



**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 SEPTEMBER 28, 2006 IN  
THE MAZER BUILDING

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 PM by Dom Castore Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

a. DebraAnn Jaffee

Ms. Jaffee asked the Board members who serve on the Board to attend their committee meetings because they are there to represent the community. She stated that their individual opinion was not what mattered. Ms. Jaffee stated that the Board members were not supposed to vote on what they thought might be right, but rather on what the people in your immediate area want.

Ms. Jaffee spoke about the need for funding of senior programs in all of Community Board 11.

Ms. Jaffee stated that we need accountability from our elected officials, not only during election times. She spoke about Councilman James Vacca's office being great in responding as has been John Fratta. Ms. Jaffee stated that she wants a paper trail on all her complaints. She also spoke about the Board's request for angle parking and the removal of the muni meters which is taking 2 years.

John told Ms. Jaffee that when a person is appointed to the Board they are not appointed to represent their area alone. They are appointed to represent the community area.

II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin  
– That the May Minutes be accepted as received. **PASSED**

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella –  
That the June Minutes be accepted as received. **PASSED**

III. Chairman's Report – Dominic Castore

Dom stated that we need more input from the Board members. He

told the Chairs that if they do not have anything to talk about please do not schedule a meeting and then cancel it. He told them to speak with John before canceling your meeting as he may have information for you. Dom also told the Board members that if they do not want to be on a committee they are on or Chair a committee to let the Board know and we will take you off that committee.

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

John welcomed everyone back. He thanked the Board members for doing a wonderful job. Job stated that before deciding not to hold a meeting to please call him. He stated that he was working on scheduling a meeting with State and City DOT and the Police to discuss the problems we are having with Pelham Parkway and White Plains Road. John stated that we have to come to some decision on clearing up the gridlock. We cannot wait until 2012 when the project is slated to start.

John reported that another meeting that he is setting up is with DYCD, because we have such a limited amount of youth programs in Community Board 11. He stated that in the 11 years he has been district manager we have gotten less programs. John stated that he had spoken with Mae Chan of DYCD's Intergovernmental Relations Office and asked her to set up a meeting at our office.

John spoke about parks in our area. He stated that Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Councilman Vacca, Senator Klein and Assemblyman Naomi Rivera haven't given money to Parks out of their discretionary funds. Our parks are being renovated by elected official's money not mayoral money. He stated that the question he keeps asking Parks is what is the mayor's responsibility with the city money to our parks. How come we don't hear that the mayor is putting money in to renovate a park in our district? John stated that without our elected officials nothing would have been done in our parks.

John thanked the board members who attended the budget consultations. He stated that budget priorities are the same as last years except for Jacobi whose requests have changed.

John reported that he had met with DOE. He told the Education Committee that they needed to look at the schools in our community. Parents don't want to send their kids to some of our schools. At 144 the kids don't come from our community. The kids zoned for this school won't go there. They are coming from Board 12. Why aren't parents sending their kids to our schools?

Lily reported that Region 2 is sending parents to a school and the school says there is no room. The school says it is Region 2's fault and Region 2 says it is the school's fault.

John asked Lily to send him the information on these students. He reported that we have a Community District Superintendent for District 11. John stated that he never knew that this position existed. The new person is Anthon Orzo who came into his office to introduce himself. He also reported that Mr. Orzo will be coming to the next Education Committee meeting.

V. Borough President's Report – Andy Toledo

Andy asked all the Board members to fill out the survey and return it to the Borough President's office.

FY2007 Capital Budget Allocations

PS 721X Occupational Training Center Computers	\$125,000
Pelham Parkway Houses – Community Room	50,000
Jacobi Medical Center – Ultrasound, Pulmonary, and Volcano S5 Imaging Systems	485,000
Bronx Zoo – Path Paving	500,000
New York Botanical Garden – Shuttle Bus	75,000
New York Botanical Garden – Museum Building	1,050,000

Andy announced that \$3 million has been allocated to purchase medical equipment that will assist our hospitals to battle cancer, heart disease, diabetes and stroke. Also funded over 3 years was a commitment to replace all old wiring and computers at every branch library in the Bronx. The future Children's Museum received \$250,000, bringing our total to \$500,000.

Applications available for Yankee Stadium Construction positions, contact Solutions Center at 718-960-7988.

Borough President Carrion and Congressman Nadler to call for change in Jewish/Hispanic relations at Upper West Side Forum

Borough President Carrion gives hope to parents without custody

VI. Committee Reports

A. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth reported that the meeting had been well attended. She stated that the minutes had been submitted. Ruth welcomed the library supervisor and invited her to come more often.

B. Economic Development Joseph Thompson

1. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses

a. Coals Restaurant – 1888 Eastchester Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

b. La Casa Del Caffe Ltd. 1036 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises wine consumption (RENEWAL)

c. Casa Milana Ltd. – 2008 Williamsbridge Road 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 stating that we have no objections to the granting of these renewal licenses. **PASSED.**

Joe spoke about a place on Morris Park Avenue that is looking to open across from Our Lady of Solace which is going to be made into a Head Start Program.

John stated that he had gone there. He said that they have a canopy, and they are planning on applying for a license. He stated that he explained to them that before they can apply to SLA they must submit to the Board. John stated that they were not

selling liquor when he made his visit. He stated that Joe and he will take a look at it again.

John reported that he had received a call from BOEDC on a meeting he set up for next week to discuss how they can be helpful to the businesses in the Community Board area. He stated that the meeting was set up for 2 PM and he would get back to Joe on the date for him and his committee to attend.

C. Land Use –Joseph McManus

Joe stated that there had been no meeting. He reported that a public hearing had been held last month and he thanked the Committee members who attended and gave him support.

John spoke about the R5D on Williamsbridge Road. He spoke about an article in the Bronx Time. He stated that they interviewed property owners on Williamsbridge Road, and not one of them including the gas station, the owner of Pasta Pasta or F&S Pharmacy has plans to tear down their building and erect housing on top. John said the Board did the right thing in rezoning that area.

Diane Norris asked about the housing that is being built on Bronxdale and White Plains Road.

John stated that he had spoken with Sol Arker before he went on vacation and the applications are still not available.

Diane stated that she had an application.

John said that the application that she had is a generic one as the Arker group builds housing throughout the city. It is not specific for this development.

D. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

Blanche reported that the minutes had been distributed and she thanked CeCe Haas for doing them. Blanche reported that the meeting had been well attended.

Bob potter reported that there is going to be compost give backs from Oct. 10- Oct. 14. From 10 AM-3 PM Tuesday and 8 AM- 2 PM on Saturday. He also stated that sanitation is offering 5 free paper bags for leaf disposal which are available with a coupon. If you are interested call sanitation and ask them to send it to you.

Bob reported that he had attended a waste management meeting and he reported that next year it will be mandatory to use paper bags for the leaves. He stated that next year if you put them in plastic you will be fined.

Joe Thompson spoke about a complaint that he received at the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council of a foul odor coming from Morris Park and Garfield Avenue. He stated that he went there and the odor is horrible. This is a live animal slaughter house. There is also a garbage problem. Joe stated that we probably have a rat problem also. He asked anyone who has these problems to contact John at the Board office.

John reported that as soon as Joe brought this to his attention he contacted the Department of Health, Agriculture & Markets and Sanitation. Sanitation went there that day and cited them. John stated that Health should be going there if they have not already gone there. He stated that State Department of Agriculture and Markets takes

a little longer. John stated that our Sanitation agent went to the site but did not see any garbage so he could not issue a ticket.

Joe said that the garbage is not in the front of the store but along the street along the wall.

John stated that that area is MTA property.

Joe said that the MTA was called and Jackie Carter told him that she was sending someone there.

John explained that the MTA has a time schedule for cleaning their properties now. He stated that he would check the time schedule.

Linda White reported that the MTA wall garbage is from people dumping in the neighborhood instead of putting it in front of their houses. She said that they also have skunks. Linda said that this is a big problem because people have been feeding them.

#### E. Technology and Communications – David Leavitt

David reported that the Committee had met and they are reaching out to companies that can create our website. He stated that we will report more on this at next month's meeting.

Mary Paliotta reported that the Committee will meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 PM in the Board office.

#### F. Parks and Recreation – Joseph Carfora

##### 1. Skate Board Park

Joe spoke about the Bronx River Alliance and the Parks Commissioner's plans for the park.

John reported that he had met with Bronx River Alliance and they want to keep the area where we want to put the Skate Park naturalistic. John stated that he told her that we have supported this site and have petitions on file from the community supporting it at this location. He stated that under Joe Thompson's Chairmanship the Committee worked hard to find the best location for this Skate Park.

Joe stated that they suggested moving the Skate Park further north on the north side of the parkway closer to Pelham Parkway.

Discussion took place on the Commissioner's desire to put a soccer field at that location. Also discussed were the problems that took place when there previously was a soccer field.

Joe Thompson explained the reasons why the Board was in favor of a Skate Park. Children were using McDonald's parking lot and it was dangerous. The community was in favor of a skate park and this was the best location for it.

A great deal of discussion took place on all the meetings that were held to give the community an opportunity a chance to voice their opinion on a skate park. It was stated by several board members that at no time did anyone come to these meetings against the skate park.

A Motion was made by Lily Lozano, Seconded by Bob Potter - That Community Board 11 send a letter to Commissioner Aponte that we approve the location of the

skate park at this location in Bronx Park. **PASSED WITH 1 OPPOSED BY JANICE WALCOTT.**

John reported that the office has been getting complaints about football playing on Pelham Parkway as well as barbecuing in Bronx Park which is illegal. He stated that whenever we call PEP they say they don't have enough PEP officers to really go out there when we have a problem. He stated that he had met with Capt. Ortiz of PEP and she has been responsive.

Discussion took place on where people could barbecue and John explained that in our area no park is set up for it. He stated that Pelham Bay Park has built in barbecue pits. He stated people are leaving their ashes and causing fires. John stated that we are requesting new signs saying No Ball Playing and No Barbecuing.

Joe McManus spoke about people in the buildings on Bronx Park East having rats because people who use the park leave food around.

#### G. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

Rabbi Fuchs reported that he was the only one at his meeting. He asked John about the request for traffic agents. He also reported that the timing is off going down Boston Road to Pelham Parkway.

John informed the Rabbi that at the budget consultations we asked for traffic agents and they told us that if we put traffic agents on Pelham Parkway, White Plains Road and Boston Road it will solve the problem there but it will create the problem further east and west. John reported that he was setting up a meeting with State and City DOT and the police department to discuss what our options are at that location.

Rabbi Fuchs spoke about the Stop sign that appeared at Astor and Seymour Avenues. He also spoke about the Pelham Parkway North service Road between White Plains Road and Williamsbridge Road a stop sign was put up on one corner of Holland Avenue. Two blocks down they put up a light.

John explained that the light was put in on Wallace Avenue due to people crossing the street everywhere. He stated that it was very dangerous. John reported that he met with DOT, police and the parks department to discuss what would be done. John stated that Wallace Avenue is being designated as a crosswalk and that is why the light was put in there.

Rabbi Fuchs stated that if this was the case then there should have also been a light on the south side. John said that he would look into it.

#### H. Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that the Board has received the paperwork for the Yankee Awards. She stated that it is being mailed to the community groups. Linda asked that it be returned to the Board office by the end of next week in order to give the Committee time to go through the applications.

John stated that the boards are given a chance to give 5 kids \$500 each. We don't want to lose this opportunity. John asked that the groups make sure that this is someone who is actively involved in the community.

Ms. Jaffee asked why it was limited to the community groups and John explains that due to the time constraints we don't have the ability to go through a large amount of applications which we would get if it was opened to the community.

Linda asked John to check with the other Boards to see how they handle their awards and John said he would look into it. Linda stated that in previous years the applicants were brought to the attention of the community groups because they knew them and what they had contributed to the community. She stated that the ages for these awards are 14-18.

Vinny Taddeo spoke about the parking problem at Stillwell Avenue and Pelham Parkway North. He stated that it is a narrow roadway and the cars parking there make it difficult to see.

John said he would look into it.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Burko".

Ruth Burko,  
Secretary

RB/hl

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

PRESENT

Joseph Bacote	(0)	Mary Paliotta	(0)
Ruth Burko	(0)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)
Junior Campbell	(0)	Robert Potter	(0)
Joseph Carfora	(0)	Pat Quaranta	(1)
Dominic Castore	(0)	Eliezer Rodriguez	(1)
Diane Cerino	(1)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(0)
John Dennehy	(0)	Joanne Rubino	(0)
Pat Dolan	(0)	Irene Rukaj	(1)
Rosemary Durso	(0)	Martin Sacewicz	(0)
Altagracia Fabal	(0)	Vincent Taddeo	(1)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(1)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Denise Giocondo	(0)	Marisa Totino	(0)
David Leavitt	(0)	Eugene Tutora	(0)
Lilith Lozano	(0)	Sandra Unger	(1)
Silvio Mazzella	(0)	Janice Walcott	(0)
Joseph McManus	(0)	Elaine Weisbrot	(1)
Diane Norris	(0)	Linda White	(0)

ABSENT

Michael Carriere	(2)	Rev. Leslie McHenry	(2)
Albert D'Angelo	(1)	Hazel Miura	(2)
Harain Figueroa	(1)	Vincent Prezioso	(1)
Kenneth Gelnick	(1)	Joseph Reda	(2)

Annette Marchitello

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Matthew Schneid, Representing Senator Jeffrey Klein

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John A. Fratta, District Manager – Community Board 11

Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board 11

Andy Toledo – Representing Borough President Adolph Carrion Jr.

Denise Gonzalez - BOEDC