



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, June 15, 2010 @ 6:30 PM

Visitors' Center Café, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458

- I. Public Session
 - A. The meeting opened at 6:40 PM. Paul Foster opened the meeting by greeting the newly appointed Board Members.
 1. Informed speakers will be limited to 2 minutes due to an Executive Committee meeting scheduled after the General Board meeting
 - B. John D'Adamo, 52nd Precinct Commanding Officer
 1. Spoke about overall crime issues
 2. Devoe Park problems were discussed at length and actions are to be taken by the Police Department
 3. The Comp Stats were reviewed and noted the increase in domestic violence
 4. The Precinct Council Community Council meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, June 18th. The meeting will be held at St. Ann's, and the community will have the opportunity to discuss issues more openly with the police
 5. The CO entertained questions from the audience
 6. The Devoe Park problems were brought up again by neighbors looking for solutions to the noise and disturbances. A neighbor from Gates Place discussed disturbances outside his house, in which the CO promised to continue surveillance every night in that area
 - C. Joel Rivera, Councilman 15th Council District. The Councilman was introduced and spoke a few words
 - D. Yelena Kuvyatkina- Talked about energy savings supported by Con Edison. She discussed means to save energy for lighting, heating, and cooling.
 - E. Chase Villafana, Planet Fitness Gym- Needs support for an application to BSA to operate a gym in the Fordham area. They are seeking a special permit to operate the gym. All are welcome to come and visit to observe how well ran the place was
 - F. Gustavo Rivera, 33rd Senate District Candidate- Introduced himself and spoke about his candidacy
 - G. Anastasia Oldham, Princeton University Graduate- She delivered her thesis which covered her review of CB7. She received an "A" for the course. All members of the CB will receive a copy of her thesis.
 - H. Mohammed Ali, Newly appointed Board Member- Introduced himself as a new member of CB7
 - I. Evern Randolph, "Grandparents Around the World"- She is interested in producing a Gospel production in the Kingsbridge Armory to bridge the gap between seniors and young people by offering programs that provide positive role models for our youth
 - J. Chakira Branch, "Big Brothers & Big Sisters"- Seeking mentors for youngsters who need guidance
- II. Attendance was taken, quorum present
 - A. Approval of Agenda and Minutes was unanimously approved
- III. Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
 - A. The Chairperson asked the newly appointed members to introduced themselves
 - B. Filtration Plant report: The Committee continues to pressure the construction people to hire Bronx residents. Paul Foster attends meeting on a regular basis
- IV. District Manager's Report by Fernando Tirado:
 - A. Orientation will be held on July 12th for new Board Members



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- B. Tracey Towers is sponsoring a health fair on June 24th
- C. VIP restaurant request for support for a sidewalk café permit was discussed
- D. Webster Avenue request for a zoning amendment on Marion & E. 195th St was discussed

V. Committee Reports:

A. Land Use Committee Report by Ozzie Brown:

- 1. The meeting held at Fordham hill was reported on. It was a well attended meeting with much enthusiasm. The friends of Water-Front Committee was established to motivate participants from the community
- 2. A motion was introduced to send a letter to Commissioner of Parks and Transportation to identify the delegated funds to develop the waterway. This letter is sponsored by the Land Use, Parks and Transportation Committee Chairs.
 - i. There are safety concerns and congestion problems which need to be mitigated. The letter will address the transfer of the property from Sanitation to Parks, the removal of possessions owned by Sanitation in order to clear out the property.
 - ii. The motion is on hold until is generated and distributed and reviewed by Board members
- 3. A motion was made to send a letter to Transportation for the transfer of the property to Parks

B. Housing, by Nick Napolitano:

- 1. Nick spoke to new members about the committee, how it works, and how it encompasses. He spoke of the need to report any violation or issues to the Department of Buildings
- 2. Motion to send a letter (?)
 - i. Motion was taken and approved unanimously

C. Parks & Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:

- 1. Motion #1: The Parks Committee recommends that the Board send a letter of support for the "Native Plant Garden" to the Design Commission
 - i. Motion was taken and approved unanimously
- 2. Motion #2: The Parks Committee recommends that a letter of support for the construction of a pedestrian bridge which would connect the East and West sides of Van Cortlandt Park be sent to Commissioners Aponte and Benepe
 - i. Motion was taken and approved unanimously
- 3. Announcement of a new group "Friends of Mosholu Parkway" will sponsor a musical festival on Saturday from 2pm to 6pm

D. Traffic & Transportation:

- 1. On June 27th, new bus routes go into effect. Riders should note these changes ahead of time.
- 2. Yellow notices are posted on bus routes and in buses

VI. Borough President's Report by Andy Toledo:

- A. He welcomed the new members
- B. Orientation will be held at Lehman College in July 12th. Further information and notice to follow

VII. Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Report by Zellnor Myrie:

- A. Councilman Cabrera is supporting the waterfront project and is looking forward to working with CB7 in this initiative
- B. There is continue interest in developing the Kingsbridge Armory
- C. The de-mapping of 195th Street is being reviewed
- D. The Councilman is working on a tenant's bill of rights to be attached to new leases. For further information you may text your councilman at (347) 541-5768



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VIII. Elected Official Reports

A. NYC Councilman Oliver Koppell by Arlene McLaren:

1. CB7 was instrumental in supporting transitional housing and the action was applauded as helpful in future legislation in NYC
2. There is living wages legislation proposed by the Councilman
3. There is an initiative for 15 hrs of training on jobs and training on conflict resolution for 30 students to be sponsored by the Councilman
4. The Councilman is happy to report that Kazimiroff Boulevard will contain both names

B. NYS Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera's Report by Sallie Caldwell:

1. Greetings to the new members
2. Movies in the park will be held again this summer sponsored by the Assemblywoman
3. There will be a seminar in Tracey Towers for grandparents caring for youngsters on July 20th.
4. The Assemblywoman hopes that the budget will be passes soon
5. Summer schedule to be posted

C. NYS Senator Pedro Espada's Report by Angel Fernandez:

1. Welcomed new members
2. Coloring books were distributed
3. The Senator announced that 2 Senior Centers in CB7 will not close

D. Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio's representative provided a report

IX. The Board exercised executive privilege at 8:30PM to discuss personnel matters

X. The closed meeting adjourned at 9:40PM