

## MINUTES

JANUARY 8, 1980 MEETING

### BOARD OF CORRECTION

A regular meeting of the New York City Board of Correction was held on January 8, 1980 in the Conference Room of Fox, Glynn, & Melamed, 299 Park Avenue, 30th floor, New York, New York.

In attendance were Chairman Peter Tufo, Vice-Chairman John Horan, Mr. Angelo Giordani, Mr. David Lenefsky, Mr. David Schulte and Mrs. Rose M. Singer.

An excused absence for Mr. Wilbert Kirby requested by Mrs. Singer was approved.

Board staff present were Michael Austin, Sherry Goldstein, Judith LaPook and Joseph Smith.

Peter Tufo chaired the meeting and Sherry Goldstein served as secretary.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

The minutes of the December 11, 1979 meeting were adopted.

The meeting opened with a discussion of the Board's Report to the Mayor. The Chairman suggested that the report could, if necessary, be put in a different format before it is widely distributed. He stated that staff would be following up with Chemical Bank in order to have the report printed in an appropriate format.

Mrs. Singer stated that it might be helpful to summarize the report for public consumption.

Mr. Horan stated that he thought the report was good.

Mr. Tufo stated that on January 14, 1980 he would be meeting with Deputy Commissioner Mark Corrigan to discuss the Department's progress and intentions concerning minimum standards compliance. He indicated that anyone was welcome to attend.

A discussion followed on what possible steps might be taken regarding the Department's compliance efforts. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed again after the Chairman's meeting with Deputy Commissioner Corrigan.

Mr. Tufo then reported on his Christmas Eve visit to H.D.M. He described the atmosphere as sullen and dangerous. He stated that many new officers were assigned who might not be as sensitive to this change in mood.

Mrs. Singer stated that she had a different feeling from the Women's House. She said the residents were more outspoken than ever before and had a lack of respect for authority. She also indicated that there was a need for correction officer training in human relations.

Mr. Tufo stated that although the correction officer training program is one week longer now, the quality of the program requires careful examination.

Mr. Austin stated that several staff initiatives had been taken in the area of training. Board staff was making a presentation on minimum standards as part of the new recruit training and the interagency mental health task force also was focusing attention on training.

Mr. Austin stated that the grievance program was not yet operational because the paperwork for hiring the director was still being processed. He added that it was essential that the project be implemented soon.

Mr. Schulte offered to inquire about this delay. It was agreed that Mr. Schulte would call Peggy Davis and discuss the problem with her.

Mr. Austin reported on a meeting between Board staff and Deputy Commissioner Schall and the Department's Conditions of Confinement Unit to discuss outstanding compliance issues. In addition, he indicated that juvenile offenders were no longer being housed on Rikers Island.

Ms. LaPook reported the following on the status of Tombs renovation plans:

The office of Management and Budget signed off on the plan; and a bridge was being considered to connect with 100 Centre St. to gain additional space for recreation.

She further reported that the Queens Community Planning Board was scheduled to hold public hearings concerning the proposed Rikers Island transfer on January 24, 1980. The most recent projected date for Board of Estimate consideration of the proposal is March 15, 1980.

Mr. Lenefsky asked if there was a final lease yet.

Ms. LaPook stated they were still working on the final lease, the FDC contract and the payment procedures. She said that this Thursday, (January 10, 1980) the Board of Estimate would consider a proposal to release some monies to allow FDC and the architects to begin a full scale master planning effort.

Mr. Lenefsky asked if the issue concerning sentenced prisoners was decided yet?

Ms. LaPook stated that to her knowledge it was still an open question.

Mr. Tufo stated that the State had made a commitment that it would take the sentenced prisoners at nominal cost to the city.

Ms. LaPook indicated that all the open issues would have to be finalized before the Board of Estimate hearings.

A discussion followed on security aspects of the glass to be used for windows in the Tombs. Mr. Schulte expressed strong reservations about it being secure in a real situation. It was suggested that Mr. Schulte visit the architects to discuss the security of the glass.

It was agreed that Board members would give Ms. LaPook any comments they have regarding the draft Rikers Island Report as soon as possible.

Ms. LaPook was asked to report on feedback that she received at the next Board meeting.

A brief discussion ensued on the COBA lawsuit against the Department concerning the correction officer overtime issue.

The next Board meeting was tentatively scheduled for either February 12th or February 13, 1980 in the event that the former date turned out to be a city holiday. It was agreed that this meeting would be held in the Board of Correction Conference Room at 2:30 P.M.

The Board went into Executive Session at 2:50 P.M.