COMMUNITY PLANNIN GOARD #11, THE BRONX 2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2 BRONX, NEW YORK 10467



(212) 653-0936)

DOMINIC CASTORE,

THOMAS J. BROWN, DISTRICT MANAGER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 1983 AT THE KNIGHTS

OF COLUMBUS - MARY QUEEN OF PEACE LODGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M. by Dom Castore, Chairman.

I. Public Meeting to consider request by Mr. Evaresto Rodriguez to lease a portion of Barnes Avenue for use as a garden and for recreation.

Dom asked if there were anyone who wished to speak on this issue. No one spoke.

II. Gallery Session

No one spoke during the time alloted for gallery speakers.

III. Minutes

Motion by Tony Funigiello - Second by - That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously accepted

Lewis Goldstein informed the Board that Congressman James Scheuer's mother had passed away today. He stated that she was President of the Scheuer Foundation which funded the Beth Abraham Hospice. Lewis stated that the funeral would be on Sunday at Temple Emanuel.

Dom reported that Jerry Esposito's mother had died. He stated that a card had been sent to the family.

IV. District Manager's Report

Tom Brown reported that the Cabinet Minutes would be sent out next week. He stated that the Cabinet meeting is December 27th. Tom said that he had spent part of last month working on the proposals for Youth Board funding. He stated that it was a tremendous copying job.

Tom reported that a week ago he had met with several other District Managers and Commissioner Henry Stern of the Department of Parks and Recreations to discuss problems and services. He said that he was able to ask that the rehabilitation of Zimmerman Playground be speeded up. Tom also stated that he had attended a forum

held by Governor Cuomo. He said that forty persons spoke. Tom said that he was one of the last to speak, and that he had spoken about the importance of housing rehabilitation in the community, and what the Board is trying to do in terms of housing rehabilitation. Tom reported that he had thanked Commissioner Scruggs-Leftwich of the Division of Housing and Community Renewal for the funding her division has given to the Neighborhood Initatives Development Corporation.

Tom answered a question that Eli Goldsmith had asked at the November meeting regarding the repainting of the center line on Boston Road between Pelham Parkway and Thwaites Place. Tom stated that he had spoken with Traffic and learned that the contract for channelization repaintings had just been started in the Bronx. He said that they would start with the primary arteries first, and hoped to complete all the work before the weather gets too bad.

Dom stated that Tony Rizzo, representing Chester Civic spoke about the MTA's proposed garage, and Thal Davis spoke about the seniors at the Governor's meeting.

Ray Locascio reported that John Cifichello's brother Anthony was buried last week.

V. Borough President's Report

Annette Marchitello reported that the:

- 1. Board of Estimate approved the extra work, without public letting in connection with the reconstruction of the Pelham Parkway Bridge, totaling \$284,237.
- 2. Board of Estimate approved the extra work, without public letting in connection with the Construction of a New Animal Hospital at the Bronx Zoo, totaling, \$36,582.
- 3. Board of Estimate approved a city Assistance Contract with the New York City Partnership Fund Co. in connection with the Morris Park New Homes Program, totaling \$160,000.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Housing

Copies of the Housing Committee Report were distributed to all the Board members (Copy attached).

1. Recommended resolution for certain actions to be taken with respect to mortgage situations affecting a large number of buildings in the community in need of rehabilitation.

Simeon Goldstein explained what the resolution meant in detail.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein - Second by Bill Liblick - That Community Board #11 send a letter to the head of each bank having a substantial investment in mortgages on multiple dwellings within our district, asking the banks to advance a meaningful portion of the cost of economically sound rehabilitation programs here. And that letters also be sent to banks which are the senior mortgagees of multiple dwellings in need of rehabilitation and where the junior mortgagee or owner will not cooperate and if such a building has a non self liquidating mortgage or one which contains a "due on sale" clause asking these banks to inform those concerned that if rehabilitation is not accomplished the bank willdemand payment on the outstanding balance when the mortgage becomes due.

Passed

2. 1753 Melville Street

Simeon reported that H.P.D. has advertised this site for rehabilitation under the Request for Proposal for \$1.00. He asked anyone interested or knowing someone interested in this to contact Tom Brown.

- 3. Recommendation for boundary changes of the Home Improvement Loan Program
- Simeon reported that the Committee had no objections to the changes which would be:
- a. Eliminate area bounded by Adee Avenue-White Plains Road-Mace Avenue-Williamsbridge Road-Pelham Parkway North-Bronx Park East.
- b. Add area bounded by Allerton Avenue-Fish Avenue-DeWitt Place-Gun Hill Road-Eastchester Road-Pelham Parkway North.
- c. The area south of Pelham Parkway which is currently eligible would remain the same.

There were no objections to any of these changes by Board members.

4. Neighborhood Initiatives Development Corporation's request for continuation of a grant from the State Division of Housing and Community Renewal

Simeon stated that the present grant is for \$54,000 and that they are requesting the same amount again.

Motion by Simeon Goldstein - Second by Sal Napolitano - That Community Board #11 ask the City to renew N.I.D.C.'s grant request.

Passed

5. Allerton Coops

Simeon reported that the Allerton Coops is close to closing on the loan.

B. Highways, Traffic and Transportation

As Pat DeMartino was not present Tom gave the report. He stated that no one came to speak at the Public Meeting held earlier tonight. Tom stated that certified letters were sent to the homeowners abutting Barnes Avenue, and to the Getty Station. He said that letters were also sent to the Morris Park Community Association, the Pelham Parkway Community Association and that notices were also posted in Janel Towers.

Tom reported that the one elderly homeowner had called to say that he did not go out at night, but that he was against this request. Tom said that one of the certified letters was returned marked "moved".

Motion by Sal Napolitano - Second by Lewis Goldstein - That Community Board #11 go on record as denying this request.

Tony Funigiello stated that he felt it was unfair of the Board to deny this request when no one spoke against it.

Dom DeProspro spoke. He stated that he was not able to get to the meeting earlier as he had just finished work. Mr. DeProspro stated that Mr. Rodriguez took down part of the fence and is parking three vehicles there.

Passed with 5 abstentions.

2. Pelham Parkway Express Lines

Tom stated that at the last meeting he had reported that he had received a call from Henry Bergassi, Board #12's Transportation Chairman on the possibility of the Pelham Parkway Express Lines suspending services. Tom said that both he and Pat had spoken with Mr. Bergassi. He stated that he had also spoken with Mr. Piccone of Liberty Lines on this. Tom said that the Board has not received any correspondence on this. He said that he had also spoken with Eric Barr of the Comptroller's Office, and that Eric had stated that he was unaware of any pending action on this matter before the Board of Estimate or Bureau of Franchises. Tom said that the Board could not take any action on this without further information.

Mike LaGuardia reported that the New York Bus Company may be going on strike on Monday.

3. Request for angle parking on January 23rd and March 22nd

 $\underline{\text{Motion by Henry Yuspeh - Second by Blanche Rifkin}}$ - That Community Board #11 approve this request.

Passed

4. Request by Einstein College of Medicine for No Parking signs

Tom reported that he had received a call from Bob Jempty of the Einstein College of Medicine regarding a request for No Parking signs. He stated that later a letter was received from James Sapione, the Director of the Hospital's facilities requesting No Parking signs on either side of the entrance to the parking facility of the housing complex. Tom read the letter.

Dom directed Tom to discuss this with Traffic.

5. Request for loading zone from Chesbrough Textitles

Tom stated that at the last meeting the Board had approved a request by Chesbrough Textitles for a loading zone. He said that the Board had aked that it not exceed twenty-five feet. Tom said that he had sent a letter to this effect to Traffic. He stated that he had spoken with his liaison at Traffic before he sent the letter, and that he had told Tom that Traffic's survey indicated that more than twenty-five feet was necessary. Tom said that he had requested that this be sent to the Board in writing because the Board might want to change its request.

 $\,$ Dom suggested that no action be taken until the Board receives a letter from $\,$ Traffic.

C. Health and Social Services

Rhoda Gogatz reported that at the last meeting of Bronx Municipal Hospital Center's Advisory Board that she had attended, an invitation was extended to the Board to set

up an evening for a tour of several strategic areas of the hospital, e.g., Cardiac Care Unit, Intensive Care Unit and Emergency Room. She asked anyone interested to let her know so that a date could be set up through Jean Richardson of Community Affairs at B.M.H.C.

Rhoda reported that B.M.H.C. will be going through a great deal of construction over the next two years. She said that they are doing a great job to improve the quality of care at B.M.H.C.

Rhoda also reported that Beth Abraham Hospital has offered the Board space for a meeting. She stated that they would like to make a presentation to the Board on the hospice.

Rhoda reported that there is a vacancy on the Advisory Board of B.M.H.C. from Board #11. She stated that usually these positions are filled by the Chairman and Assistant Chairman of the Health and Social Services Committee.

Tom asked Rhoda when they meet, and she said that it was the first Wednesday of the month.

Bill Liblick said that it might be difficult for him to attend these meetings.

Tom suggested that the Board wait on naming another delegate to B.M.H.C.

D. Economic Development

 $1.\ \mathrm{Application}$ by Mr. John Glascoe IV for a newsstand at the northwest corner of Allerton Avenue and White Plains Road

Sal Napolitano gave the background on this request and stated that this was a new applicant for an existing newsstand.

 $\underline{\text{Motion by Sal Napolitano}}$ - Second by Tony Funigiello - That Community Board #11 approve this applicant.

Passed

E. Public Safety

Joe Reda reported that the New York Times had an article on Sunday on crime in the city. He stated that the 43rd precinct had the highest rate of grand theft autos.

Joe asked about the phone at the 47th precinct and Tom stated that at the last Cabinet meeting Captain DeGregorio had acknowledged that there is sometimes a problem for the public to reach the 47th precinct. Tom said that he was sure that Captain DeGregorio has spoken with Captain Burke about this and that measures will be taken to correct this problem.

Tom spoke about Eli Goldsmith's complaint of calling 911 as discussed at the last meeting. Eli was unable to provide information as to when the call in question was made and who the 911 operator was who gave the inappropriate response.

Eli reported that he had attended a 47th Precinct Council meeting, and that it was reported that it now has a recording telling callers to please hold on.

Joe reported that other crimes, e.g., burglaries are on the decline. He said that

the 43rd and 47th precincts were working together and many arrests have been made. Joe stated that while arrests were made those arrested were out the next day.

Henry Yuspeh spoke about an article that appeared on the front page of the Times today about releasing criminals from Rikers Island. He stated that 70% of those released return to their criminal activities. He suggested that a letter be sent to the Mayor asking that this practice be stopped at once.

Henry Yuspeh suggested that Community Planning Board #11 send a letter to the Mayor asking that criminals not be released from Rikers Island.

There was a great deal of discussion as to who besides the Mayor should receive such a letter.

Joe Milone requested that the names and pictures of these criminals be published in the papers.

A great deal of discussion went on as to why this could not be done.

Blanche Rifkin reported that Bronx Psychiatric had failed its creditation again.

Nora Fox reported on a meeting she had attended on crime prevention, and Joe elaborated on it.

F. Sanitation

Ernie Odierna suggested that the community check out the sewers and catchbasins around their areas and notify Tom if ther are any problems.

Tom reported that he had received complaints about problems with night pick-ups by Sanitation. He explained that they are on snow alert, and so many pick-ups are made at night. Tom stated that they are coming down a block and topping off a load and coming back several hours later to complete the street. He said that he felt that another way of topping off must be devised to avoid waking homeowners two times a night. Tom asked the Board members to report such practices to him.

Ray Locascio reported that the new catchbasin on Pelham Parkway North has flooded the homes on Kingsland Avenue between Astor and Waring Avenues.

Mike LaGuardia stated that he had gotten several calls from homeowners whose basements were being flooded. He ststed that these homeowners never had a problem before the new sewer was put it.

Discussion took place on this sewer and the others to be constructed.

Tom said that he would look into this.

G. Employee Relations

Dom stated that the Officers had met and discussed Tom's request for a 7% increase. He stated that the Committee agreed to give him his requested 7% increase. Dom turned the meeting over to Lee Mager, First Vice Chairman.

Motion by Dom Castore - Second by Rhoda Gogatz - That Community Board #11 grant the District Manager his request for a 7% increase.

Discussion took place on Tom's request for an increase and Frank explained how the Committee had agreed on the amount.

Brenda Petri asked whether salary increases are automatic. Frank and Dom said that they are based on performance and that the Officers had given Tom priorities and would be monitoring his perfromance.

 $\underline{\text{Motion by Bill Liblick - Second by Blanche Rifkin}}$ - That the Board go into Executive Session.

Motion defeated

H. Youth/Youth Services

1. Recommendation on Youth Board funded programs

Ray Locascio reported that on December 7th the Youth Committee had met to discuss the Youth Board proposals it had received. He ststed that the Committee recommends that the programs be funded as follows:

Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association After School Program -\$21,400

Morris Park Community Association \$20,000 for the After School Program, \$5,000 for its Summer Youth Recreation Program

Bronx Council on the Arts - \$17,121 for its Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention program

B.O.L.D. -\$6,000 for its Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention program

Northeast Bronx Westchester Neighborhood Restoration Association — \$5,000 for its Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention program.

Ray stated that any monies not used should come back to the Board. He stated that the Committee had also discussed Support and Private Match funds for Bronx Council on the Arts, Community Service Society and the After School Program at Lehman and recommends them.

Ray thanked Leslie McHenry for the use of the Senior Center at Parkside Houses for the meeting.

 $\underline{\text{Motion by Ray Locascio}}$ - Second by Blanche Rifkin - That these programs be funded as recommeded by the Youth Committee.

Discussion took place on the programs and Tom reported that the Youth Board strongly suggests that \$5,988\$ be allocated for summer programs.

Passed with 2 abstentions.

- 2. Selection of Youth Coordinator
- a. Jerry Riconda spoke. He then answered questions posed by several Board members.
- b. Linda Stone spoke. She then answered questions posed by several Board members.
- c. Frances Lee spoke. She then answered questions posed by several Board members.

Motion by Lee Mager - Second by Bill Liblick - That the Board go into Executive Session.

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:20 P.M. and returned at 10:16 P.M.

Dom announced that Linda Stone had been selected as the Youth Coordinator.

V. Old Business

A. Re-naming of Bronxdale Avenue and East Tremont Avenue to Tony Rota Square.

Dom explained that Councilman Michael DeMarco had requested that this street be re-named Tony Rota Square.

Tom stated that the Board had received a letter on this request.

Motion by Joe Reda - Second by - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this name change.

Discussion took place on this name change and the cost to the city of changing street signs.

John Farrel, representative of Michael DeMarco, spoke. He explained that this was a joint request from Councilman DeMarco and Assemblyman John Dearie.

Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M. Dom wished all a Happy Holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis Goldstein,

Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 1983

PRESENT

Elizabeth Brown Ruth Burko Dominic Castore Nicholas Cremonese Silvana DeBellis Gloria DiGianni Stella Fernandez Nora Fox Anthony Funigiello Rhoda Gogatz Eli Goldsmith Lewis Goldstein Simeon Goldstein Rabbi Israel Greenberg Abraham Kleinman Michael LaGuardia William Liblick

Raymond Locascio Steve Lovitch Lee Mager Leslie McHenry Joseph Milone Frank Muccioli Salvatore Napolitano Ernest Odierno Abraham Pereira Brenda Petri Michael Prisco Charles Re Joseph Reda Blanche Rifkin Madeline Saltaformaggio Henry Yuspeh

ABSENT

Robert Black John Cifichiello Arthur DeLuca Pasquale DeMartino Norman Engel Kenneth Fleisser Barbara Fried Romolo Imundi William Ricevuto

Steve Zarkin

EX OFFICIO BOAR MEMBERS:

John W. Farrel - Rep. of Hon. Michael DeMarco

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Kenneth Kearns - Rep. of Assemblyman Eliot Engel Robert McGuire - Rep. of Assemblyman Vincent Marchiselli John J. DeGaetano - Rep. of Senator Abraham Bernstein Ronnie Albert - Rep. of Assemblyman John Dearie

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS:

Thomas J. Brown, District Manager - Community Planning Board #11 Harriet Lasky, Secretary - Community Planning Board #11 Annette Marchitello - Rep. Bronx Borough President Stanley Simon John Lavin - Bronx Office of City Planning

GUESTS:

Thal Davis - 2424 Boston Road Senior Citizens Center P.O. John Strafella - Community Affairs - 43rd Precinct