

# Dominic Castore Chairman

#### **COMMITTEES**

Community Development & Budget priorities
Economic Development
Education & Culture
Health & Social Services
Highways, Traffic &
Transportation
Housing
Information & Technology
Land Use
Parks & Playgrounds
Public Safety
Sanitation & Environmental
Protection
Youth

### COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX 1741 COLDEN AVENUE BRONX, NEW YORK 10462 (718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861



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COMMUNITY BOARD WEBSITE
www.bronxmall.com/commboards/cd11.html
Adolfo Carrion, Jr.
Borough President

John A. Fratta District Manager

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2005 AT CALVARY HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 P.M. by Dom Castore.

1. <u>Guest Speaker</u>: Rosemary DeLuca/Dex Art– Wildlife Conservation Society

Rosemary DeLuca wished everyone a Happy Holiday. She introduced Dex Art, a registered Architect. Mr. Ott discussed the restoration of Astor Court. Mr. Ott gave us a step by step scope of design

#### 11. Gallery Session

A. Twinkle Morgan – Parkchester Prep Charter School
Twinkle Morgan explained the concept of Charter Schools and
went into detail about the proposed Parkchester Prep Charter School. This
concept is already in place in other cities and is very successful. The
charter school operates with longer days and a longer school year. There is
a commitment requirement from the parents of the students. They applied
to the State University of New York for a charter and need a positive
response from Community Board 11.

B. Nancy Rodriguez – Parent of a child at St. Lucy's Ms. Rodriguez was complaining about children being placed a risk by the school. There is little space for a drop-off area for the children because of the angle parking that was installed for the community the DOT moved the double yellow signs in the street closer to the side of the school. She said that police officers are needed to safeguard the children and not just give out tickets. John Fratta responded that the parents that are double parking their cars to drop-off and pick-up their children that are placing their children at risk. We will have DOT look into whether the width of the street is causing that problem or not.

C. Neil Freidman – Rothkrug Rothkrug & Spector LLP Mr. Freidman was representing the owners of 1717 Hering Avenue Irena and Teresa Adragna. They were issued a stop work order from Buildings because the foundation was not completed before the new zoning went into effect. He was saying that there is financial hardship if they cannot complete their buildings. Irena Adragna spoke to the board and pleaded her case. A discussion took place between the owners and the board members.

#### 111. Minutes

The minutes were presented to the Board. <u>Debbie Jaffee moved, seconded by Silvio Mazzella</u> that we approved the minutes of the November 17, 2005. **PASSED** 

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

Dom wished everyone a very happy holiday season. Dom thanked all the board members for doing a terrific job and he thanked John and his staff.

#### V. <u>District Manager's Report</u>: - John A. Fratta

John Fratta spoke about the development that is taking place in CB 11 in violation of the new zoning laws. Many builders are trying to get away with building non-conforming structures and we are reporting them to the Department of Buildings.

John announced that we have an Advisory Board in place for Mercy High School. We had our first meeting and we had the following board members in attendance: Ruth Burko, Diane Norris, Bob Potter and Sandy Unger We discussed the need for Sports Professions High School to find a new temporary location. The Department of Education is planning to place these students into a portable. I recommended the Pelham Parkway stables as an acceptable location. We also gave them the old motor vehicles building on Tremont Avenue as well as the ASPCA site on Morris Park Avenue and East Tremont Avenue. We are awaiting their decision on these locations.

John spoke about the 100 unit housing on Bronxdale Avenue and we have someone that purchased all the garages on Holland Avenue for housing.

John spoke about the problems that we had on Lodivick Avenue with the Lerner Houses. There was a main sewer break that caused seven houses to have raw sewage in their homes. DEP claims that the person who connected the sewer lines to the city sewer system did so with no permits and illegally.

John announced that Margaret retired and he wished her well.

# VI. <u>Treasurer's Report</u> – Silvio Mazzella No report.

#### VII. <u>Borough President's Report</u> – Jose Candelario

Jose Candelario reported that the applications for membership renewals are available and need to be submitted. He also urged members of the public to join the community boards.

He also mentioned that the Borough President's Office, the Department of Finance, and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities held a public meeting on the City's new Disabilities Rent Exemption Plan yesterday. We encourage everyone to call their office for information on the Rent Increase Exemption Program for People with Disabilities.

On behalf of Borough President Carrion, Jose wished everyone a Very Happy, Healthy and Joyous Holiday Season. He also mentioned that this will be his last board meeting as he has accepted a new position with a City Councilmember in Queens. He thanked Dom for his leadership and his wisdom and he thanked the Board for their friendship.

Dom wished him luck in his new position.

#### VII. <u>Committee Reports</u>

#### A. <u>Land Use</u> – Joe McManus

1) BSA# 337-05 1717 Hering Avenue

Joe thanked the committee who did a lot of work on this application. They took time out and actually visited the site. He especially thanked Cecilia Haas for the excellent work she did at the hearing. The committee met with the applicants and answered many questions. They took this very seriously especially since we pushed so hard for the down zoning of this area.

The following motion was presented:

Whereas, Community Board 11 was in full support of the down zoning of the new zoning regulations that went into effect on October 11, 2005, and

Whereas, over development is a big problem in our community, and

Whereas our committee met with the applicants and their attorney of 1717 Hering Avenue and reviewed their application,

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 11 reject the application BSA# 337-05.

The motion was made by Joe McManus, seconded by Robert Potter. A great deal of discussion took place regarding this application by the board members. A roll call vote was taken and there was a tie vote 16yes, 15 no and 1 abstention the motion was defeated. Voting yes: Ruth Burko, Dom Castore, Cecilia Haas, Debra Ann Jaffee, Silvio Mazzella, Joe McManus, Diane Norris, Mary Paliotta, Dr. Mahendra Patel, Robert Potter, Vincent Prezioso, Pat Quaranta, Joseph Reda, Blanche Comras Rifkin, Eugene Tutora and Sandra Unger. Voting against: Kenneth Agosto, Joseph Bacote, Junior Campbell, John Dennehy, Patrick Dolan, Rosemary Durso, Harain Figueroa, Rabbi Moshe Fuchs, Marilyn Jamieson, Annette Marchitello, Eliezer Rodriguez, Joanne Rubino, Martin Sacewicz, Janice Walcott and Elaine Weisbrot.

Abstentions: Joe Thompson

- B: Economic Development Joseph Thompson
- 1) Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses
- a) Mr. Taco Restaurant 2255 White Plains Road for an on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

A motion was made by Joseph Thompson, seconded by Marilyn Jamieson that we have no objection to the application submitted. PASSED

b) Hellenic Efforts Corp d/b/a Park Billiards – 2020 White Plains Road for an on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

A motion was made by Joseph Thompson, seconded by Marilyn Jamieson that we have no objection to the application submitted. 27 in favor, 5 abstentions. PASSED

Joe thanked the board for the basket that was sent for the basket that was sent to his family on the loss of his father.

#### C: Health and Social Services - Blanche Rifkin

Blanche gave a report of a public hearing on the proposed housing for people with special needs on Bronx Park East. She expressed her disapproval for 2 Board members that attended that meeting and criticizing the board.

#### D: Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth spoke about the advisory board meeting by the Department of Education and they spoke about a Charter School. Ruth reported that Bob Potter attended a UFT Workshop. Ruth reported that Bob Potter attended a UFT Workshop. Ruth reported that Bob Potter attended a UFT Workshop. Ruth discussed the request of Parkchester Prep's request for a letter of support. She said that she spoke to Twinkle Morgan from the school.

A motion was made by Ruth Burko, seconded by John Dennehy, that we send a letter to the State University of New York to support the Parkchester Prep Charter School. **PASSED** 

#### E. Public Safety – Joe Reda

No meeting was held so there is no report. Vinny Prezioso raised an issue that was brought to our board by community board 10 in Brooklyn regarding the instillation of these Antennas for cell phones on various roofs throughout the City. They are requesting that the Department of Buildings begin an approval process for these instillations.

<u>Vinny Prezioso moved, seconded by John Dennehy</u> that we urge the Department of Buildings to begin an approval process for instillations of cell phone antennas on building roofs. **PASSED with one abstention Debra Ann Jaffee** 

- F. <u>Sanitation and Environmental Protection</u> Michael Carriere No report
- H. <u>Technology and Communications</u> Mary Paliotta Mary wished everyone Happy Holidays. No report.
- I. Parks and Recreation Dr. Patel

No report

Dom mentioned that we should remember Madeline Saltaformaggio for all the hard work she done for this board. Dom suggested that after February when Councilmember Vacca comes in we should name a street or a park after her.

J. <u>Highways and Transportation</u> – John Dennehy No report

K. <u>Housing</u> – Gene Tutora No report due to the meeting being cancelled.

L. <u>Youth</u> – Linda White No report

#### M. <u>By laws</u> – Joseph Thompson

Joe gave a report of by law changes that are being recommended. The changes were distributed to the members. There was a lot of discussion regarding absences of Board Members from Committee meetings. After much discussion the following motion was presented.

It was decided to table this item until the committee could meet again and revise the changes. It was also decided to invite all the members to the next meeting of the by laws committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko

### ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2005

<u>PRESENT</u>			
Kenneth Agosto	(2)	Diane Norris	(0)
Joseph Bacote	(0)	Mary Paliotta	(0)
Ruth Burko	(2)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)
Junior Campbell	(2)	Robert Potter	(0)
Dominic Castore	(0)	Vincent Prezioso	(0)
John Dennehy	(1)	Pat Quaranta	(2)
Pat Dolan	(0)	Joseph Reda	(3)
Rosemary Durso	(1)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(0)
Harain Figueroa	(1)	Eliezer Rodriguez	(1)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(3)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(0)
Kenneth Gelnick	(2)	Joanne Rubino	(0)
Cecilia Haas	(1)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Debra Ann Jaffee	(1)	Eugene Tutoro	(1)
Marilyne Jamieson	(0)	Sandra Unger	(0)
Annette Marchitello	(1)	Janice Walcott	(2)
Silvio Mazzello	(1)	Elaine Weisbrot	(1)
Joseph McManus	(1)		
<u>ABSENT</u>			
Joseph Carfora	(1)	Rev. Leslie McHenry	(5)
Michael Carriere	(3)	Hazel Miura	(5)
Diane Cerino	(1)	Irene Rukaj	(1)
Al D'Angelo	(2)	Vincent Taddeo	(1)
Lilithe Lozano	(2)	Linda White	(0)
Kenneth Gelnick	(4)		` ,
OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS			

Marina King – Representing Senator Ruben Diaz

### STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager – Community Board #11

Susan Nolan, Community Associate—Community Board #11

Robert Nolan, Budget Division Representing Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

Jose Candelario – Representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

PO Victor DiPierro – 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct

**GUESTS** 

Helene Samberg – Van Nest Branch Library