



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

SOCRATES A. CABA, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15th, 2013 @ 6:30 PM

Held at: St. James Recreation Center ♦ 2530 Jerome Avenue ♦ Bronx, NY 10468

- I) Public Session started at 6:40 pm with the following speakers:
- A) Jane Addison-Amoyan, Mosholu Branch Library:
 - 1) Presented the Library's FY'2015 Budget Priorities:
 - a) EXPENSE:
 - i) The Library request's that the City restore funding to provide robust six-day services for the Libraries
 - b) CAPITAL:
 - i) Bronx Library Center - Network Data Equipment, Phone System and Audio / Visual Equipment cost \$655,000
 - ii) Mosholu Branch - Partial Renovation cost \$3,635,500
 - 2) Copy of requests given to the Budget / Personal & Ethics Committee
 - B) Tehmina Brohi, NYC Citizens Committee:
 - 1) Can be reached at by email at tbrohi@citizensnyc.org or by phone at 212-822-9563
 - 2) Talked about how this organization offers funding for projects that resident-led groups identify as important to them and their neighborhoods. Informational fliers distributed
 - C) Larry Gordon, Doe Fund:
 - 1) Talked about the 204th & Webster Avenue Project
 - 2) The Doe Fund has found 40 parking spaces in the neighborhood and is willing to put retail sales spaces on street level on the project
 - 3) The Doe Fund will be at the Housing / Land Use Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2013
 - D) Ronn Jordan, Ritchie Torres campaign:
 - 1) Said hello to the Board. Mr. Torres is the democratic candidate for the 15th City Council District
 - E) William Francis, Director of Black Light and Walter Bell, Founder of Black Light:
 - 1) Presented the "Ozzie Brown Award" to the Center Manager of St. James Rec. Center, Ms. Patricia Kendly. The award is given in memory of Ozzie Brown who was a community activist as well as a CB7 member who worked hard to improve the lives of CB7 residents. The Ozzie Brown award was given to Ms. Kindly in honor of her work for the children in the area.
 - F) Barbara Stronczer, 1st Vice Chair and Margaret Mack, Parks & Recreation Committee Chair:
 - 1) Presented Ms. Kendly a letter of commendation from CB7 for her work at St. James Recreation Center
 - G) Jeffery Dinowitz, State Assemblyman:
 - 1) Announced that the New York City Department of Transportation has approved the Norwood Slow Zone for the area around the Williamsbridge Oval Park
- II) Public Session ended at 7:05 pm and meeting began
- III) Due to a family emergency, Chairperson, Adaline Walker-Santiago, was not present. Barbara Stronczer, 1st Vice Chair, chaired the meeting
- A) Attendance taken:
 - 1) 22 Members were present -Walter Bell, Nilsa Cintron, Dalma Cristostom-Ward, Edward DeJesus, Nora Feury, Paul Foster, John Franco, William Francis, Lowell Green, Helen Hartman- Kutnowsky, Jean Hill, Bruce Kaufman, Andrew Laiosa, Samelys Lopez, Eleanor Lundeen, Margaret Mack, Charlesetta Rhett, Khadijaha Saeed, Cynthia O'Neal-Riley, Dilletta Pina, Chris Singh, Barbara Stronczer



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- 2) 6 Excused Absentees - Nelson Cruz, Sandra Erickson, Adaline Walker-Santiago, Gloria Bent, Mohammed S. Ali, Dustin Engelken
 - 3) 5 Unexcused Absentees - Stephanie Arthur, Fidel Gomez, Hector Lopez, Lisa Sills-Shorts, John Snider
 - 4) The Secretary, Lowell Green told the Board Members that attendance was important and a list of absents would go to the Budget/Personnel & Ethics Committee for possible action
- B) The Agenda for the meeting and September's General Meeting Minutes were accepted by voice vote
- IV) 52nd Precinct Report by Lt. Zangrilli and Community Affairs Officer, Krystal Reveron:
- A) Lt. Zangrilli gave out the cell phone for the new 52nd Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector, Nilda Hofmann, [REDACTED]
 - B) The Officer stated that the precinct has been working on the motorcycle/motorbike problem over the summer. Foot patrols deal with motorbikes that are chained to sidewalk and/or using sidewalks for delivery. Motorized units deal with motorcycles concerns
 - C) He reported that there have been police visits to deal with prostitution concerns in St. James Park. In response to a question, the Officer reported no issues with the Roadway Inn on Webster Avenue
 - D) The Officer said he would follow-up with an issue of a van attempting to pick-up girls around St. Brendan's Church
- V) Executive Committee Report by Barbara Stronczer, 1st Vice Chairperson:
- A) Reminded the Executive Committee that the November Executive Board Meeting will be on Monday, November 4, 2013 at 6:30pm instead of Tuesday the 5th because of Election Day
- VI) District Manager's Report by Socrates A. Caba:
- A) Thanked the staff, Maria Baez and Londy Ramirez, for their support during the transition period
 - B) He has been working on the 2015 Borough Consultations
 - C) Attended the Borough President's September 11th Renaissance Event
 - D) Attended St. Barnabas Hospital's Affordable Health Care Forum
 - E) He has read to the children at the Mosholu Public Library a couple times a month
 - F) Announced that the Community Board Office has a student intern, Vladimir Ortiz, from Walton High School who is working two mornings a week
 - G) Reminded those present to call the office for assistance: 718-933-5650
- VII) Motions:
- A) Parks & Recreation Committee:
 - 1) The Parks Committee recommends that the Board approve the contract for the air conditioning and heating system at St. James Park
 - a) The motion was approved by voice vote and the Board will send a letter of support
 - B) Health & Hospital Committee:
 - 1) The Health and Hospital Committee recommended that the Board approve a letter to be sent to Alan D. Aviles, President of Health and Hospitals Corporation, supporting the reopening of the Labor and Delivery Services at North Central Bronx Hospital
 - a) The motion was approved by a voice vote with one abstention by Diletta Pina
- VIII) Committee Reports:
- A) Budget/Personnel & Ethics by Andrew Laiosa:
 - 1) There will be a meeting on Monday October 21, 2013 at 6:30 to discuss Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Priorities (Capital and Expense). All Committee chairs should bring their Budget requests
 - 2) The Chair of Education/Libraries/ Cultural Affairs, Bruce Kaufman, stated that the Capital Budget request item for security cameras at Bronx Library Center and Mosholu Library was no longer needed. He requested a new expense request item of additional funding for after-school programs
 - B) Community Relations/Intergovernmental & Long Term Planning:
 - 1) Not present to make a report



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- C) Economic Development by Eleanor Lundeen:
 - 1) The Committee would like the neighbor to be a better place
 - 2) There is a need to update the economic maps of 2010 and she will be asking for funds to do so.
There is a lack of sit-down restaurants in the area
- D) Education/Libraries & Cultural Affairs by Bruce Kaufman:
 - 1) Meeting will be on Thursday October 17, 2013 at Community Board Office
- E) Environment & Sanitation by Helen Hartman-Kutnowsky:
 - 1) She reported that clothing disposal bins have become a problem. Call 311 if the bins are not being emptied and if trash is collecting around the bin. It was reported that it can take a long while for the bin to be removed
 - 2) The contaminated soil at the old Bronx New School site is being removed
- F) Housing by Jean Hill:
 - 1) The Community Board has a vision for Webster Avenue. Developers want to put in supportive housing and not affordable housing
 - 2) The Committee is meeting with the DOE Fund and STAGG Group on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at the Community Board Office
- G) Land Use by Nilsa Cintron:
 - 1) The Committee is meeting with the Housing Committee on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at the Community Board Office
- H) Public Safety & Quality of Life by John Snider:
 - 1) The 52nd Precinct has met at MS. 80 to talk about the increase of "Bloods" present. Foot Patrols in area have been increased
- I) Senior Services by Nora Feury:
 - 1) The Committee will meet later in the month
- J) Traffic & Transportation by Lowell Green:
 - 1) Asked individuals present to let the Board know if there were any places that DOT could look at to provide additional parking spaces for the area
- K) Youth Services by John Franco:
 - 1) The Committee will be meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2013 at Community Board Office
- IX) Elected Officials' Reports:
 - A) Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office by Gregory W. Faulkner, Chief of Staff:
 - 1) The Black / Latino Collaboration of City Council is having a Job Fair on October 26, 2013 at Murray Bertram High School. Please RSVP by October 20, 2013
 - 2) The Councilman is working on getting cameras as well as a soccer field in St. James Park
 - 3) The Councilman is looking at the ticket inequalities between parking tickets that companies get and pay to what the average motorist has to pay
 - B) New York State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office by Rachel Ferrari, Community Affairs Representative:
 - 1) The Office is available to help with housing issues
 - 2) The Senator is having a High School Student Higher Education Open House on November 7, 2013 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Bronx Community College. Informational flyers were distributed
 - C) Councilman G. Oliver Koppell's Office by George Diaz, Community Liaison:
 - 1) The Office is available to help with housing issues
 - 2) The Office has been dealing with Access-A-Ride issues
 - 3) The Councilman has been working on the closing of Labor and Delivery Services at North Central Bronx Hospital



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X) New Business:

- A) The District Manager will be looking into the availability of free or low cost flu shots for community residents. Perhaps the shots could be given out at the Community Board Office

XI) Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm by a voice vote