

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 20, 2013 AT BOARD'S OFFICE

PRESENT

Sergio Marquez
Laura Spalter
Robert Press
Tom Durham

AFFILIATION

CB8, Chair
CB8, Vice Chair
CB8

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes of the February 20, 2013 meeting was approved after they were amended.

Paragraph 2 (2) on page two (2) of the Minutes was amended as follows:
"The Service Line Protection Program (SLPP) is a private program that is being administered by AWR (American Water Resources), a private company in partnership with NYC DEP," was added to the Minutes and became the second sentence of this paragraph. The prior second sentence and now the third sentence of this paragraph were amended as follows: [The Service Line Protection Plan is not insurance and it is not a City program] and only houses of one to three families are eligible. "As such, City and State taxes are applicable to the program cost which the customer bears," was added to the minutes and became the fifth sentence of this paragraph. The prior fifth sentence and now the sixth sentence are amended as follows: The initial cost of this program is minimal but it will not remain the same [the cost is not tied to the water rate increase].

Chair's Report

In response to a question posed to Effie Ardizzone, representative from DEP, at the February 20, 2013, meeting was whether the DEP would supply the 50th precinct with noise meters. Her response was that the NYPD must purchase its own meters. Ms. Ardizzone, however, did state that the DEP could possibly go to the police precincts and provide tutoring in use of the noise meters. Being that noise complaints are the number one complaint in Bronx Community Board 8, it was suggested that a joint (with Public Safety and Traffic and Transportation) capital budget request be made to purchase noise meters for the 50th precinct.

Regarding the cleaning of the site underneath the Promenade building, will follow-up with Chuck Moerdler to get a status report of the Metro North Railroad's efforts to clean the tracks and the roadbed adjoining the site. A letter was sent to Donna James, the President of the Tenants' Association of the Promenade informing her of the dumping at this site. Ms. James said that she would pass on this letter to the management company of the Promenade. Ms. James asked that this Committee assist in getting the sidewalks leading to the Promenade that are covered with dog feces cleaned. Someone suggested that the creation of a home owner's association or a civic group in Marble Hill could also address this problem. Finally, Ms. James said that there will be a Town Hall meeting in Marble Hill on April 10, 2013, where

Sanitation and other issues affecting the Promenade will be discussed.

Vice Chair's Report

Laura Spatter reviewed the Hansen Reports for 2012-2013 and found that the major complaints were clogged sewers and noise, which were the same complaints logged for 2011-2012. Laura recommended that last year's DEP budget requests be resubmitted this year but have these requests moved up the priority list. Laura also noted that the next big complaint is the hydrants either they are running or leaking. The Committee needs to find out which City agency is responsible for the maintenance of the hydrants. Someone suggested contacting DEP and the Fire Department. The District Manager can inquire regarding same at the next district cabinet meeting.

New Business

Tom Durham stated that DEP has started a program for all residential dwellings where they need to have "back flow prevention meters". These meters are very expensive especially for the apartment buildings. These meters prevent contaminate water from entering the domestic water system of the building. DEP should have some literature on this program.

New Business

Which City agency handles gas leak complaints? The Chair will question DEP regarding this complaint and will inform the District Manager to raise this question at the next district cabinet meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17th, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. at the Board's office.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergio Marquez, Chair
Environment & Sanitation Committee