

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON JULY 20, 2017  
50<sup>TH</sup> POLICE PRECINCT, 3450 KINGSBRIDGE AVENUE**

**PRESENT**

Mary Yamagata  
Margaret Donato  
Myra Joyce  
Joseph O'Brien  
Diego Santiago  
Jyll Townes

**AFFILIATION**

CB8 Public Safety Committee (Chair)  
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Suad Hassan  
Laurence Addeo  
John Spinnelli  
Denise Shannon  
Genesis Henriquez  
Brian Downey  
Ping "Bobby" Liu  
Carmen Cruz  
Sydela Blatt  
Elsa Ballines  
Georgia Santiago

NIDC  
Skyclub Cafe  
Skyview Board of Directors  
Community Resident  
Khalle Bar & Grill  
Tin Brothers  
Kai Fan Asian Cuisine  
Community Resident  
Community Resident  
Metate Restaurant  
Community Board 8

Absent: Diomarys Escaño, Herb Young

Chair Yamagata called the meeting to order at 7:00. Committee members were introduced.

Minutes for the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved unanimously (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

Detective Inspector O'Toole gave the police report:

Update on the death of 2 toddlers at Van Cortlandt Park. There have been no arrests and it might be a while until there is. Investigation is ongoing.

2 New cameras have been installed at 230<sup>th</sup> Street. One on Broadway and second on Exterior Street. There was a traffic fatality at that intersection.

**28 day CompStat report ending July 16.**

	2017	2016
Murder	2	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	10	8
Felony Assault	12	10
Burglary	6	14
Grand Larceny	33	36
Grand Larceny Auto	10	10
Total	73	78

Diego Santiago asked about debit card skimming at ATMs. He spoke about a YouTube video showing how scammers are putting plastic covers over the card slot. DI O'Toole showed a PowerPoint presentation about the scam. Scammers install cameras to record PINs and a device to intercept data. ATMs in hotels and stores seem to be hit a lot, as well as ATMs in higher income neighborhoods.

DI O'Toole also mentioned the new mailboxes that have slots for mail. They are less vulnerable to theft.

Margaret Donato asked about the new homeless shelter at 5731 Broadway. The initial plan was for commercial use & market rate residential housing. It was just disclosed a week ago that the building will be housing homeless families.

The concern in the neighborhood is how can community members to protect themselves. DI O'Toole stated that the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) has its own police. If shelter residents are found trespassing, management of neighboring properties have to file affidavits.

Community resident Carmen Cruz requested formation of an advisory committee to monitor what's going on there. She asked that they put spotlights on the roof of the building since it is quite dark in the area.

DI O'Toole said the Mayor stated at a recent town hall that a large number of people are supposed to be from the Bronx or within the Community Board area. We already have homeless facilities in the precinct. The Mayor wants to do away with cluster housing: 4 or 5 families in an apartment building. Mary Yamagata said that we will stay on top of this situation.

Denise Shannon asked about lack of double-parking enforcement on Kingsbridge Ave. DI O'Toole said many summonses have been given, but he is aware that enforcement is not consistent. Double parking is a problem throughout the neighborhood.

Margaret Donato spoke about the vendors on 234<sup>th</sup> Street. Officers try to move them along. The Department of Consumer Affairs and the Department of Sanitation should be contacted.

## **SLA License Requests**

### **New License**

**Skyclub Café**, 5701 Arlington Avenue

Lawrence Addeo representing

Skyclub Café is located in the Skyview co-op community. The club is private and only open to Skyview residents. The beer & wine will be kept behind the counter. IDs will be checked when beverages are purchased.

Myra Joyce, resident of Skyview, stated her concern about underage youth making purchases. She strongly suggested that they purchase an ID scanner that will detect fake IDs. Mr. Addeo said that he would purchase one.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

**Tin Brothers**, 5790 Mosholu Avenue

Brian Downey

Took over Kelly Ryan's. In addition to the bar, there is party room on the side. Neighborhood bar. Similar menu to Kelly Ryan's, same hours. None of the owners Kelly Ryan's personnel is involved

with the new establishment.

Samantha Lee is a partner with Brian Downey.

They agreed to closing at 2 am for the first year.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

### **Renewal Applications**

**Metate**, 3515 Johnson Avenue

Elsa Ballines representing

According to DI O'Toole there have been no problems at the location. It is a family restaurant.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

**Beccofino**, 5704 Mosholu Avenue

No one was present to represent the restaurant.

DI O'Toole stated that Beccofino is a fine establishment, liquor is not a problem. Most of the committee members are familiar with the restaurant.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

**Bronx Burger House**, 5816 Mosholu Avenue

Owners of Beccofino also own Bronx Burger House

Full bar

DI O'Toole stated that there have been no problems at the location.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

**Kai Fan**, 3717 Riverdale Ave

Ping "Bobby" Liu, owner, representing

Kosher-Asian restaurant

They have been at the location for 2 years. There have not been any problems.

In favor of approval: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

### **Miscellaneous Business**

**Novelty Nachos**, 318 W. 231<sup>st</sup> Street

Seems they put up outdoor seating, but their license doesn't include outdoor seating, and they never applied for sidewalk license.

He needs to apply to Traffic & Transportation and Department of Consumer Affairs for sidewalk café seating.

**Khalle Bar & Grill**, 3638 Bailey Avenue

Genesis Henriquez representing

Requesting extension of open hours to 4am.

This location was the source of noise complaints and they appeared before the Public Safety Committee previously about the noise issue. They were advised to lower music, which they did.

There have been no more complaints and the tenants in the nearby buildings are satisfied with the noise level. Ms. Henriquez understands that the only person that will suffer is the owner of the establishment.

In favor of allowing Khalle Bar & Grill to remain open until 4:00am: Unanimous (M. Yamagata, M.

Donato, J. O'Brien, D. Santiago, J Townes, M. Joyce)

**Budget Item Requests**

Chair Yamagata asked DI O'Toole if they want to continue the Argus cameras. Yes, and requested more cameras along the commercial corridors of Broadway, Johnson Avenue and Riverdale Avenue. Will submit a request for 10 locations.

Capital budget – Request lights on top of 5731 Broadway and on the roof of the Precinct station house.

Carmen Cruz spoke about stores on Broadway putting speakers outside and blasting music into street. DI O'Toole said she should call 311. Must have a permit for speakers outside.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Submitted, pending approval by Myra Joyce