



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL BOARD MEETING Minutes

January 15, 2008

Sister Bethel / Bedford Park Senior Center

243 East 204th Street; Bronx, New York 10458

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM – Attendance sheet on file

I) PUBLIC SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) Alex Kratz, Norwood News: Spoke about publishing in the local paper

B) 52nd Pct. Deputy Inspector James Alles:

- 1) Crime statistics and arrests throughout the 52nd Pct. were reviewed
- 2) Impact zone is in place with the addition of new officers
- 3) Deputy Inspector Alles responded to questions from the audience.

C) Sirio Guerino:

- 1) Thanked the Board for the approval of a plaque at the Reservoir Oval honoring Frances Lewis.
- 2) Cited graffiti problems throughout the CB area and expressed concerned regarding the need for a clean-up

D) Anthony Riviuccio

- 1) Thanked the Board for the plaque honoring Frances Lewis
- 2) Cited graffiti problems and the need for enforcing regulations on the use of he parks

E) William Stanford, Jr.

- 1) Expressed concerns about the Webster Avenue Post Office being understaffed, and the possibility of it being closed

2) Reported that bus service on the #55 line may be cutting hours. Also, he expressed his concerns regarding the long waits for service

F) Don Bluestone:

1) Informed the Board that the following parks will be closed in the spring, causing undue stress on play areas for our youngsters

a) Chandler Park

b) Reservoir Oval

c) Harris Field

II) QUORUM, AGENDA AND MINUTES:

A) Quorum was present

B) January agenda approved

C) December's minutes were approved

III) CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

A) As of this time, no developers have been named for the Kingsbridge Armory

B) Open House is scheduled for Saturday, January 26th, 2008 from 1 – 4pm

C) Sandra Erickson was named to the State Realty Board by the governor

D) Attendance records of Board Members are to be public knowledge. Action will be taken against those members who have attendance problems. By-Laws about this issue were cited

E) Greg welcomed the new District Manger, Fernando Tirado

IV) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

A) The approval by the Executive Committee to purchase new computers was noted

V) DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

A) Greeting / Opening statement

B) Board Member items

1) Folders: folders contain general information about upcoming events. Each committee chair may also have specific items (announcements, documents, or other information) in their folder that are to be discussed at their specific meeting. Items that are past an event date are still included as an FYI about the issue or program

- 2) Need schedules for all committee meetings between now and the next full board meeting (2/19). If no committee meeting is scheduled, please let me know
 - 3) DM role in providing technical assistance to board members
 - 4) Attendance items. Please call in advance. See attached chart. Note: Do not sign in for board members that are not present
 - 5) Office is closed on Monday in celebration of Martin Luther King's Day
- C) Website Information
- 1) Met with consultant today. Discussed timelines and format. Website cannot be developed in stages. Would like to have all content in the next three weeks. Any photos, highlights, or recommendations should be submitted to the office by then
 - 2) Need to hire a new web hosting company to host our site. Must be willing to bill invoices to the board (no credit card purchases allowed)
- D) Bridge Centennial Commission – celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the University Heights Bridge on Fordham during Bronx Week. More information pending
- E) Technological improvements / recommendations. Purchasing new computers. Discussion on Lot Info Mapping software. Wireless Internet Access for the office. Presentation equipment.
- F) Liquor License application – Mariella's Rest. Corp @ 35-94 Jerome Ave
- G) DSC information
- 1) MTA
 - a) D Train 193rd Street Substation restoration
 - b) Snow removal from subway stations is limited to 3ft, surrounding areas are the responsibility of the property owner
 - c) Completion of the Mosholu Parkway #4 train station. Tracy Towers entrance will be open for the first time in 35 years. Surrounding park area will be restored by MTA.
 - d) N.Y.C Department of Transportation rapid transit meeting will be held on Wednesday January 16, 2008 at 9:30am in the Bronx Borough Presidents office regarding Fordham road.
 - 2) Buildings Department

- a) Regulation of cell phone towers on buildings (request from the FDNY). Fire hazards from faulty installation. Refer to Housing committee.
- 3) Transit Bureau warning to riders, especially teens; do not display personal electronics on the bus or subway. Spike in the number of thefts reported during the holiday season.
- 4) Police: Total of approximately 94 officers assigned to Operation Impact in CB 7 from the last three graduating classes and most will remain in CB 7 for approximately the next 6 months.
- 5) Libraries – 300,000 visitors in the last 3 months – comparable to Manhattan Library Usage
- 6) DDC – Reconstruction of the Decatur Avenue Retaining Wall to begin in February
- H) FY 2009 Post-preliminary budget hearing for CB 7
- I) Long-term planning for CB 7
 - 1) Following up on existing 197c projects. Proposal for new 197c – MTA Rail Yard Development
 - 2) Preliminary steps for initiating a 197a project for CB 7. Need for financial sponsors. Open discussion on suggestions.
- J) Open discussion

VI) CITY PLANNING REPORT:

- A) The agency will be working with the Community Board on future planning

VII) ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS:

- A) Andy Toledo, Borough President Adolfo Carrion's Office: See attached
- B) Daniel Contreras, Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum's Office invites community youth and Community Board members to attend an important roundtable conversation regarding youth and street subcultures throughout our community. Discussion to take place at Hostos Community College on Wednesday, January 23rd, 2008 from 4-7 p.m. (see attached)
- C) Carlos Ramos, Jr, Comptroller William Thompson's Office
 - 1) Clergy breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 951 Prospect Avenue; Bronx, New York 10459 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (Corner of Prospect

Avenue and East 163rd Street – Between Prospect and Union Avenues). See attached.

VIII) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A) Land Use & Zoning Committee

- 1) There were concerns regarding mercury from discarded TVs. Fact sheet to be developed for the web-site as a public service

B) Parks Committee

- 1) Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Board office
- 2) **MOTION:** Despite awareness and the schedule that were made available to the Community Board about a rotating schedule for Harris Park and Shandler, it has been brought to our attention that Harris Field and Shandler will be closed for the entire spring of 2008 (Little League season). We are requesting a meeting to discuss these issues as soon as possible. Send cc to all Elected Officials and Christopher McShane of the Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz.
 - a) Motion was approved

C) Transportation Committee

- 1) The Committee will meet on Thursday, January 17th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Board Office to discuss transportation issues
- 2) DOT Commissioner Constance Moran will be attending the Board's Executive Meeting on February 5th to discuss transportation issues

D) Other updates

- 1) New drivers license regulations in 2008
- 2) Income tax regulations have changes in 2008

IX) MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 P.M.