



Dominic Castore
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Jeremy Warneke
District Manager

MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY,
MARCH 26, 2012 AT LUBIN HALL, 1200 VAN NEST AVENUE

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by First Vice Chair, Tony Vitaliano.

I. Guest Speaker- Kenrick Ou, NYC School Construction Authority

Mr. Ou reported that the Department of Education is proposing to build a public school on Rhinelander Avenue between Eastchester Road and Stillwell Avenue in the parking lot of the old Mother Butler School. Mr. Ou stated that he is the SCA's Director of Real Estate and that the proposed school will have 379 seats and be a primary school from K-5. He stated that the site will be 70,000 square feet. Mr. Ou stated that the school that is there now was purchased by Ican Schools and is a Charter School. Mr. Ou discussed that the Charter School will be k-8 and they will be adding one new grade a year until they reach 8th grade.

Joe McManus stated that the Charter Schools are bought with public money.

Mr. Ou stated that the new school will be 5 stories, have a play area for early childhood and an auditorium. He stated that the school is designed as a green school and will be handicapped accessible. Mr. Ou stated that the process is different than for a U.L.U.R.P. He stated that after the comment period the SCA must review it and then submit it to the Mayor and the City Council. Mr. Ou stated that it will take DOE a few years for construction. He stated that he did not know if it would be a zoned school. He stated that P.S. 108 and 83 are over used. He stated that if it is not a zoned school they may follow the model of the charter school.

Questions were asked by Board members as to where the students would be coming from and why this location was chosen as there is a school there. It was suggested that there was a piece of property at 1684 White Plains Road. The corner of Van Nest Avenue and they have a parking lot.

Mr. Ou stated that DOE has a 5 year capital plan. He stated that there is a need for 3,000 seats for primary-8th grade. He stated that not all of these needs will be funded. Mr. Ou stated that as of February they will fund 2,000 seats. He stated that once Aging in America was placed on the market he spoke to the owners.

Al stated that DOE needs to study the fact that children are bused in to P.S. 108 and 83 from 180th street. He stated that we need to build schools where the students are coming from not bus them in. Al stated that the community wants to go to local schools. He asked what this impact the school will have on the police.

P.O. DePierro stated that DOE needs to do a study of the area. He stated that it is difficult for the police cars to access the parkway between 2-6 PM. He stated that DOE needs to talk to the community.

Al reported that D.I. Nicholson had an emergency call that took him longer to because of the traffic now.

Tony Vitaliano stated that Board will hold a public hearing on this Much discussion took place on building schools where the school will not be bused in and the problem with no parking available for the teachers.

Joe Bombace asked if CSA would consider St. Dominick's School at 1684 White Plains Road. He stated that the school is already there. Joe also stated that there is a newly reconstructed playground near St. Dominick's

Mr. Ou said that they would look into it.

II. Gallery Session

a. Sal Castorina – Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association

Sal stated that he was the president of the Allerton Avenue Homeowners and Tenants Association and was here tonight of behalf of the 2700 Yates Avenue community. Sal stated that the proposed house at 2726 Yates Avenue is a small house. He stated that he visited it with Joe Thompson and John Doyle as well as their site at 2950 Laconia Avenue. Sal stated that the place was clean and well kept. He stated that the 2726 Yates Avenue site is not good for 7 patients and 5 aides. Sal stated that John Doyle of Senator Klein's office did a study and this area is oversaturated with group homes.

b. George LaRocca

Mr. LaRocca stated that he was here representing the 2700 block of Yates Avenue. He stated that he had petitions signed by the residents against the home going into this location. Mr. LaRocca stated that there have been issues with this house since day one. He stated that there is no back egress and no room for a fire escape. Mr. LaRocca stated that there is no parking for the vans that would come to transfer the clients and the exhaust would go into the windows of the basement. He stated that there is no parking for the 5 care takers. Mr. LaRocca stated that we have people parking in other people's driveways. He also stated that the owner of the home was behind in his taxes and that the home was improperly build and not properly insolated. Mr. LaRocca stated that only one person could go up or down the stairs at a time.

c. Remti Kurboa

Mr. Kurboa stated that he shares a driveway with this house. He

spoke about the problems that have been going on with the house.

d. Julian Clayton – Big Apple RX

Mr. Clayton spoke about how this discount card will help people pay for their prescriptions. He stated that there is little to no out of pocket cost. No sign up fee and are available in all 50 states.

e. Raphael Schweizer

Mr. Schweizer stated that he has been volunteering in the Board office. He stated that it was a pleasure meeting the Board members.

f. Brian Adams

Brian asked when the next 49th Precinct Council meeting will be held. He was told that they will meet on Tuesday in Eastchester Gardens

g. Mike Heller – Head of Government Relations at A.E.C.O.M.

Mike stated that there was a great turn out tonight and he welcomed all the Board members to Einstein.

III. Elected officials

a. Marina King – Representing Senator Ruben Diaz Sr.

Marina spoke about the Pooper Scooper Law. She stated that New York City is the cleanest it has ever been. Sanitation is enforcing the law and the fine is \$250.

Marina spoke about job opportunities BOEDC warehouse workers, Yankee Stadium, Bronx Zoo.

b. Andy Toledo – Representing Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

Andy reported that the reappointment letter would be going out. He spoke about Bronx Week which will be held from May 10th to May 20th. Andy stated that all community groups are invited to participate.

c. John Doyle – Representing Senator Jeffrey Klein

John reported that Senator Klein had voted for the bill requiring DNA for convicted felons. He spoke about the Tier 6 pension plans. John reported on the Morris Park poster contest. He stated that 100 posters were submitted. He stated that the winning poster will be announced at the Morris Park Association meeting tomorrow. John reported on the Easter bunny Breakfast.

IV. Minutes

A Motion was made by Blanche Comras Rifkin, Seconded by Rosemary Durso -
That the minutes be accepted as received. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

V. Chairman's Report – Tony Vitaliano, First Vice Chair

Tony reported that there will be a public hearing on the Pelham Parkway Reconstruction. This will give the public a chance to ask questions and get answers. The meeting will be held on April 2nd.

Tony reported that Dom Castore has named the members to the Nominating Committee. They are Gene Tutora, Chair; Rosemary Durso and Joseph Thurston. Tony stated that anyone who is interested in running for any of the positions to notify the Board.

VI. District Manager Report – Jeremy Warneke

Jeremy reported on the Citizens Police Academy. He stated that it is police training for civilians. Let him know if you know of anyone interested joining the Academy.

Jeremy stated that we are in the process of hiring a Community Associate. He stated that the information was emailed to Board Members or it's in their packet. Anyone interested in the position should mail a formal cover letter and resume to the Board Office. All resumes must be postmarked by March 30th. The advertisement was also published in the *Bronx Time Reporter*.

Jeremy stated that Harriet works 9-3 every day; John works 9-5 two days a week, usually on Mondays and Wednesdays. He stated that his schedule fluctuates. Until we hire someone, the office will not be open every single day and every single hour. Even after the Community Associate position is filled, there will be instances when the office will be closed.

Jeremy reported that he had attended a Community Board 8 meeting. He stated that they have fewer tables than we do and no microphone system.

Jeremy asked the Board members to notify Harriet if they are not able to attend a meeting. He stated that she keeps a log of attendance at all meetings. Jeremy reported that John and he did a site visit on Pelham Parkway. He stated that there are some day lighting areas where parking was removed to go over.

Joe McManus asked when the trees would be put in.

Jeremy stated that John was working on it.

Joe stated that he wants the Board to put pressure on Parks.

Tony reported that the subject of the trees was brought up at the meeting he attended yesterday. He stated that John is scheduling a meeting on this.

Bob Potter spoke about the visit to JHS 144 on March 21st.

Jeremy reported that Bob, Vinny and he had met with the Acting Interim Principal of 144. He stated that the principal is going to the NEBA meeting on March 26th at Kings Harbor. Jeremy stated that what DOE wants to do is cut 144's enrollment in half and insert a new school into the building. He stated that a new principal for the new school has already been selected.

Al spoke about the widening of the sidewalks on Pelham Parkway Service Road.

Tony stated that the public hearing will give the community the opportunity to vent. He reported that when the main road of Pelham Parkway is repaved the

buses will go down the service road. Tony stated that originally DDC wanted no parking on either side of the roadway. Tony stated that John is working on this.

A great deal of discussion took place on DDC and the fact that the sidewalks need to conform to Americans with Disabilities.

Tony stated that the sidewalks were within the guidelines.

Jeremy stated that they only need 4 feet.

Jeremy thanked Harriet for the great job she has been doing.

VII Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Friend's of and Community Board Treasurer's Reports had been distributed. He reported that in the budget for FY 2013 there is a cut of \$12,000 proposed by the Mayor,

VIII Committee Reports

A. Bronx Park East/Olinville – Joe Thompson

Joe reported that Larry Prospect had passed away. He stated that he was a solid person who gave to the community by helping the patrols donating turkey for Christmas and other things. He asked for a moment of silence in Larry memory. Joe stated that the services will be held tomorrow at Mt. Sinai at 550 North Columbus Avenue in Mount Vernon. The phone number is 914-664-1727.

Street Closings

1. RASQOL - to close Barnes Avenue between Adee and Allerton Avenues on July 4th from 2PM-8 PM.

Joe stated that it was the policy of the Board not to grant any permits for July 4th.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO denying this street closing request.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

2. Rev. David Foster – to close Throop Avenue between Burke Avenue and East Gun Hill Road from July 22nd – July 29th from 7- 10 PM for a religious ceremony

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Junior Campbell – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to this street closing.

Bernadette asked why this event was going past 8 PM and Joe stated that this was a religious event. The Motion was **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

3. Rev. Jay Gooding – to close East Gun Hill Road between Pearsall and Throop Avenues from August 22nd to August 29th from 7-9 PM for a religious ceremony. Joe stated that there will be live music.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Janice Walcott – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this street closing. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED**

4. Irene Rukaj– to close Allerton Avenue between White Plains Road and Boston Road on June 30th from 11 AM-5 PM for a street festival.

Joe stated that the Committee had several questions on this application. He stated that we had previously denied a permit for Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera for this. Joe stated that the Committee felt that petitions were needed from the merchants and homeowners.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Janice Walcott – That Community Board 11 table a vote on this application until we have more information. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

b. Proposed groups home at 2726 Yates Avenue

Joe reported that a public hearing was held on March 6th. He stated that 28 Board members attended as well as members of the community. Joe stated that we have petitions from the homeowners against this location.

Joe reported that this home will house 7 you adults who are extremely challenged. He stated that the Institute proposing the home (The Puerto Rican Family Institute Inc.) and the home were checked out. He stated that the blue prints show that work will be done inside and outside. Joe stated that there will be 3-5 people supervising the home 24 hours a day. He stated that some of the questions that were raised were the danger to the clients, parking, house to small, not well maintains, and what would happen if the residents got out. Joe stated that they did not have a quorum at the hearing. He stated he had polled the Committee toddy and that the vote was split.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Dominick Schiano and Joe Bombace – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the Puerto Rican Family Institute denying this applicant for a group home at this location.

A roll call vote was taken. Those voting in favor of the Motion to deny were:

Richard Angeletti, Joseph Bacote, Edith Blitzer, Joe Bombace, Ruth Burko, Junior Campbell, Al D'Angelo, Jessica Dewberry, Rosemary Durso, Bernadette Ferrara, Denise Giocondo, David Leavitt, Silvio Mazzella, Diane Norris, Mary Paliotta, Dr. Mahendra Patel, Shradhanand Pirtam, Robert Potter, Vincent Prezioso, Pat Quaranta, Joseph Reda, Blanche Comras Rifkin, Joanne Rubino, Martin Sacewicz, Dominick Schiano, Andrea Siegel, Tony Signorile, Anthony Vitaliano and Janice Walcott

Those voting against the Motion were:

Joseph McManus, Hazel Miura, Joseph Thompson, and Sandra Unger

Those abstaining were:

Harain Figueroa, Eliezer Rodriguez, , Joanne Terrelonge and Gene Tutora

The Motion to deny was passed.

Joe reported that the 49th Precinct Council will meet on Tuesday, March 27th at 7:30 PM in the Eastchester Gardens Community Center.

B. Directors –

1. One Percent for Culture Campaign

Jeremy reported that we are being asked to sign on as a Coalition Partner for the One Percent for Culture Campaign, whose goal is to get the City to set aside 1% of its budget for cultural institutions such as the Botanical Garden, Bronx Zoo, NYPL and others. He stated that the Directors voted in favor of this

A Motion was made by Tony Vitaliano, Seconded by Joanne Rubino – That Community Board 11 sign onto this request. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION FROM DR. PATEL.**

C. Education/Youth – Diane Norris

1. J.H.S. 144

Diane reported that a public hearing was held at J.H.S. 144. She stated that Bob Potter, Jeremy and Vinny attended. Diane stated that DOE wants to reduce the size of J.H.S. 144 and co-locate another school in the building. She stated that they would phase out J.H.S. 144. Diane reported that Petra Poleon of CEC11 was at the meeting and stated that it was “a done deal”. She stated that the principal of the school has been picked. March 26th votes

2. Expansion of the Morris Park Library

Diane reported that the library would like to expand the newly available space above the library.

A Motion was made by Diane Norris, Seconded by Denise Giocondo – That Community Board 11 approve of this.

A Motion was made by Al D’Angelo, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That a vote on this be tabled. **THE VOTE TO TABLE A VOTE ON THIS WAS UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

3. Proposed school on Rhineland and Stillwell Avenues for 379 students.

Diane reported that the Education and Indian Village Committees held a joint meeting. She stated that they discussed the reasons that the school should not go into that location. Diane stated that the precinct and Jacobi’s emergency room would be greatly affected by this.

A Motion was made by Diane Norris, Seconded by _____ - That Community Board 11 send a letter to CSA denying the building of this school at Rhineland Avenue.

A question as to whether this should go through Land Use was brought up. It was stated that in the case of schools and fire houses the zoning laws are different.

Edith asked if the Board was contacted before the annex to 105 was put in. Tony stated that it did not come to the Board.

Jeremy reported that the Board has until April 19th to comment on this.

THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONLY JOANNE RUBINO ABSTAINING WITH CAUSE. THE MOTION WAS OTHERWISE UNANIMOUS.

Diane reported that on March 20th she had done to Kipps Bay with Councilman Vacca to see about their Youth programs.

Vinny reported on 144. He stated the community was never notified. No public hearing was held. He stated that the NEBA held a meeting with our elected officials and beat the school making them sign a 2 year contract building to Baychester.

D. Land Use – Joseph Mc Manus

Joe reported that the Minutes had been distributed.

1. BSA 196-49BZ – To extend the variance for the Sunoco service station at ____ Allerton Avenue for a period of 10 years.

A Motion was made by Joe McManus, Seconded by Mary Paliotta – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the BSA stating that we have no objection to the extension of this variance. **PASSED WITH 1 AGAINST FROM JOE REDA.**

2. Resolution to support City Council Intro Numbers 650, 651 and 678

A Motion was made by Joe McManus, Seconded by Joe Bombace – That Community Board support these intros. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED**

Joe thanked Mike Heller for his help when his son broke his femur.

E. Morris Park/Pelham Parkway/Van Nest – Al D'Angelo

1. Street Activity Permit applications

a. Application from Rev. Gregory Clark to close Bronxdale between Pierce and Van Nest Avenues from June 22nd – June 24th from 12 PM- 9 PM for a religious event

b. Application from Santuario De Orgacion Jimenez to close Garfield Street between Morris Park and Van Nest Avenues on June 3rd from 9 AM-6 PM for a Health Career Event

c. Application from the Haight Avenue Block Association to close Haight Avenue Block Party to close Haight Avenue between Rhinelander and Neill Avenues on July 7th from 12 PM-9 PM for a block party

d. Application from Saint Francis Xavier School to close Haight Avenue between Morris Park and Haight Avenues from June 21st – June 25th from 10 AM-10 PM for a street festival

A Motion was made by Al D'Angelo, Seconded by Vinny Prezioso and Edith Blitzer – That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to the issuing of these street closings **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED**

2. Liquor Licenses

a. 900 Park – 900 Morris Park Avenue Change in name of corporation

b. Doyle's Pub – 1024 Morris Park Avenue (RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Al D'Angelo, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objection to the issuing of these licenses. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED**

c. Request for Cabaret license for 900 Park – 900 Morris Park Avenue

A great deal of discussion took place on issuing a cabaret license. It was stated that the reason that they were asking for a cabaret license was that if more than 4 people get up to dance and they do not have a cabaret license they can be fined.

THE VOTE WAS PASSED WITH 1 AGAINST FROM JOE THOMPSON AND 43 ABSTENTIONS FROM JOE REDA, PAT QUARANTA AND DIANE NORRIS

4 Request for increased lighting underneath the Amtrak overpass at Bronxdale Avenue between Poplar Street and Sackett Avenue

A Motion was made by Al D'Angelo, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin and Joe Thompson – That Community Board 11 send a letter to ___ requesting that these increased lighting be installed. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

E. Pelham Gardens West – Joanne Rubino

Joanne reported that the Committee met on March 12th, and that the minutes were distributed.

F. Rules – David Leavitt

David reported that the minutes had been distributed. He apologized to the Board for --. He stated that in order for a motion to pass there must be more yes votes than no and abstention votes. David stated that Tom Lucania was going to be at their April 2nd meeting.

VIII. New Business

Jeremy reported that Silvio Mazzella is being honored by FIAME and that Vinny Prezioso is being honored by the Sons of Italy. Edith Blitzer stated that Jeremy and Joe McManus are being honored by her organization, the Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko, Secretary