

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2014 AT THE 50TH POLICE PRECINCT, 3450 KINGSBRIDGE AVENUE

ATTENDANCE

Arlene Feldmeier
Robert Press
Margaret Donato
Philip Friedman
Joseph O'Brien
Gary Singleton
Herbert Young
Myra Joyce
Les Judd
Captain Johnny Orsellana
Lt. Fodor

AFFILIATION

Chair
Vice Chair
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
Community Member
Neighbors of Manhattan College
NYPD
NYPD

The meeting was held at the 50th Police Precinct, and was called to order by Chair Feldmeier at 7:08 PM. There was an introduction of the members and audience, and the October minutes were approved unanimously. The chair introduced the new Executive officer at the 50th Precinct, Captain Johnny Orsellana, and Lt. Foder of Special OPS.

The chair report was about a 911 call on November 3rd. CB 8 Board member Phil Friedman observed a robbery and assault by 3 men on a victim on Johnson Avenue 10 feet in front of him. He said that he called 911, and was refused service because he was not the one being assaulted. Captain Orsellana said that he never heard of that, and that a representative from 911 would be at the next meeting. Lt. Foder mentioned incidents on West 238th Street including 5 people who were taken in, and 2 more after further investigation. He said that one person was out on parole, and was caught with a loaded gun in his home who is now in jail. However bail is set low so many are back on the street. Lt. Foder said that the attacks are random and anyone who is distracted can become a victim. There were 11 arrests in all, but many of all arrests are plead down to lesser crimes, most without bail time, only a fine if any. The board member is angry at 911 not the 50th Pct.

Next was a discussion of the events that go on at VCP and traffic problems on Broadway by the events. Lt. Foder said that the 50 has a police car placed at the area during event time. The officers of the 50th support the mayor's initiative of Vision Zero, and an officer is dedicated to monitoring night time speeding.

Liquor License Renewals

1. Sante Fe Grill - 6025 Broadway – no show
2. Mr. Vigg's - 5670 Mosholu Avenue Owner has operated establishment since 2006, is looking to cater to an older crowd, not college students, hours vary 1 AM weekdays – 2 or 3 AM on weekends, and is also a teacher at PS 24. Some food is served.
3. Ibiza Lounge - 220 West 242nd Street – Weekend club, room downstairs for fundraisers, will be open 7 days a week, in house events no outside

promoters, has redone the lounge adding more soundproofing with thick heavy front door glass as per floor plan shown to Chair. Dancing will occur downstairs only, as there is a cabaret license #1134408. Chair spoke of the past history of establishment and who was running it. Owner is TIP certified, has taken training and intervention programs.

4. Raine Lounge - 170 West 233rd Street – Owner said the restaurant part is now open as his kitchen is fully open. It is now a Mediterranean bar and grill that had a shooting outside last year, but the owner is working with the 50th Pct. To advise of special events. The chair mentioned an advertisement on the website with the words 'Uptown Sexiest Night Club'. Owner said it was from 2010, and that he is changing from a lounge into a restaurant with some lounge events. The owner agreed to no adult advertising with the chair, and no dancing. There are private promoters, mostly birthday or corporate parties mentioning a few local merchants. Lt. Foder assured the committee that Raine works with the 50th Pct.

New Applications

1. Gleason's Sports Bar Inc. - 6115 Broadway – Michael Logan new owner appeared with his agent Eliot Pollack who said that this is a new license not a renewal, the owner has been in the business field for about 10 years, and has many ideas for this establishment. There will be no private promotions, only government issued Identification will be accepted for admittance, and a scanner will be purchased. Hours 10 AM – 2:30 AM weekdays, 3 AM weekends. Owner mentioned that any drunk patrons will be sent home by Uber taxi, and he will have a full menu.
2. Villa Ole – 218 West 242nd Street – Latin/Chinese – Cuban/Chinese menu. Will only be a family restaurant with full wine, beer and liquor served. Hours 3 PM – 12 PM, 7 days a week. This is next to Ibiza Lounge and has the same owner.
3. Asian Tokyo – 4685 Manhattan College Parkway – This is the old massage parlor space downstairs from the Lounge which was closed for many reasons. This will be just a restaurant with beer and wine only, 30 seats, 11 AM – 10 PM as a family business.
4. Moss Cafe 3260 Johnson Avenue – Old Chinese restaurant to be converted into a farm to table restaurant serving high caliber cuisine. Soup, salads, sandwiches, coffee, beer, and wine. Opening January 2015 featuring an espresso bar, and will be certified Kosher.

Mr. Les Judd of 'Neighbors of Manhattan College' spoke of the drunken antics of many Manhattan College students which he said included urination and vandalism in and of the area. Mr. Judd added that he has spoken with the 50th Pct., Manhattan College, and now CB 8. Next he will talk to the elected officials to see that this problem with the students ends. The Chair praised Lt. Foder for his work over the past few weeks to control this problem. The college is to install cameras on West 238th Street and hire security to patrol the area. Lt. Foder mentioned that the 50th Pct. has a plan of action, but could not discuss it at this time since it is ongoing and he will be able to give the results at the next meeting. He added that the 50th Pct. closed down the Bottom Line Bar on Bailey Avenue due to underage drinking. The chair ended the discussion by adding that Mr. Judd has said that things are getting better.

Lt. Foder then mentioned crime prevention tips on burglar proofing your house. Lights, dogs, limiting visitors you don't know, i.e. delivery and service people. Do not advertise

that you are going away on social media, do not leave a house key in easy to find areas, keep car doors locked, and a light on in the garage when parking. He stressed not to confront a burglar who just wants to run away from you. Call the police and let them do their job.

Vote on liquor licenses

1. Sante Fe - laid over due to no show.
2. Mr. Vigg's – 5670 Mosholu Avenue

Vote 5 in favor, 1 Abstention and 1 Abstention with cause

In Favor - A. Feldmeier, J. O'Brien, G. Singleton, M. Donato,
Community Committee member M. Joyce

Abstention with cause – R. Press

Abstention - H. Young

The rest were all approved 7 – 0 – 0.

Minutes submitted by Vice-Chair R. Press for approval or revisions.