



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

SOCRATES A. CABA, DISTRICT MANAGER

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

## GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, September 17, 2013 @ 6:30 PM**

**Held at: Lehman College ◇ 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West ◇ Bronx, NY 10468**

- I) Public Session started at 7:10 pm with the following speakers:
  - A) Cristiana Pena, Director of Programs - Woodlawn Cemetery:
    - 1) Talked about that the Cemetery has activities for the public that are free or low cost; i.e. tours and concerts
    - 2) A Free concert by The Bardekova Ensemble is scheduled for September 22, 2013
    - 3) Cemetery's Web site [www.thewoodlawncemetery.org](http://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org)
  - B) Mirna Baiz and Estelle Johnson, FPA Foundation:
    - 1) Spoke on issues facing foster children and foster parents
    - 2) A flyer about a Foster Care Reform Fundraiser for September 27, 2013 was handed out
  - C) Brain M. Adams, 49<sup>th</sup> Pct. Community Council:
    - 1) Introduced himself and said "hello" to the Board
  - D) Michael Alvarez, Chief Librarian - Bronx Library Center:
    - 1) Talked about the library services
- II) Public Session closed and General Meeting opened
  - A) Attendance taken (sheet in file), quorum present
  - B) Agenda and June's Minutes were approved by voice vote
- III) Lowell Green, CB7 Secretary:
  - A) Asked all Board Members to check their member information on the contact information sheet found in their member folder. She instructed that any addition or corrections should be given to the office staff
- IV) Chairperson's Report by Adaline Walker-Santiago:
  - A) Welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Socrates A. Caba, newly selected District Manager for Community Board 7.
  - B) Dr. Ian Amritt, a Parliamentarian, who came to the meeting to help the Chair with the meeting was introduced
  - C) Ms. Walker-Santiago has been meeting with City Officials. The Chair and Nilsa Cintron-Hernandez attended a meeting about the closing of the maternity floor at North Central Bronx Hospital
  - D) The Chair and the District Manager have meet with local business owners in the area
  - E) Chairperson Adaline Walker-Santiago asked the public to use the Community Board for help with any problems or concerns
- V) Executive Committee Report was presented by Barbara Stronczer, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson
- VI) District Manager's Report by Socrates A. Caba:
  - A) He has met with the District Service Cabinet Members and worked on the District's Needs Statement



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- B) He took a tour of the Webster Avenue and Gun Hill Road Corridor as well as looked at the Elevator Construction at the Kingsbridge Road stop on the "D" Subway Line
- C) He asked people to call the Community Board Office for assistance with problems

VII) **MOTIONS:**

- A) Land Use Committee by Lisa Sills-Short (Chair) ~ **MOTION #1:**
  - 1) Since the motion came from a committee, no second was needed:

Whereas; parking conditions in the same area is already at a point of nonexistence. That the lack of over 500 spaces needed for an event would create a double parking nightmare. Where those living in the community would be forced to spend hours waiting to park their cars. This would still be found true even with the use of Lehman College parking area. Some of which they will be losing as it will be returned to the Parks Dept. to recreate a jogging area.

Whereas; the air quality in this area exceed the normal limits in PM (fine particulates, EC elemental carbon), CO (Carbon Monoxide), SO<sub>2</sub> (Sulphur dioxide) and other trace elements. Which are already at a high amount, would again be on the increase.

Whereas; four intersections have been defined as high pedestrian accident locations West Kingsbridge Road& Jerome Avenue, West Fordham Road and University Ave., West Fordham Road, Jerome Ave and East Fordham Rd. and East Kingsbridge Rd. /Elm Place/ Bainbridge Ave. Which cannot be fully mitigated? Could result in an increase of pedestrian/vehicle accidents

Whereas; Public Transportation (the subway) is already an overcrowded affair, and with traffic back-ups at seven at seventeen or more intersections, bus schedules (3,9,12,22,28,32) would be impossible to keep on time.

Therefore The Land Use Committee deems it necessary to give a recommendation to the full board not to approve this project."

- (a) A Roll Call Vote was called for Board Members voting "NO" on Motion #1. Those voting "NO" included: Mohammed S. Ali, Gloria Bent , Nilsa Cintron-Hernandez, Dalma Cristostom-Ward, Edward DeJesus, Dustin Engelken, Sandra Erickson, Nora Feury, John Francis, Fidel Gomez, Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky, Bruce Kaufman, Samelys Lopez, Eleanor Lundeen, Margaret Mack, Khadijaha Saeed, Lisa Sills-Shorts, John Snider, Barbara Stronczer, Adaline Walker-Santiago
- (b) Board Members voting "YES" to Motion #1 include: Nelson Cruz, William Francis, Lowell Green, Andrew Laiosa, Hector Lopez
- (c) 25 Members present (20 voted "NO" and 5 voted "Yes".) **MOTION was defeated.**



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- 2) Barbara Stronczer, 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice-Chair ~ **MOTION #2** (ULURP Applications) was seconded. Copy of **MOTION #2** ULURP Applications which is made-up of 6 applications was included in the Board Members' folders. There was some discussion that although there are 6 applications, the vote will be for the total not as individual votes. The Community Benefits Agreement is not part of the motion.

ULURP Applications include: CD 7-ULURP Application NO: C140033 ZMX - IN THE MATTER OF AN application submitted by KNIC Partners, LLC pursuant to Sections 197-e and 201 of the New York City Charter for the amendment of the Zoning Map Section No. 3c, changing from an R6 District to a C4-4 District property bounded by West 195<sup>th</sup> Street, Jerome Avenue, West Kingsbridge Road, and Reservoir Avenue, Bough of the Bronx, Community District 7, as shown on a diagram (for illustrative purpose only) dated July 22, 2013

CD7-ULURP Application NO: N 140034 ZXR-In THE MATTER OF AN application submitted by KNIC partners, LLC pursuant to Section 201 of the NEW York City Charter, for amendment of the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York relating to Section 74-41 (Arenas, Auditoriums, Stadiums or Trade Expositions) to allow by a special permit an indoor arena with a rated capacity in excess of 2, 500 persons, but not greater than 6,000 persons, to be located within 200 feet of a residential district, and allow modifications of certain signage and loading berth requirements in Community District 7, in the Borough of the Bronx

CD7-ULURP Application NO: C140035 ZSX- IN THE MATTER OF AN application submitted by KNIC Partners, LLC pursuant to Sections 197-c and 201 of the new York City Charter for the grant of a special permit pursuant to Sections 74-41 (b)\* of the Zoning Resolution to allow an indoor arena with a maximum seating capacity of 5,800 seats located within 200 feet of a Residence District, and to allow the modifications of the sign provisions of Section 32-64 (Surface Area and Illumination Provisions) and 32-655 (Height of Signs in all other Commercial Districts). And with loading provisions of Section 36-62 (Required Off-Street Loading Berths), in connection with the conversion of an existing building (Kingsbridge Armory), on property located at 29 West Kingsbridge Road (Block 3247, Lot 10 and p/oLot2), in a C4-4 District\*\* Bough of the Bronx, Community District 7

CD 7-ULURP Application NO: C 140036 PPX-IN THE MATTER OF AN application submitted by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter, for the disposition of one city-owned property located at 29 West Kingsbridge Road (Block 3247, Lot 10 and p/o Lot 2), Borough of the Bronx, Community District 7, restricted by the conditions pursuant to NYC Zoning Resolution (ZR) Section 74-41 (b) Special Permit.

BSA Application 3223-13-BZ

LANDMARK PERMIT APPLICATION #1103



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- (a) A Roll Call vote was called for Board Members voting "YES" for **MOTION #2**. Those voting "NO" include: Mohammed S. Ali, Gloria Bent, Nilsa Cintron-Hernandez, Dalma Cristostom-Ward, Edward DeJesus, Dustin Engelken, Sandra Erickson, Nora Feury, John Franco, Fidel Gomez, Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky, Bruce Kaufman, Samelys Lopez, Eleanor Lundeen, Margaret Mack, Khadijaha Saeed, Lisa Sills-Short, John Snider, Barbara Stronczer, Adaline Walker- Santiago
- (b) Board Members voting "NO" for MOTION #2 include: Nelson Cruz, William Francis, Lowell Green, Andrew Laiosa, Hector Lopez
- (c) 25 Board Members present (20 Voted "YES" for **MOTION #2** and 5 Voted "NO" for **MOTION #2**. The Motion 2 passed.

VIII) 52<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Report by Community Affairs Officer John Dinoia:

- A) Introduced himself to the Board. He can be reached at 718-220-5824. David Wong of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Auxiliary was also present

IX) Elected Officials Reports:

- A) Councilman G. Oliver Koppell's Office by George Diaz (Community Liaison)
  - 1) Contact number 718-549-7300 or [gdiuz@council.nyc.gov](mailto:gdiuz@council.nyc.gov)
  - 2) The Jerome-Gun Hill B.I.D. Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2013.
  - 3) Councilman Koppell urges parents and guardians, but especially those whose children have asthma, to provide their children's school with the "504 Form", in addition to an Emergency Contact Card and an up-to-date Comprehensive Medical Examination form in case of an emergency
  - 4) "Friends of Van Cortlandt Park" has a number of events planned for the fall. Its Hiking Series will be held on the first Saturday of each month. To find out about other upcoming events, visit the FCP Web site at <http://vancortlandt.org>
  - 5) The Greater Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a "Business Expo" on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 from 10am to 4pm. This event will be held at "Hilton New York" 1335 6th Avenue (near 53rd Street). This expo is designed to help small businesses and startups operate more profitably and efficiently. Attendance is FREE
  - 6) Community Health and Wellness Fair is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 from 12pm – 5pm to be held at 197th Street & Reservoir Avenue (one block from Lehman College)
  - 7) Koppell-Sponsored bill placing auxiliary power units in ambulances passed by Council
  - 8) Bronx Delegation allocates funds for immigrant services in Koppell's District
  - 9) Legislation passed by Council establishes procedures in the medical examiner's office to improve performance
- B) Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office by Gregory W. Faulkner, Chief of Staff
  - 1) Contact number 347-590-2875 or [gfaulkner@council.nyc.gov](mailto:gfaulkner@council.nyc.gov). Reported on Councilman's concern about NYC Park's Department funding of Park projects. In addition, the Councilman feels the city needs an improvement election system and the need to look at new ways to vote, perhaps using the internet.



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- C) Assembly Mark Gjonaj, 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District by Nathalia Fernandez, Executive Coordinator:
  - 1) Contact number 718-409-0109 or fernandezn@assembly.state.ny.us.
- X) The Chairperson, Ms. Adaline Walker presented the names of the Committee Chairs for the Community Board 7. The Committee and Chairs are as follows:
  - A) Budget/ Personnel & Ethics - Andrew Laiosa
  - B) Community Relations & Long Term Planning - Mohammed S. Ali
  - C) Economic Development - Eleanor Lundeen
  - D) Education & Libraries - Bruce Kaufman
  - E) Environment & Sanitation - Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky
  - F) Health & Hospital - Khadijaha Saeed
  - G) Housing - Jean Hill
  - H) Land Use & Zoning - Nilsa Cintron-Hernandez
  - I) Parks & Recreation - Margaret Mack
  - J) Public Safety & Quality of Life - John Snider
  - K) Senior Services - Nora Feury
  - L) Traffic & Transportation - Lowell Green
  - M) Youth Services - John Franco
  - N) Web site – Vacant
    - 1) It was moved and seconded to accept these assignments by a voice vote. It was accepted with two (2 abstentions.)
- XI) Motion to adjourn meeting was moved and seconded by a voice vote
  - A) Motion passed