

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12, 2011  
AT RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
4763 HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY**

- PRESENT:** R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, S. Catechis, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, N. Graham, C. Hanley, M. Heller, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, A. L. Moore, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, R. Press, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, H. Young
- ABSENT:** D. Bowden, B. Contant, B. Feinberg, D. Kirksey-Floyd, I. Ladimer, T. Lim, S. Marquez, P. Reyes, M. Wolpoff
- STAFF:** N. Stent – District Manager  
D. Bay – Community Associate  
P. Manning – Community Associate
- GUESTS:** R. Agdern – rep. State Senator Gustavo Rivera  
J. DeSio – rep. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.  
R. Fedderman – rep. Congressman Eliot Engel  
S. Dyri – rep. State Senator Jeffrey Klein  
R. Martos – rep. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz  
T. Mercado – rep. Assemblyman Guillermo Linares  
J. Sonett – rep. State Senator Adriano Espaillat  
D.I. B. del Pozo – Commander, 50<sup>th</sup> Pct. NYPD  
N. Danyluk – Department of City Planning  
Capt. G. Santana – 50<sup>th</sup> Pct. NYPD  
P.O. M. Ramos – 50<sup>th</sup> Pct. NYPD  
Det. L. Rodriguez – 50<sup>th</sup> Pct. NYPD  
G. Feliciano – Community member Economic Development Committee  
G. Flores – American Cancer Society  
C. Franco – Water of Life Church  
J. Lantiguan – Water of Life Church  
E. Lowe – Exec-You-Van  
B. McHugh – Riverdale Review  
P. Moerdler  
K. Pederson – Bon Secours Health System  
I. D. Rodriguez – Water of Life Church  
X. Sanchez  
T. Shelton – KRVC Development Corp.  
L. Shroyer – Center Against Domestic Violence at JFK Campus HS  
A. Torres - Schervier  
A. Wisnieski – Riverdale Press

Chairman McShane convened the meeting at 7:35 PM

**1. Gallery Session**

- A. Tracy Shelton of KRVC announced that the merchants organizing initiative was continuing and plans to expand to Kingsbridge Heights are in the works. Check website at [www.krvcdc.org](http://www.krvcdc.org) for list of upcoming events:

- KRVC, Con Edison, Willdan & Greenlight will participate in a "Go Green" Event, May 2, 2011, 2:00pm at United Spokes Bike Shop & Ibiza Lounge, 207 & 220 West 242nd Street, Bronx, NY 10471;
- The South Riverdale Avenue Merchants Association will hold a Spring Arts Festival, May 15, 2011, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm along South Riverdale Avenue from West 235th Street to West 238th Street and down West 238th Street.
- Flyers for neighborhood Merchant Association meetings and other events were left at table.

B. Ed Lowe, spoke on behalf of South Riverdale Merchants Association. The Department of Transportation has just released the NYC Street Plaza application. The Association is hoping for the opportunity to install a plaza at West 236<sup>th</sup> Street and Riverdale Avenue. Deadline is June 30, 2011.

Chairman McShane referred the matter to the Traffic and Transportation Committee.

- C. Kristen Pederson, Bon Secours NY Healthy Communities, conducting survey on how members of the community eat. Citizen input is urged.
- D. Ishmar Rodriguez announced a Street Fair being held on July 23<sup>rd</sup> sponsored by Water of Life Church to unite the community's religious, business and residents. It will be a free program and it will held in Marble Hill Park at West 228<sup>th</sup> near St. Stephen's Church.
- E. Guillermo Flores, American Cancer Society, informed the local office is at 2330 Eastchester Road, Bronx. Announced the Hill Top Relay for Life to celebrate survivorship event being held May 20<sup>th</sup>, at Fieldston School. Free admission. Flyers were left on table.
- F. Lily Shroyer, Teen Rapp, JFK Center for Domestic Violence, provided an overview of the program and its critical role in preventing domestic violence. The program has existed for 11 years and has been cut from the Mayor's budget. She asked for support to restore funds.
- G. Margot Perron, announced Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy BIRD-A-THON on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Check-in tent is at Van Cortlandt Golf House. Rain date is May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Flyers were distributed.

2. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2011

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Discussion of Executive Board Committee Minutes of April 6, 2011

- B. Bender corrected Parks and Recreation report regarding the review of greenstreets to note that merchants on Riverdale Avenue expressed concerns about the location at W. 236<sup>th</sup> Street between Riverdale Avenue and Fieldston Road. The major concern was that no parking spaces be lost at that location.
- S. Alexander advised that the Education report referring to school budget was incorrect. She emphasized that the cuts were devastating.

4. Chairman invited D.I. del Pozo to address the Board.

D.I. del Pozo introduced Capt. Gregory Santana, second in command at the 50<sup>th</sup> Pct. The Captain has recently returned from serving in Iraq. The Deputy Inspector gave a review of the crime statistics. Overall crime is down, burglaries up by 10, 2 church burglaries; grand larceny were due to thefts of car rims, recommends reconsideration of legislation to require manufacturers to mark rims with serial numbers. SAR is looking for solution to resolve traffic/parking problems and is considering hiring an off-duty uniformed police officer to patrol at dismissal. Dogs were removed from house on Riverdale Avenue and West 261<sup>st</sup> Street and will not be returned until a high fence is built. There is a search for perpetrators responsible for recent explosion in vicinity of a synagogue in Santa Monica, special security posts for Passover will be set-up in District 8.

5. Chairman invited Councilman Koppell to address the Board.

Councilman Koppell advised that he is working with the budget, that the State on-time budget adoption gives the City direction. The \$25 million Title 20 funds for senior centers were restored and he credits Assemblyman Dinowitz for strong efforts in that behalf. Van Cortlandt Senior Center was saved under the restoration, and receives supplemental funds from the Councilman. Mayor is taking bleak view of budget and there is a surplus. Mayor is proposing to delay the next police class; and looking to reduce teachers by 4,000. The Councilman will oppose vigorously. City Council passed Alderbrook House landmarking and passed legislation for better planning during storms. Councilman supports Greenstreet at West 236<sup>th</sup> Street between Riverdale Avenue and Fieldston Road and asked to be informed of any objections.

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

- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. hosted a rally on April 4, 2011 in support of Living Wage bill. Council will conduct hearing on bill May 13, 2011. Councilman Koppell is lead sponsor.
- Bronx Week 2011 will be held from May 12 – May 22. The Borough's Annual Celebration of Pride is an 11-day Celebration. This year's Bronx Week features the best of The Bronx, with theme days devoted to Business, the Arts, Youth, Health and more. For further information call 718-590 BRONX, or log onto [www.ILOVETHEBRONX.com](http://www.ILOVETHEBRONX.com)

7. Chairman's Report

- Refer to Executive Board Committee minutes for report.
- Collections for food pantry at Church of the Mediator will go forward at the next Board meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Donations are urged.
- Chairman expressed appreciation for service to the following Board members who did not reapply for Board membership: Thomas Giallorenzi, Yael Levy, James O'Reilly, and Victoria Gray.

8. Election of the Nominating Committee

Chairman opened the floor for nominations for the Nominating Committee that will provide the slate for the June Board elections of Officers and Committee Chairs. The following five accepted nomination: R. Abbott, A. Cohen, T. Durham, R. Ginty, M. Khury.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, S. Catechis, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, N. Graham, C. Hanley, M. Heller, M. Khury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, A. L. Moore, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, R. Press, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago,

S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, H. Young

9. Treasurer's Report

1. P. Friedman presented the budget report which had been distributed.
2. Friends of Community Board No. 8 Subcommittee met. Hoping for comments to discuss at next Executive Board meeting.

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

- One new application received for 4600 Palisade Avenue regarding a swimming pool. No word yet on Board referral date.

11. Committee Reports

A. Housing – T. Durham

1. Report in minutes. Thanked C. Hanley for recording minutes.
2. Next meeting April 25, 2011.

B. Land Use – C. Moerdler

1. Informed that the MTA Board, of which he is a member, will conduct a “pilot” program for the Riverdale Metro-North Station Rail Link bus to run along Palisade Avenue instead of along West 254<sup>th</sup> Street. This route should add to the convenience of commute to the Hebrew Home.
2. The Land Use Committee met on April 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Blue Bay Diner on Johnson Avenue was able to reach a settlement with its landlord Friedland Properties regarding rent and lease issues. The landlord's counsel explained that the increase was related to increased real estate taxes. Committee Chairman Moerdler recommends looking at measures for tax relief for retail businesses to ease burden. Friedland's Properties representative has assured that there are no plans to build highrise apartment buildings in Johnson Avenue vicinity, therefore rezoning of Johnson Avenue is no longer being considered under present circumstances.
  - Manhattan College presented and discussed its Master Plan including its new building to be named after Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.
  - NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission has rejected application for Fort Independence Historic District designation.
  - Rezoning for the specific location for the proposed apartment building at 3475 Cannon Place was not included in the Board's 197-a plan. Residents are not pleased with building height and garage entrance on Cannon Place.
  - Fort Independence Neighborhood Association (FIPNA) received a letter from Jackson Development attorney regarding FIPNA's report presented at the Land Use Committee meeting. Jackson demanded certain retractions of the report. Committee Chairman Moerdler received approval from Chairman McShane to respond and has high hopes that the letter will be withdrawn.
  - Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) application for 3333 Giles Place has been adjourned. C. Moerdler will submit brief for further hearing.
  - The Committee will meet on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation Care Center, 3400 Cannon Place, at 7:30 PM and will have further discussion on 3475 Cannon Place.

## C. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

- A. Creaney reported on behalf of I. Ladimer. The Committee met and discussed the following:
1. The Ethical Guidance Manual will be updated based on Board member comments in the Law Committee and in accord with the Bylaws, on the following issues:
    - Communications with the media and to reporters by Committee Chairs and Board members.
    - Appeal by Board members from Board Chair rulings on procedural and substantive matters.
    - Issues of community need and board jurisdiction on requests for outside services, and appropriate board action and/or referral.
    - Additional examples of Conflicts of Interests issues based on new, relevant material from COIB.
    - Responsibility of board members for participation in Borough Presidents training institutes.
    - Availability and distribution of reference materials.

The next meeting will be held on prior to Board meeting, May 10, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

## D. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – S. Froot

1. Refer to minutes for report.
2. The next meeting will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup>, Board Office, at 7:30 PM. There will be presentations from Bon Secours NY Healthy Communities Initiative; and American Cancer Society.
3. Committee will address the request for budget restoration of the Teen RAPP program and will also make referral to Youth Committee.
4. R. Press reported on the EMS station opening soon in Woodlawn, East 233<sup>rd</sup> Street and the closing of EMS stocking station at 50<sup>th</sup> Pct.

## E. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

- The next meeting will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup>, Board Office, 6:00 PM.

## F. Community Service Awards – R. Abbott

- Seven nominations were received to date. Board member volunteers are needed for the Committee's review of nominations for awards.

## G. Parks and Recreation – B. Bender

1. At the Croton Water Filtration Plant Monitoring Committee meeting, the Department of Environmental Protection released a Preliminary plan for Access at Jerome Park Reservoir.
2. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Ice Skating Rink at Van Cortlandt Park was issued. Proposal due by May 16, 2011.
3. "It's My Park Day" activity will be held on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> and concentrate on Vinmont Park. Volunteers are sought.
4. The next Committee meeting will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup>, Board Office, at 7:00 PM.

5. R. Press requested the Ice Skating Rink proposal be discussed at the Economic Development Committee meeting. The Economic Development Chair will place on agenda following a referral to the committee.

#### H. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

1. On behalf of the Board, Det. Rodriguez and his wife were presented with a basket of goodies and gift certificate for his new boy and girl baby twins. The beautiful babies were presented to the Board. Det. Rodriguez thanked the Board for their warm wishes and gifts.
2. Next meeting will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct, at 7:00 PM.
3. The following resolutions were presented for liquor license approval:
  1. **RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves the following **NEW APPLICATIONS** for liquor licenses:
    - Salvatore's of Soho – 3738 Riverdale Avenue
  2. **RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves the following **RENEWAL APPLICATIONS** for liquor licenses:
    - Burke's Beal Bocht – 445 West 238<sup>th</sup> Street
    - Caridad International – 5523 Broadway
    - Dale Restaurant - 189 West 231<sup>st</sup> Street
    - Mr. McGoo's – 5602 Broadway

Vote: 29 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, N. Graham, C. Hanley, M. Heller, M. Khury, D. McShane, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, R. Press, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, H. Young

#### I. Traffic and Transportation – D. Padernacht

1. The next meeting will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup>, Church of the Mediator, at 7:30 PM. Will discuss handicapped access for Taxis; Department of Transportation will present the West 230<sup>th</sup> Street traffic study; Department of Design & Construction will present the design for the Safe Routes to Transit project for Broadway at West 231<sup>st</sup>, West 238<sup>th</sup> and West 242<sup>nd</sup> Streets.
2. Minutes will be posted.
3. No. 1 train line has posted no stops northbound due to track work.

#### J. Youth – A. Cohen

Refer to minutes.

#### K. Aging – K. Pesce

Next meeting will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, Classic Residence in Yonkers with budget priorities as the agenda topic.

L. Budget – P. Friedman

Committee budget priorities are due by May 30<sup>th</sup>.

M. Education – S. Alexander

1. Refer to Committee minutes.
2. No April meeting, next meeting is May 24<sup>th</sup>.
3. Letter mailed inviting the new Chancellor Dennis Walcott to the May Education Committee.
4. Principal from 141 has declined invite due to conflict with graduation, will look to September.

N. Economic Development – M. Khury

1. Last meeting covered “Non Profits”. Thanked P. Mullins for preparation of minutes.
2. Next meeting will be held on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at Sotheby’s. Will have final review for Arts Festival.
3. Concerned with ticketing of small business owners, invited Consumer Affairs to committee meeting to clarify review process.

O. Environment and Sanitation – S. Scheinbach

1. Refer to minutes.
2. Passover dumpster will be placed at Riverdale Jewish Center on the morning of April 18<sup>th</sup> and removed by 2:00 PM. Thanked Department of Sanitation (DSNY) for their cooperation.
3. DSNY cleaned dumpsite at Bailey Avenue and Ft. Independence. Con Ed removed boysenberry creeping up phone line. The Greenstreet requested at that location should be completed by 2012 following reconstruction of Bailey Avenue retaining wall project.
4. Former Board member B. Trebach has reported 54 pot holes.
5. Illegal postings on the rise again.
6. NYS Hydrofracking hearing was in news.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning  
Community Associate