



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at: Bedford Park Senior Center ♦ 243 East 204th Street ♦ Bronx, NY 10458

- I. Public Session began at 6:30 pm with the following speakers:
- A. Robert M. White from the firm of AKRF for Coles/Library Lane Street Reconstruction Project (handout available):
 - 1. This is a ULURP application No. 149282 MMX presentation. Coles Lane is not a city mapped street and does not meet ADA standards.
 - 2. The approval of this project would meet ADA standards and Coles Lane would become a mapped city street
 - 3. A need for a crosswalk from the Bronx's Library Center to Coles/Library Lane was expressed by the body
 - 4. The application will be voted on under New Business
 - B. State Assemblyman Victor Pichardo:
 - 1. He will be giving out free turkeys on Monday November 24, 2014 at 2430 Walton Avenue from 6:00-7:00 pm
 - 2. He and State Senator Gustavo Rivera will be hosting an AARP financial program at the Davidson Community Center on December 2, 2014 from 6:00-8:00pm
 - 3. His office is located at 2175 Jerome Avenue
 - C. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz :
 - 1. Spoke about Rent Protection Laws that will be ending on June 15, 2015. These laws are controlled by NY State and not the City Council. He is working with his colleagues to keep as well as expand the Rent Laws
 - 2. He handed out a Heat Requirement Information Pamphlet which lists the required temperatures for when heat is needed in an apartment as well as explaining how to keep track of apartment's temperature in order to complain about lack of heat
 - D. City Councilman Fernando Cabrera:
 - 1. Spoke about PS. 51 and its contaminated issues. He has sponsored a new law that will pass soon that requires the Board of Education to notify parents/students within 10 days of the disclosure of contaminates
 - 2. His office has a staff member who can assist individuals with getting jobs
 - E. Inspector Hoffman from 52nd Precinct:
 - 1. Murders are down; 11 last year and only 6 this year. Shootings are down-29 last year and only 22 this year
 - 2. The Xtreme night club has been totally shut down
 - 3. Commercial businesses in the Bedford Park area are being burglarized. Police are talking with merchants about getting alarm systems
 - 4. Arrests have been made in regards to crimes on 198th Street



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

5. At 2316 Loring Place, police working with building management have made arrests at an apartment where squatters were renting out "party rooms"
6. At 204th Street and Valentine Avenue a light tower has been put in place as well as more walking patrols as a result of the October "shots fired incident" in the area
7. There are new rules in effect:
 - a. 25 grams of marijuana or less is now a summons instead of an arrest
 - b. 25 miles per hour is the official speed limit in NYC unless otherwise posted
8. Police Precinct Community Council meeting is at Scott towers on November 20, 2014 at 7:00 pm
9. The Inspector was asked to provide the number of tickets given out under Vision Zero i.e. speeders, jaywalkers, etc
- F. Lowell Green, CB7 Member:
 1. Spoke about the Corbin Hill Food Projects-Winter Share. This is a food program that provides healthy fresh vegetables at a reasonable price (SNAP, cash, check, credit/debit). www.corbinhillFood.org
- G. Sebastian Valcarail from Friends of Van Courtlandt Park :
 1. Asked all present to fill out a short survey on the Harlem River. Harlem River BOA Survey at <http://goo.gl/Forms/PUYsYDgOLi>
 2. There are 8 miles of undeveloped land on the Bronx's side
- H. Millie Nunez-Pacelo and Adrian Romero from Today's Family; News.com. This is a new free newspaper for families available now. (Copies distributed)
- I. Titus Rich from IMCR Dispute Resolution Center:
 1. Free conflict resolution provided. Located at 384 East 149th Street near Lincoln Hospital. He can be reached at 718-585-1190
- J. Evan Meyers from School in the Square:
 1. A new charter middle school; looking for space. Referred to Education Committee (handout available)
- K. City Councilman Andrew Cohen:
 1. Food Drive for Veterans going on for Thanksgiving. Sponsored the Holiday Lighting on 204th Street
- L. Jane Addison-Amoyaw from Mosholu Branch Library:
 1. Parent Information Session for a Literacy Leaders Tutor Program for 1st and 2nd graders will be on November 21, 2014 at 3:00 pm. There is a NYC Neighborhood Award's program where a public library could win \$20,000 dollars
 2. Asked the body to nominate the Mosholu Public Library. (forms available)
- M. Representatives from the NY State Nurses Association:
 1. Talked about conditions at Monteforie Hospital and the need to work together to improve conditions
- N. Ray Combest, Deputy Center Manager of the Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center:
 1. The Center had a wonderful Halloween event. The new Center has been open for a year now. The center is open 7 days a week



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

- O. Cristina Contreras, Associate Executive Director of Operation for North Bronx Healthcare Network at North Central Bronx Hospital:
 - 1. Thanked the community for their help in getting the OBG/GYN unit reopened
 - 2. The hospital's physicians are in the need of additional parking. Referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee
- P. Enquire Colon from CSA New Settlement:
 - 1. CSA New Settlement works on housing concerns
 - 2. Would like to see legal representation required for housing court issues
- II. Public Session ended at 7:49pm and meeting began
 - A. Barbara Stronczer, 1st Vice-Chair, opened and chaired the meeting for excused Chair Adaline Walker-Stantiago
 - B. Attendance taken, quorum present:
 - 1. Members in attendance include: Lynette Arroyo, Alora Bailey, Gloria Bent, Nilsa Cintron, Shanequa Charles, Gregory Clark, Sr. Nelson Cruz, Sandra Erickson, Nora Feury, Paul Foster, William Francis, Carlos Gonzalez, Lowell Green, Helen Hartman-Kutnowsky, Jean Hill, Bruce Kaufman, Andrew Laiosa, Samelys Lopez, Eleanor Lundeen, Kevin Miner, Amjad Mujaahid, Ellen R Ray, Charlesetta Rhett, Marcos Sierra, Barbara Stronczer
 - 2. Excused Members include: Mohammed S. Ali, Edward Dejesus, Fidel Gomez, Jermaine Johnson, Cynthia O'Neal Riley, Dilletta Pina, Kevin Pellot, Khadijaha Saeed, Ruben Torres, Adaline Walker-Santiago
 - 3. Absent (Unexcused) Members include: Alfred Grant, Luis Miguel Guzman, Velvet Ross, Lisa Sills-Short, John Snider
 - C. Secretary reminded members that attendance at the General Board Meetings as well as Committee Meetings is very important. Please call office if once cannot make meetings
 - D. Approval of Minutes/ Agenda:
 - 1. Correction - Paul Foster stated that in the October Minutes under Parks' Committee Report the letter to the Park's Department about children play space was a motion approved by the body. (The District Manager will correct file copy)
- III. Motions:
 - A. Paul Foster raised the issue that the motions presented in the November's packet were not posted for two weeks on the CB7 Web Site. The body voted to waive the requirement and hear the motions
 - B. **MOTION** that The Parks' Committee recommends that a letter be sent to Commissioner Aponte requesting that the Parks' Department take over management of Oliver Place between Decatur and Marion
 - 1. Motion passed
 - C. **MOTION** for CB7 to order up to 1,000 "Pick-Up after Your Dog" metal signs
 - 1. Motion passed
 - D. **MOTION** to order up to 500 key-chain doggie bag dispensers
 - 1. Motion passed



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

- IV. Executive Committee Report by Barbara Stronczer:
- A. Tree Lighting on December 11, 2014 6:30 pm at Mosholu Parkway and Bainbridge
 - B. December General Board Meeting will be Monday, December 15, 2015 at Mosholu Monterfiore Community Center, located at 3450 Dekalb Avenue
- V. District Managers Report by Dustin Engelken:
- A. CB7 has a web site as well as a facebook page
 - B. The Fiscal Year 2016 Expense Budget Priorities and Requests as well as Fiscal Year 2016 Capital Budget Priorities and Requests were sent to the Office of Management and Budget
 - C. Community concerns:
 1. STAGG: the lottery for market rate apartments has closed
 2. Farmer's market on Jerome and Moholou Parkway North has trash issues. Parks' Department supervisors and the Jerome Avenue BID are working on it
 3. Poor conditions at the Grand Concourse and Kingsbridge Road Underpass are being worked on. Individuals were asked to call with concerns
- VI. Committee Reports:
- A. Paul Foster raised the concern that some committees did have their current minutes posted on the CB7 Web Site
 - B. Budget/Personnel/Ethics by Andrew Laiosa:
 1. Letters about poor attendance will go out to members
 - C. Community Relations & Long Term Planning:
 1. Committee has been talking about the Harlem River
 - D. Economic Development by Eleanor Lundeen:
 1. Committee discussing the need of mixed income housing
 2. City Planning coming to the December meeting
 - E. Environment & Sanitation by Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky:
 1. Reported on poor conditions at the Bedford Park Boulevard Underpass
 2. Long term project; there is the need for an Animal Shelter
 - F. Health & Hospitals:
 1. No report was provided at this time
 - G. Housing / Land Use & Zoning by Jean Hill:
 1. BRC (Bowery Residents Committee) will be coming to the November meeting to talk about building on an as-of right-site near the Fordham Landing area
 2. A letter was sent to HPD expressing the need for mixed housing not just supportive housing in the CB7 community
 - H. Parks & Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:
 1. Parks Department will be coming to November meeting to present plans for Whalen Park and St. James Park
 - I. Public Safety & Quality of Life:
 1. No report was provided at this time
 - J. Senior Services by Nora Feury:
 1. Board member Bill Francis will do a presentation on Elder Abuse at November meeting



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

K. Traffic & Transportation by Lowell Green:

1. Asked the body to check their neighborhood to see if any street signs need to be changed to allow for street parking
2. DOT does not use "bird spikes" to prevent birds from nesting
3. Reminded the body that request for streetlights, cross walks, stop signs etc. requires a petition from residents and merchants
4. It was reported that DOT had dealt with a trash condition at the Kingsbridge Road Underpass
5. There will be NO December Meeting; Committee to attend Tree Lighting

VII. New Business:

A. **MOTION** (Presented and Seconded):

1. Community Board 7 approved the ULURP application no: 140282 for the Coles Lane / Library Lane project
 - a. MOTION passed

B. State Senator Jeff Klein'S Office by Jennifer Rosado:

1. Job Fair for Veterans on November 19, 2014 from 4:00-7:00 pm at Hutchinson Metro Center

C. Borough President's Office by Andy Toledo:

1. Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving

D. State Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj's Office by Nathalia Fernnandez:

1. The Assemblyman has a mobile office located at 204th Street and Bainbridge every Wednesday from 12:00-4:00 pm

E. City Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office by Gregory Faulkner:

1. He praised Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky for her work on the PS. 51 contamination issues and her assistance on the Councilman's notification law

VIII. Meeting adjourned by voice vote at 8:45p