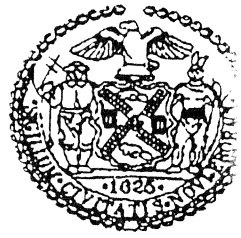




COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
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Dominic Castore
Chairman

Fernando Ferrer
Borough President

John A. Fratta
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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2000
IN THE PATIENT ACTIVITY CENTER OF CLAVARY HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 P.M. by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

a. Ellen Rosman – A.H.R.C.

Ms. Rosman spoke about the proposed Individualized Residential Alternative at 2565 Wilson Avenue. She stated that there would be 8 persons living in the three-story home. Ms. Rosman stated that all of the residents will be from the Bronx, and that some will be from Community Board #11. She also stated that there would be three apartments, and that the residents will blend into the neighborhood.

Ms. Rosman reported that at the public hearing held on Monday people spoke for the group home. She also stated that usually there is opposition from neighbors on the block, but that they did not happen. She also stated that the people who attended the public hearing knew about the Association for the Help of Retarded Children. She stated that it is a parent operation for over 50 years. Ms. Rosman stated that they also have two other homes one on Kingsland Avenue and one on Pelham Parkway South.

Ms. Rosman stated that she hoped that the Board would support the group home.

Martin Sacewicz asked how AHRC was funded. Ms. Rosman stated that they receive money from Medicaid, State funding, SSI, SSA, and income that the individuals receive from the work they do during the day and at work shelters.

Martin asked how the cut backs would effect the home. Ms. Rosman stated that it would not effect the home, only any new programs.

Seymour asked about the staffing. Ms. Rosman stated that A.H.R.S. would hire, train and supervise all staff.

Hazel Miura asked if the families that were at the public hearing would be able to apply to live in the home. Ms. Rosman reported that 2 of the 8 residents come from Community Board #11, and all come from the Bronx. She stated that there are over 1,000 people on the waiting list, 700 are from the Bronx. Ms. Rosman reported that some do not want placement right away. She stated that they look at the need and how long the people have been on the list. Also they look at how well these people will be able to live and work together.

Hazel asked Ms. Rosman that now that she was aware about these families would she be able to outreach to these families. Ms. Rosman stated they have a section that just does outreach. She stated that they go out and meet the families.

Ida Lebron stated that the home on Kingsland Avenue was built especially for this purpose. The building that you are buying is a 3-family house with a co-existing driveway.

Ms. Rosman told her that there was a separate driveway, and that there would be 24 hour a day staff. She stated that there would be more staff during the morning when the residents are getting up, preparing breakfast and going off to work or programs. Then at night there would be staff to help them with dinner. On the weekends staff would be there to help them go shopping, to the movies or other outings.

b. Pauline Guittel – 2561 Wilson Avenue

Ms. Guittel stated that she has lived at this location for over 48 years. She stated that she was opposed to this group home coming on the block as the house was located near a gas station which produces fumes and the cars that go in and out of the gas station. She stressed that she felt that this did not belong on this block and they should find another block.

c. Mabel Ostroga

Mrs. Ostroga thanked John Fratta for getting the garbage cans returned to Morris Park Avenue. She thanked Vinnie Prezioso for helping to have the tree taken down that is blocking the Stop sign.

d. A member of the gallery that lives on the block spoke

She spoke about the fact that if this group home goes in they will try

to buy the next home and then the next home. She stated that no one would want to buy her house if it was next door to a group home. She spoke about selling her house if the group home comes in.

e. Jean Quartarolo

Mrs. Quartarolo stated that she was brought up on Allerton Avenue for 42 years. She stated that a group home would not change the area. Mrs. Quartarolo spoke about the group home on Pelham Parkway South. She stated that if you walk by the block you would have a hard time telling which house was the group home. Mrs. Quartarolo stated that the home has been on the block for seven years.

Harain Figueroa asked who supervises the staff. He also asked if there is someone who checks on the staff at night and if there are reports. He then asked where the reports could be seen.

Ms. Rosman reported that the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental disabilities audits the home every couple of months. She stated that they look at the house, call the families and see that the residents are given proper care. Ms. Rosman stated that they do a criminal background on the staff and make unannounced visits at 2 in the morning. Ms. Rosman stated that anyone can contact AHC and talk to them. She stated that she would give the phone number to anyone who wanted it. Ms. Rosman stated that they are made up of families who watch over everything that is done.

II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Rev. Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Linda White – That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously accepted.

III. Chairman's Report – Dominic Castore

Dom read the following guideline for Board members:

1. Board members are not to hang out in the District Office. Anyone having a meeting in the office should not show up earlier than ½ hour before the meeting is to start.
2. Committee Chairs must look at their calendar and notify the Board office WELL IN ADVANCE if a meeting is to be cancelled. Chairs should also let the office know if they do not need to hold a meeting.

3. Committee Chairs or members who cannot attend a meeting must give the office sufficient time so that the meeting can be cancelled if need be, and no one come out for nothing.
4. Cell phone are to be kept off during all meetings.
5. Board members must sign in. The time of arrival will be noted.
6. All Chairs must make arrangements for the pick up of the keys to the office, and return them in a timely manner.

Dom reported that there would be a Board meeting in December due to the Yankee Awards and other very pressing business. Dom stated that meeting date would be held on December 21st. Rabbi Fuchs stated that this was the first night of Hannukah. Dom stated that we would try for the 19th.

John stated that we would see if that date is available.

Dom announced that on Saturday, November 18th at 11:30 P.M. there will be a dedication to Rudy Macina at Pelham Parkway and Williamsbridge Road.

Dom stated that he was not here when John Cifichiello passed away and he asked for a moment of silence on his behalf. After the moment of silence Dom said "God Bless you John wherever you are."

IV. District Manager's Report – John A. Fratta

John reported that the Board had asked Congressman Crowley about the possibility of obtaining a Medal of Honor for John Cifichiello. He stated that we received notice that it has been taken care of. John stated that we will give the award to his family.

John reported that there was a major power outage last night. He stated that 27,000 homes were effected. John commended the 49th Precinct for the job they did. He stated that there were police officers on almost every corner. John also reported that Con Edison responded quickly. He stated that the lights came on between 1-1:30. John also stated that at 2:20 there was a DEP problem. He stated that they are still pumping water.

Det. Nick Stanich stated that he and Tom Lucania worked all through the night going to nursing homes. Nick stated that John was there all through the night.

Rev. McHenry reported that there was an outage on Friday or Saturday at 11:30

John reported that yesterday we lost a fireman from Ladder Company 41. He stated that the fireman had just finished fighting a fire on Bronxdale Avenue and was

taking a shower in the station house when he had a heart attack.

Linda White reported that another fireman is in the CCU . She stated that our prayers go out to him.

John thanked Joe Thompson for help in getting the flyers out on tonight's public hearing.

V. Borough President's Report – Dolores Baez

Dolores reported that Borough President Fernando Ferrer fought to see that there was an improvement in the transportation around Co-op City. She reported that he provided \$25,000 for the consulting fee. Dolores reported that the meeting will be on Thursday, November 30th at 7 P.M. She stated that flyers had been distributed

Dolores reported that there is a coat drive on. She stated that anyone who has a coat they wish to donate could bring it to room 217 of the Borough President's Office, or they could drop them office at the Board office and she would pick them up.

Dolores reported that there is a flyer on long lost films. She stated that since this is Puerto Rican month they will be shown at Hostos Community College.

Det. Stanich reported that the 49th Precinct is also accepting coats.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development - Joseph Thompson

1. Liquor Licenses

- a. 1601 Restaurant Corp. d/b/a Wild Palm – at 1601 Bronxdale Avenue for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

Joe reported that he had heard rumors that he needed to check out. He also stated that the owner had made promises that have not been kept.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Rev. Leslie McHenry – That this item be tabled until the next meeting.

Unanimously approved.

- b. Puebla Restaurant Corp. – 2141 White Plains Road for on-premises wine license (NEW)

Joe reported that they are new owners. He stated that they are located on the corner of Lydig Avenue and White Plains Road. Joe stated that this restaurant used to be called C & R Restaurant and will still be called C & R Restaurant. He also stated that they will be open from 5 P.M. to 9 P.M. Joe reported that the police have no problems with the location.

- c. Petite Grocery – 628 Lydig Avenue for an off-premises beer license (NEW)

Joe reported that they are located off Lydig Avenue and White Plains Road and open from 7 A.M. to 10 P.M. He stated that it is a well-stocked grocery store and that the police have no problems with this location.

Linda stated that 2141 White Plains Road is a risky area at night and becomes a hangout. She stated that this is near the OTB.

Det. Stanich stated that there have been no problems at this location. He stated that people hang out in the candy store.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Marilyn Jamieson – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the State Liquor Authority stating that we have no objections to the issuing of these licenses.

Unanimously passed.

Joe reported that there have been several complaints about 1680 Stillwell Avenue.

John reported that the site was called Hunters, and that the Board approved this license a few months ago. He stated that promises were made by the owner that have not been kept. John reported that prior to that it was a cabaret and bar called Bourbon Street.

John reported that Hunters closed down three weeks ago. He stated that Hunters was always a problem. We received complaints that last Saturday a new club opened. There were complaints all night of noise. John stated that something was going on in the back of the parking lot. John reported that the owner said that he had worked out a deal with the owner of the stables to park cars on his property. John stated that the owner of the stables is not commenting. John stated that he would like to set up a meeting with the police, the owner of 1680 Stillwell Avenue and the owner of the stables. John also stated that if the new owners need a new license we should try to revoke their license. John stated that we warned the owner that this would not work.

Joe Thompson reported that originally it was supposed to be an upscale Jazz Club. Joe stated that the owner changed this to a private club and stated that if this did not make it he would change it to an office building or a kennel. Joe stated that the owner promised that it would be a hands on operation. Joe stated that this nightclub is only going to get worse.

Joe reported that he had received a letter from the Quality Community Task Force. Unfortunately he could not attend, but he asked them to send us the notes on the meeting.

B. Land Use – Kenneth Gelnick

1. Application by the Department of City Planning to rezone Boston Road between White Plains Road/Astor Avenue and DeReimer Avenue (C 010063ZMX)

Ken reported that a public hearing had been held regarding this application earlier this evening.

A Motion was made by Ken Gelnick, Seconded by Rev. Leslie McHenry – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the City Planning Commission that we reject the current proposal and commend them for the good work that they have done. We urge them to come back to us with a new proposal that would create a new use group for the C8 District that would not allow for motels, hotels and cabins.

Unanimously passed.

C. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

Rabbi Fuchs spoke about the necessity of a meeting about Williamsbridge Road and Morris Park Avenue. He also spoke about a taxi stand for livery drivers.

D. Health and Social Services – Hazel Miura

1. Application by the Association for the Help of Retarded Children to open an Individualized Residential Alternative for 8 disabled persons at 2565 Wilson Avenue.

Hazel reported that the Committee had held a public hearing on this application on Monday. She stated that 30 people attended. Hazel stated that flyers were distributed to the 50 homes surrounding this site. Only 3 residents showed up.

John reported that he had distributed 200 flyers.

Hazel reported that she and John Fratta had visited the other 2 sites. She stated that at the Pelham Parkway site they found the people to be clean and well cared for by the staff. Hazel reported that at Kingsland Avenue they were given a tour of the house. Hazel reported that while she knew that Board #11 is saturated with facilities, but not with Individualized Residential Alternatives. She stated that the Board could not oppose this home on the groups of saturation, and we do not have an alternative site. Hazel reported that AHRC has a good track record.

David Leavitt asked how much the agency paid for the home. Ms. Rosman stated that it was \$340,000. David asked if this was what the home was appraised for and Ms. Rosman stated that it was.

Passed with 2 against by Keith Ramsey and Harain Figueroa

E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Dominick DeProspo

Dominick asked John when the signs for Alternate Side Parking would be changed to reflect 1/2 hour.

John said that it should happen after the New Year.

Dominick also complained that the sewers need to be cleaned.

F. Parks and Playgrounds – Joseph Thompson

Joe reported that Ida Lebron will now be our representative to the Botanical Garden and attend their meetings.

Joe reported that renovations on the Van Nest Playground will start soon. He stated that they are going to make the fence 4' higher.

G. Public Safety – John A. Fratta

John reported that Joe Reda and Silvio Mazzella were ill. He then reported that a meeting had been held with Chief Timlin, Captain Stewart and the Public Safety Committee. He stated that it was a good turnout. John reported that they discussed the problems in the area. John reported that a lot of activity needs to be done to curtail the drug problem. John reported that there has been increase in local police presence at Zimmerman, Van Nest and Lydig and Colden playgrounds. John stated that we are flooding the area with police. John stated that Chief was responsive to this might come from precinct. He stated that we asked the Borough for help. John reported that Captain Stewart showed us the strategies that they are using to curtail the drug problem. He stated that the Chief stated that he would have to see what help

we needed, and that the request has to come from the 49th Precinct.

John reported that the Quality of Life is being handled by the precinct. John reported that the Chief of Narcotics was at the meeting. He stated that he rode around Zimmerman. John stated that it is important for the police to know what kind of drug activity is going on at a location. John also reported that the precinct is getting 15 new police officers.

Annette Marchitello asked about Mazzai Playground. John stated that it is listed as a conditions site.

Linda reported that the Transit new headquarters is coming along very nice.
Meeting

Rev. McHenry reported that Captain Essig from PSA8 Housing was missing from this meeting. She stated that Housing needs to target certain locations that are problem areas.

Dominick DeProspero reported that he has seen 1 and 2 foot patrolmen on Morris Park Avenue between 3:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., and on Williamsbridge Road also.

John stated that these are the rookies.

Hazel reported that the 49th Precinct Council finally had a meeting on November 9th. She stated that they need to have monthly meetings.

Hazel reported that she is working with tenants and meeting with Captain Stewart on Quality of Life issues.. She stated that there is a special number for Quality of Life complaints. The number is 918-2029. Hazel stated that if the problem is not addressed that day it will be the next day. Hazel stated that communications between the community and the 49th Precinct are lacking.

H. Youth – Linda White

Linda thanked everyone for their get well wishes. She stated that there is a problem with the Youth meetings. She stated that the Committee no longer has a say on the funding. She stated that we still need to meet and keep on them. Linda stated that there will be a meeting of the Department of Youth and Community Development on Monday. She stated that she could not attend as she is working. Linda stated that John would attend. Linda reported that there is a new commissioner, Jerry Cammarata. Linda reported that the mood at YDC has changed. She stated that the louder the wheel the more grease you get. She stated that we have a lot of youth and the generations don't mix. We need to have more programs. Linda stated that she is

setting up a meeting date for December and asked everyone to please attend.

Dominic DeProspero asked if the After School Programs has started.

Linda reported that the funding is there, but that Irene Nocera was in an accident. Linda stated that someone is carrying on for her, but she did not know how well the program is running as she has not had a chance to visit the programs yet.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2000

PRESENT

Ruth Burko	Annette Marchitello
Joseph Carozza	Rev. Leslie McHenry
Dominic Castore	Hazel Miura
Priscilla Crowell	Diane Norris-Williams
Dominick DeProspero	Seymour Ostroga
Patrick Dolan	Dr. Mahendra Patel
Harain Figuera	Vincent Prezioso
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	Keith Ramsey
Kenneth Gelnick	Martin Sacewicz
Debra Ann Jaffee	Madeline Saltaformaggio
Marilyne Jamieson	Joseph Thompson
Ida Lebron	Elaine Weisbrot
David Leavitt	Linda White

ABSENT

Dorinda Castro	Diane Cerino
James Cenera	

EXCUSED

Gerald Launer	Pat Quaranta
Silvio Mazzella	Joseph Reda
Joseph Milone	Blanche Comras Rifkin
Robert Potter	

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:

Thomas Lucania– Representing Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Libbi Locascio – Representing Senator Guy Velella
Donald Ranshte – Representing Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager
Harriet Lasky, Secretary
Susan Nolan, Community Associate
Dolores Baez – Borough President's Office
Det. Nick Stanich – 49th Precinct Community Affairs

GUEST

Xiomara Chang – Bronx Office of City Planning
Carlos Tejada – Bronx Office of City Planning
Nestor Danyluk – Bronx Office of City Planning
Vitay Kumar – Allerton Library