

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD # 11, THE BRONX Bronx Municipal Hospital Center Nurses Residence - Room 11N22 Bronx, New York 10461 (718) 892-6262 • FAX (718)892-1861



Dominic Castore, Chairman

Fernando Ferrer, Borough President Thomas Lucania, District Manager

COMMITTEES

Community Development & Budget Priorities Economic Development Education & Culture Health & Social Services

Highways, Traffic & Transportation

Housing Land Use

Parks & Playgrounds

Public Safety

Sanitation & Environmental Protection

Youth Services Planning

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1993

IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL

The meeting was called to order at $8:00\ P.M.$ by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. <u>Guest Speaker</u> - Ms. Martha Seguarra, Chemical Bank Branch Manager

 $\,$ Ms. Seguarra stated that she was the branch manager at the new Chemical Bank on White Plains Road, off of Lydig Avenue.

Ms. Seguarra said that as of June 11th both branches will be consolidated into one location. She also said that customer account numbers would remain the same and that there would be extended hours the branch will be open Monday-Friday from 9-3, on Thursday from 5-7 and on Saturday from 9-1.

Ms. Seguarra said that presently there are 5 cash machines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. She said that another machine is due to be installed next month. Ms. Seguarra stated that Chemical Bank is committed to staying at this location. She also stated that she did not know what was going into the 2190 White Plains Road side. She stated that from talking to the construction workers she has learned that it will be a 3 story building with a Living Well Lady and a Pharmacy. Ms. Seguarra stated that the construction should be finished in August or September.

II. Gallery Session

a. Norman Engel

Norman stated that he was here tonight to tell the board that he has no ill feelings about not being reappointed. He stated that since he spends half the year in Florida, he realizes that he could not give enough time to the Board. Norman stated that he has learned alot from being on the board and has made many friends.

Dom thanked Norman for faithfully serving on the board and his concern for the community.

b. Robert Montanaro - Chester Civic Association

Mr. Montanaro stated that he was here tonight to represent and speak on behalf of the members of the Chester Civic Association.

Mr. Montanaro stated that as members of the Chester Civic Association we wish to both inform Community Board #11, as well as seek your assistance in solving a pressing issue in our community. The situation involves the dumping of various types of debris as well as unkempt lots which promote dumping in our area. He stated that the 3 locations are:

- 1) Waring Avenue (between Ely and Bruner) Mainly property owned by Pergament/Prestige Properties.
- 2) The area around I.S. 144. Mainly Mace Avenue between Delanoy and Gunther Avenues.
- 3) East Gun Hill Road between the Pelham Bay Diner and Waldbaum's Shopping Center.

Mr. Montanaro stated that all 3 areas lack sufficient concrete dividers to inhibit trucks or vans from backing onto the property and dumping its contents. He stated that the Waring Avenue area was recently cleaned by volunteers on Saturday, May 8th. Mr. Montanaro stated that the Chester Civic members put in numerous hours cleaning this area. He stated they removed sewer pipes and other garbage. Mr. Montanaro stated that much of this was left by Picone contractors. He asked that the owners be made to clean up their properties and put up some type of barrier, as well as large "No Dumping" signs. He asked that the board address this immediately.

Simeon spoke about the city being able to put liens on properties which are not kept up and then the owner can not get a mortgage.

Thomas stated that he had spoken with Mr. Naclerio and that Mr. Naclerio has promised to speak to his tenant on East Gun Hill Road and show him the letter. Thomas said that he would send the letter to Pogostin Properties regarding his property.

Mr. Montanaro asked that Mr. Picone do more to the rest of Waring Avenue from Demeyer to Vance Street. He suggested burming the dirt.

III. Minutes

Corrections were made by the following board members:

Simeon Goldstein stated that on page 6 it should read that there were problems with kids from the neighborhood hanging out on the street until 10 or 11 at night. Then he stated that the boys in the residence are well supervised.

Emil asked if the letter that he had requested has been sent to Ms. Levin, the editor. He stated that he had made a motion on it and that it had been seconded by Frank Muccioli. The letter will be sent.

IV. Chairman's Report - Dominic Castore

Dom reported that Rich Mancuso's Father, Anthony, passed away last week. The board sent a plant and received a thank you from Rich and his family.

Dom introduced 2 new Board members, Patrick Dolan and Mark Shkreli.

a. Request by Mercy College to add the name Mercy College to Antin Place from Brady Avenue to Holland Avenue.

A Motion was made by Emil Eisdorfer, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin - That Community Board #11 approve the adding of Mercy College Place to the Antin Place signs from Brady Avenue to Holland Avenue.

Passed.

b. Request by Councilman Jose Rivera to add the name Bronx Zoo Way to Boston Road between Bronx Park East and Bronx Park South.

A Motion was made by Emil Eisdorfer, Seconded by Leslie McHenry and Lory Alcala - That Community Board #11 approve the adding of Bronx Zoo Way to signs on Boston Road between Bronx Park East and Bronx Park South.

V. District Manager's Report - Thomas Lucania

Thomas reported that Sackett Avenue between Williamsbridge Road and Paulding Avenue was cleaned by participants from a work release program of the Department of Corrections through the Bronx Borough President's office during the early part of April.

Thomas reported that Councilman DeMarco had set up a meeting with Mike Weiss and a number of other high level Department of Transportation officials and members of Community District #10 and 11 area two weeks ago. He stated that D.O.T. has agreed to sit down with the board in what they call a Community Traffic Enforcement Program where the board will give D.O.T. the types of violations and the areas where the board feels are most congested and dangerous. Thomas asked any board member who has a particular type of violation that they see in the community and consider to be hazardous to notify the board. He stated that the procedure has not been set up yet. Thomas stated that he had spoken with Assistant Commissioner Ronald Thompson yesterday and that this should be finalized within the next couple of months. Thomas stated that Chief Rachlin of Bronx Borough Enforcement is more than willing to start the ball rolling informally now.

Thomas stated that the Board has been involved with the Borough President, Van Nest Community Association and the Morris Park Local Development Corporation on the Neighborhood Security and Services Council in the Van Nest community where we are meeting with representatives from community and religious organizations in the Van Nest area trying to get additional people involved in community organizations recruiting people for patrols in the Van Nest area. The council is putting together a list of locations where the Department of Corrections work release people will be doing cleaning in the Van Nest community and a list of locations for tree planting. Thomas stated that the Borough President has dedicated time and effort and dollars to the Van Nest community. Thomas stated that they are also working with the MTA on the project at 180th Street which will include concrete sidewalks along the entire wall which hopefully will eliminate some of the dumping conditions that occur there. He stated that the contract has been awarded and will begin as soon as the contractor gets the permits.

Thomas reported that he had attended a meeting of the Coalition of the Northeast Bronx Tenant Associations. He stated that they are working with the Housing Police and the Housing Authority regarding Police manpower in the housing developments. Thomas stated that there will be a rally at City Hall on Thursday at 11 A.M. to rally for more Housing Police.

 $\,$ $\,$ Dom thanked Linda White for the work she is doing in the Van Nest area and the hours she has put in.

Dom spoke about the meeting with D.O.T. and said that D.O.T. will get back to the board regarding the establishment of community enforcement priorities.

Street Activity Permit Renewals

a. Application by the Fielding Street Block Association for a street closing on Fielding Street, between Eastchester Road and Woodhull Street on September 5th with a rain date of September 6th from 12 P.M. to 10 P.M.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Joe Milone - That Community Board #11 approve of the request to close Fielding Street on September 5th from 12 Noon to 10 P.M.

Passed.

b. Request by Hering Avenue residents to close Hering Avenue between Pelham Parkway South and Lydig Avenue on July 4th from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Lory Alcala - That Community Board #11 approve of the request to close Hering Avneue on July 4th from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

Passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report - Thomas Lucania

Thomas reported that the report had been distributed.

VII. Borough President's Report - Annette Marchitello

Annette gave the following report to Harriet:

l. Borough President Ferrer receives many inquiries from merchant associations and local development corporations about available resources.

Notification of a free conference is being issued for those who wish to attend.

The conference is being presented by the Center for Neighborhood Economic Development supported by funding from the New York State Urban Development Corporation & Chemical Bank.

2. Ferrer's New Capital Project Management Nets Borough-Wide Results

A \$12 million capital program funded by Borough President Fernando Ferrer will improve neighborhood safety and quality of life in The Bronx through a series of unique borough-wide initiatives developed in response to requests by Bronx residents.

Borough President Fernando Ferrer has allocated new funding to:

resurface and repair schoolyards throughout the borough, \$300,000

install security street lighting borough-wide, \$500,000

park improvements including new parts and continued support for small parks under the Neighborhood Park Improvement Program,

\$650,000

construct Lots For Tots outdoor play facilities adjacent to day care centers, (leverages matching funds) \$150,000,

install chain link fences on city-owned vacant lots throughout The Bronx in conjunction with clean-up efforts coordinated by the Borough President's Office, \$500,000

street and park tree planting

\$500,000

continue his funding of subsidies to reduce selling costs for new affordable housing in The Bronx

\$500,000

We have learned from constituents and community boards of common concerns, such as the need for fencing vacant lots to prevent the repeat of hazardous and unsightly dumping. We streamlined our capital project management throughout the borough as needed.

Borough President Ferrer has assigned staff to make site visits in order to evaluate recommendations on the basis of need for inclusion in these programs. Suggestions may be submitted in writing to Xavier Rodriguez, Director of the Bureau of borough Services, Office of The Bronx Borough President, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 301, Bronx, New York 10451.

3. Teacher Parking Issue

At District Service Cabinet meetings requests have been made for "dedicated" parking spaces for teachers. Because there are different understandings by different groups I requested that Jack Sodden issue a universal understanding statement for the Community Board liaisons to issue to the Community Boards.

The gist of the statement is as follows:

The Koch administration issued an Executive Order forbidding increased parking for "dedicated groups," as a way of coping with New York's failure to comply with Federal Environmental standards.

Under the Dinkins administration the Executive Order was rigidly upheld.

Currently, schools that have dedicated parking that was issued prior to Koch's Executive Order may continue it. If school signs are removed and they have proof of their status the signs may be replaced. No new signs may be added.

A suggestion was made for the UFT to include this issue in their contract negotiation with the ${\sf City}$.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Community Development and Budget Priorities - Thomas Lucania

l. Establishments of district priorities for the Community Development Agency for the preparation of the Request for Proposals.

Thomas reported that a report on the Community Board Public Hearing regarding the establishment of priorities for the Community was included with handouts (report attached).

Thomas reported that 17 people testified at the hearings. He stated that the most commonly raised issues dealt with Youth Development Services - educational support/truancy and drop out prevention and youth job readiness; adult literacy/adult education; senior services programs; entitlement assistance/advocacy and support services and immigrant/refugee assistance.

Thomas stated that these were the 5 most commonly raised issues by the 17 people who spoke at the hearing. Thomas stated that these are the 5 priorities that the Board will submit to the Community Development Agency who will be preparing the RFP for the \$84,000. He stated that the contract will probably be awarded in October with a start date of Nov. 1.

Joe Milone asked if the \$84,000 would be distributed among all 5 of the program areas or if only one would receive it.

Thomas explained that the RFP will be written with all of these priorities, but the \$84,000 is not going to fund 5 different programs. Thomas stated that we have the opportunity to submit our aim on any of these services. It will be the reviewers who will decide on the best use of the money based on the RFP submissions. Thomas stated that the contract minimum for one program is \$50,000.

B. Health and Social Services - Blanche Rifkin

Report on Committee meeting held April 26, 1993 at Calvary Hospital (Report attached).

Blanche stated that the Executive Director and the staff were most gracious to those who attended the meeting. She stated that Calvary is a most unusual hospital. They try to make the patients as comfortable as possible. Blanche said that they get more applications then they have room for.

She also stated that volunteers are still needed at Calvary, Jacobi and Einstein Hospitals.

Blanche reported that there is a toy drive going on at Einstein Hospital. Blanche stated that they need new toys for infants to teenagers. She stated that they can be brought to Patient Relations on the 2nd Floor.

C. Economic Development - Simeon Goldstein/Emil Eisdorfer

1. Alcohol Beverage Control License Renewal

a. Bronxdale Diner - 1506 Bronxdale Avenue for on-premises consumption.

Simeon stated that there have been no problems with this location.

Passed unanimously.

2. Information on Zoning Text Amendment regarding the development of commercial businesses in manufacturing zone.

Simeon reported that the CPC may consider changes in the zoning regulations which would allow large commercial stores over 10,000 square feet to open in manufacturing districts.

A Motion was made by Simeon Goldstein, Seconded by Robert Potter - That this item be referred to the Land Use Committee for study.

Passed unanimously.

3. Alcohol Beverage Renewal Applications

Simeon stated that the board has often voted against the issuance of a liquor license or renewal of a license, but the ABC would still issue the license. He stated that the Board should look into possible pieces of legislation which would give the boards recommendations more weight with ABC.

A Motion was made by Simeon Goldstein, Seconded by Mary Healy - That this issue will be addressed by the Economic Development Committee.

D. Highways, Traffic and Transportation - Thomas Lucania

Thomas stated that a report had been distributed which lists the streets in district 11 that will be milled and resurfaced in 1993. He said that he is waiting for the In house list and that the milling program is scheduled to begin in mid-June

E. Education and Culture - Thomas Lucania

Thomas reported that Ruth's report was distributed (Report attached).

F. Housing - Leslie McHenry

Leslie reported that she had attended a meeting with the new Superintendent of Parkside House and that he will attend the DSC meetings.

Thomas stated that he had invited the project managers and superintendents to the last DSC meeting as representatives from the recycling office were going to be there. Thomas stated that representatives from Eastchester Gardens were there and that he is putting them on our mailing list.

G. Parks and Playgrounds - John Cifichiello

John asked if the Matthews-Muliner Pool would be open this year. John said that it has been closed for the past few years due to vandalism. He asked Thomas what the status was on this issue.

Thomas stated that he had not been told by the Department of Parks what is going to happen with the mini-pools this summer. Thomas stated that we only got word recently that Zimmerman Playground will be having a summer program.

John asked if Zimmerman Park would be closed at night and Thomas said that it would be closed each night.

John reported that there is going to be a Bronx Day at the Botanical Garden on June 12th. There will be a big tent, free ice cream and cookies.

H. Sanitation and Environmental Protection - Ralph Lanzilli

Ralph reported that as of June 1st, Sanitation agents will be issuing summonses for non-compliance with recycling.

Leslie asked if inspectors would be going through people's garbage. Ralph said that they would be doing this, as this is the only way they would know if the owner is in violation.

I. Youth - Linda White/Richard Mancuso

Rich reported that Linda White is the new Chairperson of the Youth Committee. He stated that the next meeting is May 24th at Bronx House. Rich thanked the Board for the card and plant and everyone for their kind wishes.

Linda stated that she had a flyer on a summer teen program sponsored by Parkside Community Center Advisory Board.

Linda reported that on Thursday, May 27th Rich Mancuso will be honored by Children Are Precious.

Rich reported that he is working on the bus applications and on the SYEP applications. He stated that Community Board #11 will be a Work Sponsor.

Rich reported that he met last week with Eddie Ortiz. He stated that they are targeting stores to see that they are not selling cigarettes and alcohol to minors.

Linda reported that they are working with the Northeast Bronx Coalition to get 50 slots for summer jobs for teenagers in the neighborhood who are above the SYEP income level.

J. Public Safety - Joseph Reda

Joe introduced Police Officers Murphy and Rivera.

Joe read the following crime stats:

	1992	1993	% Change
Robbery Burglary	54 134	55 125	1.8 Up 7.2 Down
Grand Larceny Auto	175	180	2.7 Up
<u>Year - To</u>	- Date		
Robbery	243	251	3.1 Up
Burglary Grand Larceny Auto	459 633	426 617	7.7 Down 2.5 Down
Arrests			
Robbery	7	17	
Burglary	12	10	
Grand Larceny Auto	14	30	
Total Felonies 360 Total Complaints 1,232			

Joe introduced Detective Gallagher of the Transit Police.

Det. Gallagher asked anyone who has problems with the buses or trains to contact him. He stated that Chief O'Connor has a program that will enable TA people to come before any community group and give a lecture on safety. He can be reached at 330-4908.

 $\,$ Dom asked that Det. Gallagher come back at a future meeting to give his presentation.

K. Nominations Committee - Ralph Lanzilli

Ralph thanked Blanche Rifkin and Anthony DelGaudio for their help in preparing the slate of officers.

Ralph stated that the slate is:

Chairman - Dominic Castore
First Vice Chairman - Frank Muccioli
Second Vice Chairman - Lewis Goldstein
Secretary - James Gisondi
Treasurer - Alfred Locascio

Ralph stated that Seymour Ostroga had been nominated for the position of Second Vice Chairman from the floor. Ralph said that all the candidates accepted the nomination.

 $\mbox{\sc Ralph}$ asked if there were any other nominations for Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Lory Alcala - That nominations for Chairman be closed.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{Ralph}}$$ asked if there were any other nominations for First Vice Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Joseph Reda - That nominations for First Vice chairman be closed.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{Ralph}}$$ asked if there were any other nominations for Second Vice Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Anthony DelGaudio - That nominations for Second Vice Chairman be closed.

 $\,$ Ralph asked if there were any other nominations for Secretary. There were none.

A Motion was made by Robert Potter, Seconded by Anthony DelGaudio - That nominations for Secretary be closed.

 $\mbox{\sc Ralph}$ asked if there were any other nominations for Treasurer. There were none.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin - That nominations for Treasurer be closed.

IX. Old_Business

Bill Ricevuto asked about the signs for Pelham Parkway. Thomas said that they were installed and that the Police Department will be monitoring the Parkway for people barbecuing.

Respectfully submitted,

James Gisondi, Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF MAY 20, 1993

PRESENT			
Lory Alcala	(4) (2)	David Leavitt	(1)(1)
Dominic Castore	(1) (0)	Leslie McHenry	(2)(2)
John Cifichiello	(0) (0)	Joseph Milone	(2)(1)
Pricilla Crowell	(0) (0)	Robert Potter	(1)(0)
Anthony DelGaudio	(2) (3)	Joseph Reda	(1)(0)
Patrick Dolan	(1) (0)	William Ricevuto	(1)(2)
Emil Eisdorfer	(3)(1)	Blanche Rifkin	(1)(1)
Harain Figueroa	(1) (1)	Scott Roveto	(0)(0)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(2) (1)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(2)(1)
Simeon Goldstein	(0) (1)	Mark Skhreli	(1)(0)
Mary Healy	(3) (2)	Linda White	(1)(1)
Ralph Lanzilli	(1)(2)		
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ABSENT			
Dr. Mary Acker	(7)(6)	William Liblick	(4)(5)
Robert Black	(7)(6)	Alfred Locascio	(5) (4)
Ruth Burko	(4) (3)	George Medici	(5) (3)
Mauro Fanelli	(2) (0)	Frank Muccioli	(4)(0)
Kenneth Gelnick	(5) (4)	Seymour Ostroga	(1)(0)
Rhoda Gogatz	(3)(0)	Pat Quaranta	(5) (2)
Lewis Goldstein	(3) (2)	Robert Torres	(4)(2)
Gerald Launer	(2) (1)	Lisa Winters	(5) (1)

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

Thomas Lucania, District Manager

Harriet Lasky, Secretary

Richard Mancuso, Youth Coordinator

Annette Marchitello, Borough President Fernando Ferrer's Office

^{*}Numbers in parenthesis denotes absences from September 1992 Numbers in BOLD denotes absences from September 1991-June 1992