



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



GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 16th, 2009 @ 6:30PM

Meeting held at: Botanical Garden ♦ Bronx, New York 10458

- I) Public Session opened at 6:40 pm:
 - A) Robert Newell – Organizer for the union Local 1500: supports the Fresh Program's standards to provide healthy foods
 - B) Mr. X: Expressed concerns regarding the rise in tolls
 - C) Mr. Kelvin Ramirez – Department of Transportation employee & CB7 Resident, Complained about the blocking of streets (East 197th Street & Pond Place) by playing in the streets outside his building. He claims basketball games go on outside his home 24 hours a day. He is at his wits end and needs relief from the constant noise
 - D) Marsha Newman – 3520 Tryon Avenue: Protesting noise, drugs, blocking driveways, general nuisance and lack of sleep. She claims the police cannot solve the problem, and requests assistance from the Community Board.
 - 1) Sallie Caldwell offered advice to attend the precinct council meeting this week.
 - 2) Carlos Cortez expressed his dismay and concern about the problems of lawlessness in the community around Father Zeiser Place where he lives
 - E) Anthony Riveccio – Community Resident: Expressed concerns regarding the barbecuing along Mosholu Parkway which is against the law. He also noted the lack of signs regarding the prohibition of barbecuing.
 - a) Councilman Oliver Koppell promised his support and follow-up on this issue
 - F) Michael Pimentel – Former CB7 Member: Talked about the drugs, loud music, noise in the neighborhood and urges a better quality of life
 - G) Hector Velazquez – 3436 Gates Place Resident: Concerns about drug dealing in the neighborhood and the danger of reporting concerns to the 52nd Precinct. He wants to see more police on foot patrol
 - 1) Gregory Faulkner moved the agenda to address the quality of life issues and asked PO Wilson Hernandez to address the audience regarding these issues



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- 2) PO Hernandez listened to the complaints and will take the concerns to the Commander. He took notes and the addresses of the various streets where severe complaints of lawlessness occurred
 - a) Gregory Faulkner called for a Public Hearing on the quality of life in our community. He also noted that the precinct Commander be present at community meetings as he has been remiss in attending
 - b) Councilman Oliver Koppell verbally expressed his concern and his offer to have residents call him with their complaints
- II) Public Session closed at meeting was called to order at 7:20pm
 - A) Roll-call – Quorum present
 - B) Agenda & May's Minutes were approved
- III) Chairperson's Report by Gregory Faulkner:
 - A) Kingsbridge Armory and upcoming ULURP was addressed. The Community Benefits Agreement was discussed and the need to have a satisfactory agreement in place
 - B) On July 14th, the 4 resolutions on the Armory will be voted on at the Special Community Board Meeting
 - C) A Public Hearing regarding the Armory will be held on June 24th at Lehman College's Faculty Dining Room
- IV) District Manager's Report by Fernando Tirado:
 - A) 3 New Board members
- V) Councilman Oliver Koppell's Report:
 - A) He remarked on the high number of applicants to the Community Board
 - B) He spoke of the budget that was passed on last night:
 - 1) Community Board's budget was restored
 - 2) Libraries open 6-days per week
 - 3) Cultural institutions' budget restored
 - 4) Fire Houses to remain open
 - 5) Geriatrics and children's budgets restored
 - 6) 100 child-care workers jobs restored
 - 7) New school on Wester Avenue
 - 8) National Guard to move out of the Armory to make room for a school to be built there
- VI) Committee Reports:
 - A) Parks & Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:
 - 1) Motion to send a letter to Hector Aponte requesting the placing of "No Barbecuing" signs along Mosholu Parkway and in Devoe Park
 - a) Motions was passed unanimously
 - B) Land Use / Zoning by Ozzie Brown:



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- 1) Remarks on the progress of the Kingsbridge Armory
- C) Executive Committee Report by Paul Foster:
 - 1) Motion from the Executive Committee to deny 3 Licenses was passed unanimously
 - a) Denial of License for Harlequin Inc. located at 2769 Webster Avenue
 - b) Denial of License for Tequila Song located at 3856 Webster Avenue
 - c) Denial of Liquor License for Los Girasoles Restaurant located at 2613 Webster Avenue
 - 2) Motion to approve a Liquor License for Sal's Restaurant located at 3167 Bainbridge Avenue was passed unanimously
 - 3) VIP Lounge on Gun Hill Road had been approved previously due to a long history of good management
- D) Sanitation & Environmental by Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky:
 - 1) Ms. Lowell Green expressed concerns about the techniques used around the water-shed that could contaminate our water supply. A discussion ensued with Mr. Koppell offering personal knowledge of the dangers of use of such techniques
 - a) Motion: The Community Board supports the Protection of NYC Watersheds and the Hold down of NYC Water rates started by the Croton Watershed Water Coalition and the Queens Civic Congress.
- E) Youth Services by Waleska Roldan:
 - 1) Reported on the activities of her Committee during 2008-2009, and will continue series in the upcoming fall
 - a) Camping Trip
 - b) Parent Recognition Day with MS80
 - c) Anti-Bullying Program with MS80
 - d) Worked with the youth of St. Phillip Neri after a recent suicide.
 - 2) Municipal Art Society thanked for the help with the technology by sending us two young people to work with our Board. Awards were presented to them
- F) Traffic & Transportation by Lowell Green:
 - 1) Two Meetings
 - a) Car-free Sundays at the Concourse on Monday, June 22, 2009
 - 2) Plans for Mosholu Parkway (to reduce flooding)
- VII) Borough President's Report by Andy Toledo:
 - A) Thanked the Board for their hard work
 - B) It was reported that the Borough President's Office will help on Quality of life issues by calling (718) 590-3913



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- VIII) City Planning's Report by Richard Guether:
 - A) Remarks on his willingness to help out in any way to discuss Armory issues
 - B) Mr. Guether was awarded the "Unsung Hero" award for his assistance above and beyond his job description
- IX) Nominating Committee Report by Ozzie Brown:
 - A) He presented the candidates who were nominated for the Executive Committee and since there was no opposition, the slate was elected unanimously
- X) Greg ended the meeting noting that the Board would be meeting throughout the summer
- XI) Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm