

## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

### MINUTES OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 24, 2011, AT THE BOARD OFFICE

#### PRESENT

Thomas C. Durham  
Anthony Creaney  
Colleen Hanley  
Georgia Santiagao  
Enzo Caltanizzetta  
Anita Graham  
Kristin Hart  
Brendan McHugh  
Andrew Sandler  
Natalia Trijillo

#### AFFILIATION

Cmte. Chair, CB8  
CB8  
CB8  
CB8  
Netherland Gardens  
  
Riverdale Review  
rep. Councilman G. Oliver Koppell  
Netherland Gardens

#### 1. Introductions

- A. Meeting started at 7:35 PM.
- B. Introduced all in attendance
- C. Approved the Housing Committee minutes of September 26, 2011

#### 2. Brief chairs report:

- A. Housing Committee Chairman Thomas C. Durham announced that a scheduled meeting with the residents of Marble Hill at the Promenade and the 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct is to be announced at a later date because P.O. Ramos, 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct's Community Affairs, and others have been deployed to police the wall street protesters.

#### 3. Agenda

- A. DISCUSSION ON HEATING FUEL CONVERSION FORUM.
  - a. The Community Board office (CB8) have been receiving calls in regards to the new law where buildings burning #6 heating fuel will have to stop burning this fuel by the year 2015. This is the least expensive of all the heating fuels. By the year 2030, #4 heating fuel will be outlawed leaving only #2 (Diesel) and natural gas the only legal fossil fuel options to over 10, 000 residential buildings city wide. This Environmental/Health law will challenge keeping housing affordable for residents of multi-dwellings.
  - b. The buildings that choose natural gas will impact the community by having to dig up the streets to gain access to the gas pipe. This will result in partial street closures, sidewalk detours, limit parking spaces and interrupt local work commutes and other daily errands. Most buildings will need the use of a mobile boiler placed outside while interior conversions are taking place. These mobile boilers will eliminate two to three parking spaces and add to noise pollution during overnight hours.
  - c. Representatives of the Netherland Gardens (eight buildings) in north Riverdale said that this new law is an economic nightmare for

the complex that less than six years ago installed two new #6 boiler that will soon be illegal to operate in the three years. Many buildings, in fact every building will be seeking out any and all financial help available. This is why an informational meeting is needed, to inform and educate all multi-dwelling residents and the community at large of the impact.

#### B. Old Business

- a. In regards to following up on security cameras at Marble Hill & Ft. Independence/Bailey NYCHA, Councilman Cabrera has pledged money. The chairman will seek to meet with the Councilman to see what timetable can be established to make this happen. The committee discussed some of the latest security problems within Marble Hill. Committee member Georgia Santiago provided the committee with the list of Marble Hill's building identification number system with their corresponding street addresses.
- b. Kristin Hart updated the committee with the latest news in the Van Cortlandt Village (VCV) and Kingsbridge Heights (KBH) neighborhoods. Our discussion evolved around two issues. The investigating of the neighborhoods for becoming landmarked as a Historical District and the status of the vacant completed supported house 3882 Cannon Place. The chair informed Ms. Hart that the Committee will hold a future housing meeting in KBH's neighborhood so that we can receive more community input on these issues and support Ft. Independence Park Neighborhood Association (FIPNA) fundraising for the dollar to dollar grant they received to finance the exploration of the neighborhoods becoming historic districts.

#### B. New Business

- a. Mr. Andrew Sandler, representing Councilman Koppell's office brought two items before the Housing Committee. The first was a letter received by our elected official over the weekend from the U.S. Postal Service inviting the community to a public hearing in regards to the closing of the Fieldston Sub-Station located on W.238 Street between Waldo and Greystone Avenues. Mr. Sandler strongly urged us to get the word out because the Councilman thought it was unfair and illegal to give the community such short notice. The notice was delivered on Monday of the same week for the Wednesday hearing. The Community must come out in large numbers to show the Post Office that there is strong support to keep this station opened. The second item was presented at the Committee's September meeting; the issue of the Smoke Free Bronx campaign that is being supported by our local elected officials. This Message will be carried on November 16<sup>th</sup> in a town hall meeting at the YM/YWHA jointly with Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz and Councilman Oliver Koppell. Mr. Sandler invited the Housing Chairman as a guest panelist.
- b. Committee member Colleen Hanley would like a future agenda of the Housing Committee to address the issue of unregistered Co-op apartments. Ms. Hanley has discovered that some stock certificate holder apartments are not in the name of the residents who bought and

occupy the apartments that they are living in. The apartments are registered in a third party name. Ms. Hanley would like to know the extent of this practice and if the residents in our district know the status of their apartments which they call home.

- c. CB8 Chairman Mr. Robert Fanuzzi would like the Committee to check into a program that will assist financially troubled Mitchell-Lama apartment buildings. The Housing Chairman will have more information at the Executive Committee meeting.

#### 4. Adjournment

- A. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM
  - a. Next Housing meeting is scheduled Monday, November 28, 2011.

Submitted by,

Thomas C. Durham  
Chair, Housing Committee