



COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX
2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2
BRONX, NEW YORK 10467
(212) 653-0936

Solomon J. Lirtzman,
Chairman

Thomas J. Brown,
District Manager

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 19, 1980 AT THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 by Stephen Vento, Chairman.

I. MINUTES

Sol Lirtzman stated that paragraph 2 on page 4 should be changed to paragraph 1 and paragraph 1 should become 2 in order to make sense.

Bill Liblick stated that a motion that he had made about having a gallery session and was asked to table, did not appear in the minutes.

Motion by Sol Lirtzman - Second by Dom Castore - that the minutes be accepted as corrected.

Accepted Unanimously.

II. GUESTS

Steve introduced Bob Krakow of the New York Public Interest Research Group. Bob told the Board that he works for the New York Public Interest Research Group's City Alliance. He explained that City Alliance is a fuel buying co-op. Bob said that his group gets homeowners together to bargain for lower prices on oil. He stated that this can lower the cost of oil by 5¢ or more a gallon. He also stated that in an average home this can mean a savings of \$75 or more annually. Bob told the Board that some groups have achieved price savings of 10-20¢ a gallon. He said that the distributor bills the purchaser directly, as is currently done except that the group buying results in lower costs to each individual in the group plan. Bob said that the only problem was that of a service contract which the purchaser now has with the distributor. He said that he would be able to negotiate a service contract with the distributor at a discount price.

The following questions were asked:

- Q. Is the group restricted to homeowners? A. Not restricted to homeowners, but that is the main aim of group buying, as the greatest need is in the individual buyer sector of the market.
- Q. Could the Planning Board get landlords to contact the group? A. Landlords would not be included unless they promised to pass the savings along to the tenants.

Q. Is gas buying included? A. Not as of now, but maybe later.

Bob circulated a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in group fuel buying. He also said those interested could attend one or both of the area wide meetings. They are to be held:

July 10 in Williamsbridge, at 7:30 P.M., at the Saint Luke's Church - 661 East 219th Street

July 16 in Parkchester, at 7:30 P.M., at the Saint Paul's Evangelical Church - 1891 McGraw Avenue

Bob then told the Board that anyone interested could call Sylvia Pirini or Pam Fairchild. Bob stated that he hoped that the Board would join the group.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Steve thanked Shirley, Myra, and Ruth for filling in for him in the last three months, and commended them for the work they have done as officers.

IV. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom told the Board that he had gone to the joint Board of Estimate-City Council Public Hearing on the Budget and gave testimony. He also said that he had received a letter from the Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway in reference to its annual Salute to Israel Festival to be held in the Oscar Comras Mall and Trojan Field, and that it is asking the Board to help by requesting assistance from the Police and Parks Department in certain matters.

Steve told Tom to proceed with making the requests.

Tom reported that the Board had received an application for a concession at Trojan Field for a frankfurter push cart. Tom stated that Mr. Andrew Panagiotopoulos lives on Taylor Avenue, and Parks would like the Board's opinion on this placement.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein, Second by Abe Pereira - That the Planning Board #11 recommend the approval of the Permit to Andrew Panagiotopoulos for the selling of hot dogs and related refreshments at Trojan Field provided that the right to revoke this permit shall be retained; that this shall not preclude the granting of permits to others to sell food at special events and that sanitary conditions are maintained.

Passed overwhelmingly.

Tom said that he has also received a Street Activity Permit request from Mr. Eddie Hernandez of Taylor Avenue. Tom stated that this event has been held by them for the last four years and that last year was the first time they came to the Board. Tom stated that 500 people are expected on Saturday, July 19 from 8:30 P.M. - 11:00 P.M., with a rain date of July 26. Tom said that they want to close Taylor Avenue between Van Nest Avenue and Morris Park Avenue. Tom said that last year they submitted a petition, but that as of today they had not. He requested that the Board approve this application, pending a petition, as there were not complaints last year.

Ruth questioned the need for a petition as this was the same group and the same activity as last year. Dr. Velezquez felt that a petition was needed as it is a changing neighborhood.

Steve said that the newspaper article on the Board's policy on Street Permits stated that the Board needs petitions.

Motion by Dom Castore, Second by Leslie McHenry That the application by Mr. Eddie Hernandez to close Taylor Avenue between Van Nest Avenue and Morris Park Avenue on July 19 from 8:30 P.M. - 11:00 P.M. be approved.

Approved Unanimously.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Land Use Committee

a. Application to change the legal grade on streets bounded by Gun Hill Road, Mace Avenue, Lodovick Avenue and Eastchester Road (C 790542 MMX)

Steve Lovitch told the Board that his committee had met last week with Walter Zimmerman. He stated that at the Public Hearing the residents asked questions as to how this change would affect their property. Steve stated that people at the meeting were not properly prepared to ask questions, and he recommended that in the future the people in the area be better informed about what is going to happen.

Motion by Tony Funigiello, Second by Sol Lirtzman That the Department of Transportation be given permission to change the legal grade of various streets bounded by Gun Hill Road as detailed in U.L.U.R.P. C 700542MMX.

For 34 Abstentions 1

Approved

b. Application to permit the construction and operation of a cable television communications system in the Bronx (C 800083VTX)

Steve told the Board that this was the second item on the agenda at the Public Hearing. He then told the Board that not until final approval is granted will the Board be able to know where they will build the tower.

Motion by Ernie Odierna, Second by Abe Pereira That the application to permit the construction and operation of a cable television communications system in the Bronx (C800083VTX) be approved.

For 30 Against 2 Abstentions 3

Approved

c. Application to permit the sale of City owned parcels (C8000292PPX)

Steve told the Board that of the 26 properties up for sale in our area 25 are unimproved and one is a multi dwelling.

Vote for Chairman

Sol Lirtzman was elected Chairman as he was unopposed.

Vote for 1st Vice Chairman

Dom Castore 28, Shirely Rubman 11
Dom Castore is the new 1st Vice Chairman.

Vote for 2nd Vice Chairman

Frank Muccioli 28, Shirley Rubman 11
Frank Muccioli is the new 2nd Vice Chariman.

Vote for Secretary

Rhoda Gogatz was elected Secretary as she was unopposed.

Vote for Treasurer

Tom Daly 23, Myra Rose 16
Tom Daly is the new Treasurer.

Sol told the Board that he would not be able to give as much time as before. He also said that the new members have not availed themselves of the training opportunity that the Borough President's Office has made available to them. He felt that they should get on a committee and work. He then said that Steve had offered the Board a lot of innovative ideas. He also said that the outgoing officers have worked very hard and that the new officers will have to work very hard to catch up. Sol said that he was very sorry that Ruth Bernstein chose not to run and he thanked her for all she had done.

Ruth suggested that the next Board meeting be set now as the Board does not meet during the summer. She suggested September 25, which would be after the Jewish Holidays. She also said that though the Board does not meet during the summer the Executive Board does meet and they would make any decisions necessary.

Bob Castellanete told the Board that there will be a special showing for Bronx leaders at the Metropolitan Museum of Art on June 26. He stated that it is opening the American Wing and that he had tickets for anyone who wanted to attend. It will be from 6 - 9 P.M.

3. Housing Committee

Simeon said that the committee met and came up with a resolution in regard to the Beth Abraham 202 Housing Project.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein - Second by Frank Muccioli - That if Community Planning Board #11 receives a commitment, in writing, from the sponsors of the Beth Abraham Housing Project, that 100 of the apartments will be reserved exclusively for senior citizens that a letter recommending approval of the project will be sent to H.U.D.

Amended that the Board request the Federal Government to reserve a subsidy fund to enable the senior citizens to pay rents for the viability of this project.

Steve said that he felt that since Community Planning Board #11 has more senior citizens than other areas we should get more money.

Overwhelmingly in favor, passed.

4. Other Committees

a. Social Services Committee

Myra told the Board that she had received a notification from the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. That F.E.G.S., Federation Employment & Guidance Service has made an application for a community residence at 2163 Muliner Avenue. She stated that it is a three story unattached brick house currently a Synagogue and residence. Myra said that the total number of residents would be ten, five from the community and five from the developmental center. She stated that they would be elderly, moderately retarded individuals and that it would be a Kosher home. Myra said that according to the guidelines that she received the Board has 40 days in which to hold a Public Hearing, which would bring us into the summer. Myra then said that she had held a Social Services meeting at 7:30 this evening and that the committee had agreed on a motion.

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Henry Yuspeh - That the Planning Board send a letter to the Office of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities asking for a postponement until Oct. 9.

Myra then informed the Board that if a postponement was denied the Board would have to hold a Public Hearing during the summer.

Rhoda stated that she was against the delay in order to stop the ugly rumors that were going around.

Myra said that she felt that her motion would stop the rumors as this action would be publicized and the facts regarding the property would become public, and that the only reason for a delay was that a lot of the community residents are away during the summer and that they should have an opportunity to voice their feeling on this residence.

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Silvio Mazzella - That the Planning Board hold a Public Hearing on this proposed community residence at 2163 Muliner Avenue on Thursday October 9.

For	33	Against	1	Abstentions	1
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Passed.

Myra then told the Board that if the extension is not granted all Board members would have to attend the Public Hearing.

Steve said that a letter would go out requesting the postponement.

b. Education and Culture

Tom told the Board that Fred Giordano, the librarian of the Allerton Branch Library has gotten a new position at New Rochelle. He commended the cooperative relationship which existed during Fred's tenure.



Ann said that at her meeting last night she was told that if Pelham Parkway Houses did not accept federalization the rents would have to be increased \$140 per apartment. She stated that the people would move out and the neighborhood would change.

Frank said that the City is trying to save money and that if the Board allowed this to happen the Bronx would deteriorate.

Bob Castellanete said that the letters should go to all elected officials and not just to the Borough President.

Ruth Bernstein said that one of the five budget requests the Planning Board had made was for money for repairs of the Pelham Parkway Houses to repair elevators and leaky roofs etc.

Ann stated that there are 1,266 apartments in the Pelham Parkway Houses.

John Ciffichiello told the Board that he lives in the Pelham Parkway Houses, and that 456 families are senior citizens who pay 25% of their income in rent while others pay more. John said that he felt that if the Federal Government takes over it can put anyone that it wants in the houses.

Motion by Frank Muccioli - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That the Community Planning Board #11, of the Bronx, go on record with written letters to the proper authorities indicating that the members of the Board are opposed to the change and takeove of the Pelham Parkway Houses.

For 37 Opposed 1 Abstentions 1

Carried.

Motion by Frank Muccioli - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That the Community Planning Board #11, of the Bronx, hold a Public Meeting on this issue as soon as possible involving the entire community.

For 34 Abstentions 1

Carried.

Steve said that press releases would go out regarding the Public Meeting as soon as a date is chosen, and that it would probably be in Columbus High School.

Tom Told the Board that he was informed by the Borough President's Office of a meeting at 1050 Allerton Avenue on Sunday, and that local officials would be there. He stated that he assumed that the Board would send a representative.

Frank said that he would go as the Board's representative from the Housing Committee.

Steve said that he would go as the Board's representative.

Rhoda reported that the Community Center of Israel had been desecrated between Saturday night and Sunday morning (June 14-15). She stated that the alleged perpetrators were arrested and will be tried. Rhoda attended a meeting tonight as the Chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway, and that the committee felt that when a trial date is set up that there be community representation at the court. She stated that one of the accused will be tried in Juvenile Court and the other two in Criminal Court.

Rhoda then told the Board that the cooperation on the part of the 47th Precinct of the Anti-Crime Unit has been excellent, and they helped in catching the alleged perpetrators. She said that she hoped that the Board would be represented at the trial.

Rabbi Konovitch told the Board that the 47th Precinct was very cooperative, beginning with the Captain all the way down. He stated that Churches and Synagogues were vandalized. He thanked the Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association for their patrol of the area. He told the Board that it was because of them that the police were able to make the arrests. Rabbi Konovitch said that this desecration and vandalism is causing people to have second thoughts about moving into our community.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Ernie Odierna - That a letter be sent to Commissioner Robert McGuire commending the excellent police work of the 47th Precinct in the apprehending of the alleged perpetrators involved in the desecration of the Community Center of Israel Synagogue located at 2440 Esplanade Avenue, and that a copy of this letter be sent to Captain DeLuca of the 47th Precinct.

Passed.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Simeon Goldstein - That at the next Executive Board meeting in July that one of the topics on the agenda be a move for the Membership Committee to remove from Community Planning Board #11 specific members due to poor attendance at mandated Public Hearings and other meetings.

Motion by Ernie Odierna - Second by Simeon Goldstein - That the Board table this motion pending the meeting of newly elected officers.

For 19 Opposed 9

Passed.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Leslie McHenry - That we have an installation dance with costs comparable to last year.

Steve appointed Rhoda to head a committee consisting of Abe Pereira, Sylvia Firshein, and Leslie McHenry.

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Shirley Rubman - That the Board Adjourn.

Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Rhoda Gogatz,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT JUNE 19, 1980 MEETING

PRESENT

Ira Alexander	Annette Marchitello
Ruth Bernstein	Silvio Mazzella
Dominic Castore	Leslie McHenry
John Cifichiello	Joseph Milone
Ben D'Agostino	Frank Muccioli
Eileen D'Allessio	Salvatore Napolitano
Thomas Daly	Ernest Odierna
Ann Danisi	Richard Orlin
Gloria DiGianni	Abraham Pereira
Sylvia Firshein	Charles Re
Barbara Fried	Joseph Reda
Anthony Funigiello	William Ricevuto
Rhoda Gogatz	Myra Rose
Simeon Goldstein	Shirley Rubman
Roy Israel	Madeline Saltaformaggio
Simon Konovitch	Jerry Santarpia
William Liblick	Clara Reyes De Velezquez
Solomon J. Lirtzman	Steve Vento
Steven Lovitch	Henry Yuspeh

Lee Mager

ABSENT

Robert Black	Blanche Comras Rifkin
Elizabeth Brown	Belle Vogel
Ruth Burko	Ruth Weiss
Edith Canato	Steven Zarkin

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:

Thomas J. Brown, District Manager
Harriet Lasky - C.P.B. #11
Bob Castellanete - Rep. Boro. Pres. Stanley Simon
Joseph Hayman - Bronx Office/City Planning

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Debby Lenhardt - Rep. Assemblyman Engel
Dick Esposito - Rep. Senator A. Bernstein

GUESTS

Sgt. Ron Hearle - 47th Precinct
Det. Tom Lyons - 47th Precinct
Sgt. George Hunt - Patrol Boro Bronx Community Affairs
Michael S. Haber - Bronx News
Amy Tomashevsky
Thal Davis - Chairman, 2424 Boston Road Senior Center
Maude E. Hayman - Van Nest Branch of the N. Y. Public Library