



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

## COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 19, 2011 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at: Bronx Library Center ♦ 310 W. Kingsbridge Road ♦ Bronx, 10458

- I. Meeting convened at 6:35pm
- II. Public Session:
  - A. 52<sup>nd</sup> Precinct, Lt. McGowan:
    1. Discussed stats; reported that crime is down in precinct
    2. "Wanted" posters distributed – reports given on arrest for prostitution and electronic devices sold from local bodegas
  - B. Sam Goodman, Realtor from Caldor's on Grand Concourse:
    1. He is proposing an underground parking space under a 2-story building on Creston Avenue behind Caldor's for use of the employees and tenants of the building. (175x150 lot)
    2. The question of jobs and fair wages during construction arose and was discussed
  - C. Shawanda Seatt, NY Public Library:
    1. Fliers were distributed for a 12-week program for youngsters to develop reading and writing skills with stipends built in
    2. Reading and writing classes will be the focus of the program
  - D. Sharon Jarvis, Bronx Library Center:
    1. Welcomed all to the Library
- III. Meeting began at 7:00pm
  - A. Attendance was taken, quorum was present
  - B. Motion to approve the Agenda and Minutes was unanimously approved
- IV. Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
  - A. Greeted all and wished them a happy and healthy holiday
  - B. Advised everyone to get their Flu Shots and enjoy the holidays
- V. Motions:
  - A. Traffic & Transportation motion was presented, and a letter was read by Lowell Green
    1. Dilletta Pina suggested a motion to add two (2) words to the first sentence and the motion was approved unanimously, and the letter was approved to go out with the changes and the editing
  - B. In the absence of Lisa Shills-Short, William Francis presented the Land Use / Zoning motion by reading the letter to be sent to City Planning. Maps of the area were attached
    1. Motion to send letter requesting rezoning of additional neighborhoods to Dept. of City Planning was approved unanimously
    2. A second letter to DCP supporting the (e) designation zoning text amendment was presented, and a motion to send that letter was also unanimously approved
- VI. District Manager's Report by Fernando P. Tirado:
  - A. Addressed submitting minutes on time to the office by Committee Chairs
  - B. Changes in Committee meetings should be announced in timely fashion
  - C. Reports that the Christmas tree Lights were recently vandalized.
  - D. Notice from the NY Nurses Association that a possible nurses' strike at Montefiore may take place.
  - E. There is no Parks Dept. Manager at the present time, until a new one is appointed. Questions about parks maintenance were brought up. Fernando addressed the questions and will strongly contact Parks Dept. to correct unacceptable conditions.



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- F. Community Board members were incensed about the lack of supervision in the parks and are sending a strong letter of complaint to correct the condition at once
- VII. Executive Committee Report:
- A. Report on Fordham Library site
  - B. Adaline updated the Board on the Science Initiative program
  - C. Reported on the Holiday Gathering
  - D. Ribbon cutting at Grand Avenue was mentioned
  - E. PS51 contamination was discussed
- VIII. Parks Committee Report by William Francis:
- A. Report on tree lighting at Mosholu Parkway
  - B. Concerns were expressed about the upcoming projects that are in the planning stages with no Parks Dept. Manager available and action to be taken
- IX. Sanitation Committee Report by Helene Hartman:
- A. PS51 Parents United are organizing to address the situation at PS51 and potential health problems for students and staff
  - B. A discussion ensued about the contamination and the responsibility of the Board of Education
- X. Economic Development Committee Report by Eleanor Lundeen:
- A. Botanical Garden garage was discussed. Issues discussed are in the minutes, i.e. location, number of spaces, employees, rates, etc. Garage to open in April 2012
  - B. Report on organization of the merchants in the community and activities they plan to participate in as a result of the Summer Streets activity (Thanks to Lowell Green)
- XI. Traffic & Transportation Committee Report by Lowell Green:
- A. Benches are being placed around the community; applications are available through DOT for anyone who wishes to have a bench on their block
- XII. Public Safety Committee Report by Walter Bell:
- A. Report on the organization of groups to prevent violence and combat crime in the community
  - B. Mr. Bell congratulated the Police Department on their efforts to prevent crimes
- XIII. Old Business:
- A. Concerns about the need for a cross walk outside the Bronx Library Center where the Community Board meets on West Kingsbridge Road
- XIV. Elected Officials Reports:
- A. Councilman Oliver Koppell's Office by George Diaz:
    - 1. Wished all a happy holiday
    - 2. Bus shelter report on Paul Avenue and East 205<sup>th</sup> Street was installed
    - 3. 205<sup>th</sup> Street Subway Station repair was mentioned
    - 4. Office holiday party is scheduled for this Thursday at 5:00pm to 8:00pm at their Waldo Avenue Office. Invitations were distributed
    - 5. Concerns about Post Office closures were mentioned
  - B. Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera's Office by Sallie Caldwell:
    - 1. Wished all a safe, healthy and happy holiday
  - C. Borough President Ruben Diaz' Office by Andy Toledo:
    - 1. Thanked all and wished everyone a happy holiday
  - D. Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office by Gregory Faulkner:
    - 1. Follow-up on Parks concerns to be addressed
    - 2. Hiring issues at the Botanical Garden garage to be addressed
    - 3. Tenant concerns will be a focus for the Councilman. Issues will be addressed
- XV. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm