



COMMUNITY BOARD NUMBER 1

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LAND USE & HOUSING COMMITTEE

MEETING

OCTOBER 4, 2006

MINUTES

Attendance: Arline Parks, Lydia Adams, Betty Bryant, Juan DeJesus, Herman Francis, Jr., Lucas Henriquez, Myrna Lewis, Estelle Loud, Leslie Lyga, Gilberto Rivera, Carmen Santos, Betty Wessley, Burnestha Wilder, Delores Waller-Worrell

Others Present: Jacob Morris, S.B.B., Rodney Leon, Aarris Architect, LLP, Winifred Campbell, HPD, Sid Miller, The Haven Heights Group, Earl Majette, JAM Investment Group

Aarris Architects

Mr. Jacob Morris, S.B.B. said that the Science Learning Center is a community project with the mission of meeting the educational and social needs of the underserved youth in the Bronx. The goal is to provide a first class learning center for children and their families offering a broad spectrum of quality educational and inspirational experiences at a price all can afford. The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is willing to come up with 90% of the money in triple no interest bonds.

Proposed site is Garrison Park the area between 144th & 149th Street next to Hostos Community College and a public school PS 31. The proposed project name is the Bronx Planetarium and Science Center.

The proposal is to create a new state of the art Planetarium and multi disciplinary Digital Theatre with 3-dimensional computer imagery. Provide a state of the art Science Park Playground where children can learn and reinforce the important principals of science while they are actively engaged and having fun. To produce a broad spectrum of sound scientific and educational experiences geared to specific age and achievement levels from preschool through college supporting and aligning with state and national curricula. The establishment of an international network of cooperative educational institutions that

Pg. #2

come together for to share their resources, new programs, materials, and the cost effective distribution of new programs and materials.

To offer auxiliary exhibit and classroom spaces with computer and video linkages to other learning and science centers as well as such organizations as NASA. Providing an on-site Astronomical Observatory that is equipped with the appropriate tools to allow children, families, and the general public to view real time images of the sun by day also observe the moon, planets, distant star clusters and to follow the progress of magnetic storms and other solar phenomena.

It will be carefully designed to maximize usage, attendance and income through the offering of a wide variety of additional programming from live science demonstrations to special lectures by noted astronauts and scientists.

Mr. Rodney Leon, President Aarris Architect, LLP provided a power point presentation.

The Haven Heights Group

Mr. Sid Miller said I want to introduce you to a new housing project East 134th Street, between Bruckner Boulevard & Willow Avenue it was a five-story 37 ft. wide walkup that had been vacant and abandoned. It has just been rehabbed and converted into 21 luxury lofts. Of the twenty apartments eighteen have been rented and the tenancy is mainly from the arts, painters, musicians, and web designers. There are two to three apartments still available. Rents range from \$1,100 to \$1,450.

The building was built in 1900 renovation was started in February of this year and the building is 75% occupied.

The Haven Heights Group is the exclusive renting agent.

JAM Investment Group

Mr. Earl Majette said I work with a couple of core companies to bring a variety of projects the first of which is a home mortgage tailored for Bronx residents. That will significantly limit the cost they would have to pay to obtain a mortgage vis-a-vie appraisal cost, and the application fee. This is an effort to make obtaining a home mortgage a lot easier for Bronx residents.

Also working with a company that if you have a credit score as low as 680 you could qualify to obtain a signature loan from \$10,000 up to \$500,000 dollars. There are other loans that could possibly be obtained for a score as low as 620.

Pg. #3

In partnership with an auditing firm that will audit businesses for free of charge so that they might save some money that they might have spent on Workmen's Compensation and gas or electric usage.

Offer a variety of business services, lending products and trying to mix real business applications with community service.

The website for mortgages is www.tnbconling.net , and for free auditing services can log onto [financial recovery services.org](http://financialrecovery.org).

Meeting adjourned.