



COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
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COMMUNITY BOARD WEBSITE
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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
- Information & Technology
- Land Use
- Parks & Playgrounds
- Public Safety
- Sanitation & Environmental Protection
- Youth

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006 AT CALVARY HOSPITAL

The Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

a. Tim Groniger – Mazen & Sawyer consultations to New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Mr. Groniger stated that he was working on the CSO for the sewer system for NYC. He stated that this system is very old and needs to be updated.

Discussion place on whether the land that has been purchased by the City of New York will in effect house this tank. Mr. Groniger stated that this has not been decided at this time. Joe asked that if at some time the take is installed if the ball fields would be in jeopardy.

John reported that an agreement had been reached in which bathrooms would be installed for the ball field. When and if the overflow tank goes in they will construct a concession stand where the unused soccer field is.

b. Jay Winston – Allerton Avenue Association

Mr. Winston stated that he was here tonight to speak about the fact that there are no traffic enforcement agents on Allerton Avenue. People are double parking, parking in crosswalks, and making illegal U-turns. He also reported on car stereos being played loud and alarms are going off. Mr. Winston spoke about people loitering around Cybercity at 2723 Barnes Avenue.

John said he would look into it.

c. Esther Valentin-Lopez

Ms. Valentin-Lopez stated that she was the Director of the National Development Porto Rican Forum which is located at 1910 Webster Avenue. She stated that she was here to introduce 2 new programs. One is the bilingual teacher recruitment and the other is the Services and Health Services for youth ages 19-21. Ms. Valentin-Lopez said that they would help youth get their GED if need be.

d. Kay Cardona – N.I.D.C./Amiricorps

Ms. Cardona spoke about the need for a stop sign for P.S. 96. She reported that 2 children were hit by a car in one week in either March or April. She stated that they only have one crossing guard.

John said that this request was put in and it was rejected. He told her that we must wait 18 months in order to resubmit. John stated that he tried to get the school a play street and this was also turned down.

Joe Thompson reported that the children that were hit were from the after school program. He stated that we need petitions from the parents.

II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Vincent Prezioso, That the Minutes be

April Minutes be accepted as received. **PASSED.**

III. Chairman's Report – Dominic Castore

Dom welcomed the new members: Altagracia Fabal, Denise Giocondo and Maria Totino.

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

John reported that the City Planning Commission has approved the Indian village/Pelham Parkway rezoning with R5D Williamsbridge Road included. He stated that the next step is that it goes to City Planning and then to the City Council. John reported that Councilman Vacca has been working with City Planning and the Mayor's representatives on trying to have the R5d removed from the plans. He stated that the Mayor's office is saying that we need to give them another location to upzone to create residential housing. John reported that we gave them a location near the stables on to Stillwell Avenue and they rejected this site because it would make the businesses there nonconforming. Another site that we gave them was on Birchall Avenue which is vacant land was rejected because it is not in the scope of the rezoning. John stated that we are proposing a new location, and hope that the city accepts it. He stated that what we are concerned about is that the city could pull all of it if we don't give them another area for R5D.

John reported that there have been many meetings with the Department of Education and Civic Builders on the proposal for the new school on Bronxdale Avenue.

John invited the Board members to a block party hosted by Aging in America on July 7th from 10 AM- 4 PM on Lurting Avenue and Pelham Parkway South.

John reported that on Pelham Parkway there are a number of pathways where people cross from the north side to the south side dodging traffic. He stated that these are not regulation pathways. John stated that he met with Parks and DOT and came up with a location on Wallace Avenue and Pelham Parkway South where a crosswalk will be installed with a traffic light. He stated that he is meeting with Parks next week to determine who will do the asphaltting for this pathway.

Street Closing Applications

1. Application from James Hart on behalf of the 2400 block of Hering Avenue to close Hering Avenue between Mace and Waring Avenues on August 12th from 1-8 PM for a block party
2. Application from Hazel Miura on behalf of NIDC to close Barker Avenue between Allerton and Britton Avenues on August 19th with a rain date of August 26th from 11 AM- 8 PM for a block party
3. Application from Dawn Galante on behalf of the 1500 block of Haight Avenue to close Haight Avenue between Sacket and Pierce Avenues on August 12th with a rain date of August 19th from 11 AM to 8 PM for a block party
4. Application by Joanne Mennona on behalf of the 2300 block of Wilson Avenue to close Wilson Avenue between Astor and Waring Avenues on August 6th with a rain date of August 13th from 11 AM to 8 PM for a block party

A Motion was made by Vinny Prezioso, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to these street closing applications. **PASSED.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

John announced that Blanche Rifkin celebrated her 90th birthday this week. In honor of her service to the Board and her community the Board presented her with a clock and everyone partook of her birthday cake. Her son and daughter were present along with Bill Liblick, a past Board member who made a special trip in for her birthday celebration.

V. Treasurer's Report Silvio Mazzella Report distributed.

Silvio reminded the Board members that the FY 2008 Budget Consultations would be held on Monday, September 18th at 4 PM at Fordham Prep.

VI. Borough President's Report – Andy Toledo Andy Toledo read the following report:

1. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION APPOINTS BOARD MEMBERS
2. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION TO HOST FIRST EVER HOMEBUYERS FAIS
3. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION, GHI AND THE NY YANKEES TACKLE HEALTH DISPARITIES AMONG CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH BRONX
4. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION CELEBRATES CINCO DE MAYO
5. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION HELPS RESIDENTS PREPARE FOR UPCOMING HURRICANE SEASON
6. BOROUGH PRESIDENT CARRION UNVEILS STATE OF THE ART DIGITAL MAMOGRAPHY SYSTEM AT LINCOLN MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

Anyone asked anyone interested in CERT training to please call him.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Education – Ruth Burko

1. Proposed school on Bronxdale and Van Nest Avenues

Ruth reported that a proposal made by Councilman James Vacca to the Department of Education on the construction of a new public school and a charter school at 900 Van Nest Avenue be changed to respond to concerns from the community.

A Resolution was made by Ruth Burko and Seconded by Bob Potter:

Whereas, The Department of Education has presented Community Board 11 with a 30 day notice for the construction of two new schools a Pre K to 8 Public School and a 5-8 Charter School Van Nest Avenue and,

Whereas, the original proposal consisted of a Public High School and a 5 to 8 Charter School, which was withdrawn due to our strong objections and replaced with a K to 8 public school and,

Whereas, both the Department of Education and Civic Builders have met with the Community Board, the Leaders of the Morris Park Association, the Leaders of the PTA's/PA's and the Principals of P.S. 83, 105 and 108 numerous times and,

Whereas, the PTA's/PA's have expressed support for the current plan for a new public Pre K to 8 school and a 8 charter school and,

Whereas, our own demographics clearly show the need for the new school which we have listed in our capital budget request for the last ten years

Therefore be resolved that the creation of the Pre K to 8 Public School for approximately 550 students and the 5 to 8 Charter School for no more than 300 students on Bronxdale Avenue with the following agreement:

School Program and Planning:

This school will be a District 11 Pre-Kindergarten to grade 8 school, designed for approximately 550 students. The school will be targeted to open in the September 2008 after the building is complete.

The K-8 school will be designed and supported as a School-wide Enrichment Model (SEM), which will offer Enrichment and accelerated opportunities to students who show high potential in individual content or talent areas.

The school will be planned in consultation with the local community, and the community will be represented in the C-30 process used to appoint the principal. The school planning team will include representatives from the neighborhood.

In its first year, the school will include at maximum, two Pre-Kindergarten classes, and three Kindergarten, first and sixth grade classes. At no point will the school include more than three classes per grade.

School Enrollment:

Admission to the school will occur through a choice application process. In that process students apply to the school; applicants who are within the zones of PS/IS 83, PS 105 and PS 108 will have priority for admission. Any remaining seats will be matched through a lottery in which students are admitted from among the District 11 students who apply.

The school will house at least two classes of **full-day** Pre-Kindergarten.

As with all new construction, there will be a small District 75 program, which will consist of no more than four classes, in the school; the DOE commits to have this program for students with autistic spectrum disorder.

Other:

The New York City Department of Education will pursue a policy of home zoning for special education students and plans to equalize special education enrollment including at PS/IS 83.

A test based gifted and talented program, grades 1-5, utilizing the New York City Department of Education standardized admission/identification process will be housed in PS 121 starting with grade 1 in September 2007. The gifted and talented program will be comprised of one class per grade, and the application will be open to all District 11 students.

This school will allow community members to use designated spaces (i.e. gymnasium, cafeteria and theater) when not in use by the school or the administrators of the school, including evening and weekend use, as long as that use is appropriately controlled and monitored. Termination of community use is at the school's discretion.

John reported that we worked very hard on this, and we are the only district in Region 2 that will have full Pre K. John thanked Councilman Vacca and his office who worked very hard on this along with Civic Builders and the Principals and PTAs

RESOLUTION PASSED WITH JOANNE RUBINO ABSTAINING WITH CAUSE AND PAT QUARANTA AND SILVIO MAZELLA ABSTAINING.

B. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson

1. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses

a. Ramon G. Lopez d/b/a El Compi Restaurant -2233 Boston Road to sell wine/beer for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

b. Fratelli – 2507 Eastchester Road to sell liquor for on-premises Consumption (RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stated that we have no objection to the issuing of these renewal licenses. **PASSED.**

C. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

Blanche thanked everyone for her cake and the lovely clock. She announced that Marilyne Jamieson would be leaving the Board as she no longer lives in New York City.

Blanche reported that she had distributed flyers on the West Nile virus.

Dom thanked Marilyne for the good job she has done while on the Board, and said that she will be missed.

D. Public Safety – Vincent Prezioso

Vinny announced that Captain Smith would be leaving the 49th Precinct July 6th as his father is ill.

E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Michael Carriere

Michael reported that the Committee has been monitoring 3216 Yates Avenue For rats, cats and debris. He stated that they have been fined and are being monitored Sanitation. Michael also reported that the Pelham Parkway stables has been cleaned up and the Committee is also monitoring this site. Michael asked if Sanitation could put waste baskets on the service area from Pelham Parkway South to Muliner Avenue.

John told him that this is Parks property and he would have to talk to them.

Michael reported that at the MTA station they need garbage pails. He stated that it is very dirty on the north and south sides. Also Muliner Avenue by the MTA property north on the north side garbage is being thrown over the fence. He asked if the MTA could do something so that people could not throw garbage over the fence.

Michael reported that the Committee is working on graffiti removal with the Borough President's office, the Community Board office and Senator Jeffrey Klein's office. Anyone knowing of sites that need graffiti removal please contact the Board office.

John reported that there is pending legislation in the City Council that will mandate property owners to be responsible to have graffiti removed from their property. Right now in order to have the graffiti removed from private property a waiver must be obtained from the owner. If he/she refuses there is nothing that can be done. After the new legislation goes through the owner of property with graffiti on it will be warned. He will be given an opportunity to sign up for the free graffiti removal program. If he refuses he will be violated and the city will come in and clean the property and fine him. If he signs the waiver it is free.

Michael reported that there has been a problem at 2742 and 2744 Bouck Avenue which are located at the corner of Rhineland and Tomlinson Avenues. The yard is full of garbage and the grass is 4 feet tall and growing over the sidewalk. He stated that we had Sanitation look into this.

Michael spoke about the problem with pigeons under the trestles.

John reported that the Board has dealt with this 500 times. There is nothing we can do about the pigeons. He discussed a pilot program that was tried in Brooklyn, but it didn't work.

Michael reported that Borough President Carrion honored Community Board 11 members as well as all the volunteers who participated in the graffiti removal and park clean up last year last Saturday.

He stated that it was a good event and everyone received a certificate. Michael thanked the Borough President on behalf of himself, his Committee and the Community Board 11 members who participated in this clean up.

Bob Potter spoke about getting a ticket from Sanitation on 2 separate occasions. He stated that he went into Manhattan to the hearing office and because the officer was not there his case was transferred to Arthur Avenue where it was resolved. The second time it happened, again the officer did not appear and when he asked if he would have to go to the Bronx he was told no. Bob stated that he felt that there was no reason that we should have to go to Manhattan when the officer knows they will not be there, and then you have to go another hearing in the Bronx. He asked that a hearing office be set up in the Bronx, and that if the officer does not appear that we be able to speak with their supervisor.

John asked Andy Toledo to look into this.

F. Technology and Communication – Mary Paliotta

Mary announced that after the summer break the Committee will be meeting on the first Wednesday in September at 7 PM in the Board office.

G. Parks and Recreation – Dr. Mahendra Patel

Minutes submitted.

H. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – John Dennehy

Minutes submitted.

I. Youth – Linda White

Minutes Submitted.

J. Bylaws – Joseph Thompson

Joe read the changes to the Board members who had received a copy of the Bylaws with the changes highlighted. Discussion took place on some of the changes.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by David Leavitt – That the Bylaws be accepted with the changes made by the Committee. **PASSED.**

Someone asked you about the ramp. John stated that he had met with Bronx Park Commissioner Aponte, DOT Commissioner Moran, the 49th Precinct Captain and the Highway 1 Captain to ask Commissioner Aponte to reopen the ramp at Birchall Avenue. He stated that Commissioner Aponte refused. John asked for a motion directing the office to send a letter to Commissioner Benepe asking him to reopen the ramp.

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Pat Dolan – That a letter be sent to Commissioner Benepe asking him to overrule Commissioner Aponte and reopen the ramp on Birchall Avenue. **PASSED.**

L. Personnel

1. Salary Increase for staff

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:15 PM and returned to business at 9:22 PM.

VIII. New Business

Gene reported that on Stillwell Avenue a new parking light for the yellow buses has opened. He stated that the drivers are parking their cars on Pelham Parkway North

throughout the entire neighborhood. Gene also reported that at least 30 cars are parked on the stable property every day.

John said he would set up a meeting with the owner of the bus company.

John reported that Sports Profession High School is going into IS 144 by an agreement being worked out with DoE and the community. It will be for only 2 years.

John reported that this is the last meeting that we will be having at Calvary as they are now charging for parking. Our next meeting will be at Einstein on Newport Avenue. He stated that we will be alternating between Einstein and Jacob's new facility. John thanked CeCe for getting us the space at Einstein.

Joanne Rubino reported on the sewer backup she has been having.

John said that DEP will put a camera in the sewer and find out what is causing the problem.

Denise Giocondo reported that on Sackett Avenue by the railroad tracks it is a mess again.

John told her that in the future to call the office on this. He said he would call Leake & Watts who have been cleaning this area.

John announced that the Board's Carnival would be held August 17-27 in Trojan Field.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,
Secretary

RB/hl

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 29, 2006

PRESENT

Joseph Bacote	(0)	Mary Paliotta	(1)
Ruth Burko	(0)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)
Junior Campbell	(3)	Robert Potter	(1)
Michael Carriere	(4)	Vincent Prezioso	(0)
Dominic Castore	(2)	Pat Quaranta	(3)
Pat Dolan	(2)	Eliezer Rodriguez	(2)
Rosemary Durso	(3)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(1)
Harain Figueroa	(1)	Joanne Rubino	(0)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(3)	Martin Sacewicz	(0)
Denise Giocondo	(0)	Vincent Taddeo	(2)
Marilyne Jamieson	(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
David Leavitt	(2)	Marsia Totino	(0)
Annette Marchitello	(0)	Eugene Tutora	(2)
Silvio Mazzella	(1)	Janice Walcott	(3)
Diane Norris	(0)	Linda White	(2)

ABSENT

Joseph Carfora	(2)	Joseph McManus	(3)
Diane Cerino	(2)	Hazel Miura	(7)
Albert D'Angelo	(4)	Joseph Reda	(6)
Altagracia Fabal	(1)	Irene Rukaj	(1)
Kenneth Gelnick	(4)	Sandra Unger	(3)
Lilith Lozano	(5)	Elaine Weisbrot	(3)
Rev. Leslie Mc. Henry	(7)		

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Donna Drayton – representing Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson

Joe Polito – representing Senator Jeffrey Klein

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John A. Fratta, District Manager, Community Board 11

Susan Nolan, Community Coordinator, Community Board 11

Harriet Lasky, Secretary, Community Board 11

Andy Toledo – representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

P.O. Victor DiPierro, 49th Precinct Community Affairs

GUESTS

Frederick Elind – NYC DEP – LTCP - CSO