



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 17, 2011 @ 6:30PM

Tracey Towers ♦ 20 West Mosholu Parkway ♦ Community Room A

- I. Public Session began at 6:45pm.
 - A. Paul Foster opened by thanking Tracey Towers management for providing space and food for this evening's meeting, Paul introduced the building manager, Nick Harvey
 - B. Nick Harvey, Tracey Towers Property Manager greeted everyone
- II. Public Session continued with the following speakers:
 - A. Capt. McGowan, 52nd Precinct:
 1. The stats were reviewed and he mentioned recent crimes and how the police are handling crimes with the deployment of personnel as needed
 2. Took questions from the members and the public and responded to all
 - B. John Reilly, Community Resident from 202nd Street:
 1. Regarding 201st, 203rd, Briggs and Valentine Avenue for rezoning under R5D; 3 family homes limit is requested
 - C. Ms. Myra White, "Three Graces Medical practice":
 1. This Agency is for people who cannot afford primary medical care; brochures distributed
 - D. Jose Rodriguez, Pastor, "Christ Eternal Refuge Church":
 1. Apologized on behalf of the Congregation, about the loud speakers on Fordham Road and 190th Street
 2. He went on to describe their ministry and their presence in the community
 3. Paul referred the pastor to and suggested that he speak to Cpt. McGowan who was present
 4. The pastor asked the Captain for assistance in complying with the noise laws and carrying out their ministry in the neighborhood
 - E. Betty Woodard, Tracey Towers Resident:
 1. Spoke about an upcoming financial crisis at Tracey Towers where tenants were notified in April of a 25.3% rent increase in July of 2011, and another 20% increase per room the following year. Also, in the 3rd year another 16% increase. The tenants at Tracey Towers are protesting and informing the board and the public. They are asking for any assistance the board can provide
 2. Group was referred to the Housing Committee for satisfactory solutions
 - F. Anthony Riveccio, Community Resident:
 1. Had to leave the meeting without providing an update or report
 - G. Jean Hill, Tracey Towers Resident:
 1. Spoke about the rent increase and the lack of maintenance in the building, and stressed that the building has outstanding violations. She cited other problems and requested that the Community Board look into a change in alternate side of the street parking that was previously requested
 - H. Rosemary Brown, Tracey Towers Resident:
 1. Talked about the Jerome/Gun Hill BID; and their responsibility in cleaning up Jerome Avenue and Gun Hill Road, where the street is over-run with vendors and their wares, making impossible for pedestrians to walk on the sidewalk
 - I. Ricky Martinez, District Leader:
 1. No updates or report was given
 - J. Mohammed Ali, CB7 member:



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1. On May 28th between 1:00pm and 11:00pm there will be the Bangladeshi New Year's celebration at P.S. 106 located at 2120 St. Raymond Avenue. All are invited
 2. Thanked the 52nd Precinct for their presence on 192nd street and Jerome Avenue where prostitution is an issue
- III. Public Session closed and General meeting began at 7:30pm
- A. Agenda was approved
 - B. Chairperson's Report: Paul gave a brief overview of the Agenda
 - C. Executive Committee Report:
 1. Ozzie thanked Tracey Towers residents for their attendance
 2. Ozzie presented the By-Laws motion
 3. A discussion ensued at this point. The vote for the By-Laws motion will be taken in June
 - D. Paul Foster asked for approval of agenda and minutes; motion was unanimously approved
- IV. District Manger's Report:
- A. Reported on the upcoming Goulden Avenue Water Works construction
 - B. The Bronx Day Parade will take place on Sunday, May 22nd, all are invited. Other activities were mentioned for Bronx week
 - C. A discussion regarding fire houses closures and the effect on CB7 firehouses. Funding must be restored to prevent tragedies from over extension of our firefighters
 - D. Public safety issues were mentioned; i.e. prostitution in area
 - E. Budget cuts to libraries in CB7 area and the need to protest these cuts
 - F. Andrew Laiosa made a motion that CB7 seek free legal counsel to investigate how CB7 can capture some of the funds from the \$20 Million lawsuit by the federal government against Skanska
 1. Ms. Saeed seconded the motion, and a discussion ensued
 2. Motion was unanimously approved
- V. Committee Reports:
- A. Parks Committee:
 1. Provided a report on the \$15,000 allotted for Regatta Park. It was reported that they money could be held over for 2 years to give CB7 time to present a plan for expenditures of funds
 - B. Traffic & Transportation Committee:
 1. The Kingsbridge station on the D subway line will have elevators installed with work beginning 2012. No fare increase is projected at the present time
 - C. Youth Services Committee:
 1. Use of office space at CB7 to be declined for summer youth program this year
 - D. Economic Development Committee:
 1. Reported on affordable housing
 - E. Health Committee:
 1. Reported on the Senior Health Day at Scott Towers, sponsored by Naomi Rivera
 - F. Housing Committee:
 1. Nick addressed the members regarding a new development of 60 units of affordable housing at 3160 Webster Avenue
 - i. He is requesting a letter of support to be sent regarding this project
 - ii. Questions regarding the development ensued
 2. A motion to table the request was made; a second was made for tabling the motion
 - i. 9 were in favor, 15 opposed. Motion was defeated
 3. An amendment to the "draft" letter was made to say "If further construction is to be made in CB7, Union labor is to be used".
 - i. Further discussion on the wording of the letter was made



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- ii. Union labor was a part of the discussion
 - iii. Vote on amendment was taken, and it was voted down
 4. Vote on sending "draft letter" without changes was made
 - i. There was 16 in favor
 - ii. Opposed (No count since a majority approved the vote)
 - iii. Andrew Laiosa voted "No", and wants to be noted
 5. Housing developer to attend next Housing Committee meeting
 6. Nick Napolitano announced his resignation from the Board as of June due to family obligations
 - G. Election Monitoring Committee:
 1. Ms. Pina outlined the procedures
 2. Election to be held during the June 21st meeting
 3. Nominations were made from the floor; nominations closed with the following slate:
 - i. Chairperson: Paul Foster
 - ii. 1st Vice Chair: Ozzie Brown
 - iii. 2nd Vice Chair: Hector Lopez
 - iv. 3rd Vice Chair: Andrew Laiosa
 - v. Secretary: Nora Feury
 - vi. Treasurer: Barbara Stronczer
- VI. Elected Officials:
 - A. Andy Toledo, Borough President's rep
 - B. George Diaz, Councilman Koppell's rep
 - C. Christine Capetillo, Councilman Joel Rivera's rep
 - D. Sallie Caldwell, Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera's rep
 - E. Russ Agdern, Senator Gustavo Rivera's rep
 - F. Gregory Faulkner, Councilman Fernando Cabrera's reported the following:
 1. Report on bills to be supported by the Councilman
 2. Alcohol consumption near schools
 3. Re-routing of the #12 bus
 4. Restoring of day care funds
 5. Oppose to closing of fire houses
 6. Housing problems
 - G. Andy Lane, Jeff Klein's rep
 1. Driving course sponsor
 2. Newsletter planned
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm