



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, November 15, 2011 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at: Monroe College ◇ 2501 Jerome Avenue ◇ Bronx, New York

- I. Public Session began with the following speakers:
 - A. Saleen Shah, Citizens Commission for NYC:
 1. Talked about the "Better Neighborhood Award". There are award grants of \$500 to \$3000 for volunteer-led groups
 2. 25 applications were made available for interested groups
 - B. Nereida Amarat, Community Resident: Expressed concerns about the quality of life in the community. She offers her services to assist any groups who needs her to help improve the neighborhood
 - C. Darrell Davis, Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera:
 1. Ms. Rivera is sponsoring a public health forum on November 17, 2011 at 5:30 PM at PS 83
 2. Annual turkey drive raffle. For information, call 718-409-0109
 - D. Socrates Caba, Bronx HIV Advocacy: Spoke regarding the information of a group to identify, support and treat patients
 - E. Cynthia Ngombe & Edison Aponte, BOEDC: Talked about a new initiative about Green Jobs – "Green New York", which will provide an energy audit for home owners. Subsidy will be provided for home owners where problems are discovered
 - F. Fernando Cabrera, NYC Council Member:
 1. Spoke about the conditions at the Wall Street protests
 2. Mentioned the recent murder crime of a community member for \$15 and how the community can move forward and seek final solution for justice in this case
 3. The Councilman informed the community of a promise of \$1M for cameras in the immediate community to curtail crime and promises another \$1M for next year. He will work closely with the District Manager and Walter Bell, Chair of the Public Safety Committee, to expedite the installation of the cameras
 4. He addressed the need to deal with gangs and the need to have sports centers/youth centers especially at the Armory
 - G. Juton Horstman, Department of City Planning Commission:
 1. Planning workshops where community members can have input (November 30th)
 - H. Joseph Dowling, 52nd Pct. Inspector:
 1. Spoke about recent violent crimes in the precinct
 2. A picture of a violent law breaker was distributed to the attendees
 3. Talked about the shooting of Mr. Chanda, a Bangladesh immigrant and his promise to capture the shooter and bring him to justice. Identifying marks were described. A sketch was distributed showing identifiable clothing
 4. Inspector Dowling shared other violent crimes and the speedy arrest of the perpetrators
 5. He reviewed the stats and expressed his concerns and sadness for the recent shootings
 6. A questions and answer session followed
 7. Block watchers were suggested as a preventive measure
 8. Further organization of plans to mobilize to be on-going
 9. Speaker from the Bangladesh community addressed the Inspector and the audience and spoke about the tragedy of the shooting and the hope for justice



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- I. Oliver Koppell, NYC Councilman:
 1. Spoke about the recent crime that brought out so many members of the Bangladesh community and promises to continue the support of hiring more police personnel
 2. He mentioned the Armory project and the continued fight for a living wage for hires of any proposed project
 3. A rally for a living wage is being proposed for the next Wednesday at 6:30pm at the "Riverdale Church"
- J. William Francis, CB7's Parks Committee Chairperson:
 1. Spoke about Senator Gustavo Rivera's "Voices", a community involvement project where citizens can be the eyes and ears of the community and report any incidents
- II. Public Session ended at 7:50pm
- III. Announcements: Paul Foster encouraged the audience to join in the struggle to improve the community and fill out applications to join the Board
- IV. Meeting opened at 7:50pm
 - A. Attendance taken, quorum was present
 - B. Approval of Agenda and Minutes were unanimously approved
- V. Board Reports:
 - A. Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
 1. Paul spoke about Ozzie Brown, former 1st Vice-Chair of CB7 and his recent passing this summer
 2. As a result of Ozzie's prominence, the "Unsung Hero Award" was renamed the "Ozzie Brown" award. The first award was presented to the Brown's family, and Ozzie's son made a few remarks about his father
 3. The next award was given to Sally Dunford, who symbolizes what Ozzie was about
 4. Last award was given to our intern and helper, Mr. Brandon Rutishouser; Ozzie was a mentor and pursued in passing a legacy to the next generation
 5. Hector Lopez, CB7 member was recognized for his feat in running and finishing the NYC marathon
 6. A new Chairperson for the Long Term Planning Committee was announced. Nelson Cruz to Chair Committee. Mr. Cruz remarked about his goals for the committee especially in the area of seniors and youth
 7. His plans for the Armory and The old Fordham Library would be a priority
 - B. Executive Committee Report by Adaline Walker:
 1. Correction to be made in the Parks report
 2. Approval made unanimously with correction
 - C. District Manager's Report by Fernando Tirado:
 1. December's Board Meeting will be held on Monday, December 19th, 2011 at the Bronx Library Center
 2. Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on December 15th, 2011
 3. CB7 is hiring a part-time community assistant, contact CB7 to inquire
 4. Sign up for job postings, announcements, CB notices and more at CB7 email
- VI. Committee Reports:
 - A. Budget / Personnel: Remarks about the availability of a Part Time job at CB7
 - B. Long Term Planning: Report of future plans
 - C. Environment & Sanitation: P.S.51 meeting will be held on November 28, 2011 at the Concourse House
 - D. Land Use / Zoning: Walking tour of the local community is planned for Saturday at 10:00am in front of the Kingsbridge Armory
 - E. Parks & Recreation:
 1. Motion to approve a letter of support of the Bedford Park Boulevard Entrance Gate design. The design for the gate was discussed, and motion was approved unanimously



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2. Information of a situation of work by a plumber at Reservoir Oval was shared
- F. Public Safety: Violence in the community to be addressed
- G. Traffic & Transportation:
 1. Referred to the letter about the deplorable conditions of subway stations in the Bronx to be addressed at the December meeting
 2. The proposed one-way streets change around Gun Hill Road will be presented at a Town-Hall meeting to be held at Kings College Place or Montefiore Hospital
- H. Website: Motions must be available prior to 36 hours to be placed on Web Site in order for comments to be made by the public
- I. Youth Services: Minutes discussed
- VII. Elected Officials & Guests Reports:
 - A. Bronx Borough President by Andy Toledo:
 1. Applications for Board membership are now available
 2. Talked about the Living Wage rally
 - B. Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera's Office by Sallie Caldwell:
 1. Request to the Senator for cameras in the subway
 - C. Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office by Maryann Rosa:
 1. Gave condolences to the Chanda Family
 2. Securing funding for working with youth
 3. Remarks on the on-going civic classes
 - D. Councilman Oliver Koppell's Office by George Diaz:
 1. Living Wave gathering at 250 Broadway at 1pm
 2. Request for shelters at bus stops throughout the community
 - E. Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office by Greg Faulkner:
 1. Remarked on Ozzie Brown's recognition
 2. Rezoning of Jerome Avenue interests
 3. Traffic study of Sedgwick Avenue
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm