



COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX  
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Dominic Castore  
 Chairman

Adolfo Carrion, Jr.  
 Borough President

John A. Fratta  
 District Manager

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 26,**  
**2009 IN HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL**

**COMMITTEES**

- Allerton
- Bronx Park East/Olinville
- Community Development and Budget Priorities
- Education/Youth
- Indian Village/Westchester Hgts
- Land Use
- Morris Park/Van Nest
- Pelham Gardens

**The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by Vincent Prezioso, First Vice Chair.**

**I. Gallery Session**

**a. Pat Flannigan**

**Mr. Flannigan spoke about the need to keep the pressure on the restore the SSI supplement services and other services that are being cut. He also spoke about the cuts in Medicare medicines that are making seniors have to pay more for their medicines. He asked everyone to send letters and make calls to their elected officials.**

**b. Brian Adams**

**Mr. Adams stated that he would like to have the Community Board hold a meeting at the new senior center at 2424 Boston Road.**

**c. Marcy Gross**

**Marcy spoke about the need for a speed bump on Bolton Street. She submitted a petition. Mary spoke about landlords in multi dwellings not screening their prospective tenants. She stated that is some cases someone was getting paid for an apartment. Marcy stated that these have been problem tenants**

**Joe Thompson stated that Senator Klein is looking into this. He suggested that she talk to the tenants association. Joe stated that we need stricter penalties for not looking into tenants' background.**

**Marcy spoke about child molesters moving into multi dwellings.**

**P.O. Perez stated that there is no law which prohibits them from living in a building with kids. He stated that they are not suppose to be near children. P.O. Perez stated that you can look up an individual on the Sex Offender website.**

**b. Bernadette Ferrara**

**Ms. Ferrara spoke about a meeting held with Councilman James Vacca at which Joe Bombace was present regarding Van Nest Park. She stated that the park needs to be renovated. Ms. Ferrara stated that she did not want patch work to delay the renovations. She also spoke about the need for patrols around the park and a half court basketball court the youth.**

**John reported that the board has the renovation of the park and the expansion as a major priority. He stated that the board was aware of this meeting. John stated that we are looking to demap two streets to make the park bigger. He stated that Commissioner Aponte is on board with this.**

**Ms. Ferrara spoke about 592 Van Nest Avenue which has a crisis center in it. John said that he would look into it.**

**d. Aqua Afriye-Fullwood**

**Ms. Afriye-Fullwood spoke about the problems that go on behind the Royal Coach Diner at the intersection of Boston and Gun Hill Roads. She stated that cars speed down there on Waring Avenue. She commended Sanitation for getting a car removed very quickly. Ms. Afriye-Fullwood spoke about a hazard condition where there are cars parked on both sides of the street and people are repairing their cars. She stated that she called the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct and they did not consider it an emergency.**

**Vinny told her to call 911. He stated that they have to respond to this. John told her to call the Board office.**

**Ms. Afriye-Fullwood spoke about the continuing noise from the Royal Coach Diner. She stated that motorist in the parking lot are playing their music very loud.**

**Joe Thompson told her to come to the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council meeting on Tuesday.**

## **II. Elected Officials**

**John Doyle – representing Senator Jeffrey Klein**

**John reported that Senator Klein is sponsoring and Easter Bunny Hop on April 4<sup>th</sup> at Maestros. He also reported that Gardening classes are held every Sunday at the Botanical Garden. Call 718-822-2049 for more information.**

**Marina King – representing Senator Ruben Diaz Sr.**

**Marina spoke about the Medication Bill that is coming up for a vote. Bill #1645. She stated that this will provide good discounts for the seniors. They would be able to get their medications at the lowest possible costs. Maria stated that Senator Diaz is fighting to have all service cuts restored and no tolls on the highways. Marina distributed flyers and reported that people receiving SSI or SS will receiving \$250.00**

**John Fratta stated that they need to bring back the commuter tax.**

**Jeremy Warneke- representing Councilman James Vacca**

**Jeremy spoke about a bill to allow motorists to have an additional five minutes of time when a parking meter expires. He also spoke about a bill that would require traffic agents to take a photo before the issue a ticket. Jeremy stated that this is not likely to pass. Jeremy spoke about a bill requiring owners of vehicles with graffiti on them to have the graffiti removed. He stated that the State needs to do this first. Jeremy reported that Buildings got into 1663 Holland Avenue. He stated that there were SRO's there as well as illegal evictions. Jeremy stated that there was a full vacate order on this location and 2424 Fish Avenue.**

## **III. Minutes**

**A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Martin Sacewicz – That the Minutes be approved as received. PASSED**

## **IV. Chairman's Report – Vincent Prezioso**

**Vinny reported that John is being honored on May 2<sup>nd</sup> b the Sons of Italy at Maestro's.**

**Vinny reported that he attended the Borough meeting with John on Tuesday and then they got to take a tour of the new Yankee Stadium. He stated that it should be completed by April 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Vinny reported that each Community Board received tickets to Yankee Stadium for April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that you can tour the Stadium, have a free lunch and see the Yankees workout. Anyone wanting tickets can call the Board office.**

**Vinny reported that the make up of the Board's committees has been changed. He stated that some committees the attendance is good. Vinny stated that is important to have committee attendance. He asked anyone who cannot attend his/her committee to call the Board office.**

**V. District Manager's Report – John A. Fratta**

**John reported that the District Managers and Chairs met at a City Council hearing on the proposed budget cuts. He stated that he was very optimistic that the cuts will be restored. John stated that tomorrow they are meeting with the Bronx delegation. John stated that they told the Council that when the city had good time other agencies got an increase and the boards did not. The last time that the boards received an operating budge was in 1987. He stated that we should the out come by next month. John reported that Councilman Vacca is pushing for the boards' budget to remain the same.**

**John reported that the boards received 1,000 tickets for the Yankee workout on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He reported that to date we have given out 700 tickets. John stated that these tickets were distributed on an individual basis. He stated that this gave more people the opportunity to get tickets. John stated that Board members who responded they wanted tickets will find them in their envelopes. Anyone needing tickets can see me after the meeting.**

**John reported that the Allerton Committee had a meeting at which Captain Greeley of the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct and DEP were invited to attend. John stated that only 3 committee members were at this meeting. John reported that it is important that the Chairs attend the Executive Committee because this is where we set the calendar for the coming month. John stated that he is trying to get the calendar out to the public and in the newspaper.**

**John reported that when a board member is up for reappointment committee attendance will be looked at. He also told board members that if they wanted an item added to the committee agenda to call the**

chair of that committee or himself. John also stressed the importance of letting the Board know if your email address or phone numbers have changed.

**VI. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella**

Silvio reported that both the Community Board and Friend's of Treasurer's Reports had been distributed.

**VII. Borough President's Report – Andy Toledo**

Andy reported that the unemployment rate is now 8.1%. He distributed an unemployment fact sheet.

**VII. Committee Reports**

**A. Executive Committee – Vincent Prezioso**

**1. Liquor license renewal for Wildlife Conservation Society – Zoo Terrance Café**

**A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Joe Thurston**  
– That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this renewal license. **PASSED**

**B. Youth and Education – Diane Norris**

Diane reported that the Minutes had been distributed

John reported that at the last meeting the Board had tabled a vote on Sugar Lounge. He stated that you can't table a vote after it has been voted on. John reported that the owners of Sugar lounge went to the Morris Park Association and they no longer have a problem with this location. He stated that the Executive Committee took the tabling off.

Diane reported that the Charter School will be coming from Story Avenue.

John explained that the public school will be zoned for the community. He stated that entrance into the Charter School is on a lottery basis. John stated that we are trying to get as many students as possible into the lottery. He stated that in agreement with Councilman Vacca this school will be zoned for PS 83, 105 and 108. John stated that it will be for the community first, and then it will become a choice school.

Linda asked about the kids from Story Avenue.

**John reported that the public school will be from preK-8 and the Charter School will be from K-8. He stated that we don't know where the new Charter School Equality will be located. John stated that applications were sent out. He stated that representatives from Equality will be at the next Education meeting.**

**Twenty percent of the students will be special needs.**

**Vinny stated that they mentioned MS 144 because the school is not at full capacity. They have 1,000 students and the cap is 1600. He stated that the principal is concerned because they have a specialty class and smaller class sizes. Vinny stated that we will fight this.**

**Dr. Patel reported that DYCD has finalized the list of organizations for the 3 year cycle. He stated that 3 out of 11 were selected.**

**Bob Potter stated that Equality School seems to be the same as when we had a charter school at Mercy College. They registered children before there was a site.**

**Irene stated that we need to stay on top of this where a Charter School is located with a public school.**

**John reported that the two schools do not mingle and he gave the background on Charter Schools. He reported that their day is longer and that their school year is longer. John reported that they are built by private organizations.**

**Diane reported that they are getting back 5 class rooms in PS 83.**

**C. Bronx Park East/Olinville – Joseph Thompson**

**1. Application by Savel Richards Cole to have a Community Health Information Fair on Waring Avenue between Williamsbridge Road and Paulding Avenue on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2:30 pm.**

**2. Application by Tie Rolle Allen to conduct a Calypso Children's Youth Summer Fest on Adee Avenue between Pearsall and Tenbroeck Avenues on July 11<sup>th</sup> from 11 am- 8 pm.**

**A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to the issuing of these 2 street closings.**

**PASSED**

**3. Request for a loading zone in front of 902 Allerton Avenue**

**Joe explained that this glass distributor has been at this location for 30?? Years**

**A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Sandra Unger – That Community Board 11 send a letter to DOT stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this loading zone.**

**A great deal of discussion took place on this location and the fact that there were not many available parking spaces in this area.**

**A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Joe Bombace – That a vote on this be table until we can study the area more.**

**4. Letter of support for Lifestyles Solutions at 2855 White Plains Road a substance abuse counseling program**

**It was brought out that they do management counseling, marriage counseling and DWI counseling.**

**A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the Department of Health indicating that we have no objection to this program at this location. PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION FROM GENE TUTORA**

**5. Letter of Support for Botanical Garden**

**Joe reported that the Botanical Garden is being renovated. He stated that they came before the Committee. Joe stated that the want to redo the area by the Waring Avenue Gate to make it safer for pedestrians.**

**Discussion took place on what agencies are involved and John stated that Parks, State and City DOT and the Botanical Garden are involved.**

**A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Vinny Prezioso - That Community Board 11 send a letter to the Botanical Garden stating that we support the renovations of the Waring Avenue Gate. PASSED**

**6. Zimmerman Playground**

**Joe reported that there are problems with amplified sound at this park. He stated that the police will look into this. Joe also stated that they are trying to minimize the amount of permits issued for amplified sound issued at this park.**

**D. Indian Village/Westchester Heights – Michael Carriere  
Michael congratulated John on being honored by the Sons of Italy.**

**1. Application by Maritza Wellington Owens of the Harvest Home Morris Park Market to hold a Farmer’s Market at Morris Park and**

**Tomlinson Avenue by Loreto Park from July 11<sup>th</sup> to November 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 6 pm. (sidewalk only)**

**Michael stated that there is a problem with this location due to parking.**

**John reported that there is another Farmer's Market that has been held by Jacobi Hospital. He stated that this was previously held in the parking lot of Our Savior Lutheran School. John stated that this would take place on Saturdays.**

**Some discussion took place on the location of the site.**

**A Motion was made by Michael Carriere, Seconded by Dr. Mahendra Patel – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objections to the Farmer's Market. Motion Defeated**

**2. Application by Maritza Wellington Owens of the Harvest Home Jacobi Market to hold a Farmer's Market at Pelham Parkway between Wilson Avenue and Eastchester Road from June 16<sup>th</sup> to November 24<sup>th</sup> from 7 am to 4 pm (sidewalk only)**

**A Motion was made by Michael Carriere, Seconded by Joe Bombace – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this Farmer's Market. PASSED**

**Michael reported that he has received 600 gallons of paint delivered to him.**

**John asked him to get the names of those who donated the paints so that we can send them a thank you letter.**

**Michael asked anyone who has a location with graffiti that needs to be removed to call the Board office.**

**E. Morris Park/Van Nest Committee – Linda White**

**Linda reported that the Minutes had been distributed.**

**1. Application by Rev. Gregory Clark of the Ecclesia Church International for a Church Conference at Bronxdale Avenue between Pierce and Van Nest Avenues on June 18<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 8 pm (sidewalk only)**

**2. Application by Linda Rufino to close Haight Avenue between Rhineland and Neill Avenues on July 11<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 8 pm for a block party.**



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

**3. Liquor license renewal for Rainbow Restaurant at 2195 White Plains Road – RENEWAL**

**A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this liquor license renewal. PASSED**

**4. Daycare located at 1559 Lurting Avenue**

**John reported that DEP and State DEC conservation approved the site. He stated that they have their license.**

**5. Morris Park Pub**

**John reported that this is on the Agenda for next month. He stated that they have new owners. John stated that he Vinny and Al met with the new owners. He stated that the showed him a copy of their lease and the menu. John stated that they will close at 1 am. John stated that the new owner is Charles Kahill. He owns 2 other restaurants. John stated that we told Mr. Kahill that the first problem we have we will go after your license.**

**Joe Bombace asked if the backyard will be off limits. He stated that we will come to the committee meeting. He also asked about the fines.**

**John said that he would look into the fines. John thanked Senator Klein for spear heading the leadership on this. He stated that what we want is businesses that respect the community.**

**F. Allerton Committee – Joanne Rubino**

**Joanne reported that the Committee had met on March 12<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the Minutes had been distributed. Joanne reported that Captain John Greeley of the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct and Effie Ardizzone of DEP were at the meeting to address the issues at the Gun Hill Road Station. She stated that there will be foot patrols from 4-12. Joanne stated that we need to have police presence in the area.**

**Joanne reported on the sink hole problems at Seymour Avenue. She stated that it is taking along to be resolved. Joanne stated that they said the hole is 30 feet and will have to be placed through capital project.**

**Joe McManus reported on the Bronx Historian. He stated that 2 potential areas in our community are being land marked. One is the St Lucy's Grotto and the other is Pelham Parkway\_**

**Pat Dolan spoke about the request for a street closing for St. Francis.**

**John stated that the Board approved it and we sent letters to the Mayor and Parks because it was denied due to there being a moratorium on multi day and multi block events. He stated that Commissioner Aponte is reviewing it.**

**Silvio reported that the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council will be meeting on Tuesday. He stated that DA Johnson will be there.**

**Mike Carriere thanked Councilman Vacca, Assemblywoman Rivera and Senator Klein for their contribution to purchase the enclosed trailer.**

**Charisse Suarez Representing Assemblywoman Rivera spoke. She stated that there would be an event sponsored by the Assemblywoman on Saturday celebrating Women's History month at the Morris Park library. Community Board member Blanche Rifkin is being honored. Cherise stated that Assemblywoman Rivera is working on the budget in Albany. She supports nursing homes and pharmacies.**

**There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:10**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Ruth Burko,  
Secretary**

**ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 26, 2009**

**PRESENT**

<b>Joseph Bacote</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Vincent Prezioso</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Joe Bombace</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Joseph Reda</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Joseph Carfora</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Eliezer Rodriguez</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Michael Carriere</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>Blanche Rifkin</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Jessica Dewberry</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Joanne Rubino</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Pat Dolan</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>Irene Rukaj</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Harain Figueroa</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Martin Sacewicz</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Kenneth Gelnick</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Vincent Taddeo</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Denise Giocondo</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>Joseph Thompson</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>David Leavitt</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>Joseph Thurston</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Silvio Mazzella</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>Eugene Tutora</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Joseph McManus</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>Sandra Unger</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Hazel Miura</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Anthony Vitaliano</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>Mary Paliotta</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Janice Walcott</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Dr. Mahendra Patel</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>Linda White</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Robert Potter</b>	<b>(1)</b>		

**ABSENT**

<b>Ruth Burko</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Rabbi Moshe Fuchs</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Junior Campbell</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>Annette Marchitello</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Dominic Castore</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Elizabeth Nazario</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Albert D'Angelo</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>Pat Quaranta</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Rosemary Durso</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Oral Selkridge</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Estella Foley</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Marisa Totino</b>	<b>(3)</b>

**EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS**

**Jeremy Warneke – Representing Councilman James Vacca**

**OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Charisse Suarez – Representing Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera**

**STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS**

**John Fratta. District Manager – Community Board 11**

**Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board 11**

**Andy Toledo – Representing Acting Borough President Earl Brown**