



**Dominic Castore**  
Chairman

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**Jeremy Warneke**  
District Manager

MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY,  
MAY 24, 2012 AT LUBIN HALL, 1200 VAN NEST AVENUE

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

I. Guest Speaker

Vinny Oleniak – Chase Bank

Mr. Oleniak spoke about the free banking services available to active and retired military personnel. He stated that among these services are mortgages and loans, VA loans, refinancing and closing costs as well as a free safe deposit box. Mr. Oleniak distributed pamphlets.

II. Gallery Session

a. Raphael Schweizer

Raphael reported that he had brought salad for everyone. He stated that it is all from the CSA. A program that allows people to get fresh vegetables every week or every other week by becoming a share holder with the farmer for their growing season.

b. Brian Adams

Brian asked when the Pelham Parkway Project on the south side will be completed.

Jeremy stated that it should be completed by the fall of 2012.

III. Elected officials

a. John Doyle – Representing Senator Jeffrey Klein

John reported that the winners of the Morris Park Mural contest will be painting over the graffiti in our community. He reported that a protective coating will be put over the mural to protect it from future graffiti.

John reported that he had heard that the Mayor's office leaned on the FDNY to say that even though they couldn't stabilize their vehicles on the service road that they could still respond if need be, He stated that Senator Klein has been

working on getting the sidewalk issued resolved with Councilman Vacca. He stated that he was informed that we will receive a response shortly.

John reported that the Puerto Rican Family Institutes is looking into other neighborhoods to relocate outside of the Allerton area... He stated that we were able to prove over saturation due to the fact that there are 10 group homes in this area.

John spoke about the signage at the Pelham Bay Diner. He stated that Senator Klein has written to SDOT and CDOT to ask for improved signage by the Pelham m Bay Dinner where a Mount Vernon Police Officer entered onto an off ramp and was killed. He stated that CDOT is looking into it.

#### Upcoming Bills

1. House of Worship – To increase the monetary penalties for breaking in or thefts at Houses of Worship. This bill has passed the Senate 60-1.

2. Bounty House Bill - This will allow the DA's Office to sign on to proceeding in Housing Court to be a tool to allow processors to remove drug dealers from apartment building and other areas. John stated that we have some problem areas in Pelham Parkway.

John reported that on Tuesday Senator Klein nominated Jeremy Warneke to the Veterans Hall of Fame for his service to our country.

#### b. Jay Sturdivant – Representing the 49<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct

P.O. Sturdivant reported that D.I. Nicholson could not be here tonight as it was off today. He reported that crime is down. P.O. Sturdivant stated that with the summer we have longer days and there are more people on the street. He stated that people need to be more vigilant and alert especially when they are on cell phones or I phones.

P.O. Sturdivant reported that he had attended a Morris Park Community Association and Northeast Bronx Association meetings. He stated that there were reports of a gentleman who claims he is Italian and is between 30-40 years of age and is 5'8"-6' and pulls a scam where he gets people to give him money and he gives them a leather jacket...

Discussion took place on this scam as having been going on for some time.

P.O. Sturdivant reported that he is meeting with a woman who this happened to tomorrow to look at some pictures

#### IV. Minutes

A Motion was made by Blanche Comras Rifkin, Seconded by Edith Blitzer – That the Minutes be accepted as received.

A correction was made by Joe Bombace that on page 7 A Motion made by Al D'Angelo was seconded by him and not Bob Potter.

**UNANIMOUSLY PASSED WITH CORRECTION ACCEPTED.**

### III. Chairman's report – Anthony Vitaliano

Tony reported that Dom is rehabbing and raring to come back. He is working on building his muscles up.

### IV. District Manager's Report – Jeremy Warneke

Jeremy reported that at the last meeting we had name tags made by Cece Haas' staff. He stated that they were forgotten tonight. Jeremy stated that we will have them for the next meeting. Jeremy reported that Councilmen are Ex Officio members of the Board and therefore can sit at the table with the Board Members.

Jeremy reported that block parties can only last 9 hours and cannot go past 9 PM. Jeremy reported that he had spoken with George Torres of the Mayor's office and told him that when the application comes into SAPO it does not show up on our system immediately.

Jeremy reported that there will be a Memorial Day event at Peace Plaza at 11 AM and one at Van Nest at 12 PM. Jeremy spoke about the Museum at Dormi's Funeral Parlor. He stated that anyone who has any war artifacts can give or loan it to Dormi's either by bringing to Dormi's or to the Board Office. He stated that all items should be tagged.

Jeremy reported that the Board has not received a response to the letter we sent concerning the extended sidewalk on Pelham Parkway, and the day lighted areas where we hope parking can be restored.

Jeremy reported that John Fratta helped Ms. Paula Gelman beat an erroneous parking ticket related to the project.

Jeremy reported that he and others attended the Jewish Community Council Breakfast, the Borough President's Veterans Breakfast, and the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council's, at which Vinny Prezioso as well as Bobby Ruggerio were honored.

Jeremy reported that he sent out an email regarding the Board's vote on the One Percent for Culture Campaign. We're the first board in the Bronx to sign on as a coalition partner.

Jeremy reported that there had been an electrical fire last week at 872 Morris Park Ave. He also reported that there is a rumor that a kid is bragging he started the fire at 726 Van Nest Ave. Please follow up with him if anyone has any information on this.

Dr. Patel spoke about the T-shirt factory on Stillwell Avenue. He stated that they split the store in two. One being the Tee shirt factory and the other a repair shop.

Jeremy stated that, according to the DOB, this is not illegal.

Edith spoke about the problem with the muni meters on Pelham Parkway South from White Plains Road to Cruger Avenue. She stated that people are putting money in the meters and parking is not allowed there for the project. She stated that people are getting tickets. Edith asked that the meters be covered.

Tony Vitaliano reported that Councilman Vacca gave money to PS 105 and the Van Nest Academy. He also reported that Amtrak cleaned up Sackett Avenue. Tony reported that tomorrow is the deadline for submitted Summer Youth Applications.

V. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Treasurer's Reports had been distributed. He stated that he will be in the office on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM if anyone has any questions.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Directors Meeting – Tony Vitaliano

Tony reported that at the Directors meeting discussion on the cut off time for block parties was discussed.

A Motion was made by Tony Vitaliano, Seconded by Joe Thompson – That the cut off time for all street closing applications be 8 PM with a breakdown to 9 PM. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

1. Bronx Park East/Olinville

a. Hone Avenue Annual Block Party – August 4<sup>th</sup> from 12 PM to 8 PM on Hone Avenue between Arnow Avenue and Boston Road

b. Hering Avenue Annual Block Party – August 4<sup>th</sup> from 2 PM to 8 PM on Hering Avenue between Mace and Waring Avenues

2. Indian Village/Westchester Heights

a. Narragansett Avenue Block Party – August 11<sup>th</sup> from 1 PM to 8 PM on Narragansett Avenue between Lydig Avenue and Pelham Parkway South

3. Morris Park/Pelham Parkway/Van Nest

a. Haight Avenue Block Party – August 11<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 8 PM on Haight Avenue between Sackett and Pierce Avenues

b. Goshen Pentecostal Church Block party – July 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 4 PM on Van Nest Avenue between Melville and Van Buren Streets

c. Poplar Street Block Party between Lurting Avenue and Roselle Street

A Motion was made by Tony Vitaliano, Seconded by Joe Thompson – That Community Board 11 approve of these street closings. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

B. Bronx Park East/Olinville – Joe Thompson

Joe reported that there was not a quorum at the Committee meeting. He stated that therefore these are recommendations from the Committee.

1. Liquor license renewal

a. Diamante Poblano Restaurant – 730 Astor Avenue

Joe gave the history of this location, as the owner was at another location which burned down. He then transferred his license to this location. Joe stated that he needs to change his closing time from 4 AM to 2 AM and reconfigure the front door that presently opens in instead of out. Joe stated that the owner has agreed to all of these.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board 11 send an email to the SLA stating that we have no object to the renewal of this license renewal. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

b. CJ Bar – 1320 E. Gun Hill Road

Joe reported that they did not show up to the Committee meeting and there is information lacking on our questionnaire. Jeremy sent out another letter, but we did not receive an answer

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Joanne Terrelonge – That community Board 11 send an email to the SLA denying this liquor license renewal. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

2. Street Activity Permit Applications

1. Allerton Avenue Street Festival – August 26<sup>th</sup> from 12 PM to 6 PM on Allerton Avenue between Wallace and Barnes Avenues

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Edith Blitzer – That Community Board 11 approve of this street closing. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

2. NIDC Spring Fair – June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12 PM to 7 PM on Bronxwood Avenue between Boston Road and Allerton Avenue

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Sandy Unger – That Community Board 11 approve of this street closing. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE BY HAZEL MIURA.**

3. Allerton Avenue Coops Tenants Association Block Party – August 4<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 8 PM

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Edith Blitzer - That Community Board 11 approve of this street closing. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE BY JANICE WALCOTT.**

C. Education/Youth – Diane Norris  
No meeting this month

D. Indian Village/Westchester Heights – Rosemary Durso

1. Narragansett Avenue Block party – August 11<sup>th</sup> from 12 PM to 8 PM on Narragansett Avenue between Rhinelander Avenue and Lakewood Place  
Rosemary reported that the Committee had not met, but they did a phone poll.

A Motion was made by Rosemary Durso, Seconded by Frano Zagreda – That Community Board 11 approve of this street closing. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

E. Land Use – Joseph McManus

Joe reported that on May 12<sup>th</sup> the unveiling was held for the street co-naming for Peggy Braverman. He stated that Senator Klein and Council Vacca were there. Joe reported that the Land Use Committee will be on June 19<sup>th</sup> on a BSA application.

Street naming and train station NEED CLARIFKICATION ON WHAT HE SAID

F. Morris Park/Pelham Parkway – Al D’Angelo

1. Liquor license renewal

a. Cioflar Bowl d/b/a Van Nest Lanes – 1756 Bronxdale

Avenue for beer only

A Motion was made by Al D’Angelo – Seconded by Tony Signorile – That Community Board 11 send an email to the SLA stating that we have no objection to the granting of this beer license renewal. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

G. Pelham Gardens West Joanne Rubino

Joanne reported that the Committee had not met this month.

H. Pelham Gardens East – Frano Zagreda

Frano reported that the minutes had been distributed

I. Rules Committee – Janice Walcott

Janice reported that the Committee meeting was cancelled.

J. Nominating Committee – Gene Tutora

Gene reported that the slate of officers as proposed by the Nominating Committee consists of:

Dominic Castore - Chairman

Tony Vitaliano – First Vice Chair

Joseph Thompson – Second Vice Chair

Silvio Mazzella – Treasurer

Ruth Burko – Secretary

Gene asked if there were any nominations for Chair. There were none.

A Motion was made by Gene Tutora, Seconded by Dominick Schiano – That Nominations for Chairman be closed. PASSED.

Gene asked if there were any nominations for First Vice Chair. There were none.

A Motion was made by Gene Tutora, Seconded by Jo Bombace – That nominations for First Vice Chair be closed. PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE FROM TONY VITALIANO.

Gene asked if there were any nominations for Second Vice Chair. There were none.

A Motion was made by Gene Tutora, Seconded by Dominick Schiano – That nominations for Second Vice Chair be closed. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE FROM JOE THOMPSON.**

Gene asked if there were any nominations for Treasurer. There were none.

A Motion was made by Gene Tutora, Seconded by Joe Bombace – That nominations for Treasurer be closed. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE FROM SILVIO MAZZELLA.**

Gene asked if there were any nominations for Secretary. There were none.

A Motion was made by Gene Tutora, Seconded by Dominick Schiano – That nominations for Secretary be closed. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE FROM RUTH BURKO.**

Gene reported that at the June meeting the Secretary will cast one vote for the slate of officers.

Gene thanked Rosemary Durso and Joe Thurston for their help on the Committee.

## VII. Old Business

Bernadette thanked those people who had supported the van Nest March and the Van Nest Relief Fund.

Joe Bombace requested that 3 trees be planted around the Van Nest Memorial Park.

## VIII. New Business

Buck Moorhead

Mr. Moorhead spoke about the Fracking/Spectra /Pipeline. He stated that this pipeline will bring natural gas into New York City. He stated that we need to have a study none on the risks to New York City resident. Mr. Moorhead stated that we need to have a hearing.

Mav Moorhead

Ms. Moorhead spoke about how the gas would be shipped into New York City. She distributed literature.

Frano asked if the pipeline was operational and Ms, Moorhead stated that since it is interstate it must be approved by the State. She stated that this will probably go to court.

Discussion took place on the Croton Water Plant and the effects that this pipeline would have on farms and their crops and animals.

Mary stated that the Board needs more information and asked that no vote be taken tonight.

Al reported that there was a fire on Morris Park Avenue on Friday. He stated that the patrol car was out and saw the fire. He stated that they saved a woman and 4 kids and woke up the rest of the residents.

A Motion was made by Joe McManus, Seconded by Joe Bombace and Edith Blitzer – That Community Board 11 send a letter of recommendation to these men. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Irene reported that the Community Board needs to be more involved in the Charter Schools. She stated they are mainstreaming Special Ed kids. She stated that they do not get their special needs met. Irene reported that things will get worse. She reported that if a school closes or turns around they will get \$900,000 in their budget. These teachers and parent coordinators will have to find another job. Irene stated that she was requesting that a letter be sent to the Mayor Opposing the mainstreaming of special education student to the general population.

A great deal of discussion took place on this and how the parents are contacted before this is done. It was also stated that charter schools are not taking special Ed kids.

A Motion was made by Bernadette Ferrara, Seconded by Janice Walcott – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the Mayor regarding the blanket mainstreaming of special Ed kids. **PASSED OPPOSITION FROM JESSICA DEWBERRY, ABSTENTION FROM GENE TUTORA, JOE BOMBACE, JOANN TERRELONGE, AND ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE BY JOANNE RUBINO.**

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Ruth Burko - That this be referred to the Education/Youth Committee. **PASSED WITH OPPOSITION FROM ANDREA SIEGEL, FRANO ZAGREDA, IRENE RUKAJ AND JOANNE RUBINO.**

Bernadette congratulated the Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association and their first fund raiser.

Edith asked to have a representative from the post office at the June meeting. She reported that mail goes to Manhattan and is not getting there on time.

(Mary) reported that the East Gun Hill Road office is closing early.

A Motion was made by Edith Blitzer, Seconded by Sandy Unger and Al D'Angelo - That a representative of the Bronx Post Master General come to a meeting.

Amended by Joe Bombace to include a representative from Congressman Crowley's office. **UNANIMOUSLED APPROVED.**

A Motion was made by Joe McManus, Seconded by Al D'Angelo – That the meeting be adjourned. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,  
Secretary