chairman welcomed Jeffrey Dinowitz, Assemblyman; J. DeSio , representing Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.; Richard Fedderman; representing Congressman Eliot Engel; Randi Martos, Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Arlene McLaren, Office of Councilman G. Oliver Koppell; Nestor Danyluk , Department of City Planning; P.O. Mindy Ramos, and Det. Luis Rodriguez, 50th Police Precinct.

4. Chairman invited Detective Rodriguez to address the Board.

Detective Rodriguez announced the promotion of Captain D'Adamo to the rank of Deputy Inspector. The summer went well in the 50th precinct, crime was down 1%, with 1 homicide, stolen cars were down, robberies were down to 81 from over 104 last year. Felony assaults were down one to 89 over 90 last year. Arrests were 1,653 which represent a 44% increase. Summoning was up 11% and are mostly quality of life issues. An arrest was made in a rash of car break-ins with an individual arrested 29 times. Parking summonses were down 30%.

5. Chairman invited Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the Board.

Assemblyman Dinowitz thanked the Board for withholding support of 3217 Irwin Avenue's application for transient parking garage; Reported passage for Mayoral Control of Schools; Discussed problem with ticketing for double parking while dropping-off passengers, mainly on Johnson Avenue, and the Parking Enforcement agents double parking to issue tickets; Comptroller Thompson verified \$1 billion is the actual figure over the cost originally stated for the Croton Water Filtration Plant; Kingsbridge Riverdale Van Cortlandt Development

Corp. (KRVCDC) received funding for an anti-graffiti program, and complaints should be referred to that office.

6. Chairman invited Councilman Koppell to address the Board.

Councilman Koppell reported on the approved FY 2010 Mayoral Budget and advised of spared teacher losses; funded 231st Street BID; Signing of two bills by Mayor Bloomberg sponsored by Councilman Koppell regarding building requirements for providing bicycle parking space went forward; initiating funding for the abandoned construction of building on Tulfan Terrace. Commercial businesses are beginning to revitalize with opening of two new businesses on Riverdale Avenue. The fight for the return of the Whitehall School Annex was successful; and through his efforts "OUT TO PLAY" equipment was brought to PS 81; a site search for a school is currently underway to relieve overcrowding at PS 81 and in School District 10.

7. Report from the Borough President's Office – J. DeSio

- Borough President Diaz, Jr. has issued a negative recommendation to City Planning Commission concerning the redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory. Concerns outlined in the recommendation included impact on neighborhood traffic, non-inclusion of educational facilities in or around the Armory, and the lack of an impact study on local businesses, particularly the Fordham Road business district and River Plaza retail center in Marble Hill.
- The Borough President budget allocations totaled \$21 million in funding across the borough for schools, park renovations, services for senior citizens and cultural organizations, and other projects. Specific appropriations within Board 8 included PS 24 and John F. Kennedy High School.
- Borough President Diaz, Jr. will host 9/11 "Day of Remembrance" on September 9th, at 2 pm, on the steps of the Bronx County Court House;
- In honor of Ramadan, the Borough President extends invite to all to "Break the Fast" at the first Annual Bronx Iftar Dinner on September 17th, at the Bronx County Court House, Veterans Memorial Hall at 6pm.

8. Chairman's Report

Chairman McShane referred to his report in the Executive Board minutes with respect to attendance at meetings. He advised that attendance at committee and board meetings will be closely monitored.

9. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

The report will be deferred to October since the numbers are not solidified.

10. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

This past year has been a good year for the Board office. We have established great partnerships with community based organizations in the district. The most noteworthy project of the Board was the creation of a brand new program, wholly created by the Community Board, lead by Bob Fanuzzi, chair of the Economic Development Committee, the Marble Hill Youthmarket. This farmers market opened August 6 and brings fresh healthy

food to low-income communities, which are disproportionately affected by diet-related health issues like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. The CB8 farmers market employs youth from the community who gain valuable business experience and career skills. The Board worked closely with community partners: Bon Secours New York Health System/Schervier, CENYC, New Marble Hill Tenants Association, Public Market Partners, Riverdale Neighborhood House and Riverdale CSA. This community program represents the culmination of 9 months of planning by Bronx Community Board No. 8. Bob Fanuzzi, Chair of the Economic Development Committee will give you more information during his committee report.

Another Board partnership with the Parks Department and the Marble Hill Community Center resulted in the play vans available in the Marble Hill playground during the summer. These vans provide opportunities for youth to have a place to play board games, hula hoops as well as arts & crafts. The office also collaborated with Riverdale Neighborhood House and had a fully funded student intern in the spring.

On September 9th and 14th, the Bronx District Managers will attend Borough Consultations. These consultations provide an opportunity to meet with city agency officials about budget needs, funding for programs and projects and to outline area problems and discuss possible solutions. The agencies participating are Departments of Aging, Buildings, Children Services, Economic Development, Fire, Homeless Services, Parks & Recreation, Police, Sanitation, Transportation and Human Resources Administration. Discussions will include the Board Committee's budget priorities for FY2011.

Additionally, the office has benefitted from improved technology and equipment and has two new computers and a projector for presentations. These purchases were made possible thanks to the member item allocation by Councilwoman Maria Baez. The two older computers will be used by interns and one is located in the conference room to be accessible to the committees.

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

- The submission of two natural area applications are expected shortly. Both are for minor alterations in yards.
- The application for construction on property surrounding Fieldston Ethical Culture School has been terminated.

12. Election of Chairperson of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee

Chairman McShane opened the floor for nominations. M. Khury was nominated and seconded. Hearing no others, Chairman closed the nominations and called for a vote. The vote was unanimously in favor and M. Khury was selected.

Vote: 38 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, D. Bowden, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. Dolny, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, J. Goris, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, J. P. O'Reilly, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce,

J. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

13. Committee Reports

A. Youth Services

Chairman asked that any Board member interested in serving as Youth Chair until C. Prentice recovers should contact him.

B. Aging – K. Pesce

The Committee will meet on September 22nd at Riverdale Housing for the Elderly, at 3:30 PM.

C. Budget – K. O'Brien

Budget priorities for FY 2011 will be presented at the October 13th Board meeting.

D. Economic Development - B. Fanuzzi

1. An art school is looking for space in the Board's district.
2. The Youth Market grossed \$4,500 in sales of 400 pounds of produce in six weeks. The majority of purchases were made with WIC and Health Bucks monies. Thanks was conveyed to the Board and elected officials for support. There will be two special Saturday openings, one will coincide with St. Stephens Church Bazaar on September 26th, and the other a Harvest Festival on October 24th. Very special thanks and gratitude to Eileen Jones, Schervier/ Bon Secour, for her strong support of the Youth Market.
3. Pamela Otto has left the position of Director at Kingsbridge Riverdale Van Cortlandt Development Corporation.

E. Education – D. Bowden

1. Mayoral Control has been renewed through 2015.
2. The Bronx will be getting 18 new schools.
3. The Borough President's Education Workshop will be held September 21st. For more information contact David Mojica at the Borough President's Office.
4. Deidre Burke is the interim principal at PS 24.
5. The Whitehall School Annex is reopening with 5th grade.
6. Thanked the offices of Assemblyman Dinowitz and Councilman Koppell for intervening with the request for a stop sign at 235th Street and Independence Avenue in the vicinity of the school annex. The Department of Transportation has reported that the request is still under study. Chairman noted that A. Cassino had also looked into the matter.
7. The Committee will have a speaker at its meeting on September 22nd from the Department of Health to present on the role of the school nurse with regard to the administering of the Swine Flu vaccine. All are invited.

F. Environment and Sanitation – S. Scheinbach

1. Discussed the gas drilling resolution passed by the Board disapproving the proposal to drill upstate. Advised that a public hearing on the issue will be held at Brooklyn College on September 10th, at 3PM. He urged attendance by those wishing to have their voices heard on the subject.
2. Litter baskets are scarce around the Jerome Park Reservoir.
3. The Department of Environmental Protection is still reviewing Public Access around Jerome Park Reservoir.

G. Land Use – C. Moerdler

1. The Committee will meet on September 16th on Board of Standards and Appeals application for 3217 Irwin Avenue, garage and transient parking, and Landmarks Preservation Commission application for 4919 Goodridge Avenue, alterations to single family residence. It was noted that the hearings on both applications were scheduled before the next meeting of Community Board 8, and therefore, C. Moerdler made a motion for the Land Use Committee to vote as full Board in order to submit recommendations before the hearing dates. Motion was seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Vote: 38 In Favor, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, D. Bowden, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. Dolny, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, T. Giallorenzi, A. Goldman, J. Goris, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, J. P. O'Reilly, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

2. C. Moerdler briefly advised of contact made with the Housing Development Corporation and Housing Preservation Commission regarding Tulfan Terrace abandoned construction. Meetings are in the workings.

H. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

Regular monthly meetings will be held in advance of the Board meetings, at 7:00 PM.

I. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

The next meeting of the Committee will be held October 5th, at Riverdale Branch Library, at 7:30 PM.

J. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

1. Refer to June Committee minutes, and report in the September Executive Committee minutes.
2. B. Bender advised about the outstanding accomplishment of the Kingsbridge Little League and made a motion from the floor for presentation of the following resolution, which was seconded:

WHEREAS, the Kingsbridge Little League (KLL) 12-and-under team won the Mid-Atlantic regional round and advanced to the quarterfinal round of the Cal Ripken World Series before losing to the eventual winner of the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the KLL team also won the Little League District 23 championship; and

WHEREAS, KLL player Adam De La Cruz was named MVP of the Cal Ripken Tournament;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Bronx Community Board No. 8 congratulates the entire Kingsbridge Little League 12-and-under team and its coaches Eric Semler, Chris Navarro, and Lenny Ortiz on the completion of their outstanding season.

Vote: 36 In Favor, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstentions

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, D. Bowden, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. Dolny, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, J. P. O'Reilly, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

3. The next meeting will be held September 23rd, Board Office, at 7:00 PM.
4. Discussed the delay with construction at Sid Augarten baseball field.
5. Councilman Koppell discussed the absence of public use at the Riding Stable in Van Cortlandt Park and the expansion of private use and proposed pony rides there.

K. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

1. There is talk of a “Club” going into business at the closed Koo Koo’s on Broadway.
2. A. G. Feldmeier is attempting to meet with the new president at Manhattan College to discuss problems and complaints with the students.
3. Proposed a letter from the Board to congratulate Deputy Inspector D’Adamo on his promotion. The Board approved.
4. The staffing increase at the 50th provided extra parks patrol and therefore summer was quiet.

L. Traffic and Transportation

B. Trebach reported in the absence of A. P. Cassino, no report. The Committee will hold its next meeting September 29th, Board Office, at 7:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Manning
Community Associate