BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD APRIL 16th, 2013 AT THE BOARD OFFICE

PRESENT Daniel Padernacht Robert Press Sylvia Alexander Bob Bender Andrew Cohen Arlene G. Feldmeier Beverly Fettman Michael Heller Maria Khury Georgia Santiago Daniel Johnson Andrew Sandler Carlos Camacho Jose Paulino	AFFILIATION CB8, Committee Chair CB8, Committee Vice Chair CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 CB8 rep. Assemblyman Dinowitz rep. Councilman Koppell All Town All Town
Flor Montero	All Town
Hector Diaz Tammy Toro	All Town All Town
Linda Manning	

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Dan Padernacht.

SAPO permit application for Cayuga Avenue Block Party:

Michael Pinney

Michael Pinney of the 4414 Cayuga Avenue tenants association said that the event has gone on for 8 or 9 years. Food is brought and shared by the block residents. Half of the block is closed off near the co-op building at 4414 Cayuga Avenue. Non alcoholic beverages are served and there have been no reports of inconvenience to anyone in the past. Andrew Sandler of Councilman Koppell's office noted that a block party is open to the public. Mr. Pinney concurred.

The committee voted 6 in favor (S. Alexander, B. Bender, M. Heller, D. Padernacht, R. Press, G. Santiago); 0 against; and 1 abstention (M. Khury for cause).

All Town Limo Corp. appeared to request community board comment for a new taxi business in the area. Mr. Hector Diaz appeared with four business associates and gave a presentation to the committee regarding their livery business. Their office/base station would be located at 244 West 231th Street and the cars would be garaged at 2820 Bailey Avenue. Mr. Diaz said that 15 late model cars would be used. Mr. Diaz and his team have worked for other car companies in the past.

A question of the Community Board's role came up since the Board received no notice from the Taxi and Limousine Commission but only a request for comment by All Town Limo Corp. The Chair stated that he would look into this matter.

A question arose about how the base station would look. It was stated that there would be no antenna as the service was going to use cell phones and tablets to dispatch cars from the Bailey Avenue garage. There would be a plain storefront and no cars will be parked or standing in front of the office. There will be no street hails by the cars. Discounts will be offered on certain days for certain customers (i.e., senior citizen days). May 2013 is the applicant's goal to open and they are awaiting TLC approval. TLC is awaiting comments from the community board and local police precinct.

As discussion continued, there was confusion about the number of cars and the company's contract for spaces in the garage which ranged from 15-75. Other questions arose such as the pricing, hiring of drivers, dress code, background checks, business ownership, noise levels and the anticipated time frame to receive approval from the TLC. After several more comments and questions Chairman Padernacht asked to lay this matter over to the May 21st meeting and that Mr. Diaz bring the material that the committee had asked to see.

The vote was 7 in favor of laying the matter over, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

Old Business- The street repaving list should be made up by the next committee meeting. The chair will ask the District Manager to take last year's list and remove any street that was repaved so the committee can see what streets remained and then add new ones.

Handicap curb cuts on Broadway between West 225th and West 231th streets have the cement crumbling and need to be repaired. In response board/committee member M. Heller mentioned that the entire city infrastructure is in bad shape, and he mentioned the unique quality of the roads in Florida which he has just visited.

New Business- Board member B. Fettman asked the committee to look at a part of Arlington Avenue at 260th Street where the street ends into an area that cannot be driven on. She stressed that fire engines and ambulances have to back out of the area and the residents do have that as a way to exit. After looking at several maps, it was determined that there is a gap where Arlington Avenue ends and subsequently picks up as Independence Avenue. It was noted that the area might be privately owned. The chair will look into this matter and place it on next month's agenda.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved as written 6 - 0 - 1 as M. Khury abstained due to not attending the March meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Minutes submitted by Vice- Chair Robert Press.

Minutes submitted by,

Robert Press, Vice Chair Traffic & Transportation Committee