

# 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 Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at: Fordham United Methodist Church ♦ 2543 Marion Avenue ♦ Bronx, 10458

- I. Public Session began at 6:50pm:
  - A. Jeff Dinowitz, Assemblyman:
    - 1. Spoke about the NYS budget. He explained that the State Assembly had passed several bills to protect tenants, but the Senate was not taking action. He urged the Chair of the Senate Housing Committee, who represents this district, to bring the bills up for a vote.
    - 2. The Senior Centers that are in jeopardy are Bailey & Tolentine Zeiser Centers, both in Community Board 7. Health care cuts are imminent. Members of assembly and senate are still working on budget and hope for an early decision.
  - B. Lt. Reynaldo Herasime, NYPD:
    - 1. Provided a report on present stats and the crimes condition in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Precinct. One of the greatest concerns is graffiti and he urges the public to call the Precinct or 311 if anyone observes graffiti in the neighborhood
    - 2. The Lt. answered questions from the audience regarding issues and concerns throughout the community
  - C. John Sullivan, FDNY:
    - 1. Talked about recent fires in the community and the process followed by the Fire Department regarding arrests and the pending investigations
  - D. Charles Bierman, Community Resident:
    - Spoke about a letter he sent to the Community Board regarding a personal matter. Because of disruptive behavior, he was subsequently asked to leave by the Police Department.
  - E. Albert Graciani, Director of Second Chance Solutions:
    - 1. Explained the various programs for people who need assistance in housing, addiction, etc.
  - F. Jose Caraballo:
    - 1. Talked about a shelter on Davidson Avenue. He expressed his thanks and support from Community Board 7
  - G. Sal Ortiz, Devoe Park Area Resident:
    - 1. Requested that the Community Board continues to assure the residents to assist them to maintain good quality of life and keep it on-going. He described the noise and the nuisance of people drinking and carrying on all night. The Board expressed support and will continue monitoring the situation
  - H. Diana Ildefonso, Devoe Park Area Resident:
    - 1. Talked about the on-going noise conditions which continue all night long. She is requesting continued support to discontinue this nuisance. Many suggestions were forthcoming with a promise from the Community Board to assist in every way possible.
  - I. Gloria Hughes, Bronx Library Center:
    - 1. She discussed the proposed cuts to the library system and how it would impact the community. She is requesting that the Community Board and the public participate in a letter writing campaign to save the library services and possible library closings.
- II. Attendance was taken, quorum was present



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- III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
  - A. Changes:
    - 1. In the Public Session (B). Add "Seats are needed for the shelter at the Bx1 and Bx2 Bus Stop"
    - 2. Clause in Medical Leave section. On #1 to take "up to" insert
  - B. Approval of Minutes was granted after changes were made
- IV. Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
  - A. Paul announced the passing of Nancy Hartman, a CB7 Member, and expressed the sympathy of all Board Members for the family
  - B. Paul and Ozzie Brown attended a Land Use meeting to discuss the development of the waterfront for public use
  - C. On Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm, the Bronx Week Parade will take place on Mosholu Parkway. All are invited
  - D. Armory Task Force to meet. Paul will attend
- V. District Manager's Report by Fernando P. Tirado:
  - A. Filtration plans up to date. Digging is to begin in CB2, not in CB7 as originally planned
  - B. Davidson Avenue tree-pruning to begin next month
  - C. Signs to be place in the parks are the more permanent types
  - D. Public Session regarding the Webster Avenue rezoning plans is set for tomorrow at 4:00pm at the Bedford Park Senior Center located at 243 East 204<sup>th</sup> Street
- VI. Reports by Committees & Elected Officials and Agency Representatives:
  - A. Housing by Nick Napolitano:
    - 1. Meeting on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Community Board Office to discuss housing issues in the community. Department of Building officials to be present to answer questions.
  - B. Traffic & Transportation by Jay Shuffield on the behalf of Lowell Green:
    - 1. There was a motion that CB7 send a letter to DOT
      - a. Motion was approved unanimously
  - C. Parks & Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:
    - 1. The next Parks Committee meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Community Board Office
  - D. Youth Services by Joseph Lee:
    - 1. Youth Mental Health Panel at the Bronx Library Center on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm
    - 2. The next Youth Committee Meeting will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Community Board Office
  - E. Health Committee by Joyce Hernandez-Lopez
    - 1. There will be an afternoon of testing for rapid HIV-testing and blood pressure screening to take place on Thursday, June 10 from 3-6pm on the intersection of Jerome Avenue and Bedford Park Blvd.
  - F. Land Use / Zoning by Ozzie Brown:
    - 1. Ozzie reported on the Columbia Graduate School. The report was about the development of the waterfront
    - 2. June 14<sup>th</sup> possible meeting date to further discuss volunteer community involvement to assist in the cleaning of the area and future plantings in the area
    - 3. Trolley tour planned to present the waterfront plan and the Webster Avenue corridor
    - 4. Hector Lopez to head up a committee for future plans to develop the old Fordham Library
  - G. Borough President's Report by Andy Toledo:



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- The Borough President, Ruben Diaz, Jr. responds to Mayor Bloomberg's Executive Budget
   a. Community Board Budgets Spared from Budget Ax
- 2. Borough President Diaz host the Borough's first food summit
- 3. The Borough President Diaz and Public Advocate DeBlasio host town hall meeting on the State of our youth
- 4. Ruben Diaz, Jr. made a statement regarding autism awareness month
- 5. Bronxites mark the first annual "NYC Denim Day" against sexual and dating violence
- H. Naomi Rivera's Report by Sallie Caldwell:
  - 1. Ms. Rivera will have a concert in the park and a movie on Mosholu. Ms. Rivera is working in Albany on trying to complete the budget
- I. City Planning Commission by Richard Guether:
  - 1. A plan is being developed around waterfront. Richard reported on the developments
  - 2. Tomorrow, a public scoping meeting to be held at the Bedford Park Senior Center about the impact of zoning changes in the Webster Avenue area and future development
- J. Councilman Cabrera's Report:
  - Provided a report on the possible cuts for Senior Centers in the area. Petitions are being circulated. Mr. Cabrera to meet with commissioner on Friday. He would like as many signatures as possible
- K. Angel Fernandez, Senator Espada's Office:
  - 1. A newsletter from the senator was discussed and distributed
  - 2. There will be an event on July 15<sup>th</sup>, "youth against violence"
- VII. At 8:25pm, the Community Board went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The DM and the public left the room and the board discussed the issues at hand.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm