

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2012
AT THE RIVERDALE TEMPLE, 4545 INDEPENDENCE STREET**

Board Members of the Committee present:

Rosemary Ginty, Committee Chair
Laura Spalter, Vice-Chair
Sylvia Alexander
Robert Press
Pedro Reyes
Thailary Lim

Also in attendance:

Andrew Sandler, Council Member Oliver Koppell's Office
Brendan McHugh, Riverdale Press
Angel Ortega, Building Superintendent-Briar Oaks
Rafael Lanfranco, River House
Thomas Giallorenzi, Resident

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
The minutes of the December 15th meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- The Chair updated the committee on the issue of hydrofracking. The comment period has now closed and DEC received 20,800 comments. The USEPA put in a 26-page document on the last day recommending among other things that the Public Service Commission should have a voice in the review, no-drill zones around water supplies should be larger and there should be stricter handling of drilling wastewater. NYC's consultant, Hager-Richter Geoscience Inc., completed a study and recommended a 7-mile buffer (Exclusion Zone) for the city's water supply infrastructure and an Enhanced Protection Zone of 2-7 miles in addition.. Lastly, the governor's budget does not include any new revenues from hydrofracking, possibly indicating the length of time that will be needed to finalize the EIS.
- Community Day Clean-Up Update – A meeting has now been scheduled for February 1st with Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez to discuss the possibility of a DSNY clean-up day in Marble Hill. The Chair and Pedro Reyes will attend the meeting.

Alternate Side of the Street Parking Request for Henry Hudson Parkway West between West 239th Street and West 246th Street.

A series of letters were received concerning a resident's request that alternate side of the street parking be instituted on the west side of the Henry Hudson Parkway between West 239th Street and West 246th Street for street cleaning purposes. The Chair wrote to the resident who requested the change about the date, time and place of this committee meeting.

There was one speaker, Mr. Angel Ortega, the building superintendent for Briar Oaks. He spoke in favor of instituting ASP to make it easier for his workers to clean the required 18" into the street. The existing parking regulations on the street were discussed as were the number of cars regularly parked there, which are between 40 and 44. The Chair noted that the Scorecard rating for street cleanliness for this fiscal year is 98% for community board # 8. The committee concurred that there was not sufficient evidence for us to recommend the institution of ASP for this stretch of Henry Hudson Parkway. Concerns were expressed about the unintended consequences of such a decision.

Three other issues were raised which the committee wants to communicate to the Traffic & Transportation Committee and the Public Safety Committee. They are:

1. People are often parking illegally in the spaces, which are needed for DSNY to collect the garbage from Briar Oaks.
2. Many cars are parked on this portion of HHP beyond the legal limit, some for months.
3. There are many car break-ins here also.

Other Business

- The Borough President is hosting a meeting of the Harlem River Working Group in his offices on January 19th at 4:00 pm. Thailary Lim volunteered to represent the community board and report at our next meeting.
- Robert Press attended the last Croton Facility Monitoring Committee meeting on January 12th. At the meeting, Bronx Borough Commissioner Hector Aponte reported that \$70 million remains for Croton-funded parks projects. A feasibility study is currently being done for a pedestrian bridge over the Major Deegan Expressway. Tree removal on the dam will be 157 trees – 77 of which are dead and 68 are on the dam. There is no information at this point about when and where the new tree-planting will take place. The filtration plant will be operational at the end of the year. Goulden Avenue will need to be closed for 8 weeks for repair work. The chairmanship of the committee will now rotate to the Chair of community board #7, Mr. Paul Foster. The next Monitoring Committee meeting will be February 16th.

The next Environment & Sanitation Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15th at the community board office.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Ginty

Chair,

Environment and Sanitation Committee