

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11. THE BRONX JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER NURSES RESIDENCE-ROOM 11N22 BRONX, NEW YORK 10461



(718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861

Dominic Castore. Chairman

Fernando Ferrer. Borough President

John Fratta, District Manager

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

COMMITTEES

Community Development G **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

IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 P.M. by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

- Guest Speaker Matthew J. Stanton
 - 1. Metro cards for students

Mr. Stanton stated that passes are issued to the Board of Education for students to use between the hours of 5:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. He stated that these passes which at present time total 500,000 are distributed by the Board of Education and are good for 2 rides per day. Stanton stated that there are 14 different passes. also stated that if a student loses his or her pass they must pay full fare until the next month when new passes Mr. Stanton stated that the passes are not are issued. intended for use for extra curricular activities. stated that the Board of Education issues token for this as in the case of football or baseball practices.

Mr. Stanton reported that as of September the MTA is going to put all buses on line for the metro cards. stated that the Board of Education wants to begin one borough at a time. He stated that the target date is November, and that the Board of Education will choose the schools. Mr. Stanton stated that by September 1997 he expects that the buses will be on full metro cards.

2. One person train operation on Dyre Avenue shuttle

Mr. Stanton stated that a hearing was held on this proposal. He stated that one person train operation is as safe as 2 person train operations.

Questions were asked by several board members.

One question dealt with manned token booths which operate from 8:30 A.M. until 11:00 P.M. Mr. Stanton stated that when there are no token clerks they may return to the method of on board collections.

Leslie McHenry stated that she was concerned about the safety of women and men coming home late and having no protection due to one person train operation.

Mr. Stanton stated that they were looking into this.

A Motion was made by Pat Dolan, Seconded by Elaine Weisbrot - That Community Board #11 send letters to the president of the MTA expressing concern of the safety of passengers with the one person train operation.

Unanimously passed.

II. Gallery Session

1. Sal Castorina - Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association

Mr. Castorina stated that since 1990 signs were requested for Pelham Parkway Service Road from Eastchester Road to Seymour Avenue stating that no parking was allowed. He stated that we were told it would take 6 months, but to date we have no signs. Mr. Castorina stated that the Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association agreed to take the responsibility for putting up these signs if they were knocked down. He stated that no parking should be allowed from 8 A.M. until 5 P.M. Mr. Castorina spoke about the problem that people have trying to get out of their driveways when people are parked along the parkway,

Dom asked John to set up a meeting on this. John stated that he had raised this with DOT.

Mr. Castorina also spoke about Mace and Waring Avenues. He stated that the street was dug up but never completed.

John reported that the milling was done by a private contractor. He stated that DOT is backlogged on asphalting. He stated that it should be completed by the middle of October.

2. Dominda Castro

Ms. Castro spoke about a serious TA problem. She stated that a study was done which showed that the doors of the trains are not perfect when closed. Ms. Castro stated that this study was documented on television.

Ms. Castro spoke about the double parking at Morgan Avenue and DeWitt Place and at the Gun Hill Road station. She stated that the signs were taken down and never replaced.

Ms. Castro spoke about an empty lot owned by Mrs, Curtain on DeWitt Place. She stated that the lot was used by the TA in construction of the station. Ms. Castro stated that this lot has turned into an illegal parking lot. She said that there are 10 cars parking there, littering is going on. Ms. Castro stated that the Realty Company employees park their cars there.

John reported that the property was cited by Enforcement and was cleaned by Sanitation. He stated that the owner was billed for this.

- Ms. Castro stated that there is illegal activity going on at the Gun Hill Road Station. She asked that litter basked be placed by the station to elevate the littering.
- P.O. Nick Stanich spoke. He stated that the beat officer has been addressing these problems. He stated that Captain Shortell was shown the list of complaints and delegated it to several officers. Nick stated that he is in the process of looking into the drug situation.

3. Lorin Enea

Ms. Enea spoke about illegal parking at the triangles at DeWitt Place, Morgan Avenue and Gun Hill Road. Ms. Enea presented photographs of this situation.

4. Mabel Ostroga

Mrs. Ostroga spoke about cars speeding and the drivers not paying attention to stop signs or pedestrians.

III. Minutes

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Robert Potter - That the Minutes of the February, March, May, and both June meetings be approved as received.

Unanimously accepted.

IV. <u>District Manager's Report</u> - John Fratta

John reported that over the summer DOT came to the board with a proposal to reconstruct the bridge over Gun Hill Road. He stated that it is a 2 year project. John stated that their proposal was to have one lane of traffic in either direction. John said that this proposal was rejected because of the traffic tie ups it was cause due to the construction of Home Depot and other projects.

John reported that the proposal that was acceptable to boards 11 and 12 was to have traffic going east bound, and have the west bound traffic detoured to Eastchester Road. He stated that he had signed off on these plans. John reported that he had received a phone call from Carl Striker furious as to how he could of signed off on this plan. John stated that with the old plan businesses along the strip would be hurt. He stated that anyone double parking to run in and get a newspaper, or coffee would be ticketed. John said that the new plan allows for this. John stated that Carl asked him to bring this proposal back to the board for a voted.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella - That Community Board #11 go on record as approving the plans to have traffic going east bound, and the west bound traffic detoured to Eastchester Road.

Passed.

John reported that the 18" sweeping rule is now back in effect in Community Board #11. John reported that from now until October 21st Sanitation will warn people if they do not sweep 18" into the street. After October 21st anyone not complying will be summonsed. John stated that the local newspapers will describe the law.

John reported that the post offices have new hours. The Gun Hill Road station will be open from 8-5 Monday-Friday.

John reported that the board had received a request from E & V bakery at 1740 Unionport Road for a loading zone between 11 P.M. and 6 A.M. He stated that they are at Van Nest and Morris Park Avenue by St. Dominic's.

Discussion took place on this issue. The concerns expressed by board members were that if we approved this loading zone then every business would be requesting a loading zone therefore no motion was made on it.

John reported that the FY 1988 Borough Consultations will be held on Thursday, October 3rd at Fordham Prep beginning at 4:30 P.M. He stated that we will be meeting with Sanitation, Fire, DOT, HPD, Police, Parks, Buildings and the Department of Aging. John stated that the office will be sending out the agendas for these consultations tomorrow.

IV. <u>Chairman's Report</u> - Dominic Castore

Dom thanked everyone for their flowers, cards, phone calls and love during the illness and death of his wife.

Dom spoke about the loss of Ralph Lanzilli, a good friend, board member, Chairman of Sanitation and the Treasurer. He asked for a moment of silence in Ralph's memory.

Dom reported that he is working on reconstructing the committees. He stated that he hoped to have it completed by next week. Dom reported that he may make some changes in Chairpersons.

Dom reported that the board needs to have and Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Guidelines for Street Activity Permits, and to then review each application before it is presented to the board for a voted. Dom named David Leavitt and James Cernera as Co-Chair of the Committee, with Dr. Mahendra Patel, Dexter Hendon and Hazel Miura as board members.

Dom reported that there will be new rules for making motions, and seconding them. He stated that your hand must be raised, and he will then call upon one of those whose hand is raised. This will avoid the problems of people yelling out and names not being properly recorded.

V. Borough President's Report - Linda Loeb

Linda welcomed everyone back on behalf of Borough President

Fernando Ferrer. As the report was lengthy she submitted it to Harriet.

BRONX OUTPERFORMS CITY IN JOBS AND BUSINESS

The Bronx has substantially outperformed New York City as a whole in employment gains and the number of firms added to the economy, according to New York State Department of Labor statistics.

Since 1987, while Manhattan and the rest of the city's economy lost some 200,000 private sector jobs, The Bronx gained 3,725--an increase of 2.12 percent.

Since 1987. The Bronx has built 17,000 housing units with another 5,000 in the pipeline. Over the past eight years 458 new business have been established in the borough, while during that same period 1,864 left Manhattan. Retail is not the only business thriving in The Bronx. The service sector primarily health care gained 21 percent. And while the financial industry was downsized in Manhattan, it grew by 11 percent in The Bronx.

"What's been most encouraging is that many of these jobs have not been minimum wage work," said Ferrer.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERRER ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING THE MAYOR'S DECISION TO DISREGARD RECYCLING LAWS

The Mayor's irresponsible comments regarding this city's adherence to important recycling mandates foolishly conveys a message that residents of the city do not have to recycle. This is reckless as well as an environmental hazard.

Recycling is an important vehicle in the long term maintenance of this city as well as a progressive albeit necessary means of processing refuse. It is also the law. The mandates established by the courts were intended to move the city in this direction, not to be flaunted by a Mayor who believes he can selectively abide by regulations of his own choosing.

Recycling, however, affects a much broader base of New Yorkers and the Mayor's assertion that the law is absurd sends a dangerous signal.

The burden of keeping our city clean must be shared by all New Yorkers as Mayor Giuliani often hypocritically points out, and there is no better program that recycling to reinforce that personal responsibility.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERNANDO FERRER ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING THE SELECTION OF WILLIAM THOMPSON, JR. AS BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

William Thompson is as capable a leader and effective advocate for education as I have seen in a long, long time.

I believe he will not only serve the Board of Education with distinction, but more significantly, will make a difference for the million children in public schools throughout New York City.

As its new President of the Board of Education, William Thompson is strongly committed to governance reform and cleaning up the local school boards. His excellent working relationship with Chancellor Rudy Crew as well as with the other members of the Board, all add up to a much needed positive environment.

FERRER RESPONDS TO CASTRO: "ARE WE LOOKING AT THE SAME PARKS?

In response to the Parks Department's claim that Bronx parks are clean and safe, Borough President Ferrer charged that Bronx Parks Commissioner William Castro is using "minimal repairs" at some Bronx parks to "obscure" the overall problem of neglect.

According to Ferrer, contrary to published statements made by Castro that much improvement has been made illegal dumping and drug activity still exists.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERRER ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING ADVANTAGES TO THE YANKEES OF RENOVATING YANKEE STADIUM RATHER THAN RELOCATING TO NEW JERSEY

Yankees threaten to leave the Stadium when its lease expires are based on allegations that parking and safety problems inhibit attendance to their financial detriment. Statistics, however, reveal the minimal crime and virtually no serious felonies occur during stadium events. Plans have been developed to rectify parking problems.

The Bronx welcomes the Yankees and New Yorkers city-wide support the team's remaining in The Bronx. The will of the people must not be superseded by the greed of one man.

FERRER: GIULIANI ADMINISTRATION GIVING STEINBRENNER AN E-Z PASS OUT OF THE BRONX

Borough President Ferrer charged that the Giuliani Administration has neglected plans to rejuvenate the deteriorating Bronx Terminal Market and has dropped the ball in efforts to redevelop an area which is essential to any plan to keep The Bronx Bombers at the historic house that Ruth Built.

While the Mayor has been saying that keeping the Yankees in The Bronx is a priority, this Administration is letting a golden opportunity for economic development in the backyard of Yankee Stadium slip through its fingers. The city has been doing nothing but sit on its hands in regard to the plans for this Market, handling George Steinbrenner another excuse to leave The Bronx.

The dilapidated conditions at the market have allowed the area to become overrun by criminals and undesirable activity as was witnessed in the shoot out that had occurred there.

Today we are months away from ULURP certification and light years away from any initiative out of City Hall that would save this landmark and a Bronx American League franchise. The Giuliani Administration is giving Steinbrenner as E-Z Pass out of The Bronx.

FERRER: SAYS MAYOR PUTS CART BEFORE HORSE ON EAU

Borough President Fernando Ferrer blasted Giuliani Administration for attempting to register homeless New Yorkers for workfare despite a judge's reprimand. At issue is the feasibility of compelling families reliant upon the Emergency Assistance Unit (EAU) to sign up for work before the city has housed them.

A Borough President tour of the EAU facility uncovered women and children sleeping on makeshift beds on the floor.

The Mayor has vowed to override the decision of Judge Freedman, who ruled that the city could not implement workfare enrollment requirements until it has resolved overcrowding at the site.

FERRER, HOT 97 AND URBAN: THE LATINO MAGAZINE TO RAP DA VOTE

In conjunction with New York's top Hip-Hop station and <u>Urban: The Latino Magazine</u>, Borough President Ferrer "Rapped Da Vote" with a series of voter awareness and registration drives sweeping the city. "Rap Da Vote" is an exciting way for millions of young people to learn the issues and register to vote.

Many young people feel their voices are unheard and the plan is to mobilize the city's youth around the issues that affect them. Joined in the tour with Ferrer were the Youth Force, a youth based organization energized to empower, Jobs for Youth and Victim Services. For more information, contact William Moore, Coordinator of "Rap Da Vote" at 718-590-3542.

FERRER: CCRB "COOKING BOOKS" TO HIDE POLICE BRUTALITY

Borough President Fernando Ferrer assailed the Civilian Complaint Review Board for "juggling numbers" on police brutality cases in The Bronx, creating an inaccurate portrayal that showed decline rather than an increase of complaints for the first three months of 1996.

The CCRB is cooking the books to get better coutcome," said Ferrer in a Borough Services Cabinet Meeting. "Reporting that cases have decreased, when in fact they have in fact increased, gives the public a false sense of security that the police in their efforts to fight crime are also adhering to acceptable behavior. This is clearly not the case.

Upon hearing how the CCRB and the NYPD had changed accounting methods in excessive force cases, Ferrer asked Borough Commander Scanlon if methods of reporting crime had been changed as well. Scanlon denied changes had been made.

"People deserve to know what's going on with police brutality," said Ferrer. "...what cases are being investigated, how many cases are being reported and what level of commitment the city has to enforcing its own laws."

FERRER TESTIFIES: CRIME IS DOWN BUT POLICE BRUTALITY IS UP

Concerned over the sharp increase in police misconduct, including excessive force, Borough President Fernando Ferrer joined Congressman Major Owens and other Federal, State and City officials for a public hearing on fighting crime without police brutality.

Complaints against police officers in The Bronx have increased. In fact, the New York City Police Department's own statistics indicate a 53% rise in death of individuals in police custody.

"There are a few New Yorkers who are not deeply worried about the threat of crime," said Ferrer. "Yet some of these same citizens are as mistrustful of the police department.

According to Amnesty International USA, people of color account for more than 2/3 of brutality cases throughout the state.

At the hearing, Ferrer offered the following suggestions to combat brutality:

- establishing neighborhood safety council comprised of tenants association, business people and residents, to tackle small problems before they require police intervention;
- relocate the Police Academy from Manhattan to a minority community so that cadets could begin getting exposure to these communities while still in training;
- increase patrols on foot so officers can get to know the people they are policing/protecting;
- increase the number of actual training hours put toward avoidance of excessive force.

"Our city has prospered over the past 376 years by its pioneering leadership in ethnic and racial diversity," said Ferrer. "It is our debt to future generations that this accomplishment remain undiminished."

VI. <u>Committee Reports</u>

A. <u>Land Use</u> - Kenneth Gelnick

1. 940142PPX - Disposition of 3 city owned properties.

Block	Lot	Address
4514	62	2700 Boston Road
4553	21	Morris Park Avenue Radcliff Avenue

Ken reported that a public hearing had been held on this earlier this evening. He stated that the Allerton Avenue Community and

Merchants Association is requesting that 2700 Boston Road not be sold. He stated that they have a proposal that it be deeded to the Parks Department and then they can use it as a garden.

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Mauro Fanelli - That Community Board #11 recommend that the property at 2700 Boston Road not be sold, and that it be deeded to the Parks Department for use by the Allerton Avenue Community and Merchants Association.

Those voting in favor were: Ruth Burko, Dominic Castore, James Cernera, Priscilla Crowell, Anthony DelGaudio, Patrick Dolan, Mauro Fanelli, David Leavitt, Silvio Mazella, Leslie McHenry, Joseph Milone, Dr. Mahendra Patel, Robert Potter, Joseph Reda, William Ricevuto, Madeline Saltformaggio, Mark Shkreli, Joseph Thompson and Elaine Wesibrot.

Motion carried with 19 in favor, 1 against and 1 abstention with cause. Seymour Ostroga voted against and Hazel Miura abstain with cause.

A Motion was made by Mark Shkreli, Seconded by Robert Potter - That Community Board #11 recommend that Block 4046, Lot 12 and Block 4553, Lot 21 be sold at public auction.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. <u>Housing</u> - Leslie McHenry

Leslie reported that the Housing Committee had not met this month. She stated that she and John had visiting several Housing Authority properties. Leslie reported that the Office of Rent Relations is being relocated from 1 Fordham Plaza. Leslie stated that the law states that each borough must have an office of rent control and rent needs. She stated that we need the committee to move around ad HPD is not longer here.

C. Sanitation and Environmental Protection

Dom announced that Anthony DelGaudio would be the new Chairman of this committee.

D. Education and Culture - Ruth Burko

Ruth reported that there will be free classes in English at the Van Nest Library. Ruth read from a letter she received from the New York Public Library thanking the board for supporting libraries and asking that we please continue to support the libraries.

Ruth reported that she had attended a meeting of the Chester Civic Association. She stated that she was on the Home Depot Committee. Ruth said that they are progressing nicely, and should open in July of 1997.

John said that we have a contact person if there are any problems. Bob Potter reported that he had attended the school board meeting on September 17th. Bob stated that they gave him a list of the new members, their committee assignments and the calendar for the year. Bob stated that Rodney Saunders was the new president.

E. Highways, Traffic and Transportation - Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

Rabbi Fuchs stated that he was disappointed that Commissioner Castro did not put up the no parking signs that have been requested by the board again and again.

John stated that Seymour Avenue was on the Agenda for the DSC.

John reported that Pergament is opening on Boston Road. Hazel Miura spoke about the entrance on Boston Road.

Rabbi Fuchs spoke about the need to allow clergy to park in front of their Synagogues, Churches and hospitals. He stated that Gridlock Sam said to vote against this. Rabbi Fuchs asked everyone to send letters to their Councilpeople supporting this issue.

F. Public Safety - Joseph Reda

CRIME STATISTICS - JULY

Robbery Burglary G.L.A. Murder Rape	1996 46 49 78 0	1995 53 106 114 0 5	%Change Down 13.21 Down 53.77 Down 31.58
Robbery Burglary G.L.A. Rape	YEAR-TO-DA 305 441 720 15	TE- 334 585 813 15	Down 8.68 Down 24.62 Down 11.45
Robbery Burglary G.L.A. Murder Rape	ARREST 13 2 12 1 2	17 11 14 0	Down 23.53 Down 81.82 Down 14.29 Up 100.00 Up 50.00
TOTAL FELONIES TOTAL COMPLAINTS	274 835	396 1184	Down 30.80 Down 29.49
Robbery Burglary G.L.A. Murder Rape	CRIME 9 38 15 94 0 9	3TATISTICS 47 108 134 0	- AUGUST Down 19.15 Down 47.22 Down 29.85

	YEAR-TO-DAT		
Robbery	341	381	Down 10.50
Burglary	500	693	Down 27.85
G.L.A.	814	947	Down 14.04
Murder	5	1	Up 400.00
Rape	24	17	Up 41.18
	ARRESTS		
Robbery	13	16	Down 18,75
Burglary	14	10	Up 40.00
G.L.A.	6	9	Down 44,44
Murder	0	0	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000
Rape	«Quantities	0	Up 100.00
TOTAL FELONIES	295	445	Down 33.71
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	850	1205	Down 29.46

G. <u>Nominations</u> - Leslie McHenry

Leslie reported that with the death of Ralph Lanzilli, Treasurer, the board needs a new treasurer. She asked for nominations, and stated that the person nominated must be here tonight to accept.

Ruth Burko nominated Silvio Mazzella and Leslie McHenry Seconded the nomination

As there were no further nominations the Secretary cast one vote and Silvio Mazzella is the new Treasurer.

Dom thanked Al Corcillo and the Knights of Columbus for allowing the board the use of the hall over the last 14 years.

Al Corcillo spoke. He stated that there were many rumors going around as to what was going to happen to the building. Al stated that the building was sold to Rosenberg & Diamond who were going to convert it into an office building. Al stated that the Knights of Columbus was established to do charity work and with the escalating costs of mortgage, heat, electricity, insurance and upkeep of the building the amount of money they were able to give to charity no longer made keeping the building a choice. He stated that they were still looking for a place, and that once they had one they would always be available to help the community.

Leslie congratulated Dom on the birth of his new granddaughter Rosemarie.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at $9:30\ P.M.$

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Burko, Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

PRESENT			
Ruth Burko	(0)(2)	Leslie McHenry	(0)(3)
Dominic Castore	(0)(4)	Joseph Milone	(0)(2)
James Cernera	(0)(0)	Hazel Miura	(0)(4)
Priscilla Crowell	(0) (5)	Seymour Ostroga	(0)(0)
Anthony DelGaudio	(0)(5)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)(1)
Patrick Dolan	(0)(5)	Robert Potter	(0)(2)
Mauro Fanelli	(0)(2)	Joseph Reda	(0)(4)
Harain Figueroa	(0)(5)	William Ricevuto	(0)(7)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(0)(3)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(0)(3)
Kenneth Gelnick	(0)(5)	Mark Shkrelo	(0)(3)
David Leavitt	(0)(3)	Joseph Thompson	(0)(1)
Silvio Mazzella	(0)(0)		(a)(0)
ABSENT			
The state of the s	(1)(5)	Frank Muccioli	(1)(13)
Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez		Pat Quaranta	(1)(13)
Emilian Eisdorfer	(1)(5)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(1)(2)
Rhoda Gogatz	(1)(2)	Maritza Rodriguez	(1)(1)
Dexter Hendon	(1)(5)	Mordechai Twersky	(1)(9)
Gerald Launer		Linda White	
Annette Marchitello	(1)(0)	Lisa Winters	(1)(1)
the transfer was not the contract the transfer was the state of the st	(*) (0)	THE TOTAL THE TOTAL TO	(1)(4)

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Helen Korman - representing Councilman Michael DeMarco

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager

Harriet Lasky, Secretary

Linda Loeb - Borough President Fernando Ferrer's Office A.D.A. Irene Cassetta - Bronx District Attorney's Office P.O. Nick Stanich -49th Police Presinct

GUESTS

Rosemary DeLuca - New York Botanical Garden

^{*}Numbers in Parenthesis denotes absences from September 1996 Number in **BOLD** Denotes absences from August 1995 - June 1996