

**COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10462
(718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861
E-Mail: CommBd11BX @AOL.COM**

**Dominic Castore
Chairman**

**Adolfo Carrion, Jr.
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 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2003

IN THE PATIENT ACTIVITY CENTER OF CALVARY HOSPITAL

Rev. Leslie McHenry, First Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM Chair.

I. Gallery Session

a. Sandra Unger

Ms. Unger reported that Governor Pataki Has slated Bronx Psychiatric Center to close. She stated that there was going to be a public hearing on May 9th at Hostos Community College at 9:30 AM. She also stated that she had speaker forms available for those who wish to speak.

b. Mr. Tracy Pilgrim – Services for the Underserved

Mr. Pilgrim invited everyone to their Open House on May 7th at 3214 Throop Avenue between Burke Avenue and Gun Hill Road from 2 PM-4 PM.

Several of the residents of the home spoke.

c. Helene Samberg – Van Nest Branch Library

Helene reported that the library is closed for a spruce up job. She stated that though the generosity of Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano a satellite collection has been set up at Morningside Nursing Home. The hours are M-F from 10 AM– 4 PM. For more information call 718-679-4200, the Bronx Borough Office.

d. William Lester – Hand Inc.

Mr. Lester stated that he was Executive Director of the Harlem Agency for Neighborhood Development. He stated that they are coming into the community by installing a day care center at 665 Pelham Parkway North. Mr. Lester reported that the also work with OMRDD in Manhattan and the Bronx for 2 decades.

Mr. Lester stated that they hope to be up and running by September 1st. He stated that they will service 55-60 children from the Community between the ages of 2 – 6. The State is giving them start up funds.

John spoke and stated that there is a problem with the building. He stated that they are in violation of zoning as they are not allowed to have any medical or commercial establishments past the second floor. He asked Mr. Lester what floor he was on and Mr. Lester replied that they were on the third floor. John stated that the third and fourth floors are suppose to be residential.

e. Monica Berry – Parkside Houses

Ms. Berry spoke about the budget cuts and its effects on the community. She stated that she is looking for proposal grants for children and senior centers, which are being cut. Ms. Berry asked to be placed on a list to receive grant application information.

II. Introduction of New 49th Precinct Captain Pablo Martinez by Dominic Castore

Captain Martinez thanked Chief Izzo for placing him in this community as he speaks very highly of this Board.

III. Gallery Session continued

f. Germania Vasquez – Representing Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein

Ms. Vasquez said that they are doing outreach as several constituents are opposed to the meters on on Lydig and Morris Park Avenues. She also stated that DOT is putting in ramps in the middle of the streets which is making it hard for people to park.

IV. Minutes

A Motion was made by Debra Ann Jaffee, Seconded by Joseph Thompson – That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Passed.

Chairman’s Report – Dominic Castore

Dom reported that Irene Rukaj’s mother passed away in Texas where she was caring for her. He also reported that Dr. Patel is in the hospital. He stated that anyone who wants to send a card should call the Board office for their address.

Dom reported that elections for the 2003-2005 terms would be held in June. Nominations will take place tonight. First the slate as prepared by the Nominations Committee will be announced by Robert Potter, Chair and then nominations will be taken from the floor.

Dom thanked Rev. Leslie McHenry for taking over in his absence, as well as the Board members.

Dom reported that appointment and reappointment letters will be released early next week.

VI. District Manager’s Report – John A. Fratta

John reported that Deputy Inspector James Shea has been moved to the 47th Precinct. He welcomed Captain Martinez and stated that he knew our biggest issue is the Quality of Life.

John reported on the house on Van Nest Avenue, which turned out to be an illegal SROs. He reported that there was a carbon monoxide problem where a child from the top floor went to the hospital. He stated that thanks to the Mayor’s office and the Borough President’s office every resident has been relocated. John stated that the house has been sold. He stated that the owner has to make it conform to codes. John said we will monitor it.

John reported that a task force on SROs has been set up by the Mayor's office, which will consist of the Police Department, Buildings, Fire, Sanitation and HPD. John also reported that most of the SROs are on Van Nest Avenue.

VI. Presentation to Lt. Michael DeBellis

John spoke about the great police officers in the 49th Precinct. He stated that Special Ops Lt. Tony Venus is there during the day, and we have Lt. Michael DeBellis who just passed the test for Captain.

John presented a plaque to Lt. Michael DeBellis.

Chief Anthony Izzo stated that he wanted to personally congratulate Lt. DeBellis, who is a credit to this community and to the Borough. He stated that he would do his best to keep him in the borough.

John stated that next month we will invite Deputy Inspector Shea to our meeting and present him with his plaque.

VII. District Manager's Report continued – John A. Fratta
Street Activity Permit Applications

1. Application from Dominic Lasorsa of the 2400 Block of Kingsland Avenue to close Kingsland Avenue between Waring and Mace Avenues on August 9th with a rain date of August 10th from 11:30 AM to 8 PM for a Block Party.

A Motion was made by John Dennehy, Seconded by Debra Ann Jaffee – That Community Board #11 approve of this application.

Passed.

2. Application from Al D'Angelo of the Lurting Avenue Block Association to close Lurting Avenue between Neil and Rhinelander Avenues on July 14th with a rain date of July 19th from 10 AM to 8 PM for a Block Party.

A Motion was made by Dominick DeProspero, Seconded by Joseph Carrozza - That Community Board #11 approve this application.

Passed.

3. Application by Pete Martinez of 811 Van Nest Avenue to close Wilkinson Avenue between Eastchester Road and Bassett Avenue on July 12th from 12 Noon to 8 PM for a Block Party.

John explained that this is a new application, and that it is a Memorial for Chuck of Chuck's Bar who died recently.

Det. Stanich spoke about the fact that the Emergency Room Bar is located there. He also stated that the owner plans to bring back the old Tic Toc Bar name.

A great deal of discussion took place on the block party application and the bar.

A Motion was made by Kenneth Gelnick, Seconded by Debra Ann Jaffee – That Community Board #11 table a vote on this application and set up a meeting with the applicant.

Passed.

Dom thanked John for taking over while he was in Florida. He stated that he kept in close contact with

John, and knew what was happening in the community.

VIII. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that there were no changes in the Board Treasurer's Report or the Friend's of Community Board #11.

IX. Borough President's Report – Kathy Rodriguez

1. Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr. 's Responses to Mayor's FY'04 Executive Budget
2. Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr. Hails Court Decision on School Funding
3. Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr. Calls on New Yorkers to Support the 18th Annual AIDS Walk
4. Law Day is May 1st from 12 – 4 PM Call 212-374-8082 for more information
5. Borough President and Transportation Alternatives invites you to Bike to Work Festivity on Friday, May 9th
6. Bronx Week is June 16th – June 22nd.

X. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson/Harain Figueroa

1. Alcohol Beverage Licenses

- a. Wilkinson Café & Bar Corp. d/b/a Emergency Room – 1511 Wilkinson Avenue for on-premises consumption

Joe explained that this used to be the old Tic Toc Bar where we had a lot of problems. He stated that the police are against it, and that he plans to change the name back to the Tic Toc Bar after he gets the license.

John stated that this is a fraudulent application then. A great deal of discussion took place on this site that it was not a transfer of a license, but a new license.

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Debra Ann Jaffee – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the SLA asking that they reject this application.

A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 20 Yes, 11 No, 1 Abstention with Cause and 1 Abstention

Those voting in favor of the Motion to deny were: Joseph Bacote, John Dennehy, Eiron Diaz, Patrick Dolan, Harain Figueroa, Rev. Jay Gooding Sr. Gerald Launer, David Leavitt, Lilithe Lozano, Evelyn Martinez, Silvio Mazzella, Hazel Miura, Diane Norris, Robert Potter, Vincent Prezioso, Blanche Rifkin, Madeline Saltaformaggio, Joseph Thompson and Elaine Weisbrot.

Those voting against the Motion were: Kenneth Agosto, Ruth Burko, Joseph Carozza, Dominic Castore, Diane Cerino, Debra Jaffee, Rev. Leslie McHenry, Joseph McManus, Joseph Reda, Carole Ricci, and Vincent Taddeo.

Priscilla Crowell abstained and Dominick DeProspro Abstained with Cause.
The vote to deny passed.

b. Bronxdale Diner Corp. d/b/a Castle Hill Diner – 1506 Bronxdale Avenue for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Ken Agosto – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objections to the granting of this license.

Passed.

Joe reported that Chuckie Cheese at 1816 E. Gun Hill Road wants an arcade license. He stated that this is a place, which parties are held for children and pizza and other foods are served. Joe stated that they want to expand the amount of games they have. He stated that no one under 18 will be admitted without an adult, and no liquor will be sold.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board #11 go on record as having no object to this request.

Passed with 1 against by Dominic DeProspo.

2. SLA's response to our requests to add notification of all off-premises locations to Community Boards.

Harain Figueroa reported that the Board had received 2 letters, one from the Chairperson, and one from the Deputy Commissioner of the SLA. He stated that they say they will except any and all complaints and act on them by having an administrative hearing; provided it comes within their time frame. If not they will issue the license. He stated that the time frame is 30 days.

John explained that the Board sent a letter to the SLA asking that be part of the process for applications for off-premises consumption. They replied thank you for your correspondence but it is not going to happen. John stated that they will take our complaints but the law only allows community board input for on-premises locations. He stated that we need to change the law, which must be done by our state legislatures. John also reported that NYC is the only part of the state that does not allow community board input. He stated that they allow it in the suburbs.

A Motion was made by Harain Figueroa, Seconded by Vincent Prezioso – That Community Board #11 send a letter to all our state legislatures requesting that they change the law so that the SLA will have to notify us of off-premises liquor applications, and give us sufficient time to respond before these licenses are issued.

Passed.

B. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Vincent Prezioso
DOT Sunday Meters

Vinny reported that the meters are already programs for Sundays. He stated that the Committee is taking no position as we did not have an outcry from the community. Vinny stated that the only opposition we received was from Al D'Angelo, President of the Morris Park Community Association (Morris Park is not effected) and from the Westchester Square Merchants Association. He stated that if there is an outcry from the community we will go back and take a look at this.

A great deal of discussion took place on the fact that if this is a good source of revenue for the city other blocks might be included.

John reported that DOT did not give us an option, they came in and did it. He stated that 1,000 flyers were distributed and only one person came to speak and he was for it.

Vinny reported that the Chester Civic Association came to the Board and asked us to look into making Gunther Avenue one-way going north bound. DOT did a study and said that the only way they would do it was to make it south bound. Vinny reported that he spoke to Gene Tutora, President of Chester Civic and they agreed to accept it as south bound from Astor to Stillwell Avenues/

A Motion was made by Vincent Prezioso, Seconded by Rev. Leslie McHenry – That we ask DOT to make Gunther Avenue one-way going south from Astor to Stillwell Avenue.

A great deal of discussion took place on the hardship this would place on neighboring blocks.

The Motion was withdrawn by Vinny and a new Motion was made.

A Motion was made by Vinny Prezioso, Seconded by Joseph Thompson – That a vote on this item be tabled and that a public hearing be held.

Passed.

Parks and Recreation – Lilithe Lozano

The report was distributed. Lilithe Lozano worked on the Skateboard Park; Debra Jaffee worked on the Teen Concert and Diane Cerino worked on the Dog Run.

Health and Social Services – Blanche Comras Rifkin

Blanche reported that they had a very long good meeting. The minutes were turned into the office, but, unfortunately were not brought here tonight. They will be available at the next meeting.

Blanche reported that they discussed the proposed closing of Bronx Psychiatric Center and the Children's Center. She also reported that Bronx Psychiatric is the only hospital has Hispanic wards. Three are Hispanic workers and patients so they know the culture and the language, which helps the patients.

Blanche reported that AIDS funding is to be cut \$11 million. Information distributed. Blanche also reported that she had distributed information on the SARS virus.

Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that the YDDP RFP is out. She stated that you can get the application on the website www.nyc.gov/dycd. Linda reported that only 619 RFP's have been downloaded or picked up and not a lot from the Bronx. She reported that the pre proposal conferences for those interested would be at Pace College in the gym on Tuesday from 9-12 for letters A-J and 1-4 for letters K-Z. There will be a make-up on Thursday from 10-1 at DYCD headquarters at 156 Williams Street.

Linda reported that the Doomsday budget has no After School Programs and 16 out of 80 Beacon schools are being cut. She stated that the Departments of Employment and Education have been intertwined with the DYCD. Linda reported that DYCD is trying to salvage summer programs going to use the children in their neighborhood. The closest one is Pathways for Youth, which is in Board #9. Linda stated that last year the Department of Youth was able to hire 12 children from Community Board #11 for the summer.

Linda reported that the summer bus applications have been received. She said that she will be getting in touch with people. Linda asked those interested to please see her tonight. She stated that we have 10 buses.

John asked Linda to set up a process for the Yankee awards so we can get started.

Linda reported that she had Yankee tickets for any groups interested, and they should see her.
Public Safety – Joseph Reda
Joe reported that he had met the new Captain Pablo Martinez. Who is working very hard. He also reported that crime is down in all categories except GLAs, which is up 17%. Joe reported that the Captain is setting up a special program to help elevate this. Joe also reported that a lot of mirrors are being stolen again, and also the lights from Acuras.

Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Dominick DeProspero
Dom reported that fines will go up as of June 1st. He stated that the list of fine increases had been distributed. Dom reported that as of May 1st there will be no smoking in Bingo Halls, bars and restaurants.

John stated that there is a Quality of Life problem because people have to go outside to smoke and are making a lot of noise which is disturbing the peace of those who live around them. John reported that a problem that might occur because some places have put tables and chairs out for their patrons to smoke, and eventually they will want to eat and/or drink there which is not allowed.

Education and Culture – Ruth Burko
Report submitted. Ruth reported that she received a call from Tim Tureski from the Van Nest Branch About using Morningside Nursing Home as a temporary library while the other 2 libraries are having work done. She stated that paperback books will be available for young adults and children. Ruth stated that this would be done on an honor system and 2-3 book can be taken at a time. Ruth stated that the hours are M, W and F from 10-12 Noon. She stated that they need volunteers to extend the hours to 4 PM.

Bob Potter reported that he had received a letter from the principal of MS144. He explained the problems that they were having with kids going into the community at dismissal time and creating havoc. Bob stated that she thanked him, John Fratta, the police and the patrols because now there is a patrol car assigned. She also stated that she asked the Task Force to park on Gunther or Lodovick Avenues to prevent congestion on Allerton Avenue.

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Kenneth Gelnick – That Community Board #11 send a letter to Morningside thanking them for being such good community neighbors in taking care of our children in this time of need.

Passed

Nominations Committee – Robert Potter
Bob reported that the Nominations Committee which consists of Dom DeProspero, Madeline Saltaformaggio, and myself as Chair met and formulated the following slate:

Chairman – Dominic Castore
First Vice Chair – Rev. Leslie McHenry
Second Vice Chair – Vincent Prezioso
Treasurer – Silvio Mazzella
Secretary – Ruth Burko

Bob asked for nominations from the floor for Chairman. There were none

Bob asked for nominations for First Vice Chair.

Joe McManus nominated Vinny Prezioso for First Vice Chair and Lilithe Lozano Seconded it. Vinny accepted the nomination, and declined his nomination for Second Vice Chair.

Bob asked for nominations for Second Vice Chair.

Debra Ann Jaffee nominated Joe Thompson for Second Vice Chair and Priscilla Crowell Seconded it. Joe accepted the nominations.

Bob asked for nominations for Treasurer. There were none.

Bob asked for nominations for Secretary. There were none,

John explained that next month nominations can be made, but the nominee must be present or have indicated in writing their willingness to run. In June the elections will take place.

XI. Old Business

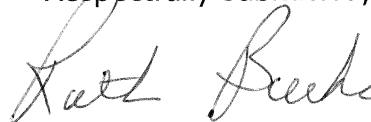
John reported that we have had a problem on Pelham Parkway South and Boston Road. He stated that the owner put up an illegal sign and Buildings issued a violation. John stated that now the owner has put up another sign on the Pelham Parkway South side asking for advertising for the space. He stated that Buildings is going after the owner.

Kathy Rodriguez asked anyone who sees signs on poles for apartments, jobs, etc. to call Sanitation with the location. She stated that they will take them down and get fined for each sign.

A Motion was made by Rev. Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Elaine Weisbrot – That the meeting be adjourned.

The Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,
Secretary



ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 30, 2003

PRESENT

Kenneth Agosto	(1)(2)	Evelyn Martinez	(0)
Joseph Bacote	(1)	Silvio Mazzella	(0)
Ruth Burko	(1)	Rev. Leslie McHenry	(0)
Joseph Carrozza	(0)	Joseph McManus	(0)(1)
Dominic Castore	(1)(3)	Hazel Miura	(0)(3)
Dorinda Castro	(4)	Diane Norris	(0)
Diane Cerino	(2)(1)	Robert Potter	(0)
Priscilla Crowell	(2)(1)	Vincent Prezioso	(0)
Joseph Dennehy	(3)(1)	Joseph Reda	(1)(2)
Dominick DeProspero	(3)(1)	Carole Ricci	(1)
Eiron Diaz	(2)	Blanche Rifkin	(1)
Pat Dolan	(1)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(0)(1)
Harain Figueroa	(0)	Vincent Taddeo	(1)(3)
Kenneth Gelnick	(4)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Rev. Jay Gooding	(1)(1)	Eugene Tutoro	(0)
Debra Ann Jaffee	(0)	Elaine Wesibrot	(0)
Gerald Launer	(0)(1)	Linda White	(2)(1)
David Leavitt	(1)		

ABSENT

Marilyne Jamieson	(1)	Pat Quaranta	(1)(4)
Martin Sacewicz	(1)	Hector Zorilla	(2)(1)

EXCUSED

Rosemary Durso	(3)(2)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)(1)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(2)(1)	Irene Rukaj	(0)(3)
Annette Marchitello	(1)(5)		

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Libbi Locascio – representing Senator Guy Velella

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager – Community Board #11
 Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board #11
 Kathy Rodriguez – Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr's Office

GUESTS

Helene Samberg – Van Nest Library
 Chief Anthony Izzo – Borough Commander

*NUMERS IN PARENTHESIS INDICTATE ABSENCE SINCE SEPTEMBER 2002. NUMBER IN **BOLD INDICATE EXCUSED ABSENCES.**