



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, September 21, 2010 @ 6:30 PM

Bedford Park Senior Center, 243 East 204th Street, Bronx, NY 10458

- I. Public Session
 - A. Opened at 6:40 PM. Paul welcomed everyone to our first meeting after the summer break.
 - B. Bronx Library Center, Gloria Hughes
 1. Concerns over expected cuts to the budget that would force some branch libraries to cut hours and days.
 2. No staff cuts were expected at this time.
 3. Continued support by the Community Board is requested.
 - C. Bronx Smoke Free Partnership, Deidre Sully
 1. Presentation throughout the Bronx to build their partnership with the community. On October 8th there will be a forum to focus on youth to educate them on the dangers of smoking at the Albert Einstein Auditorium.
 - D. Chairman of 100 Democrats, Ricardo Martinez
 1. Was elected as the State Committeeman
 2. Wants to work with the community to improve the quality of life in the community.
 - E. Former Community Board 8 Chairman, Tony Casino
 1. Welcomed all back.
 2. He served on the Charter Commission and reviewed some of the recommendations presented for community approval to be voted in the November ballot. (See attached for the charter recommendations).
 - F. 52nd Pct Report, Captain Pat McGowan
 1. Reviewed a variety of crimes and arrests, gave a report on shootings and the action taken by the police.
 2. A board member had a noise complaint that the police said they would look into
 3. Barbara Stronczer thanked the captain for the light and safety patrol in Devoe Park. The captain said that Lt. Chris Meyer was responsible and we should thank him.
 4. Questions on car break-ins were raised.
 5. Police recommended not leaving valuables in plain sight and to take other precautions to prevent burglaries.
 6. CompStat reports were distributed.
 - G. Anthony Riviuccio
 1. Discussed the use of parks in the summer both during the day and after hours.
 2. He is concerned about the lack of monitoring the regulations.
- II. Board Meeting opened at 7:25PM
 - A. Attendance was taken, Quorum present
- III. Chairpersons Report
 - A. Paul Foster talked about committee assignments and the need of numbers to attend meetings.
 - B. Khadijaha Saeed has been appointed to the BP's Solid Waste Advisory Board
 - C. Paul appointed William Francis to the Neighborhood Advisory Board.
 1. All board members participating in NAB will make on-going reports from the NAB.



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- D. Filtration Plant
 - 1. 90% of the workers have moved on. Work almost finished. Some blasting to continue.
 - E. Armory Task Force – There is continued interest in developing the armory Basic interest in providing jobs for the community. Various organizations have been contacted to develop plans for making the armory a viable place to enrich the community and provide permanent jobs.
 - F. Website committee led by Joyce Hernandez will meet to review use of the website and to recommend improvements.
 - G. Ad-hoc committee to evaluate staff to be chaired by Hector Lopez.
 - H. By Laws Committee to be chaired by John Harris
 - I. New members are encouraged to attend meetings and touch base with other members.
- IV. Executive Committee Report
- A. Ozzie congratulated Maria Baez on her new role as the mother of twins.
 - B. Ozzie commented on the Executive Committee Meeting and the enthusiasm of the newly appointed chairs and the input of all who participated.
- V. District Managers Report
- A. Deadline for submitting Service Priority Survey Report
 - B. Request for volunteers to conduct a Tree Planting Request survey
- VI. Committee Chair Reports
- A. Economic Development - Jay Shuffield
 - 1. Committee reviewed the business district in the community board and discussed a neighborhood resources survey.
 - 2. Committee reviewed the goals for the group to concentrate on meeting resident needs.
 - B. Public Safety - Andy Laiosa
 - 1. Andy spoke of the proposed initiation between Community Board 7 and Bronx Community Affairs.
 - 2. October 18 for next meeting.
 - C. Parks
 - 1. Discussed the murder in the parks and the need for increased safety and vigilance
 - 2. Discussion park maintenance
 - i. Upcoming Contracts
 - ii. Williamsbridge Oval
 - iii. Trees
 - iv. Kossuth Avenue Playground
 - D. Traffic and Transportation
 - 1. The following was discussed
 - i. MTA issues and fare increases
 - ii. Bus routes
 - iii. Bike issues and proposed bike racks
 - iv. Lighting concerns in Williamsbridge Oval Park.
 - E. Land Use
 - 1. Ozzie spoke of the visit to his meeting by the DOE fund.
 - i. The fund is involved in training the homeless and shelter population to offer them a second chance by providing job and housing for these individuals.
 - ii. The DOE fund requests support to provide housing along Webster Avenue.



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- iii. A motion was made to send a letter of support with changes to develop these sites to provide permanent housing. (Letter is attached) A discussion ensued.
- iv. Changes include construction and permanent jobs.
- v. Motion to send the letter with changes was approved.
2. Fordham Library Report
 - i. Ideas and suggestions are still in planning stage. Community Board 7 prefers a youth and community center rather than animal shelter.
3. Zone changed to Webster Avenue corridor to be reviewed. Committee will review EIS with a target date of September 27th with 60 days for review and hearings on the proposal.
- F. Housing
 1. Monday, September 27 Meeting
- G. Long Term Planning
 1. Meeting, September 28
- H. Youth Services
 1. Goals of Committee
 2. Focus on youth violence
 3. Immigration and children of immigrants
 4. Review of summer's health project
 5. Encourage better attendance at committee meetings.
- I. Education
 1. Meeting, Wednesday September 22
- VII. Borough President Report
 - A. Back to School information was discussed
 - B. Thursday, October 14, 2010, Meeting for former incarcerated persons to provide them guidance for jobs and housing.
 - C. Monday, September 25, 2010, Peace in our streets initiative about crime in our neighborhoods at Community Board 12.
- VIII. Elected Officials Report – Councilman Fernando Cabrera
 - A. Reported that \$3.5 million has gone to the district in capital funding
 - B. \$15,000 was given to Community Board 7 for advocacy/development of the waterfront
 - C. Proposes cameras for St. James Park
 - D. Discussion on graffiti removal initiative
 - E. Homeowners resource fair to discuss high water bills, foreclosures and other issues.
 - F. Support of paid sick days for workers not covered
 - G. Further bills to be proposed
 - H. Light efficiency bill
 - I. Discussion on proposed Tenants' Bill of Rights
- IX. Other Business
 - A. Helene Hartman reported on the night out on crime during the summer.
- X. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM