



COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX

2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2

BRONX, NEW YORK, 10467

(212) 653-0936

Dominic Castore,
Acting Chairman

Thomas J. Brown,
District Manager

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 1981

AT TEMPLE JUDEA

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by Dom Castore, Acting Chairman.

I. GALLERY SESSION

Several residents appeared to complain about receiving tickets from the special sanitation patrol. This issue will be presented by Tom Brown at the District Service Cabinet meeting.

II. MINUTES

Motion by Lew Goldstein - Second by Sol Lirtzman - That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously passed.

Dom told the Board that Stanley Wolf, Commissioner of the Board of Standards and Appeals had called to say he would be delayed. Dom said the meeting would continue, and that when Commissioner Wolfe comes he can speak.

Rhoda welcomed the Planning Board members and members of the community to Temple Judea. She stated that due to another meeting the President of the Temple could not be present to welcome them herself.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dom told the Board that Sol Lirtzman had resigned as Chairman, and that he (Dom) is now Acting Chairman. He then asked Sol to explain to him (Dom) some of the things that he will be doing as Chairman, at a later date.

Sol told the Board that both he and Lee Mager had met with Captain Brancella of the proposed 49th Precinct to review crime statistics. He said that he had requested a different kind of a breakdown on crime statistics to give the Board a better idea of how things are going on in the various sectors. Sol stated that Lee and he had next met with the Mayor's Task Force sub-group on Police. He said that they had met with Deputy Commissioner Lipman, Chief Jones, of the Bronx Police, the Deputy Chief and one of the Inspectors to review the current construction schedule of the 49th Police Precinct. Sol said that Chief Jones indicated to him that of the 55 new police assigned to the Bronx he will be assigning 14 to the 47th Precinct. He said that this

determination was based on the arguments he had given Chief Jones, during the last 6 months, as to why he felt our area was understaffed.

Sol said that another meeting he had attended was that of the entire Task Force. He noted that Tom Brown had also attended. Sol said that they had made an appointment to have another Task Force sub-committee meeting set with the MTA to review the poor service on the #2 line north of 180th Street. Sol said that surveys were going to be made. He stated that they would then see what could be done to improve service.

Sol told the Board that he had attended the Bronx Borough Board meeting. He stated that at that meeting he had reintroduced the question of a prison ward at B.M.H.C. He stated that this had previously been introduced in 1978 and that a study had been made. Sol said that due to a lack of action by the Department of Corrections, it was tabled and never picked up again. He stated that the matter of the prison ward would be taken up at the next Borough Board meeting on Monday. Sol said that Chief Jones of the Police Department will be at that meeting along with Commissioner Benjamin Ward of the Department of Corrections and Leonard Picolli of B.M.H.C. (to give the hospital's point of view). Sol explained his reason for reintroducing this item was that when the 49th Police Precinct is completed B.M.H.C. will be right in the middle of the Precinct. He stated that currently B.M.H.C. is in the 43rd Precinct and that it supplies the police manpower to guard prisoners. But, once there is a 49th Precinct the 43rd Precinct will no longer be doing this. Sol stated that according to Chief Jones' figures last year there were 9,000 full days lost by the 43rd Precinct guarding prisoners. He went on to say that 7,200 man hours were lost guarding prisoners, 900 patrol days which is an average of 3 patrols a day.

Sol said that the last item at the Borough Board was a resolution introduced jointly by Mike Lippman, representing Councilwoman Ryan, and himself, concerning the transportation of nuclear wastes. Sol explained that various state and federal agencies have prohibited the transportation of nuclear wastes along certain bridges and arterial highways. He explained that the alternative is to come through local streets with this nuclear waste. Sol said that he and Mike Lippman had introduced a resolution, and that they would ask all the Community Boards to concur with it. He said that this would be voted on at the meeting on Monday. "Resolved that the Borough Board representing the citizens of the Borough of the Bronx show their opposition to the transportation of nuclear waste material in the streets of New York City and that members of the Borough Board also go on record requesting that letters be sent to all elected officials, federal, state and city, indicating their opposition."

Motion by Sol Lirtzman - Second by Lew Goldstein - That Community Planning Board #11 support this resolution.

Passed by a majority vote.

Amended by Charlie Re - Accepted by Sol Lirtzman - "to include toxic wastes".

A great deal of discussion took place on what having a prison ward in a hospital means.

IV. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom Brown told the Board that the District Service Cabinet Minutes had been distributed. He told the Board and the members of the community that while they are not invited to the District Service Cabinet meeting, that an item on the Agenda is that which was discussed at the Gallery Session-- the enforcement of Sanitation regulations.

He stated that he would be dealing directly with the Sanitation Superintendent of this district. Tom said that he hoped other agencies e.g., Police, would suggest how to work around this problem. He said that after the next meeting he would be reporting to the Sanitation Committee Chairman Ernie Odierna.

Tom said that he had attended the Task Force meeting along with some on the mini Task Forces e.g. Parks, the Mosholu Gate, etc. He said that he is involved with the Summer Youth Program with Shirley Rubman. Tom said that a Public Hearing had been held several weeks ago on the City's Preliminary Budget, and that now a response to the Preliminary Budget had to be sent out. He said that on Tuesday he spoke for the Board at a Public Hearing of the City Planning Commission on the Planning Board's top four Capital Budget Priorities.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

As Tom Daly was not present Tom Brown gave his report. Tom said that on Wednesday afternoon he was going down to the Office of Management and Budget - Office of Community Relations to go over the Turn Around Document, and discuss the Board's budget. Tom said that the Board was granted an additional \$5,000 for the remainder of Fiscal Year 1981, and \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 1982. He said that the Board had to submit a plan on how it plans to spend this money. He said that as far as the \$5,000 was concerned he had called O.M.B. after speaking with the Officers, and told O.M.B. to put it on the hourly line. He explained the reason for this was that if the Board decided to hire someone part-time for the remainder of the year there would be no need to transfer funds.

Tom asked the Board to look at the Budget that had been distributed. He explained that it shows the original 1981 established budget and the options #1 and #2 for Fiscal Year 1982. Tom said that he had prepared the budget with the two options as the Officers had been unable to meet as planned prior to the Executive Committee meeting, and that the Executive Committee had asked him to prepare a proposed budget. Tom said that he needed the Board's decision on either option before he goes down to O.M.B. on Wednesday. Tom then explained why he had set up two options.

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 adopt option #1.

A great deal of discussion took place on the two options, and the different reasons for each, and how the money could be transferred from one line to another.

Passed

Tom said that he had received an invitation from the Comptroller's office to attend an orientation, informational, educational session on the External Audit Unit, Voucher and Imprest Unit, the Bureau of Accountancy, and the Bureau of Management and Account Systems scheduled for Tuesday February 24th from 9-1 in the Fifth Floor Conference room of the Municipal Building. He said that all Board members, District Managers, and Chairmen were welcome to attend. He said that he would not be able to attend due to another meeting.

Dom said that he would ask Tom Daly, the Treasurer if he could go.

VI. BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bob Castellanete explained that the reason for having a Borough President's Report on the Agenda was to have communication between the Boards and the Borough President. Bob announced that several weeks ago the Borough President had led the

Board of Estimate in approving Urban Development Action Grants totaling 4.2 million dollars for the implementation of home improvement loan programs for owners of 1-4 family homes in various communities throughout the City, including Pelham Parkway. He explained that this will provide approximately 2,700 loans of about \$5,500 to homeowners. Bob said that these were not really loans but grants that are used to bring down the interest rates to borrowers to 1%. He said that H.P.D. was administering this program and that those homeowners who are interested should contact H.P.D.

Bob said that a similar 3.1 million dollar U.D.A.G. grant was approved for energy conservation in private homes and for 2,700 apartments in various communities including Pelham Parkway. He said that the 3.1 million dollar loan would be supplemented by approximately 8 million dollars of private funding. Bob said that this was for window improvements, window replacements, roof repairs, replacements and overhauls. He stated that Pelham Parkway has never received these programs before; that they have hitherto been targeted for low income areas like the South Bronx. Bob said that the trend now is to put money into middle income areas where it is also needed.

Tom said that the Board had sent a letter to the Secretary of H.U.D., in strong support of the City's effort to obtain this money.

A great deal of discussion took place on how these applications would be processed and how to apply for them. Tom told the Board to contact Ted Weinstein's office.

Bob said that the Board of Estimate had voted an additional \$430,000 to the New York Public Library system. He stated that this includes libraries in Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island. Bob said that he was not sure at this time how much of that money the Bronx would get, but that this would mean improved service.

Bob said that there would be an additional 1,000 police hired and 500 civilians would be taking the place of police who were doing clerical work. He stated that this would mean an increase of 1,500 police out on the streets. He stated that there will also be additional transit authority police, additional firemen and more two-men sanitation trucks. He stated that 3 flying squads of 75 men per team were being assigned to the Department of Sanitation for target areas of debris. He explained that they would go into areas that are saturated with debris on a one hot deal and clean it up.

Tom said that one of the complaints of the community is that the regular Sanitation Police are going into the residential areas and giving out petty tickets without warning. He asked Bob to have this brought up at the Borough Board.

Bob told the Board that any questions about the Energy Loans should be made to Ted Weinstein.

Bob then spoke about the raising of the elevation of the bridge at Oak Point Yard.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Land Use Committee

Steve Lovitch reported that a Public Hearing was held on February 3rd on a Variance for 911 Sackett Avenue. He stated that a vote was taken and that it was passed with 4 or 5 abstentions to deny this application. Steve stated that the

reasons were that the requested Variance would increase the congestion on Sackett Avenue, increase the street parking and increase the noise and pollution that would come from the premises.

B. Highways, Traffic and Transportation

Silvio Mazzella reported that he had attended a meeting at Holy Rosary Church in District #12 in reference to the proposed bus garage at Gun Hill Road and the New England Thruway. He stated that the community spoke both for and against the garage. Silvio said that Councilman Savino said that he was in favor of the garage. Silvio said that about a dozen people were against it and that they were organized.

Silvio said that his committee had met and come up with the following suggestions:

1. that the bicycle stands on the Esplanade at the Pelham Parkway Station of the Dyre Avenue line, and the bicycle stands at the Pelham Parkway and White Plains Road Station be removed.

2. that the train stations at Esplanade and Pelham Parkway, and at Gun Hill Road and Dyre Avenue be painted.

3. that the curbs and walks along the mall at Esplanade be raised as they are now level with traffic and create a hazzard in bad weather.

Discussion took place as to why people are opposed to the garage.

Ruth Weiss asked that the Morris Park Station also be painted.

Discussion took place about the MTA and its promise of a Little League Field and the community's feelings on this.

Tom explained why the bike racks have not been removed yet. He said that this is a Task Force item and that he would raise it again.

Tom reported that Beth Abraham Hospital has come up with a plan to get more parking around the hospital. He explained that they had asked for angle parking but the Department of Transportation was against it. Tom said that MABSTOA has agreed to move the Bus Stop sign for the #7 bus which currently stops in front of and across from the hospital on Bronx Park East. He said that they want to move the stop to Allerton Avenue, thus providing additional parking spots. He said that MABSTOA wants the Board's approval on this.

A great deal of discussion took place on this.

Motion by Shirley Rubman - Second by Joe Reda - That the topic of moving the Bus Stop signs be returned to the committee for further study.

For 21 Against 3 Abstentions 3

Passed.

Dom introduced the Honorable Stanley M. Wolf, Commissioner of the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals.

VIII. GUEST SPEAKER

Commissioner Wolf stated that he is one of six Commissioners. He explained that the Board of Standards and Appeals is a notably very small quasi judicial agency empowered by the City Charter to consider requests for variances of the New York City Zoning resolution. He also explained in detail the role of the Board of Standards and Appeals, from its inception in 1916, to serve as an appeal body for property owners of the City of New York who feel that they can not comply with the stringent provisions of the City's zoning laws. Commissioner Wolf explained what a variance is and how it is granted. He also explained the entire procedure of BSA.

A great deal of discussion took place on the inconsistencies with U.L.U.R.P. and B.S.A. procedures, and the problems which community boards have with the

Commissioner Wolf said that he would check into the questions that were raised.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

C. Social Services

Myra reported that two months ago the Board had submitted an alternate site to the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. She stated that the alternate site to 2213 Wallace Avenue was 2930 Holland Avenue. Myra said that the Board received a letter two weeks ago that the 2930 Holland Avenue site was rejected because the cost of renovations were too high. She said that when that site was rejected she had received another alternate site to be submitted. Myra said that since the Board has only fifteen days to come up with an alternate site, her committee had held an informal hearing at 7:00 tonight with the people on the 2900 block of Laconia Avenue to see how they felt about a group home there. She stated that the owner of that house was not notified that her house was going to be offered to the State. She explained how the site was brought to her attention. Myra said that the owner of the house has stated that she does not wish to sell to the State. Myra said that the Board should write to Commissioner Introne to request a Hearing because the Board has until February 24th to come up with an alternate site. Myra said that the State still has an option on 2213 Wallace Avenue. She said that the Board must now write to Commissioner Introne and request a Hearing and try to prove saturation. She stated that saturation has not been defined.

Bob Castellanete read a letter to another Community Board signed by Cora Hoffman, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, explaining in effect that saturation results when there is a group home of 14 residents within a 5-6 block radius.

Discussion took place on this issue in reference to the amount of clients involved at the School for the Blind.

Myra read the letter that Commissioner Introne had sent to the Board.

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Lee Mager - That Community Planning Board #11 sent a letter to Commissioner Introne requesting a Hearing on 2213 Wallace Avenue.

Amended by Lee Mager - That the Board seek aid and a legal representation from the Corporation Counsel, and legal assistance from the Borough President's Office.

Discussion took place as to whether it is the Board or the Agency that requests the Hearing, and how it would proceed.

Amended by Lee Mager - That the Board also notify the Mayor's Office and the Task Force.

For 24 Against 3 Abstentions 2

Passed.

Motion by Lew Goldstein - Second by Bill Liblick - That Community Planning Board #11 ask the Borough President to appoint Ruth Bernstein as one of the people to the Borough Health Services Agency board.

Lew explained that the H.S.A. board structure was being changed from the present system of local boards to a committee representative of Bronx County.

After much discussion, Ruth Bernstein withdrew her name and this was returned to the Social Services Committee for further study.

D. Housing Committee

Simeon Goldstein reported that Beth Abraham Hospital has asked the Board to endorse its proposal for the renovation of four apartment buildings which it owns on Olinville Avenue.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 send a letter to H.P.D. endorsing the rehabilitation of 2515, 2531, 2541 and 2545 Olinville Avenue under the Participation Loan Program.

Passed.

E. Community Development

Ruth Bernstein reported that as per the Charter the Board held a Public Hearing on the Budget Priorities. She stated that the Capital Budget Priorities were changed. Ruth said that the City advised the Board that the mini bus acquisition is an Expense Budget item. The Planning Board then voted to make this its Expense Budget Priority #3. She stated that B.M.H.C. had asked that the Board reverse its requests. She stated that was done and that all the other items were then moved up.

F. Summer Youth Employment Program

Shirley Rubman reported that applications have been submitted to the Department of Employment, and that she was working on the Work Sponsor agreements for 100 jobs. She thanked Lew Goldstein for his help along with Tom. She said that an ad would now be placed in the papers for the position of Project Director. Shirley stated that last year's Project Director does not want the job again. She stated that the Project Director would begin in March and earn \$230 per week from March - September.

Discussion took place on the various Work Sponsors and where the applicants would be working.

Tom said that people would be needed to help in handling the applications when they are returned to the office.

Dom said that anyone who could help should get in touch with Shirley.

G. Parks

As Elizabeth Brown was not present, Tom gave the report. He stated that a Parks Committee report had been distributed earlier in which a meeting dealing with the Little League field was mentioned. Tom said that what was needed at Sid Jacobs Field is a major regrading which is a Capital Budget item. He said that Jim Titus of the Parks Department had recommended a complete rescaling of the Field. Tom said that there were some interim agreements.. He stated that he hoped that Parks could meet these commitments.

Tony asked about a park on Gun Hill Road that was supposed to be opened last year and never was.

H. Public Safety

Lee Mager reported that Sol and he had met with the Bronx Borough Commander, Chief Jones and Deputy Chief Mc Givern, Inspector Ingoglia and Deputy Police Commissioner Lipman. He stated that fourteen new officers have been assigned to the 47th Precinct. Lee said that ground breaking for the 49th Precinct building is scheduled for May. He stated that he had heard several different dates, but that it should be sometime in the end of the Spring or Summer. Lee said that he and Sol had pushed for the prison ward. Lee told the Board that he requested when police give District #11's crime statistics that they do so on a sector basis to make it easier to determine what areas need more protection. He stated that they asked for more foot patrols and patrol cars.

Sol said that they asked for four additional unmarked cars.

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. New Office Space

Dom said that the Board is looking for new office space.

Tom explained that the Board is looking for office space which must be twice the size of the present site and that the landlord must assume the responsibility for shoveling the sidewalks in the event of snow.

2. Attendance

Henry asked what this dealt with.

Bob Castellanete explained that the Board could remove a member who has missed three meetings.

Discussion took place on this issue. It was then tabled until the next meeting.

Ruth Bernstein stated that in 1978 a portion of Community Board #11 was designated as a Neighborhood Preservation area for REMIC Funds and mortgage money. She said that she had just learned that there is another state agency offering insurance for mortgage loans.

Motion by Ruth Bernstein - Second by Henry Yuspeh - That Community Planning Board #11 go on record as requesting SONYMA to include Community Board #11 in participating in its mortgage program.

Ruth said that the Board would be advised within the next week as to whom to send the letter and when it should be sent.

Passed with 1 against and 2 abstentions.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Dom read the letter of resignation from Sol Lirtzman.

Motion by Bill Liblick - Second by Joe Reda - That the Board have coffee, tea and cake at the Board meetings.

Motion by Sol Lirtzman - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That this be tabled.

Defeated with 4 abstentions. (NOT TABLED).

On the motion to have refreshments the vote was:

For	17	Against	6	Abstentions	2
-----	----	---------	---	-------------	---

Passed.

Discussion took place on the legality of having refreshments at the meeting. Bob Castellanete said that this is now allowed.

Lew Goldstein said that he would take charge of providing refreshments.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhoda (TB)

Rhoda Gogatz,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT FEBRUARY 19, 1981 MEETING

PRESENT

Ruth Bernstein	Silvio Mazzella
Robert S. Black	Joseph A. Milone
Ruth Burko	Salvatore Napolitano
Dominic Castore	Ernest C. Odierna
John Cifichello	Abraham Pereira
Ann Danisi	Charles Re
Barbara Fried	Joseph Reda
Anthony Funigiello	Blanche Comras Rifkin
Rhoda Gogatz	Myra Rose
Lewis Goldstein	Shirley Rubman
Simeon H.F. Goldstein	Madeline Saltaformaggio
Michael La Guardia	Amy Tomashevsky
William Liblick	Belle Vogel
Solomon J. Lirtzman	Ruth Weiss
Steven Lovitch	Henry Yuspeh
Lee M. Mager	Steve Zarkin
Annette Marchitello	

ABSENT

Ira Alexander	Romolo Imundi
Rita Bolstad	Roy S. Israel
M. Elizabeth Brown	Simon Konovitch
Edith Conato	Leslie McHenry
Eileen D'Alessio	Frank Muccioli
Thomas R. Daly	William J. Ricevuto, Jr.
Clara De Velazquez	Jerry Santarpia
Gloria Di Gianni	Stephen Vento

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

Bob Castellanete - Rep. Borough President Simon
Thomas J. Brown - C.P.B. #11
Harriet Lasky - C.P.B. #11

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Thomas M. Denair - Rep. Hon. Jerry Crispino
Vincent J. O'Donnell - Rep. Hon. Joseph Savino
Howard Liker - Rep. Assemblyman Vincent Marchiselli
Eileen Weinrib - Rep. Senator Abraham Bernstein
Debbie Linhardt - Rep. Assemblyman Elliot Engel

GUESTS

Thal Davis - 2424 Boston Road Senior Citizens Center
Det. Tom Lyons - 47th Precinct
Helen W. Chin - N. Y. Public Library, Eastchester Branch
Eleanore Cooke - St. Lucy's Church
Ralph B. Lawrence - Bronx Borough Board