



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

## COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 @ 6:30 PM**

**St. Phillip Neri School ♦ 3043 Grand Concourse ♦ Bronx, New York 10468**

- I) Public Session opened at 6:40 PM
  - A) Patricia Criscuolo– Spoke about a sanitation issue at East 205<sup>th</sup> Street & Grand Concourse. Also expressed concerns about the Villa Avenue empty lot, which needs to be cleaned up.
  - B) Henry Perry – Asked to be excused at this time
  - C) Maurice Jones – Provided information for seniors on Medicare & free programs and services that are available to them through the Medicare Program.
  - D) Mohammed Ali – Resident from Bangladesh that lives on Grand Avenue spoke about experiencing vandalism and other atrocities. Needs help in solving his problem.
  - E) Katie Holten – Discussed the Public Art Project to plant 100 trees from East 138<sup>th</sup> Street to Mosholu Parkway as part of the Grand Concourse Centennial celebration which opens June 24<sup>th</sup> in Joyce Kilmer Park at 5:00pm
  - F) Katusca Jimenez – Spoke about organizing business merchants along Kingsbridge Road
  - G) Ursula Morgan – Expressed several concerns within the district
    - 1) Conditions of the Parks in the neighborhood
    - 2) Illegal Activity on Fordham Road
    - 3) Quality of Life issues
  - H) Lowell Green – Objected to the water use rate increases. Also, mentioned that on 4/28/09 at the Bronx Library Center, there will be a Public Hearing regarding the water rates. Anyone interested in expressing their objections should attend.
  - I) Tony Cassino – Talked about Traffic Agents that are issuing tickets illegally to cars. He wants to alert the public about the issue to avoid similar offenses of phony summonses
- II) Meeting opened at 7:15pm
  - A) Roll-Call – Quorum Present
  - B) Motion to approve agenda & March minutes
    - 1) Correction of minutes was noted. Motion to approve the corrected minutes was voted on.
- III) Chairperson's Report by Gregory Faulkner:
  - A) There will be a meeting next week (Thursday) to discuss the proposed blasting at the Croton Plant and the impact on the surrounding community. The meeting will be held in Scott Towers at 7:00pm.
  - B) On Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a City Task Force Meeting on the Armory to discuss the upcoming ULURP process.
  - C) Concerns were expressed about the McSam Hotel group from Webster Avenue. He is worried about the lack of comparable wages for the workers on the project and would like to pursue the issue further.
- IV) Executive Committee Report by Paul Foster:
  - A) There was no report at this time
- V) District Manager's Report by Fernando Tirado:
  - A) Graffiti complaints throughout the Community. He is mobilizing the community to eliminate and control the situation
  - B) Expressed concerns about a recent fire in the community at Bainbridge Avenue and East 204<sup>th</sup> Street
  - C) Spoke about the greening of the Grand Concourse and future activities
  - D) Discussed recent developments in building projects in the community
  - E) There will be a public hearing on 4/22/09 at the Bedford Park Senior Center to discuss the new school proposed for Webster Avenue



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- F) Liquor License renewal issues and meeting with the NYS State Liquor Authority were discussed
- G) Talked about the Community Board's budget being cut once again for FY'10
- H) Noted how to register complaints via internet
- VI) Committee Reports:
  - A) Parks & Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:
    - 1) Motion to send letter to Elected Officials to have cameras placed in 2 parks (St. James & the Williamsbridge Oval.)
    - 2) Motion passed unanimously
  - B) Traffic & Transportation by Lowell Green:
    - 1) 2 Motions for consideration
      - (a) CB7 supports the Tree Museum project for the centennial of the Grand Concourse.
      - (b) CB7 request that the city require the franchise owners of the newspaper dispensers located on Fordham Road from Jerome Ave to Webster Ave be required to properly maintain their units.
      - (c) Both motions were approved unanimously
    - 2) Announcements:
      - (a) Bicycle lanes on the Grand Concourse
      - (b) Parking meters change
  - C) Sanitation & Environmental by Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky:
    - 1) Motion to send a letter to the Water Board opposing the increase in water rates
    - 2) Motion unanimously approved
  - D) Youth Services by Waleska Roldan:
    - 1) Parent Recognition Day on Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Van Cortlandt Park Indian Point
    - 2) Announced CB7's Job site, as well as the Library site for Summer Youth Employment
  - E) Borough President's Report by Andy Toledo:
    - 1) Made announcements
      - (a) CB applications are being accepted
      - (b) Mentioned the Israeli Independence Festival
  - F) City Planning Report by Richard Guether:
    - 1) Provided information regarding the Armory's ULURP and on-going plans
    - 2) Spoke about de-mapping process
  - G) 52<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Community Affairs Report:
    - 1) Comp stats were distributed and revised
    - 2) Cash for Guns drop off locations throughout the Bronx were discussed. Date to drop off at these locations is on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009
  - H) Councilman Oliver Koppell's Representative, Ms. Arlene McLaren:
    - 1) May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm the Councilman will be discussing foreclosure problems throughout the city
  - I) Assemblyman Jose Rivera's Representative (Wendoly Marte):
    - 1) Announced future events and office opening
- VII) Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm