



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



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GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

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**GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Meeting held at: Kittay House ◊ 2550 Webb Avenue ◊ Bronx, New York 10458

- I) Public Session opened at 6:35 PM with the following speakers:
  - A) Mr. X – Community Resident:
    - 1) Shared his email address and his mailing address
    - 2) Shared his experience as a volunteer for the council member Maria Baez
  - B) Gillermo Flores – American Cancer Society “Making Strides”
    - 1) Invited all citizens to participate in the walk on Sunday 10/18/09 at Orchard Beach at 10:00 AM
    - 2) He informed residents of Free screenings available to people in need
  - C) Sabine Desir – Spoke about CASW’s Summer Employment Program
- II) Public Session closed and Meeting commenced at 6:50 PM
  - A) Attendance taken
  - B) Quorum present
  - C) Agenda was approved
- III) Chairperson’s Report by Gregory Faulkner:
  - A) Introduced Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz who reported on housing laws reforms
  - B) He cited the filtration plan audit report and the rising costs (\$1.5 billion over budget)
  - C) He offered congratulations to a former CB Board Member Fernando Cabrera on being elected to the City Council 14<sup>th</sup> district which includes CB7
  - D) Introduced newly appointed Board members
  - E) Reported on the Kingsbridge Armory
    - 1) A Community Benefits Agreement needs to be in place before the full approval by the Board and the Borough President’s Office. Meetings are on-going around this issue
  - F) There were meeting with the Davidson Avenue home owners around quality of life issues in that care. Assistance and support is needed. Greg is deeply involved in working with the concerned agencies and the affected community
  - G) The Waterfront property was discussed with an eye on further beatification and development. Greg wants these issues to be a priority for the board to address in the future
  - H) There will be quality of life meeting to address concerns and complaints in “Our Lady of Refuge Church” on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:30 PM



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- I) The question of the lack of presence of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Commander was discussed. An invite will be sent with a request for his attendance at the Community Board Meeting
- IV) Executive Committee Report by Paul Foster:
  - A) Paul Foster wants comments and ideas for development of the waterfront. Invite all to an Executive Board Meeting for their suggestions
- V) District Manager's Report by Fernando P. Tirado:
  - A) Announced upcoming quality of life meeting to be held at the "Our Lady of Refuge" Church on 10/13/09
  - B) Department of Health wants request for other services for the Fordham Library from the Community Board in addition to an Animal Shelter
  - C) There will be Budget Hearings on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Fordham University
  - D) Volunteers wanted for Community Board to report quality of life issues
  - E) Yankee scholarships are available. Candidates need to be identified by end of October
  - F) The Community Board has an opening for a youth intern
  - G) Community Board 7 needs reports on possible homeless people who need assistance in housing or poor housing conditions where people live without the basic necessities such as light and gas
  - H) Land use issue addressed about projects that are planned for the community
- VI) Committee Reports:
  - A) Youth Services by Waleska Roldan:
    - 1) Provided a report on incidents that occurred after youth meetings around the borough. (Summer employment projects)
  - B) Community Relations / Long Term Planning by John Harris:
    - 1) The Committee will concentrate on quality of life issues for the coming years
  - C) Land Use / Zoning by Ozzie Brown:
    - 1) Report on the progress of the Armory development
    - 2) Ozzie thanked all Community Board Members who took part in the process and the active role the Community Board took regarding the development of the Armory
    - 3) Botanical Gardens garage discussed. Construction stopped due to decreased funding
    - 4) Webster Avenue rezoning discussed and future development
    - 5) Waterfront development was discussed
    - 6) Report on Bedford Park project of Post Grad. Center planned for the site
    - 7) Course on construction management began this week at the Bronx Community College. This course is Free to participate and everyone is



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welcome for this 8-week program. A certificate is awarded at the end of course and the opportunity for job placement. This programs is held every Tuesday and Thursdays between 6PM and 9PM

V) Borough President's Report by Andy Toledo:

- A) The BP announced more than \$21 million in funding for Bronx Organizations
- B) The BP issues negative recommendation on Kingsbridge Armory Project
- C) The BP reacts to proposed closure of eight Bronx Post Offices
- D) Spoke about the sale of Stella D'oro and impending closure of its Kingsbridge factory
- E) It was reported that the BP and the Bronx Dominican Parade celebrate Dominican Pride

VI) City Planning Report by Richard Guether:

- A) Mentioned CB7's involvement in the ULURP process regarding The Armory hearing. CB7 was most professional and had valid comments during the proceedings.
- B) Board Members are encouraged to attend future city planning meetings and submit comments
- C) October 19<sup>th</sup> is the voting day for approval of The Armory by City Planning

VII) 52<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Report by Wilson Hernandez:

- A) Discussed the Pct's plans to address quality of life issues. Expressed concern about the loss of officers in the precinct
- B) Summer assignments of officers to areas outside the precinct depletes coverage throughout. More man-power is needed
- C) Cameras to be installed at Williamsbridge Oval this week

VIII) Meeting Adjourned at 8:50PM