

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 JANUARY 15, 1981

AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by Sol Lirtzman, Chairman.

Sol welcomed and introduced the five new members to the Planning Board. They are Lew Goldstein, Rita Bolstad, Amy Tomshevsky, Romolo Imundi, and Michael LaGuardia.

Sol told the Board that there are now forty-nine members on the Planning Board. He stated that only forty-five could vote tonight as four have not been sworn in yet.

I. GALLERY SESSION SPEAKERS

No one spoke during the time allotted for Gallery Speakers.

II. GUEST SPEAKER

Sol explained that Borough President Stanley Simon would not be present as guest speaker since he had already given the oath of office to new and reappointed Board fembers the previous evening. He also stated that Mayor Koch had been at the Ceremony. Sol told the Board that this was the first time that members of all the Planning Boards were sworn in at one time.

III. MINUTES

Motion by Blanche Comras Rifkin - Second by John Cifichello - That the Minutes be accepted as presented.

Unanimously passed

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sol reported that both he and Lee Mager, the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, had met with the Police to inquire about statistics related to the seven sectors that comprise the 49th Precinct. He stated that they are working with the Task Force on this.

V. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom said that the District Service Cabinet Minutes had been distributed tonight. For the benefit of the new members he explained that these Minutes contain discussion on many problems that come to his attention. He asked that the new members as well as the others not give out the names and phone numbers listed for the various agencies. He asked that any problems be brought to the attention of the Board office.

Tom said that both he and Shirley had met with a representative from the Youth Jard. He said that Shirley would discuss this further in her report.

Tom said that all but the new members received a letter from Silvio Mazzella, Chairman of the Highways, Traffic and Transportation Committee, requesting the names of streets that need to be repaved and resurfaced. He asked that these be sent or called in to the Board office. Tom asked that the Board members include the boundaries, i.e. cross streets or avenues. Tom explained that this is being done in an effort by the Community Planning Board to get streets that need repaving and resurfacing into the Spring-Summer repaving-resurfacing program. He told the Board that Community Planning Board #11 has a very good record for getting streets redone in the district.

VI. TASK FORCE

Sol told the Board that this item was being taken out of order on the Agenda because Ted Weinstein had to attend a meeting on 2215 Cruger Avenue. Sol then introduced Ted Weinstein of the Neighborhood Preservation Office.

Ted explained that on October 8, the Mayor announced the establishment of a Task Force in Pelham Parkway. He stated that the Task Force is made up of eleven agencies and the Borough President's office. Ted stated that the purpose of the Task Force is to identify problems and develop strategies for Community Planning District #11.

Ted stated that prior to the first meeting of the Task Force, in November, the Board was asked for a list of items for each of the agencies on the Task Force. Ted said that most of the agencies at the meeting had an opportunity to speak. He said that since that meeting there has been some follow-up on a number of the items. Ted said that Anthony Gliedman is the Commissioner of Housing Preservation and Development, and that he himself is the Director of Housing Preservation and Development's Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Preservation Office. He stated that since the Mayor appointed Commissioner Gliedman as Chairman of the Task Force he has acted as the Commissioner's spokesman at the local level.

Ted said that Margot Sklar who has been doing a lot of the follow-up work could not be here tonight.

Ted reported on the problems with private carters and Sanitation in general. He stated that a meeting was held with the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Borough President, Housing Preservation and Development, himself, Community Board representatives, and representatives of the Pelham Parkway Mall Development Corporation. He said that the rules and responsibilities related to private carters were discussed. Ted said that the Mall Corporation will be discussing these with the merchants, and if there are still problems, Consumer Affairs has said that it will follow up with the private carters.

Ted said that while Sanitation has assigned an additional Patrolman to the area, it was not clear where he will be working at this time.

Ted reported that a subcommittee of the Task Force has been formed to deal with Parks matters. He stated that this committee is made up of Tom Brown, Elizabeth Brown, the Parks Department, General Services, Housing Preservation and Development, the Borough President, and the Police Department. He stated that it is working on a request for benches on Pelham Parkway North between Boston Road and Bronx Park East. Ted said that the Parks Department has said that it will look into this matter.

Ted told the Board that a meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26th on Police patrols. Also, a meeting with the Transit Authority will be scheduled to discuss train schedules.

Ted said that one of the problems that has been coming up is the increase in the

number of solicitations of homeowners in the area by licensed real estate brokers. Ted told the Board that a Non Solicitation Order was issued in 1977 by the New York State Secretary of State. He said that a meeting on this matter is being held next week. Ted said that representatives of the Secretary of State, the Community Board, local organizations, and local officials will meet to discuss this problem. Ted asked the Board members to let his office know if they hear of any violations of the Non Solicitation Order.

Ted said that on January 28th, the Task Force will hold its next meeting in the Borough President's office.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LAND USE

1. Variance for 911 Sackett Avenue (BSA 95180BZ)

Since Steve Lovitch was not present Sol gave the report. He stated that since Community Planning Board #11 had not followed correct procedure in regard to this application, the Land Use Committee recomends that the Board hold a Public Hearing on this item on February 3rd.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein - Second by Blanche Comras Rifkin - That Community Planning Board #11 hold a Public Hearing on February 3rd on a Variance for 911 Sackett Avenue.

Passed by unanimous vote.

Sol stated that the location would be set after the location was set for the Budget Hearing, and that the Hearing is a mandatory meeting at which attendance would be taken.

Tom told Sol that the site for the Public Hearing has already been arranged. He said that it will be held at the Knights of Columbus at 7:30 P.M.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND BUDGET PRIORITIES

Ruth Bernstein said that at its October meeting the Board had voted on Budget Priorities for the Expense and Capital Budget. She stated that those priorities were submitted to the appropriate City authorities. Ruth told the Board that the City Charter requires that the City respond to the Board's priorities, and that the Board hold another Public Hearing to review the City's response, and to perhaps change the order of priorities should that appear appropriate. She said that to the best of her knowledge the City has not released this information yet. Ruth said that she believed it was due by the end of the week. She said that when her committee has this information it will meet and have a recomendation ready so that there can be a joint Public Hearing on February 3rd with the Land Use Committee.

Motion by Ruth Bernstein - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 hold a Public Hearing on Budget Priorities on February 3rd, in conjunction with the Public Hearing on the Land Use Item.

Passed by unimous vote.

Sol stated that the Budget Priorities will be the first item and that Land Use will be second.

Sol told the Board that Rabbi Konovitch was named by the Bronx Board of Rabbis as Chaplain of the Year for 1981.

C. HOUSING

Frank stated that copies of the Housing Committee's report had been distributed to all members. He said that the Housing Reinvestment Corporation is forming a partnership committee. Frank said that there are to be four components in this partnership. He explained that they will include the banks, the landlords, the City and the community. He said that the Housing Committee felt that Board representation on this committee is a must. Frank said that since the committee's January 6th meeting certain problems have arisen. He stated that the Community Planning Board is a City agency, and because of that fact, there is a question as to which component of the partnership is most appropriate for the Board. Frank said that the Housing Committee had voted at its January 6th meeting that the Board should seek membership within the City portion of the partnership. He said that after that meeting he had met with Greg Arcaro of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, and decided that the Associations -- Allerton, Morris Park, etc. would take seats within the Community portion of the partnership. He stated that the partnership, as is currently conceived, provides for six voting members from each component. Frank said that his committee recommends that the community should have a larger role on matters affecting the community and that Community Planning Board #11 should receive two votes within the Community component of the partnership rather than one vote within the City component.

Frank said that what is being proposed is that the Community portion consist of eight members. Six would be reserved for organizations and two would be Community Planning Board members (those two seats to be guaranteed). Frank stated that if the Community Planning Board does not receive the two seats, the Committee recommends that Community Planning Board #11 seek a City seat.

Motion by Frank Muccioli - Second by Bill Liblick - That Community Planning Board #11 have two seats in the Community portion of the Partnership Committee.

A discussion on what the Committee would do and who would have the final say on matters took place.

Motion by Frank Muccioli - Second by Bill Liblick - That Community Planning
Board #11 join with the participating associations in the Apartment Improvement
Program in the Community Sector and be represented on the Steering Committee by two
votes. In the event that this cannot be had, the Board will then apply for a
seat as a City agency.

Passed with one abstention by Shirley Rubman.

The following disclaimer was added to the motion:

In the event of a meeting of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation and the Apartment Improvement Program prior to appointment of representatives of Community Planning Board #11, the co-chairmen of the Housing Committee will be the representatives until such time as the representatives are appointed.

D. PARKS

Elizabeth stated that she had no report.

Sol asked Elizabeth if she had heard anything about the field in back of P.S. 96. Elizabeth said that she had not heard anything. Sol then asked Ruth Weiss if the Board of Education had heard anything and she replied that they had not. Ruth Burko replied the same.

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E. PUBLIC SAFETY

As Lee Mager was not present, Sol gave the report for him. He stated that the alleged murderer of the young girl in the Pelham Parkway Houses has been apprehended with help from the 47th Precinct and the Housing Police. Sol told the Board that Detective Foley, who had been working within Community Board #11, is being reassigned to the South Bronx. He stated that a letter has been written to Chief Henry of the Housing Police commending Detective Foley for his work, and asking that he be kept in the area. Sol said that formerly there were Housing Police working out of the Pelham Parkway Houses and that they have since been removed.

Tom said that a separate letter would go out commending Detective Geary of the 47th Precinct for his work.

F. HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

As Silvio Mazzella was not present, Sol gave the report for him. He stated that there will be a Public Hearing on the Bus Depot on January 19th at 8:00 P.M. at Holy Rosary Church, at Gun Hill Road and Adee Avenue. Sol said that the hearing is being held by Board #12. He stated that Community Planning Board #11 has asked that this be certified as a Bronx Borough Board item. He asked that all Board members, who can, attend this Public Hearing.

G. COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

Shirley Rubman said that on Wednesday she and Tom Brown had met with a representative from the Youth Board. She said that she felt that it was a very productive meeting. Shirley said that she hoped to have a Youth Services Committee by the Spring. She said that she had asked Sol to assign some more members to her committee as there are now five more members on the Board. Shirley said that as of now the committee is composed of the Chairmen of other committees and that their time is limited due to other committee commitments. She stated that there will be a meeting of the committee and a report on Youth Services by the February meeting.

1. SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Shirley reported that she had been contacted by the Department of Employment as to whether the Board again wants to have this program. She said that it had very nice things to say about last year's program. Shirley said that last year Community Planning Board #11's Summer Youth Employment Program had employed 100 youngsters. She said that she needed the Board's approval if it is to again be a Project Sponsor.

. Motion by Shirley Rubman - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 be a sponsor for the 1981 Summer Youth Employment Program.

Sol said that he would not say anything about this program until it affects the efficient operation of the Board Office. He stated that he hoped the program could be accomplished with only a minimal impact on the paid staff of the Board. Sol said that in order for this program to be effective, members must volunteer to give time and service to this committee.

A great deal of discussion took place on this program.

For 26 Opposed

Abstentions

3

Motion carried.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Tom told the Board that copies of proposed rules and regulations regarding Street Activity Permits had been distributed. For the benefit of the new members, he explained the Board's role in Street Closings for Block Parties, etc. He asked that the Board members read the regulations at their leisure. Tom said that once they are approved they will be sent out by the Community Assistance Unit to the groups who have previously had street closings. He said that he will also send them to Block Associations and other groups.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Sol stated that an item that would be considered new business for tonight but that would become a regular part of the Agenda ia a report from the Borough President's Office by Bob Castellanete, our liaison.

Bob reported that on October 25th there was a bad storm and as a result of that storm many homeowners and storeowners received heavy damage to their property. Bob said that as a result of this, the Borough President contacted the Small Business Administration, and that the Small Business Administration has declared the entire Borough of the Bronx a disaster area. He said that homeowners and businessmen may qualify for special low interest loans.

Bob said that on November 23rd a fire on White Plains Road affected seven stores. He stated that the Borough President's Office contacted S.B.A., and as a result five of those stores are eligible for low interest loans.

Motion by Bill Liblick - Second by Leslie McHenry - That Community Planning Board #11 send a letter to the Bronx Board of Rabbis commending them for selecting Rabbi Konovitch as Chaplain of the year.

Passed with two abstentions.

Motion by Madeline Saltaformaggio - Second by Charlie Re - That the Board adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Rhoda R. Gogatz,

Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT JANUARY 15, 1981 MEETING

PRESENT

Ira Alexander Ruth Bernstein Rita Bolstad Elizabeth Brown Ruth Burko Dominic Castore John Cifichiello Thomas Daly Ann Danisi Gloria DiGianni Barbara Fried Anthony Funigiello Rhoda Gogatz Lewis Goldstein Simeon Goldstein Simon Konovitch William Liblick

Solomon Lirtzman
Annette Marchitello
Leslie McHenry
Joseph Milone
Frank Muccioli
Salvatore Napolitano
Ernest Odierna
Charles Re
William Ricevuto Jr.
Blanche Comras Rifkin
Shirley Rubman
Madeline Saltaformaggio
Amy Tomashevsky
Belle Vogel
Ruth Weiss

ABSENT

Robert Black
Edith Conato
Eileen D'Allessio
Roy Israel
Steve Lovitch
Lee Mager
Silvio Mazzella
Abraham Pereira

Joseph Reda Myra Rose Jerry Santarpia Clara De Velezquez Stephen Vento Henry Yuspeh Steve Zarkin

Michael LaGuardia

Romolo Imundi

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

Thomas J. Brown, District Manager - C.P.B. #11
Harriet Lasky - C.P.B. #11

Ted Weinstein - H.P.D. - Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Preservation Office Phil Braun - H.P.D. - Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Preservation Office Bob Castellanete - Rep. Borough President Stanley Simon

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Joseph Savino

GUESTS

Thal Davis - Chairman Advisory Council 2424 Boston Road Senior Citizens Center Brenda Newman - Parkview Neighborhood Association

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