



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



PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 19th, 2010 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at: Tracey Towers ◇ 40 West Mosholu Pkwy South ◇ Bronx 10468

- I. The Public Session opened at 6:35 PM.
 - A. Elizabeth Bravo Santiago from the New York City Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association reported on the availability of an emergency response system for individuals with dementia. The cost is minimal and funding is available to offset the costs.
 - B. Jean Hill, a resident of Tracey Towers, requested a change to one day per week for alternate side of the street parking. She also discussed the need for a bus shelter with seats for the #28 bus in front of Tracey Towers.
 - C. Gail Oliveri, a resident of Norwood, requested help with getting her neighbors to stop feeding stray cats on and around her property.
 - D. A break in the public session was taken to grant Councilperson Cabrera time to speak. The Councilperson discussed his work with housing, parks, and school problems.
 - E. Lowell Green announced a public meeting with DOT to discuss the impact of traffic congestion along Gun Hill Road from Jerome Ave. to White Plains Road. The meeting is scheduled for April 26th at 6:30 PM at the Mosholu Community Center.
 - F. Diana De Fonso, a Father Zeiser Place resident, spoke about the quality of life problems at Devoe Park. She requested an officer be assigned to the park on weekends.
 - G. Henry Rogers, a community resident from Father Zeiser Place, complained about the late night noise coming from illegal activities at Devoe Park.
 - H. Mr. Crespo, resident living near Devoe Park discussed the double parking around the park.
 - I. Carlos Rosado, also living adjacent to Devoe Park complained about illegal barbecuing at Devoe. He asked that a low hanging branch he removed from the park before someone gets injured.
 - J. Ricky Martinez, Chairman of the 100 Democrats, asked to have the potholes along Mosholu Parkway South repaired. He also invited everyone to attend the clubs barbecue on July 17th.
 - K. Patricia Newland, a Tracey Towers resident, requested new and replacement signage outside of Tracey Towers.
 - L. Angel Fernandez, an aide to Senator Espada, described the Senator's work and invited everyone to come to his Bainbridge Ave office (Mon.-Thurs.) with any problems.
- II. The general board meeting began at 7:30PM. Attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The minutes from the March meeting were approved.
- III. Chairperson's Report: Paul Foster reported that he was a member of the new task force for the armory. He also announced that some blasting would take place by DEP at the reservoir. Work to correct the toxic situation at Harris Field is also being done.
- IV. Executive Committee Report: Ozzie Brown presented a motion regarding medical leave for board members. The draft was approved with the following changes:



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- A. 1st Bullet: Add "be" before resolved.
- B. 3rd Bullet: Add "but cannot exceed six months."
- C. 5th Bullet: After "a period of 30 days" add "or at the next executive meeting."

V. District Manager's Report:

- A. The community board's website continues to handle complaints.
- B. CB#7 has set up a volunteer program.
- C. As of 5/1/10, the Children's Arts and Science Workshop will take applications for summer youth employment at the community board office. All youth jobs are by lottery.

VI. Committee Reports:

- A. Land Use: Ozzie Brown announced that the Columbia Students presentation on the Harlem River waterfront would be made to his committee on 5/11/10. City Planning will meet with Paul Foster and himself regarding the "EIS" for Webster Avenue. There are also plans for a Best Western at 3300 Webster Avenue.
- B. Traffic and Transportation: See Ms. Green's statement during the Public Session.
- C. Parks & Recreation: Barbara Stronczer presented four motions from the committee.
 - 1. Motion #1: A letter to be sent to the Parks' Commissioner, Frank McCue, Program Manager, and our elected officials requesting their help in getting the contractor to secure Harris Field and to post signs on all sides of the field warning the public of the existence of toxic wastes on the field.
 - 2. Motion #2: A letter to be sent to Commissioners Benepe, Aponte, and Moran requesting that action on removing the tree stumps at the Tracey Towers bus stop and that a bus shelter be installed.
 - 3. Motion #3: A letter to be sent to Gal Lavid, the Nursery Manager requesting the planting of shrubs and green cover at the green street triangle in front of Tracey Towers where park employees mistakenly destroyed the greenery.
 - 4. Motion #4: The Parks' Committee recommends that Community Board #7 sign-on to the letter from New Yorkers for Parks requesting additional funding for the staffing of State and City Parks.
 - 5. All four motions were unanimously approved.
- D. Public Safety and Quality of Life: Andrew Laiosa presented a draft of a letter to the Bronx District Attorney. The letter hopefully will help to provide alternative sentencing for those arrested for prostitution.
 - 1. Motion #5: A letter describing the impact of prostitution on our parks and community be sent to the Chief Judge at the Bronx County Court House.
 - 2. The letter was approved with the deletion of the sentence regarding illegal parking.
- E. Housing: Nick Napolitano announced that the next committee meeting is scheduled for 4/27/10 at Serviam Gardens. A motion to support the takeover of homeless services at 2323 Davidson Ave. by the not-for-profit Palladia was presented.
 - 1. Motion #6: Considering that the adult family transitional shelter is currently in operation at this location and that the services provided to these families would be drastically improved by having Palladia come into this building to provide services, a motion was presented that the board send a letter to DHS in support of Palladia's application.



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2. The motion was approved.
 - F. Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs: Joseph Lee reported on the committee's meeting with Councilman Fernando Cabrera and Leonie Haimson of Class Size Matters. He also reported that a meeting concerning PCB's in the schools will be held on May 4th at 290 Broadway.
 - G. Youth: Joseph Lee announced that his committee was organizing a mental health panel for teens to be held at the Bronx Central Library during Bronx Week on 5/20/10 from 4:00-6:00 PM. A motion to restore cuts to the summer youth program was presented.
 1. Motion #7: A letter be sent in support of the re-instatement of \$35 million to the summer youth program. The motion was approved.
 2. Mr. Lee also noted that a Town Hall meeting on youth will be held at the Rotunda on 161st Street on 4/27/10 at 6:30 PM.
 - H. Sanitation: Helene Hartman reported that her committee is planning two summer events. One will cover electronic recycling and the other will be on animal issues. She requested areas in need of clean-up, as well as, locations for the posting of clean-up after your dog signs.
- VII. Mr. Tirado gave the Borough President's report. He announced Bronx Day at the Botanical Gardens on 5/15/10 and the Food Summit which is scheduled for May 1st at Hostos Community College.
- VIII. 52nd Precinct Report: Wilson Hernandez gave the stats for the past month and introduced Lt. Michael Vitalo, the Conditions Supervisor, who responded to some of the quality of life issues discussed at the meeting.
 - A. Board member Jay Shuffield expressed concern that the way officers have been responding to calls discourages residents from filing reports, and that officers were taking a dismissive attitude toward people who called for help.
 - B. Board member Andrew Laiosa recognized the effort the precinct has been making to aggressively tackle prostitution, especially on Davidson Avenue.
- IX. Elected Officials:
 - A. Mr. Myrie representing Councilperson Cabrera encouraged everyone to visit the Councilperson's website. Applications for the Neighborhood Advisory Board can be downloaded from their site.
 - B. Sallie Cauldwell reported on Assemblyperson Naomi Rivera's work on the budget in Albany.
- X. City Planning: Juton Horstman reported on a waterfront planning workshop at Hostos Community College on May 12.
- XI. The meeting ended at 9:10 PM