



**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, MARCH 22, 2001**  
**IN THE PATIENT ACTIVITY CENTER OF CALVARY HSOPITAL**

Rev. Leslie McHenry, First Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Rev. McHenry welcomed Mr. Carl Heastie the new Assemblyman from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District. She stated that Assemblyman Heastie's had to leave in order to attend the meeting of Community Board #12 who he also represents and which meets the same night as us. Rev. McHenry apologized to Assemblyman Heastie for his coming to our meeting last month as we were snowed out. She added that Board #12 did not get snowed out.

Assemblyman Heastie stated that he was happy to be here tonight. He stated that he wanted the people he represents who live in Community Board #11 that he does not favor Board 12 over Board 11. Assemblyman Heastie stated that he had promised Rev. McHenry that he would come to last month's meeting, and he weathered that storm and came but the meeting was cancelled. He stated that no one called to tell him that the meeting had been cancelled.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that before he was elected Assemblyman he was a Budget Analyst for the City Comptroller's Office, Alan Hevesei. He also stated that in that position he did a lot of work in studying the personnel services of city agencies such as the police department. Assemblyman Heastie reported that he had also been the State Committeeman for the 83<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District for eight years.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that he was born and bred and raised in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District. He stated that he attended P.S. 111, graduated from I.S. 144 and Truman High School. After which he attended Stonybrook University where he got his Bachelors' Degree in Applied Math Statistics. Assemblyman Heastie stated that he was still enrolled at Baruch College, but has not attended for the last 2 semesters Where he is attempting to get his Master's Degree in Finance based on his bid for Assemblyman.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that his office is located at 1351 E Gun Hill Road. The phone number is 654-6539. He stated that his office has been open since January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that yesterday the Assembly passed its one-house resolution, which is a version of what the 3 branches believe the budget should be. He stated that the Senate will do theirs and the governor has already proposed his. Assemblyman Heastie stated that we should not count on this budget being passed any time soon. He stated that he was betting on August, but one of his republican colleagues had mentioned to him that his state senator who is a republican had said that they feel that they are in no rush to pass a budget. Assemblyman Heastie stated that every one of the groups that count on money has to be aware that it may be a little late this time around. Assembly Heastie stated that it has been the Assembly's position and his position that he is willing to hold out until the budget is right. He stated that he would rather be late and right then wrong and on time. Assemblyman Heastie stated that one of the biggest fights that is going on is about the amount of money that is going in for education in terms of public schools. He stated that the Assembly tried to take in a lot of the things that Judge DeGrasse gave in his decision. He stated that based on that and the State Regents is how the Assembly decided what needed to be done and we attached a dollar figure to that.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that for this fiscal year which begins on April 1<sup>st</sup>, there is a difference between the Senate and the House of 800 million dollars. He stated that the difference is between what the Assembly feels we should spend for education and what the Senate feels we should spend on education.

Assemblyman Heastie reported that the Assembly has restored all of the Governor's cuts in terms of Medicaid, higher education, added money for EOP and SEEK programs, put money back in health care to make sure that our nursing homes are properly staffed. Also money to try and have SUNY and CUNY have full time facility. Assemblyman Heastie reported that they put in capital items that are not recurring items. He stated that the Governor wants to save for a rainy day. Assemblyman Heastie stated that he has been telling people that he feels that it's raining now. He stated that he believes that we should have a reserve fund, and being a budget analyst I understand how we have to really watch out on the economy, but there are things that people need now. Assemblyman Heastie stated that he did not know if he wanted to save 5 billion dollars for the next 2 possible fiscal years waiting on whether Wall Street is going to go up or down when people are in trouble now.

Rev. McHenry thanked Assemblyman Heastie for coming to tonight's meeting. She stated that she saw one Board member other than herself who was in Assemblyman Heastie's District. She also thanked him for coming and stated that this is the first time we have had a representative from the 83<sup>rd</sup> District appear at any of our

meetings, except for the one time that Sam Bea attended a meeting at the Morris Park Community Association.

Assemblyman Heastie added that Board #11 does not take in much of his district, but one of the concerns that he is meeting with the DOT Commissioner in 2 weeks because he has gotten his hands on multi mogul money and will try to increase the lighting along White Plains Road. He stated that this will also include Boston Road and Gun Hill Road and cost one million dollars. Assemblyman Heastie stated that he was also in the process of getting a Business Outreach Center. He also stated that it might become a joint venture with Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein to help the businesses in the 2 Assembly districts with business planning, finding ways to get capital fund for business expansion.

#### I. Gallery Session

##### a. Jose Velez – Bronx Initiatives Corp.

Mr. Velez congratulated Assemblyman Carl Heastie on his becoming an Assemblyman. He stated that he was glad to hear about the Business Service Development Center that Assemblyman Heastie is considering opening up. Mr. Velez stated that he works for the BIC, which lends money to small businesses throughout the Bronx. He stated that it is called Section 504 money. Mr. Velez reported that this money is used to assist in real estate acquisitions, lease hold improvements, purchase of equipment etc. He reported that the BIC was really the brainchild of Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer and was created in 1994. Mr. Velez stated that in 1997 BIC was established with real money when President Clinton came down to the Bronx and announced his 50 million-dollar gift. Mr. Velez stated that BOEDC, which helped created BIC, is chaired by Joe Ithia. He stated that Mr. Ithia runs the Bronx Tourism Council and activities such as the Bike Tour and Bronx week in May.

Mr. Velez reported that he had some flyers with his business card attached. He stated that this enables a business owner in the Bronx to borrow up to \$1.3 million of very good inexpensive money. Mr. Velez stated that the loans are anywhere from 1-3 points below what a bank would charge. He stated that in real estate acquisition these loans are for twenty years as opposed to ten years with the banks. As to equipment the loans are for ten years as opposed to five years with the banks. Mr. Velez stated that they also handle start-ups , but they don't do working capital. He stated that is companies that are less then three years old. Mr. Velez stated that for this they require an equity investment of 15-20%. He stated that this program also partners with the banks. Mr. Velez stated that the banks come in with approximately 50% of the project, and we come in with about 40%. Mr. Velez stated that the other 10% comes in from the borrowers equity. He stated that the turnaround time is 60-90 days. Mr. Velez stated that we are coming to the community boards to find businesses that are on a

commercial strip that might want to expand, and are in need of capital. Mr. Velez stated that of the 50 million dollars they received only 5-8 million is committed. Mr. Velez stated that if the business is located within the empowerment area which BOEDC is the administrator of that the project could go to a total \$325,000,000.

b. Clifford Schreiner – Eastchester Gardens

Mr. Schreiner stated that he works with Mr. Ty Allen. He stated that he was here on behalf of the Concern Parents of Eastchester Gardens. Mr. Schreiner stated that last summer they came before the Board to speak about their Calypso Reggae Summer Fest on July 8<sup>th</sup>. He stated that it was a big success and there was plenty of security. Mr. Schreiner stated that he was here to request another Calypso Reggae Health Expo for 2001 on July 14<sup>th</sup>, or if it rains July 21<sup>st</sup>. at 1219 Adee Avenue between Pearsall and Tenbroeck Avenues. He also stated that he was asking for security again.

Mr. Schreiner reported that on Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> on the corner of Adee and Throop Avenues a young child was hit by a speeding car. He asked for a speed bump on Adee and Throop Avenues and on Pearsall and Adee Avenues.

Rev. McHenry reported that she had attended the event and it was well handled and well attended.

c. Ann Mercadante – Concerned Parents of Eastchester Gardens

Ms. Mercadante thanked the Board on behalf of Eastchester Gardens for the Stop signs. She stated that they really are a comfort to most of the residents. Ms. Mercadante stated that they need speed bumps because people come around the corner at Bouck and Adee so fast and the drivers do not heed Stop signs there.

Rev. McHenry asked Det. Stanich if maybe this was a site that the police need to check and post an officer there. She thanked Ms. Mercadante for coming to the Board and letting us know that something we had requested had been done.

d. Tie Allen – Concerned Parents of Eastchester Gardens

Mr. Allen thanked the Board for the Stop signs on Bouck and Burke Avenues. He Stated that it has made a world of difference. Mr. Allen stated that he can walk across the street safely now.

Mr. Allen asked if it was possible to get a Stop sign on the corner of Yates and Burke Avenues. He stated that a woman in a wheelchair was hit by a car at that location.

John stated that the Board would put in the request for the speed reducers. He stated that the request for speed reducers on Adee Avenue was put in and it was rejected because the street is too wide. He stated that this was why they got the speed reducers on the side streets. John stated that he would put it in again and will see what happens.

Rev. McHenry asked if there was a Stop sign at Adee and Bouck that people are running. She suggested that the Board might want to request a 4way Stop sign.

Mr. Allen also thanked the Board for getting the Eastchester Park Playground cleaned up. He stated that he had spoken to Commissioner Castro of Parks who informed him that they would be coming around to either cut the shrubs down or remove them. Mr. Allen stated that they are still looking into the lighting situation. Mr. Allen stated that maybe Assemblyman Heastie could find a few thousand dollars from the 1 million he found to get some lights for them.

Assemblyman Heastie stated that this might be possible. He stated that he was getting another round of this multi mogul money, which is bond money based around transportation. He stated that since this is on Housing Authority property he thought that they are suppose to partner with that also. Assembly Heastie asked Mr. Allen if this was the lighting in the development. Mr. Allen replied that it was inside of the playground.

Mr. Allen reported that he had spoken to the family of the girl that was hi by a vehicle on Adee and Tenbroeck Avenues last year. He stated that she is till in a lot of pain. Mr. Allen asked about getting a speed bump over there.

John said that the Board would try.

Rev. McHenry stated that if they did not put a speed bump there they should put a Stop on the street itself.

Mr. Allen stated that several people from 1260 Burke Avenue who were neighbors of Mr. Tathe, the man who was killed last year or the corner of Bouck and Burke Avenues. He stated that they spoke about the fact that, and he saw it on TV that on Queens Boulevard they have signs posted that a pedestrian was killed here please cross with care. He asked if we could get these signs.

John replied that to his knowledge this is the only place in the city where this was done, and this is because of the unusual high amount of traffic fatalities there. He said that he would request it.

Rabbi Fuchs stated that last year when the Board met at the school by Adee we had a large group of people complaining that the speed bumps affected their plumbing.

He stated that others were complaining that all the signs were destroying their view of the streets.

John reported that there are speed reducers all over the district and we have not gotten even one call about the speed reducers affecting their plumbing. He stated that speed reducers are the best method of reducing speeding.

John reminded everyone that the priorities for speed reducers are schools. He stated that at one point we were told that they were putting them by schools and nowhere else. John stated that the Board is pushing for DOT to place them by playgrounds, but DOT's policy may still be only schools.

Bob Potter reported that on Bouck Avenue and Adey Avenue from Burke to Pearsall marked on each block is School Zone, and it still does not effect it. He stated that on the north side by the development it is a ¼ mile run. Bob stated that when the weather gets better it is a speedway for cars and motorcycles. He stated that this starts in April and goes to September or October depending on the weather. Bob asked if we could get speed bumps there to deter them.

e. Yanping Lu – Falun Gong Introduction

Ms. Lu stated that she has lived in this neighborhood for 5-6 years. She stated that she comes from China and has been studying at Albert Einstein and got her degree last year. She stated that she was now doing cancer virus research. Ms. Lu stated that she was here tonight about a method to better our lives psychology and physically called Falon Dafa also known as Falun Gong.

Ms. Lu stated that this is an ancient practice for mind and body. Originating in pre-historic China. We call it a cultivation practice "Cultivation" refers to the improvement of one's heart and mind through the careful study of universal principles based on truthfulness, benevolence, and forbearance; "practice" means doing exercises and meditation to energize the body. She stated that the practice involves some slow, gentle movements and a meditation. It is easy to learn, enjoyable, and free of charge.

Ms. Lu had her husband do a short demonstration.

f. Jianjiang Ye –Falun Gong

Mr. Ye stated that he was a PHD candidate from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He spoke about that fact that since July 1999 the Chinese government has banned Falun Gong. Mr. Ye stated that they have persecuted the Falun Gong practitioners because this practice is not in accordance with Communist ideology. He stated that the practitioners outnumber the members of the Communist Party. Mr. Ye stated that since the start of the persecution of 160 practitioners have died in police

custody. He also stated that 50,000 practitioners have been in detention. Mr. Ye stated that some have been placed in psychiatric hospitals and died from gases or electric shocks. Children have been expelled from school and practitioners have lost their jobs for their beliefs. Women who are practitioners have been sexually abused at the hands of male prison guards. He also stated that pregnant women have not been spared. Mr. Ye stated that he is asking for help. He asked that people write to their Congressmen and let them know how China is violating the Human Rights of people in China who practice Falun Gong. He suggested that everyone try Falun Gong and see what it is all about.

## II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Joseph Reda – That the Minutes from the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting be accepted as received.

Unanimously accepted.

## III. Chairperson's Report – Rev. Leslie McHenry

Rev. McHenry thanked the members of the Executive Committee who have been attending the meetings. She also thanked the Chairs for submitting reports.

Rev. McHenry sent greetings from Chairman Dom Castore. She stated that it is election of officer's time again and Chairman Castore has selected the following people to be on the Nominations Committee: Joseph Thompson, Chair; Madeline Saltaformaggio; Diane Cerino; Dominick DeProspero and Dr. Mahendra Patel. Rev. McHenry asked if they would accept this responsibility and they all replied yes.

Rev. McHenry reported that a letter would be sent to all Board members asking if they wish to run for any of the officer positions.

Rev. McHenry apologized for anyone who might have showed up for last months meeting which was cancelled due to the weather.

Rev. McHenry reported the Seymour Ostroga has had a stroke and is in Einstein Hospital. She stated that since he has no phone it is difficult to find out how he is doing. She asked Blanche Rifkin to look into what room he is in.

Annette Marchitello stated that you can just call the switchboard and they will go up to his room and tell him that the Board is concerned about him.

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

John reported that there had been a major fire at 591 Van Nest Area. He stated that one person was seriously hurt, and that we are waiting for the fire report. He commended the Morris Park Patrol who stood there all night.

John reported that the Morris Park Library is going to happen. He stated that thanks to Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano and Borough President Fernando Ferrer for getting the funds for the library. John stated that \$500,000 is needed every year for the library to pay salaries and other expenses. John reported that the Regional librarian from the Belmont Branch will be affiliated with the Morris Park Branch.

Ms. Marisha Parish from the Belmont Branch stated that she was very exiting about working in the new branch.

John reported that in addition to Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano's money, Borough President Fernando Ferrer put money in for the library. John stated that Thomas Lucania was here from Councilwoman Provenzano's Office.

John stated that Tie Allen had mentioned the Eastchester Playground. He stated that we went out there with Commissioner Castro and the shrubs are being taken care of. He stated that new emanates \$50,000 is needed in the budget for and new gate around the shrubbery.

Street Activity Applications

1. Tie Allen of Concerned Parents of Eastchester Gardens has submitted an application to close Adee Avenue between Pearsall Avenue and Tenbroeck Avenue on July 14<sup>th</sup> with a Rain date of July 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:30 A.M. to 10:30 P.M.

John stated that they held the same event last year and there was a lot of Concern. He stated that it turned out to be a good event.

2. Allerton Business & Community Association Sidewalk Sale on May 5<sup>th</sup> from Allerton Avenue between Bronx Park East and Williamsbridge Road from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

John stated that this event took place last year and there were no problems.

A Motion was made by Bob Potter, Seconded by Diane Norris-Williams – That Community Board #11 notify the Community Assistance Unit that we have no objection to these two street permits.



Unanimously accepted.

Thomas Lucania thanked John for his kind word. He stated that he would be bring it back to Councilwoman Provenzano. Thomas reported that they are working on the lease, capital dollars from the Borough President Ferrer's fund. Thomas stated that \$360,000 is needed in capital funds.

Tom reported that \$200,000 has been allocated for rehabilitation of the gym at Jacobi Hospital in the Nurses Residence. He stated that he visited the center a year ago. He stated that gym and the pool need to be rehabilitated, but this money is for the gym only. Tom stated that the hospital has done some work on the roof of the gym, which will save money. He stated that it is to be completed by the fall. Tom stated that a local group will be named to operate the center. He then stated that the rehabilitation of the pool will cost \$1.2 million.

Rabbi Fuchs spoke about the center being open on Sundays for Orthodox people to be able to use it.

John reported that we have a new Borough Commissioner at DOT. He stated that Joe Palmari is no longer there. John stated that Connie Reilly is now the Commissioner. John stated that Joe did a fantastic job. He stated that more was done under Joe's Commissionership than any other since he became District Manager.

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board #11 send a letter to Joe Palmari's boss telling him of the fine work that Joe did during his time as commissioner.

V. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Treasurer's Report had been distributed. Anyone having questions should call Harriet or me. He stated that he was very proud of this report.

VII. Borough President's Report – Chris Kirka

Mr. Kirka read the following report:

On Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> the Office of Borough President Fernando Ferrer joined The New York Botanical Garden to announce the continuation of the highly praised Bronx Beautification Campaign, among other initiatives gearing up for springtime. The event took place at the Bronx County Building Steps at 851 Grand Course at East 161<sup>st</sup> Street.

The Office of Borough President Ferrer joined The New York Botanical Garden, as it conducted its first seed giveaway of the season under the Bronx

Green-Up Program, and announced the continuation of the Bronx Beautification Campaign. Formerly this campaign was known as "Don't Dump on The Bronx" Mr. Kirka stated that this Bronx Beautification Campaign has been revised for spring 2001. He stated that the changes include a new logo, hotline to recruit volunteers and distribute supplies, and the allocation of additional funds for tree planting and lot fencing.

Mr. Kirka reported that The New York Botanical Garden will be simultaneously hosting its first Seed Giveaway of the season, as part of its Bronx Green-Up Program, a continuous initiative seeking to promote planting borough wide. Local authorities will outline littering regulations, "pooper scooper" law, and the roll of law enforcement to help maintain City neighborhoods.

Mr. Kirka reported that this program was launched in 1993 by Ferrer's Office. He stated that the Bronx Beautification Campaign has invested millions of dollars in tree planting, vacant lot fencing, graffiti removal, and street lighting improvements, among other works throughout the borough. He stated that the revised effort is co-sponsored by The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation, and Bronx Tourism Council

Mr. Kirka reported that Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer today released the following statement regarding U.S. Commerce Secretary Evans' decision to forgo scientific methods for the nations' population count:

"I am disappointed but not surprised by Secretary Evans' decision to allow the undercounting of minorities in our national population count. By rejecting the use of scientific methods for the census, Mr. Evans would ensure that millions of Americans – most of them Black, Latino, poor, and working class – would go uncouncted.

"As Chairman of President Bush's campaign, Mr. Evans witnessed a similar effort to stifle the people's voice. As Commerce Secretary, he is giving millions of minorities in New York and across the nation a "Florida flashback."

"Ten years ago, New York City took the lead in suing the first Bush Administration for failing to accurately count our population. This time, sadly, Mayor Giuliani has been complicit in the Republican Party's effort to score political points by undercounting minorities and blocking billions of federal dollars from flowing to New York. That it outrageous.

"Last week, the Bronx stepped up to the plate and joined a multi-city lawsuit to stop the undercounting of minorities. That suit must now take a new shape. We are currently exploring all legal avenues for stopping the Bush

Administration's effort to exclude millions of Americans from the final census count.

"I again call on Mayor Giuliani to throw the full weight of the city behind our legal effort. It's time to join together and ensure that no New Yorker – no matter what their race, neighborhood, or income – goes ignored and uncounted."

Mr. Kirka reported that Borough President Ferrer joined with leaders of New York's minority community to announce the addition of Ferrer and the Bronx to a lawsuit filed by the Los Angeles City Attorney's office against the Bush Administration's attempt to undercount minorities in the final census count.

Ferrer called on Mayor Giuliani to bring all New York City behind the lawsuit, which seeks to block the Commerce Department's efforts at avoiding statistical sampling in calculating the nation's population – a move that would undercount minorities and cost urban centers like New York billions of dollars.

"When it comes to efforts to repeal the First Amendment, Mayor Giuliani has been the poster boy for frivolous lawsuits," said Ferrer. "But presented with the civil rights issue of the decade, the mayor has defended his inaction by arguing that then case might be winnable. That's not the leadership that New York City needs."

"Ten years ago, New York City led the fight to ensure that minorities were not undercounted in the census," continued Ferrer. "But for the past eight years, this mayor has been deaf to the voice of the minority community. An issue this critical to the social and economic wellbeing of our city demands a chief executive who will lead, follow or get out of the way. I choose to lead."

Ferrer made education reform the core of his remarks, building on a sweeping plan announced earlier before the Citizens Budget Commission, in which he seeks to increase accountability and professionalism in the teaching ranks in exchange for higher pay, intense professional development, and a return of focus to the classroom.

"What's the solution offered by the Mayor and some others who aspire to lead this City? Blow up the Board of Education, they say. Shut it down. Privatize," Ferrer said. Instead, the Borough President said, the City must raise the bar for teacher standards and provide year-round pay for a year-round job. Ferrer said the plan, could be paid for through reallocation of the Board's \$11 billion budget.

Ferrer also called on Governor Pataki to drop his appeal of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity's court victory that found that the state school funding formula

had cheated City schoolchildren of billions of dollars in funds over the past four decades.

“Governor, drop the appeal,” Ferrer said.

Ferrer, citing his record of bringing the Bronx back to prosperity, made affordable housing a priority for the City, stating we need to add 150,000 units over the next decade.

“The predicate for a stable City, for a stable economy for stable neighborhoods is affordable housing.” Ferrer said, noting that the vacancy rate for affordable units in the City stands at 1.26 percent. “We can’t continue down this road where there are the poor at one end of the spectrum and the rich at the other with no middle-class in between”

Mr. Kirka reported that Borough President Fernando Ferrer, coming full-circle gave his 14th and last State of the Borough Address at Gould Memorial Library on the campus of Bronx Community College on March 8<sup>th</sup>. He stated that this was the place in which Borough President Ferrer gave his inaugural speech in 1987.

In his speech Ferrer gave an outline of his vision for the City and its future. Speaking as a voice for those who have been demonized, marginalized or otherwise pushed aside by the Giuliani Administration, Ferrer declared, “No one in this room needs a lecture on the ravages of crime, or the value of effective policing. We have—every one of us—seen too much senseless violence and bloodshed. We’ve grieved the loss of our children to guns and gangs and drugs. We know what it’s like to have our seniors penned up in their homes after dark, for fear—and who—they might confront on our streets.

Mr. Kirka reported on Borough President Ferrer’s statement on the appointment of Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez to the State Board of Regents. He stated that Borough President Ferrer said that Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez is one of the finest public servants in New York City. She is president of the Hispanic Federation and Bronx Representative for the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), she is a tireless advocate seeking to empower and improve the quality of life of all New Yorkers. I congratulate her and wish her the best as a member of the State Board of Regents. Her appointment presents a wonderful opportunity to address the challenges faced by our education system.

Mr. Kirka reported that Borough President Fernando Ferrer said on March 2nd that a Mayoral report released shows the need for City Hall and the City Council to stop the wrangling over an audit board for the NYPD, and make the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) fully independent instead.

Mr. Kirka stated that Borough President Fernando Ferrer has a 10-point plan to re-engineer the CCRB

1. Establish the CCRB as a fully independent agency with each appointment subject to Council confirmation;
2. Set a budget for CCRB as a percent of the NYPD budget;
3. Maintain CCRB subpoena power;
4. Empower the CCRB to prosecute its substantiations;
5. Require investigations be completed within six months as follows: CCRB investigations and recommendations within 120 days; Office of Administration Trials and Hearings (OATH) decision within 30 days of receipt from CCRB; Police Commissioner action within 30 days of receipt from the OATH;
6. Report data in the Mayor's Management Report concerning complaint intakes, length of investigations and investigation results;
7. Require CCRB to study and recommend practices of the NYPD that affect members of the public; this includes tracking systemic patterns of abuse;
8. Hold the NYPD, its units, commanders and commissioners accountable for their actions or non-actions;
9. Conduct oversight to ensure that the NYPD appropriately trains and supervises its police officers; and
10. Conduct periodic CCRB reviews of NYPD operations.

Mr. Kirka read the statement by Fernando Ferrer on Vieques

"Today's decision to halt the bombing by the US military of Vieques is both welcome and long overdue. For more than half a century, the people of Vieques have endured an assault on their environment and their health.

But while this decision represents an important step in the right direction, Secretary Rumsfeld indicated that the hold on bombing might not be permanent. Any resumption of bombing on this island is simply unacceptable.

Nowhere else in this great country have US citizens been forced to endure the destruction of their habitat and way of life, as have the people of Vieques. This is a question of basic fairness and the rights of all US citizens to live free.

This has been a long fight, and one worth waging. We welcome Defense Secretary Rumsfeld's decision that Vieques and its people have been harmed and that military exercises there must cease. We must never allow bombing to resume.

Puerto Ricans have defended this country in every conflict since World War I, serving nobly. Finally, their patriotism has been recognized and justice restored to Vieques.

Now, we must work together to return this island to the paradise it once was.”

## VIII. Committee Reports

### A. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

1. Proposed 4-person Individualized Residential Alternative at 2742 Colden Avenue.

Blanche reported that the Committee had held a public hearing on this request and there were no objections.

A Motion was mad by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Debra Ann Jaffee – That Community Board #11 send a letter to UCP stating that we have no objections to this site.

John reported that there were representatives from UCP here if there are any questions, There were none.

The Motion passed unanimously.

### B. Economic Development

#### 1. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses

- a. N.Y. Sizzler Restaurant Corp. at 2375 E. Tremont Avenue for on-premises consumption (Renewal)
- b. Chucks Morris Park Bar and Grill Inc. at 702 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises consumption (Renewal)
- c. Fay’s Tavern at 1556 Williamsbridge Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)
- d. Enzo’s Restaurant at 1998 Williamsbridge Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)

Joe reported that he had spoken to the police and they had no problems with any of these locations.

A Motion was mad by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the State Liquor Authority stated that we have no objections to the issuing of these renewal licenses

Unanimously accepted.

e. 1600 Pelham Parkway South (NEW)

Joe reported that this was the music studio right on the corner of Stillwell Avenue. He stated that in June of last year the La Via family bought the property and in has been run as a music studio. He stated that private parties are held there with the liquor being brought in by the person hiring the hall for the party. Joe stated that they are now looking for a license to sell liquor. Joe reported that John and Dom Castore wrote to the State Liquor Authority asking that this license not be granted. He stated that the SLA sent us a thank you letter, which is what we get on all licenses.

Joe stated that he felt that the Board should not recommend the issuing of this license, as there will be a transient clientele. He stated that the place hold 80-100 people, but there is only parking for 30 cars. Joe stated that the owner would not tell us what his plans were, whether for a local bar, bar and cabaret etc. Joe stated that we don't know how that will handle the clientele what hours they are open, the noise level and people waiting for cabs. Joe stated that there were numerous complaints about the noise from the music studio. He stated that the Board should not recommend this license or table it.

John stated that he felt the Board should not table this as it is a problem location and he cited the long story of liquor licenses being issued when the Board has tabled them and asked that the SLA not issue a license they receive one even before we go down to testify.

Rev. McHenry reported that it was the opinion of the Executive Committee not to recommend approval of this license.

Det. Stanich reported that at Club 1680 (the old Bourbon Street) there have not been too many complaints, but at 1600 Pelham Parkway South there have been numerous complaints. Det. Stanich reported that the Police are against this location getting a liquor license.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by several Board members – That the Board send a letter to the State Liquor Authority requesting that they deny this liquor license request.

Det. Stanich stated that there were problems with the rental hall itself.

The Motion to deny this liquor license was approved unanimously.

f. Bella Bleu Club at 2712 White Plains Road

Joe reported that there were 4 stabbings and one person was killed. He stated that the club was open at 6 A.M. Joe reported that the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct along with the Fire Department inspected the club. He stated that the Fire Department issued 10 summonses for fire violations. Joe stated that the fire code violations are the only things keeping the club closed. He reported that 3 years ago there was a stabbing, 2 years ago there was a murder, and that they are open after hours. Joe also reported that they changed ownership of the bar.

Joe reported that Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein wrote a strong letter to the SLA as did John Fratta. Joe stated that letters were sent to the SLA by the Allerton Business Community, N.I.D.C., the Allerton Homeowners and Tenants Association as well as the Allerton patrol and the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct. He also reported that the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct also visited the club and are against the club reopening.

Dom DeProspero spoke about the bar owner and the problems at his other locations.

Rev. McHenry stated that we should contact state Senator Ruth Thompson and the Borough President.

Joe stated that we should use every piece of material we can.

Joe reported that the letter we received from the SLA talked about the time frame. He stated that applicants are suppose to notify the community boards 30 days before sending their application in to the SLA.

Linda reported that the Olympian restaurant has closed. She stated that it is a sore spot. Linda reported that there was a fire, and that something-fishy going on.

Joe stated that he will look into it.

Linda spoke about the Queen of the Star poultry marker at 607 Morris Park Avenue. She stated that they have goats and sheep. Linda reported that the day care center had to move because of the rats.

John stated that if they had rats they should have called the board office and we would have gotten the Health Department to go out there.



C. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Vincent Prezioso

Vinnie reported that the Board had received a letter from the Commissioner of Traffic on Bogart and Morris Park Avenue. He also reported that the blinking light on Bronxwood and Allerton Avenues would be changed to a full traffic light by June. Vinnie stated that this request has been in for three years.

Vinnie reported that he learned from John Fratta that the Pelham Parkway Project is alive. He stated that we are waiting for the Department of Design plans.

Vinnie reported that John had met with the Principal of P.S. 96 to discuss a play street on Waring Avenue between Olinville and Barker Avenues. He stated that they wanted it from 9:30-3:30. Vinnie stated that they asked if it could be closed from 7:30-8:30 for the children going to school.

A Motion was made by Vincent Prezioso, Seconded by Bob Potter - That Community Board #11 requests that this Play Street request be granted.

Unanimously accepted.

Rabbi Fuchs commented about where the traffic was going to go if that block is closed.

John reported that he had looked at the block. He stated that it is only one block. He stated that this would help with the double parking. John stated that the playground has portables and the need a place for the kids to play. He stated that this is only one block, and there are no homes facing the street.

Rev. McHenry reported that she substitute teaches there and there are no school buses.

Martin Sacewicz spoke about Beth Abraham and the parking.

John said that this is senior housing and the parking is not for outsiders.

Vinny stated that it was more important for the safety of the children than for someone looking for parking.

Vinny spoke about I.S. 144. He stated that the children were being let out when he and John drove by. Vinny stated that John spoke to the Principal about closing Gunther Avenue from Allerton to Mace Avenues to let the kids out for 2-3 P.M when school is in session.

John reported that technically the street is closed because the kids are on the street.

A Motion was made by David Leavitt, Seconded by Dorrie Castro – That Gunther Avenue be closed from Allerton to Mace Avenues between the hours of 2 and 3 P.M. on school days.

Unanimously passed.

Vinny reported that the street cleaning regulation signs are being changed on the south side of the parkway.

D. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

Blanche reported that Jacobi Hospital has opened a Blood Platelet Center in the Nurses Residence. She stated that anyone interested can call 1 800 933 BLOOD

Joe Thompson reported that Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano is holding a Health Fair on Morris Park Avenue this Saturday.

E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Dom DeProspero

Dom reported that the Department of Sanitation has changed the signs to no parking for ½ hour to clean the streets by the meters from 8:00-8:30 A.M. John reported that the changing of the signs started on the north side of the parkway. He stated that this week double parking is illegal. He stated that this will take 3 weeks and there will be a one-week grace period.

F. Parks and Recreation – Joseph Thompson

Bob Potter reported that he knows about the fact that the Zoo and the Botanical Garden have joined the Parks in looking at how the Zoo and Garden will effect kids and seniors.

G. Public Safety – Joseph Reda

Joe reported that we are receiving the stats in a new form. John stated that we are trying to get the old format back.

Joe reported that Murder is down 83%. There has been one murder to date, there were 6 last year. Robberies there were 45 this year as opposed to 56 last year down 19%. Burglaries were 88, with 94 last year down 6,3%. GLA's were 88 and 114 last year down 22%.

Joe reported that crime in falling under the new Captain. He stated that he would try to bring him here to the next meeting. Joe reported that if you were caught smoking marijuana you would get arrested. Joe reported that on Bolton Street there were no robberies. Joe reported that the Precinct Council meeting would be on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fellowship Tabernacle Church at 1234 East Gun Hill Road.

Joe also reported that the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Breakfast will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in June at Maestro's

Joe reported that Senator Velella's car got hit again. He stated that last week all his mirror were stolen and this week the whole front grill and lights were taken. Joe stated that the Senator has the person on film. Joe stated that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> time that the Senator's car has been hit. He also stated that the police will be picking up the person on the film.

#### H. Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that the RFP could be picked up beginning March 5<sup>th</sup> at 150 Williams Street on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. She stated that it is due back on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. Linda also reported that there is a preproposal conference for not for profit organizations. She stated that to qualify they must be incorporated and have tax exempt status or have filed for it..

Linda reported that this meeting would be on Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> at Harlem Hospital in the Bronx at 9:30 A.M, 516 Lenox Avenue.

Linda reported that the allocation for 2000 for Community Board #11 \$165,524. She stated that the School Board grant and YDDP are lumped together. She stated that they may have taken away or done away with the School Board money or included it.

#### I. Community Development and Budget Priorities – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio thanked Madeline Provenzano for the efforts she has put in at the library on Morris Park Avenue. He stated that this has been in the plans for a long time.

Silvio reported that there is talk about Pelham Parkway Project in 2003 and we need to put pressure on the elected officials.

#### IX. Old Business

Diane spoke about the Rite Aide on Morris Park and Bronxdale Avenues.

John reported that he is requesting DOT to make it illegal to make a left turn on Morris Park Avenue.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:45  
P.M.

Respectfully Submitted.

*Ruth Burko*

(AZ)

Ruth Burko,  
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING MARCH 23, 2001

PRESENT

Dorinda Castro  
Diane Cerino  
Priscilla Crowell  
Patrick Dolan  
Harain Figueroa  
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs  
Kenneth Gelnick  
Debra Ann Jaffee  
David Leavitt  
Annette Marchitello  
Silvio Mazzella

Rev. Leslie McHenry  
Joseph Milone  
Dr. Mahendra Patel  
Vincent Prezioso  
Joseph Reda  
Blanche Comras Rifkin  
Martin Sacewicz  
Madeline Saltaformaggio  
Joseph Thompson  
Linda White  
Diane Norris-Williams

ABSENT

James Cenera  
Gerald Launer

Keith Ramsey

EXCUSED

Ruth Burko  
Joseph Carozza  
Dominic Castore  
Marilyne Jamieson  
Ida Lebron

Hazel Miura  
Seymour Ostroga  
Pat Quaranta  
Elaine Weisbrot

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Thomas Lucania - Representing Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Libbi Locascio – Representing Senator Guy Velella  
Carl Hastie – Assemblyman 83<sup>rd</sup> District

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager  
Harriet Lasky, Secretary  
Margaret Guglielmo – Office Aide  
Chris Kirko, Borough President Fernando Ferrer's Office  
Det. Nick Stanich – 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Affairs

GUEST

Marisha Parish (Regional) Belmont Library, New York Public Library  
Jose Velez – Bronx Initiatives Corporation