



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 28, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

Held at: Scott Towers ♦ 3400 Paul Avenue ♦ Bronx, New York 10468

- I. Meeting opened at 6:35pm
- II. Chairperson's opening remarks:
 - A. Acknowledged Sonia Lappin, Rita, Lina, George and Alex for setting up the arranging the Community room for the meeting
- III. Elected Officials and Representatives in attendance:
 - A. Ronn Jordan and Genesis Aquino, representing Councilman Ritchie Torres
 - B. Bryant Daniels, representing Assemblyman Jeff Dinowitz
 1. Spoke about the Cursive writing Bill, as well as the multiplication tables Bill
 - C. Councilman Andrew Cohen
- IV. Inspector Hofmann, 52nd Precinct:
 - A. Review stats for 2013 and distributed the Comp Stat report
 - B. Recommended the use of the Website for the 52nd Pct. To keep up with news from the Precinct
 - C. Inspector Hofmann invited all to the Precinct Council Meetings to meet the Community Officers team
 - D. Wanted fliers of identified burglars and robbery suspected were distributed
 - E. Warned the audience to lock windows and doors to avoid issues
 - F. Block-watch groups are being formed. Contact (718) 220-5824 for additional information
 - G. The inspector took questions from the audience:
 1. The question of hit-and-run accident was raised. The Police Department is woking with DOT to address these problems
 2. The use of headphones presents a problem among the younger gender
- V. Sonia Lappin, Scott Towers' Board President:
 - A. Expressed concerns about Bronx High School of Science School buses; they run their motors, adding to pollution. Ms. Lappin stated that Bronx has the highest asthma rate and other respiratory diseases.
 - B. Mentioned that students race to their buses, which can present a danger
 - C. Suggested that the area needs speed cameras / red-light cameras, and that fines need to be raised for speeding in a school zone
 - D. Made everyone aware that the area is a high-traffic zone when schools are open. In addition, two buses (Bx10 and Bx28) run along Paul Avenue



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- E. Asked why is the West side of Paul Avenue, from West 205th Street to Lehman College on Bedford Park, is clean and unbroken, while the East side near the transit yard is dirty and broken up
 - F. Inquired about curb cuts (the 4 corners of Paul Avenue and West 205th Street) and stated that they need better and safer curb cuts like Riverdale who have rubber or plastic curb cuts. Ms. Lappin is concerned about the safety of the elderly, handicapped and parents pushing strollers and/or shopping carts
- VI. Reports by Elected Officials and/or Representatives:
- A. Councilman Andrew Cohen:
 - 1. Stated that he is currently working out of Former Councilmember Koppell's Office
 - 2. Introduced Madeline Martinez as an Aide in the Office. Their Office number is (718) 549-7300
 - 3. Mr. Cohen entertained questions from the audience
 - B. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz:
 - 1. Stated that he does not represent Scott Towers but supports the needs of its tenants
 - 2. Spoke about the Universal Pre-K program proposed by the Governor; the lack of space for such programs present a problem
 - 3. Consumer affairs were discussed at length by Assemblyman Dinowitz since he chairs that Committee
 - 4. Mr. Dinowitz expressed his passion for school lessons on cursive writing and knowledge of numbers and the multiplication tables
- VII. Public Session with the following speakers:
- A. Michael Nacmias & Nilsa Miranda, Crunch Fitness at 3170 Webster Avenue (East 206th Street):
 - 1. Looking for a permit to open Gym for 500-600 people
 - 2. The Gym is expected to open in about 2 or 3 months. The opening rate is \$10.00/mo.
 - 3. Questions were taken from the audience:
 - a. The question of noise and vibrations was raised
 - b. Concerns about the parking situation were discussed (over 30 parking spaces)
 - c. Safety and Larceny concerns were brought up by Inspector Hofmann
 - B. Nathalia Fernandez, Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj's Representative:
 - 1. The Assemblyman is planning a job fair
 - 2. Albany celebration was talked about



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- C. Eduardo Resendiz, Victor Pichardo's Representative:
 - 1. Their office address is 2175 Jerome Avenue, and phone number is (718) 933-6909
 - D. David Cruz, Norwood News Editor:
 - 1. Gave his background and experience
 - 2. Will continue the spirit of the newspaper
 - 3. Provided the audience with his cell phone number (914) 698-6216
 - 4. Mr. Cruz spoke about a youth program sponsored by the Norwood News and is currently looking for high school students between the ages of 14-18 who are interested in journalism. Classes start on February 6th
 - E. Sarah Bishow-Semevolos, Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center:
 - 1. Talked about the activities and free after-school and youth programs at the Oval
 - 2. Mentioned the computer lab, as well as Senior activities. Senior Membership price is \$25.00/yr.
 - 3. There will be an open house on February 22nd
 - F. Jane Addison-Amoyaw, Mosholu Branch Library:
 - 1. Thanked the Community Board for the support over the years
 - 2. Fliers of different activities were distributed
 - 3. There will be a music concert on Saturday, February 15
 - 4. The Library is currently offering FREE English Classes beginning January 29th; Intermediate English Classes will begin on Tuesday, February 11
- VIII. Borough President's Report by Tom Lucania:
- A. Reminded everyone that the Borough President's Office is currently accepting applications to join the Community Board
 - B. Mr. Lucania announced that the Borough President was joined by Elected Officials, as well as business and community leaders for the inauguration ceremony and the official kick off to Bronx County's year-round centennial celebration
 - C. The Borough President congratulated City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito on her election to the position of Speaker
 - D. Borough President Diaz is thrilled that Governor Cuomo committed his office to bringing four new Metro North stations to the Bronx in his "State of the State" Address
 - E. NYCEDC announced Hunts Point Terminal Produce Market commits to stay in the Bronx until at least 2021
 - F. Martin Luther King Tribute was held on Monday January 20, 2014 at the Trinity Baptist Church, located at 808 East 224th Street at 10:00AM



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- G. The Borough President is having his State of the Borough Address on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 11:30am at Hostos Community College, located at 450 Grand Concourse, Bronx.
- H. Ruben Diaz, Jr. is hosting "Dominican Heritage Month" Celebration at the Grand Slam Banquet Hall, located at 478 East Tremont Avenue, on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at 12:00-3:00pm
- IX. Public Session ended, and attendance was taken:
 - A. 14 members were present; 17 are needed for quorum.
 - B. No quorum was present to conduct meeting
- X. Announcement:
 - A. Traffic & Transportation Meeting to be held on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 6:30pm at the Community Board Office; all are invited
- XI. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm