



Anthony Vitaliano
Chairman

COMMUNITY BOARD 11, BRONX
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Ruben Diaz Jr.
Borough President



Jeremy Warneke
District Manager

February 28, 2013 Full Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM by Chairman Tony Vitaliano.

I. Yankee Awards

Tony reported that the Youth Committee had chosen the Yankee Award recipients based on their service to the community. He introduced each of the recipients and gave them their certificate and check for \$750.00.

- a. Ayodele Aruleba, Community Board 11
- b. James Kenneth Cahill, Northeast Bronx Association
- c. Manuela Disla, Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association
- d. Ryan Pirtam, Chester Civic Association
- e. Reme Terrelonge, Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance

II. Gallery Session

a. Gene DeFrancis – Book Pals

Mr. DeFrancis reported that he was a member of SAG-AFTRA and stated that artists from BOX the Outside were going to public elementary schools and reading to students. He stated that presently only one school in the South Bronx is a part of the program. He distributed flyers and told the Board that if they knew of a school which should receive their services, they should contact him.

b. Joseph A. Menta Jr.

Mr. Menta stated that he was part of the Allerton Avenue Homeowners & Tenants Association and the Pelham Parkway Preservation Alliance. He spoke about the ongoing reconstruction of Pelham Parkway South and stated that thanks to everyone we were able to save the 50 trees that had been slated for removal. Mr. Menta stated that the designs for the Pelham Parkway North reconstruction project have not yet been completed. He stated that DDC is trying to get parkland alienated on the Parks Dept. side because of the issue of sidewalks being installed where none currently exist.

c. Kay Cardona

Ms. Cardona reported that the Violence Against Women Act was passed today. She spoke about the issues women in abusive relations face. Ms. Cardona reported that a group of religious people had been harassing youth at the 39 bus stop. She stated that they have moved to Allerton Avenue where they are harassing the youth as they walk by. Ms. Cardona asked the Board to look into this.

d. Lyle Seales – L & L Opportunities

Mr. Seales spoke about helping families and distributed flyers.

e. Brian Adams

Brian asked if the Pelham Parkway reconstruction was completed and Tony informed him that it should be completed in the spring. He then asked about the Pelham Parkway North reconstruction and Tony told him that the designs were not completed yet. He stated that it would take about one to two years for the project to get started.

f. Lisa Ann Boncardo

Ms. Boncardo reported that she is a paraprofessional at P.S. 105. Ms. Boncardo spoke about the problems with animal owners not picking up after their dogs. She stated that it was a big problem around the school and asked if signs could be installed telling people to clean after their dogs.

Edith Blitzer told her that Iggy Terranova from Sanitation came to their meeting and after being told about their problem he had his people go out and they gave \$150 tickets to those who did not clean up after their dogs. She told Ms. Boncardo that she would email her Mr. Terranova's email. She stated that he responds immediately.

g. Kevin Graham - East Bronx History Forum

Mr. Graham spoke about the background of Loreto Park. He stated that the park was designed, created and named for Patrolman Alfred Loreto who was killed in the line of duty. He stated that there will be a meeting held on Tuesday, March 12th at 7:30 PM in Saint Francis Xavier School Hall at Haight and Van Nest Avenues. Mr. Graham stated that a slideshow will be shown at the meeting.

h. Patty Bozzelli

Patty spoke about the horse stables. She stated that our children need to spend more time in the fresh air. Patty stated that interacting with the horses will be good for them.

i. Morgan Powell

Mr. Powell spoke about the Bronx Park Living Library Walk on March 9. He stated that the tour will identify artifact houses, land marks, and trees. He stated that flyers are available.

j. Raphael Schweizer - Bronx Park East Community Association

Mr. Schweizer spoke about a Guns Community Forum being held on March 15 from 7-10 PM at Center Light at 612 Allerton Avenue. Mr.

Schweizer stated that they will be having summer events including mural paintings.

k. Pedro Pacheco

Mr. Pacheco reported that he was here tonight to ask that the green street triangle at Neill and Bogart Avenues be named for his brother Carlos Armando Pacheco. He gave the background on his brother's short life and his accomplishments.

Joe Bombace stated that this needs to go to the Highways and Land Use Committees first.

Jeremy stated that this had gone to the Parks Committee and will be taken up at the March full board meeting.

III. Elected Officials

Tony acknowledged Andy Toledo of the Borough President's Office; Kenny Agosto, Senator Hassell-Thompson's Office; Frank Fraioli, Council Member Vacca; Christine Caoetillo, CM Rivera; Ron Cicatelli & Anna Madonna, Senator Klein's Office; Katrina Asante, Senator Rivera; Sonny Vataj and Will Madonna, Assembly Member Gjonaj; and Kenneth Thomas, AM Sepulveda.

IV. December 2012 Full Board Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Sandy Unger – That the minutes be accepted as received. The motion was amended to reflect that Marcy Gross was present and voted on the first ballot for Anthony Vitaliano for Chair. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

V. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Treasurer's Reports have been distributed.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee – Tony Vitaliano

A Motion was made by Tony Vitaliano, Seconded by Joe Bombace – That committee reports for the February 2013 Full Board meeting be suspended with the exception of the Nominating, Economic Development, Highways, Traffic & Transportation and Parks & Recreation Committees. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

b. Nominating Committee – Gene Tutora

Gene asked if there were any nominations for First Vice Chair.

Joe Bombace nominated Al D'Angelo, Dom Schiano and Blanche Rifkin seconded the motion. Al accepted the nomination.

Franco Zagreda nominated Jessica Dewberry. Jessica declined the nomination.

Gene asked why Al wanted to be First Vice Chair.

Al said that's a fair question. Most of you know who I am. I was president of the Morris Park Community Association until my time as president of the association ran out. Now I can devote my time to the Community Board and not just the Morris Park area.

Gene stated that since there were no other candidates, the Secretary would cast one vote for First Vice Chair.

Ruth Burko cast one vote for Al D'Angelo as First Vice Chair.

c. Economic Development – Joe Bombace

Joe reported that the minutes have been distributed.

i. The Stand – 1080 Morris Park Avenue

A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That Community Board 11 send a letter of no objection to the SLA contingent upon receiving a letter of no objection from the two tenants who live above the restaurant and a more exact floor plan showing two means of egress. **PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE FROM AL D'ANGELO.**

ii. Enzo's -1998 Williamsbridge Road

Joe reported that they have a new corporation and that is why they are coming to us.

A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Joe Reda – That Community Board 11 sends a letter of no objection to the SLA on this liquor license request. **PASSED WITH ABSTENTIONS FROM DOM SCHIANO AND GENE TUTORA.**

iii. Zymi – 726 Astor Avenue

Joe reported that there was no representative at the meeting. He stated that we need more information before we vote on this.

A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Dom Schiano – That Community Board 11 table a vote on this liquor license request until we have more information. Jeremy and Joe Thompson will speak to them. **PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM FRANO ZAGREDA.**

iv. Cham's Jerk Center – 1322 E. Gun Hill Road

Joe reported that their questionnaire was incomplete.

A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board 11 table a vote on this liquor license application. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

d. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

i. Request for support of DOT's restriping of Bronxwood Avenue from Adee Avenue to Boston Road

A Motion was made by Rabbi Moshe Fuchs, Seconded by Frano Zagreda – That Community Board 11 send a letter to

DOT supporting the restriping of Bronxwood Avenue from Adee Avenue to Boston Road. **PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM MARCY GROSS.**

- ii. Request from DOT for support of the Pelham Parkway Greenway Crossing Improvement Plan
A Motion was made by Rabbi Moshe Fuchs, Seconded by Frano Zagreda – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the DOT in support of the Pelham Parkway Greenway Crossing Improvement Plan. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

- iii. Street Activity Permit Applications

1. N.I.D.C. – Spring Event: Bronxwood Avenue between Allerton Avenue & Boston Road – Saturday, May 25th from 9AM – 6PM.
2. Harvest Home Jacobi Market: Pelham Parkway South between Wilson Avenue & Eastchester Road – Tuesday, June 4, 2013 – November 19, 2013, 8 AM – 4PM.
3. Block Party: Poplar Street between Lurting Avenue & Roselle Street, Saturday, August 17, 2013, 12 – 6 PM.
4. Reformers Gathering religious ceremony: Bronxdale Avenue between Van Nest & Pierce Avenue – June 20, 2013, 8AM – 4 PM (Partial Sidewalk Closure Only).
5. Gospel Crusade religious Ceremony: Throop Avenue between Burke Avenue & E. Gun Hill Road, Sunday, July 21, 2013 – Sunday, July 28, 2013 6-10 PM
6. Fellowship Tabernacle religious ceremony: Throop Avenue between Burke Avenue & E. Gun Hill Road, Wednesday, August 25, 2013, 7-9 PM.

A Motion was made by Rabbi Fuchs, Seconded by Sandy Unger – That Community Board 11 send a letter approving these street closing applications.

An Amendment was put forth by Al D'Angelo, Seconded by Sandy Unger – That the closing times be changed to 9 PM which includes the break down period.

It was stated that this was a religious event which does not fall under the street activity guidelines for closing. Al withdrew his amendment. **ORIGINAL MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

- e. Parks & Recreation – Joanne Russo-Rubino

- i. Request for letter of support for the Bronx Zoo's transportation project.

Joanne reported that there was a presentation by the Bronx Zoo representative regarding their parking lot.

A Motion was made by Joanne Russo-Rubino, Seconded by Tony Signorile – That Community Board 11 send a letter of support for the Bronx Zoo’s transportation project. David asked if this was in our area and Jeremy replied that it is the parking lot off of the Bronx River Parkway near Bronx Park East.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

- ii. Greenstreet renaming request for the corner of Neill and Bogart Avenues.

A Motion was made by Joanne Rubino, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella - That a vote on this be tabled until the next meeting.

PASSED WITH ONE AGAINST FROM ANDREA SIEGEL.

VII. Old Business

Joe Reda asked about the lines on Pelham Parkway South. He stated that they need to put up the speed limit signs.

Gene asked about term limits for officers. He stated that the majority of Board members seem to be in favor of it and then it died.

David stated that the By- Laws Committee has addressed this in their meetings and that it will come before the full board for a vote when the changes are complete

Joanne Rubino stated that the Parks Department spoke about the area of Unionport Road from Allerton Avenue to Bronx Park East. She stated that they want to make improvements to the Pelham Parkway North walking path, which is a manmade path and the bike path. Joanne stated that there are also drainage problems. They need a letter of support.

A Motion was made by Joanne-Russo-Rubino, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That Community Board 11 send a letter of support for the Parks Department’s Greenway Alignment Project. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

Janice asked about the request to move the Board meeting to a different location for three meetings per year.

Discussion took place on locations. Frano suggested that the Board have three or four alternate sites.

Joe Reda spoke about the Pelham Parkway South main road. He stated that there are three lanes. Joe stated that the right lane is for buses only from 7 AM to 10 AM and from 4 PM – 7 PM. He stated that he did not know about it.

Tony stated that the sign now says 7AM – 7 PM. He stated that needs to be brought to the attention of Commissioner Moran.

Edith stated that vehicles can go into the bus lane if they are allowed to make a right turn. She stated that cars are now able to park on both sides of the service road.

Al reported that there were two problems there yesterday.

Edith reported that Con Ed was digging on Holland Avenue and Pelham Parkway South Service Road.

Tony reported that there is litigation going on. Will Madonna reported that we are waiting for the judge to make a decision on whether the statute of limitations for bringing a lawsuit against the city can go forward. There are safety concerns.

Edith stated that the litigation only centers on the roadway near Jacobi Hospital from Pelham Parkway to White Plains Road.

VIII. New Business

Bob thanked the Borough President for providing the Safe Zone around Eastchester Gardens. He stated that it makes it safe for children and seniors as well as the group home residents.

Pat Dolan spoke about March 10?? He asked about the progress report on Montefiore's takeover of Westchester Square Hospital.

Joe Bacote stated that it was in the Health Minutes. He stated that he received a call from Mr. Garcia who informed him that nothing is happening until Montefiore has the keys. Joe stated that a lot of misinformation is going out.

Cece stated that Einstein doesn't have the title. She stated that Montefiore and not Einstein will be taking over.

Franco reported that Westchester Square Hospital is bankrupted. He stated that they will be closing all inpatient rooms. Franco stated that the employees can apply for their jobs.

Joe Bacote stated that we need to wait until it is official.

Edith reported that on March 12 the Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association will be meeting at Bronx House at 7 PM. She stated that Judge McKeon will be the guest speaker. Edith said the meeting will be about gun control, pedophiles in our community and graffiti. Edith stated that there will be a fundraiser on May 16 at Maestro's. We will be honoring Senator Klein, Joe Thompson and Sonny Vataj. There will be an Open Bar.

Joe Bombace stated that we need to work together. He stated that there are individuals who are writing negative things about Board Members and Staff.

A Motion was made by Joe Bombace, Seconded by Bernadette Ferrara – That whoever offends the Board, Board members, or Staff be summoned into the Board for a frank talk.

Ken Gelnick stated that it is free speech. Discussion took place on this. Joe withdrew his motion.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.