

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX

2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2

BRONX, NEW YORK 10467

(212) 653-0936



DOMINIC CASTORE,  
CHAIRMAN

THOMAS J. BROWN,  
DISTRICT MANAGER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MAY 20, 1982

AT I.S. 144

The meeting was called to order at 8:54 P.M. by Dom Castore, Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

A. Angelo Campanero - Chester Civic Association

Mr. Campanero stated that his organization has relayed many complaints to Community Board #11, and that in almost all cases they have been taken care of. He congratulated Tom Brown for doing a good job for the community, and Dom Castore who has attended many Public Hearings besides his work with the Board.

B. Bernhard Mueller

Mr. Mueller spoke about a lot on Esplanade that needs to be cleaned. He stated that he had written to the Board and had spoken to Tom Brown about the lot. Mr. Mueller said that teenagers hang out there every night drinking, and that they leave their empty bottles in the lot.

C. Stella Fernandez - Van Nest Blocks Association

Ms. Fernandez spoke about M&C Auto Body Shop at 1750 Melville Avenue. She stated that they are storing fender in their backyard, and that it is now spilling over into the yards of other property owners nearby. Ms. Fernandez stated that there are now rats because of this and they are coming into the neighboring yards. She also said that the fumes from the spray painting make it impossible to sit outside.

D. Maggie Luciano

Ms. Luciano spoke about the body shop and stated that she found a large rat in her home. She also stated that the fumes were terrible.

E. Debbie DiPrima

Ms. DiPrima said that she had complained to the Board of Health about the mice from M&C, and she had not heard from them. She stated that she had spoken to other residents on the block, and that they said they have mice and rats now. Ms. DiPrima stated that her tenant had a rat in her apartment the other night. She also said that M&C has so much garbage leaning against her gate that it is

ready to fall down. Ms. DiPrima said that she cannot use her yard because of the rats. She also said that M&C spray paints cars in the middle of the street.

F. Thal Davis - 2424 Boston Road Senior Center

Ms. Davis spoke about the recent attacks on the seniors at 2424 and 2440 Boston Road. She described the terrible muggings and beating the seniors have received on weekdays. Ms. Davis stated that several seniors were attacked as they entered their homes, and she gave their addresses. She asked for the Board's help for the seniors.

Dom introduced Det. Tom Lyons of the 47th Precinct.

Det. Lyons stated that he was not familiar with all the problems that have been happening at 2440, but that Police are aware of the rash of robberies, particularly against the seniors. He stated that this was occurring at Boston Road, Holland and Wallace Avenues. Det. Lyons said that plain clothesmen are in the area, and that they are working on this. He said that it was not one person but rather three or four different people involved. Det. Lyons said that the Borough Command is also involved.

II. Minutes

Motion by Myra Rose - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously accepted

Dom introduced Andrea Pereira of the Bronx Office of City Planning, Thomas Denairo representing Councilman Crispino, Patricia O'Hanlon representing Councilwoman Ryan, Eric Barr of Comptroller Goldin's Office, Dick Esposito representing Assesblyman Marchiselli, Pete Cunningham of the 47th Precinct, Ed Davis of the Eastchester Gardens Tennants Association and Nadine Katz Hoffman of Comptroller Goldin's Office.

III. District Manager's Report

Tom reported that the District Service Cabinet Minutes had been distributed. He stated that one of the important functions of Community Planning Board #11 is to give recommendations on the Mayor's budget, and to give suggestions about what should be in the budget. Tom said that a Public Hearing would be held in September, and that press releases would be in the paper and that community groups would be notified. He asked the community to let the Board know its desires as to how services in the area could be improved e.g. pruning of trees, putting up of street signs etc. Tom explained that helath inspections are not made quickly because there are not enough Health Inspectors these days. He said that the community needs to tell the Board what it wants and needs. Tom said that on Wednesday he had given the Planning Board's response to the Mayor's Executive Budget. He stated that a copy of his testimony would be sent to the Board members in a few days.

A. Street Activity Permits

Tom stated that while the Agenda listed two Permits to be considered, the Board has now received three more that need to be voted on tonight. He explained for the benefit of newer members, the role of Community Boards on street closings.

1. Morningside House Nursing Home - 1000 Pelham Parkway South

Tom stated that Morningside wants to close Lurting Avenue from Pelham Parkway South to Esplanade on Saturday, June 12th from 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. with a rain date of June 13th. He stated that it has had this event for the last several years. Tom said that they will have live entertainment, and that vending will be done by the Nursing Home personnel only.

Motion by Henry Yuspeh - Second by Blanche Comras Rifkin - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this application.

Unanimously approved

2. 2000 Block of Hering Avenue

Tom stated that the residents want to close Hering Avenue from Pelham Parkway to Lydig Avenue on July 3rd from 9 A.M. - 11 P.M. with a rain date of July 4th. Tom stated that it wants to close the street for a Block Party, and that it has had this event for the last four years with no problems.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this application.

Unanimously approved

3. 2500 Block of Fenton Avenue

Tom said that the residents want to close Fenton Avenue between Mace Avenue and Allerton Avenue on Saturday, June 26th from 1 P.M. - 11:30 P.M. with a rain date of June 27th. Tom said that they have had this Block Party there for several years.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Lew Goldstein - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this application.

Unanimously approved

4. 2500 Block of Tenbroeck Avenue

Tom stated that the residents want to close Tenbroeck Avenue between Allerton Avenue and Mace Avenue on July 4th from 11 A.M. - 11 P.M. with a rain date of July 5th. He said that this was a new group, and because of this he had requested a petition of 51% of the residents on the block. Tom said that these residents were called and were in favor of the closing.

Motion by Abe Pereira - Second by Rhoda Gogatz and Blanche Comras Rifkin - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this application.

Unanimously approved

5. 2500 Block of Fish Avenue

Tom stated that these residents want to close Fish Avenue between Mace and Allerton Avenues from 12 Noon to 8 P.M. He explained that this request had come

from two young people. He stated that the law says that a person over 18 must be responsible, so the mother of one of the girls volunteered. Tom said that the girls went around and got a petition signed. He stated that these people were called, and none were against a block party. Tom said that the date for this event is June 26th.

Motion by Henry Yuspeh - Second by Blanche Comras Rifkin and Sal Napolitano  
that Community Planning Board #11 approve this application.

Unanimously approved

Dom congratulated Tom for his report. He stated that it was well done and brief.

#### IV. Borough President's Report

Bob Nolan thanked all the organizations that participated in Bronx Week celebration. Bob stated that there were two items on the Borough Board's Agenda.

##### 1. Arcades

Bob said that the Borough President felt that the law was not strong enough to restrict arcades that are finding their way into the smallest of businesses all across the borough. He stated that the City Council felt that the arcade law should be more restrictive. He said that recommendations will appear on future Borough Board Agendas.

##### 2. Proliferation of Commercial Establishments on the Grand Concourse

Bob stated that this is an area zoned only for residents. He said that over the last couple of years a number of commercial businesses have been opening up on the Concourse. Bob said that a Task Force of the Police Department and Buildings Department is looking into ways to keep these illegal conversions from continuing.

##### 3. Other

Bob reported that the District Manager had spoken at the Budget Hearings yesterday, and that a hearing on City Wide Issues would be held on Monday, May 24th at City Hall.

Bob said that a month ago the Borough President had changed the name of the street on which the Russian Mission is situated to 1 Shransky Square, to show his support for the Russian dissidents and Russian leader Shransky. Bob said that a letter had been sent to the Soviet Union letting it know that all mail sent to the Mission should now be sent to 1 Shransky Square.

Bob also responded to a statement made by Mr. Anthony Rizzo during the Public Hearing, by listing a number of group homes which have been established in Riverdale.

#### V. Committee Reports

##### A. Health and Social Services

Myra Rose stated that the Board members can now ask questions of the agency people in order to help them make a just and correct decision.

Questions were asked of Dennis Novick of the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and Kathleen Rice of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children as to the cost of site acquisition and construction, staffing, and how many clients would come from Community District #11 and how many would be ambulatory.

Motion by Lew Goldstein - Second by Henry Yuspeb - That Community Planning Board #11 approve the proposed Community Residence on Kingsland Avenue between East Gun Hill Road and Allerton Avenue.

A great deal of discussion took place on the site. The sketches for the site were passed around for the Board to look at.

Bob Black stated that he wanted to go on record as being against any more homes in the community.

Rhoda Gogatz asked about an Advisory Board as part of the group home, and how many members would there be on the Advisory Board.

Kathleen Rice stated that at all the other A.H.R.C. homes there is a Neighborhood Advisory Council comprised of people from the immediate area and any other people who want to be on the Council. She stated that this group helps to let A.H.R.C. know what concerns the community has, and to help the residence become a part of the neighborhood.

Myra stated that she was voting against this proposal as she felt that the immediate community is super-saturated.

Lew reread the motion.

For 23 Against 9 Abstentions 1

Motion passed

B. Economic Development

Abe Pereira reported that his Committee had met and recommended approval of a tax abatement for Saccomize Inc. Abe said that he had visited the property, and saw the it is very well kept.

Motion by Abe Pereira - Second by Sal Napolitano - That Community Planning Board #11 recommend to the Industrial and Commercial Incentive Board that the tax abatement for Saccomize Inc. be approved.

Abe read from the papers Saccomize Inc. had submitted to the Board.

For 15 Against 12 Abstentions 2

Motion passed

C. Sanitation and Environmental Protection

Ernie Odierna reported that the Sanitation Committee had met on Monday to plan for its meeting on Tuesday with Superintendent Oliva. He stated that the Committee met on Tuesday in the Board Office. Ernie said that present at that meeting were

Tom, Lew, Pat and himself. Ernie said that they discussed with Superintendent Oliva the meetings they had with the six community groups. Ernie said they brought to Superintendent Oliva's attention the problems that still exist in the district. He said that they spent an extended amount of time discussing the Melville Avenue situation as it affects the Van Nest community, and the Lydig Avenue situation. He said that they discussed what could and could not be done about improving services, and where the funds would come from. Ernie said that the Committee asked about the possibility of getting additional waste baskets in the Eastchester Road area. Ernie said that it was a good meeting, and that the Committee was pleased with the progress from Sanitation. He stated that the Committee will be meeting with the organizations again.

#### Anti-Littering Poster Campaign

Ernie stated that the Committee discussed this and would like the Board's authorization to have Tom pursue getting funds from private sources to offer \$1,000 in several prizes for different age groups. Ernie said that this contest would be open to public, private and parochial schools, senior citizens groups and civic organizations. He stated that posters would be judged in October and that letters would be sent to the organizations asking for contact people.

Motion by Ernie Odierna - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 instruct Tom Brown to solicit funds for this contest.

For 29

Passed.

Discussion took place on the "Pooper Scooper" law. Ernie stated that Sanitation needs to know the time and location so that enforcement agents can be there.

Pat DeMartino stated that something has to be done about the M.C. Auto Body Shop at 1750 Melville Avenue. Tom spoke on this, and asked that people in the area call the Board Office when repairs are being made on the sidewalk. He stated that he would ask for a rat inspection in that area.

Rhoda asked for documentation, pictures, and that a record be kept of the calls to the Police Department, to see if there has been a lack of response.

#### D. Youth

Leslie McHenry reported that the Youth Committee had met and interviewed fifteen candidates for the four Crew Chief positions. She stated that present at the interviews were Anne Danisi, Lew Goldstein, and Tom Miller. Leslie said that the Summer Youth Employment Program is now in operation at the Nurses Residence at Bronx Municipal Hospital Center. She said that people were needed to help register and assign jobs to the youngsters chosen through the lottery. Leslie said that these people were needed from 2:30 - 5:30.

#### Youth Services Committee

Leslie stated that this Committee has to be put together and updated in order to be able to hire a Youth Coordinator.

E. Highways, Traffic and Transportation

Mike stated that the report had been distributed. He asked for any questions. There were none.

F. Parks and Recreation

Elizabeth Brown reported that the letter the Board requested to be sent to the elected officials and the Mayor regarding the mini-pools had been sent out. She asked anyone, living in an area where there is a mini-pool, to write to the proper authorities.

Motion by Elizabeth Brown - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Planning Board #11 recommend denial of a concession by George Koniaris to sell soft ice cream in the Comras Mall area, and that the Parks Department enforce its regulations about selling without a concession.

Passed with 1 abstention.

Summer Programs

Elizabeth reported that applications are available for summer programs, tennis academy, and swim programs. She stated that those organizations interested should contact the Board office.

Rhoda spoke about the concerts in the parks at Comras Mall and Waring Avenue entrances to the park. She requested that the sound system on the Wenger Wagon be repaired. Rhoda stated that the Parks Department keeps saying that they have repaired it. She said that she knew that the Borough President's Office has requested that the sound system be repaired, but that no action was taken. Rhoda also asked that the lighting in the park near Waring Avenue be looked into, as it is out and is a safety problem. Rhoda asked that letters be sent to the appropriate agencies with copies to the Borough President's Office asking that the sound system be repaired on the Wenger Wagon, so that the summer concerts can be enjoyed in all areas of the parks.

Bob Black stated that the Borough President has complained about this.

Tom asked that lighting complaints be called in to the central complaint number or the Board Office.

Pat DeMartino asked for the removal of benches along Morris Park Avenue wall. He stated that they are broken and not being used by the community. He also spoke about the fact that a bench was removed from one side of the street and put on the other side near M & C Auto Repair.

G. Education and Culture

Ruth Burko stated that a copy of her report had been distributed. She stated that there was one correction on the two schools listed as approved for After-School Centers. She said it should read J.H.S. 135 and not P.S. 105. Ruth stated that the Health Fair had taken place at Columbus High School, and that it was very successful.

Motion by Rhoda Gogatz - Second by Blanche Comras Rifkin - That this report be accepted.





ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF MAY 20, 1982

PRESENT

Robert Black	(4)	Steve Lovitch	(2)
Rita Bolstad	(0)	Lee Mager	(2)
Elizabeth Brown	(0)	Silvio Mazzella	(4)
Ruth Burko	(1)	Leslie McHenry	(1)
Dominic Castore	(0)	Joe Milone	(0)
John Cifichiello	(0)	Frank Muccioli	(2)
Arthur DeLuca	(0)	Sal Napolitano	(1)
Pasquale DeMartino	(0)	Ernest Odierna	(2)
Kenneth Fleisser	(0)	Abe Pereira	(1)
Nora Fox	(0)	Joe Reda	(1)
Barbara Fried	(0)	Bill Ricevuto	(0)
Anthony Funigiello	(0)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(1)
Rhoda Gogatz	(2)	Myra Rose	(0)
Lewis Goldstein	(0)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(0)
Simeon Goldstein	(0)	Ruth Weiss	(0)
Romolo Imundi	(1)	Henry Yuspeh	(2)
Simeon Konovitch	(2)	Steve Zarkin	(3)
Mike LaGuardia	(0)		

ABSENT

Ruth Bernstein	(3)	Bill Liblick	(2)
Edith Conato	(5)	Tom Miller	(2)
Ann Danisi	(3)	Charlie Re	(5)
Gloria DiGianni	(2)	Jerry Santarpia	(5)
Israel Greenberg	(3)		

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:

Thomas Denaro - Rep. Hon. Jerry Crispino  
Patricia O'Hanlon - Rep. Hon. Aileen Ryan

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Dick Esposito - Rep. Hon. Vincent Marchiselli

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS:

Robert Nolan - Borough President Stanley Simon's Office  
Eric Barr - Rep. Comptroller Harrison Goldin  
Nadine Katz Hoffman - Comptroller Harrison Goldin's Office  
Andrea Pereira - Department of City Planning, Bronx Office  
Thomas J. Brown - District Manger, Community Planning Board #11  
Harriet Lasky - Secretary, Community Planning Board #11  
Det. Tom Lyons - 47th Precinct  
P.O. Tom Cunningham - 47th Precinct

GUESTS:

Ed Davis - Eastchester Gardens Tenants Association  
Pricilla Crowell - Eastchester Gardens Tenants Association  
Thal Davis - 2424 Boston Road Senior Citizens Center