

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING**

**JANUARY 18, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.**

Villa Barone Manor

737 Throggs Neck Expressway

Bronx, NY 10465

**AGENDA - tentative**

1. Call to Order Peter Sullivan, Chairman

2. Public Participation 15 Minutes

**Public speakers are allowed to sign up for the public session until the meeting is called to order.**

**Public speakers are allowed to speak 3 minutes unless otherwise instructed by the Chairperson.**

3. Acceptance of Minutes of Community Board #10 Meeting of November 16, 2017

4. Borough President’s Report Bharati Kemraj

**During the segments below, ONLY board members can**

**ask questions or address the board or its speakers.**

5. District Manager’s Report Matthew Cruz

6. Committee Reports

**All Committee Reports are to be NO LONGER than ten minutes,**

**unless the full Board approves an extension in time.**

 a. Executive Board Peter Sullivan

 b. Planning and Budget Julian Misiurski

c. Housing and Zoning Lou Popovic

 - Ad Hoc Over-Development Irene Guanill-Elukowich

d. Economic Development Thomas Accomando

 e. Youth & Education Services Robert Bieder

f. Municipal Services Joseph Russo

 - Ad Hoc Co-op City Nancy Rosario

g. Parks and Recreation Kevin Lynch

 h. Health and Human Services Nancy Rosario

 i. Veterans Service Anthony Salimbene

7. Old Business

8. New Business



**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING**

**JANUARY 18, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.**

Villa Barone Manor

737 Throggs Neck Expressway

Bronx, NY 10465

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. “**Resolved**…to accept the minutes of the Bronx Community Board #10 meeting of **November 16, 2017.**

2. **Renewal Liquor Licenses:**

“**Resolved**…at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments applying for a renewal license have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority, along with the Resolution and the vote, and copies placed in the Board’s file:

\*Seafood City, 459 City Island Ave, 10464, between Bowne & Ditmar Sts, License #1004051, which expires on 01/31/18. (Restaurant)

\*Seafood City, 459 City Island Ave, 10464, between Bowne & Ditmar Sts, License #1154815, which expires on 01/31/18. (Tiki Bar)

\*Louis Seafood, 3478 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Bruckner Service Rd & Barkley Ave, License #1004080, which expires on 12/31/17.

\*Xin Hi Chinese Buffet, 2051-2053 Bartow Ave, 10475, between Asch Loop & Co-op City Blvd, License #1290916, which expires on 01/21/18.

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Resolutions - continued

\*Estrellita Poblana I, 2227-2231 Westchester Ave, 10462, between Castle Hill & Glebe Aves, License #1259128, which expires on 12/31/2017.

\*Vapor Lounge, 3758 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Randall & Roosevelt Aves, License #1270813, which expires on 01/31/18.

\*JP’s Inn, 703 Minnieford Ave, 10464, between Terrace & Bridge Sts, License #1004046, which expires on 01/31/18.

\*Buhre Mini Mart & Deli, 3056 Buhre Ave, between Jarvis & Hobart Aves, License #1212225, which expires on 01/31/18.

\*Johnny’s Reef Restaurant, 2 City Island Ave, 10464, between Belden Street & the Sound, License #1004047, which expires on 2/28/18.

\*Sammy’s Fishbox, 41 City Island Ave, 10464, between Horton & Rochelle Sts, License #1004282, which expires on 2/28/18.

\*Seashore Restaurant. 581-593 City Island Ave, 10464, between Cross St & City Island Rd, License #1004284, which expires on 02/28/18.

3. **Change in Method of Operation**

“**Resolved**…at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishment, who is applying for a change in method of operation by adding juke box, disk jockey, karaoke and live music, has agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority, along with the Resolution and the vote, and copies placed in the Board’s file:”

\*Sangria Café, 2085 Bartow Ave, 10475, between Co-op City Blvd & Asch Loop, License #1299476, which expires on 08/31/19. **(Adding Juke Box, Disc Jockey, Karaoke, Live Music)**

4. **Request for Letter**

“**Resolved**… at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that a letter be written and sent to Tosca Café regarding discrepancies on the types of liquor licenses the establishment possesses and this issue be resolved within 10 business days upon receipt of this letter and that this request be forwarded to the full Board for approval.”

5. **Multi-Day Street Activity Permits**

“**Resolved**…at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the following multiday events be forwarded to the full Board for approval:

**ID 388599**, City Island Spring Arts Crafts Fair, Sidewalk Sale, 6/2/18 8:00 a.m. setup, 6/3/18 8:00 p.m. breakdown, actual event hours on 6/2/18 and 6/3/18 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., sponsor – City Island Chamber of Commerce, Paul Klein

**ID 388616**, City Island Spring Arts Crafts Fair, Sidewalk Sale, 9/8/18 setup, 8:00 a.m. 9/9/18 breakdown 8:00 p.m., actual event hours on 9/8/18 and 9/9/18 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., sponsor – City Island Chamber of Commerce, Paul Klein

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Resolutions - continued

**ID 388745**, Annual Feast of St. Theresa, Street Festival, 6/19/18 6:00 p.m. setup, 6/25/18 8:00 a.m. breakdown, actual event hours 6/20/18-6/24/18 4:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., sponsor Church of St. Theresa, Antonia Cipollone”

6. “**Resolved**…at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee that the request for

a name change of the Black Car Base License, located at 3432 East Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465 be changed to Hermany Limo Transportation, LLC and that this request be forwarded to the full Board for approval.”



**Executive Board**

**January 16, 2018**

Present: P. Sullivan, J. Marano, I. Guanill-Elukowich, M. Velazquez, L. Popovic, T. Accomando, J. Misiurski, N. Rosario, R. Bieder, K. Lynch, J. Russo, J. Boiko, M. Prince, A. Ponder

Guest: J. Misiurski III

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Sullivan disseminated copies of the proposed grievance policy to be discussed at subsequent Executive Board meetings.

Discussion ensued with regard to Agenda Item #2: nomination and election guidelines. The Executive Board Members came to a consensus on the following guidelines with regard to nominations:

1)  Board Members that serve on multiple committees must attend at least half of all committee meetings.

2) Members that serve only on the Veteran Services Committee must choose a second standing committee to serve on and attend at least half of its meetings as well.

Chairperson Sullivan led a discussion on which committee handles personnel matters and merit increases for staff members. It is within the purview of the Executive Board. Merit increases for staff members will be placed under the official review of the Executive Board before reaching the Full Board.

Chairperson Sullivan led a discussion on the role of the Treasurer's responsibility. In addition to what is stated in the By-Laws, the Treasurer will now meet with the District Manager quarterly to discuss the internal budget and/or staff compensation.

There was a motion to table non-contractual staff increases to May 2018 by 2nd Vice Chair Guanill-Elukowich and seconded by 1st Vice Chair Marano. The motion passed with one abstention: Planning & Budget Chair Misiurski.

By-Law changes were discussed and the final language agreed upon by Executive Board Members is as follows:

Article VII - Section V

Personnel matters are the full responsibility of the Executive Board. Any grievance matters by the staff and/or Board Members will be solely heard by the Executive Board.

At the recommendation of the District Manager and Chairperson, any hiring or removal of a staff member must be brought before the Executive Board.

Non-contractual salary increases will be approved by the Executive Board only when recommended by the District Manager and/or Chairperson. The Executive Board will submit to the Full Board recommendations when the Planning & Budget Committee allocates such monies. Upon reaching the Full Board, only an up or down vote is to occur as any discussion requires Executive Session.

Article VI - Section X

The Treasurer is to meet quarterly with the Executive Board to discuss the internal budget and/or annual leave or compensatory hours for full time staff members.

A motion was proposed by Veteran Services Chairperson Salimbene to go into Executive Session and seconded by 1st Vice Chair Marano and unanimously approved by all at 8:36PM. A motion to suspend Executive Session was proposed by Youth Services Chair Bieder and seconded by Veteran Services Chairperson Salimbene and unanimously approved by all at 9:01PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by 1st Vice Chair Marano and seconded by 2nd Vice Chair

Guanill-Elukowich. The meeting ended at 9:05PM.



**Planning and Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 8, 2018 7:30 PM**

Present: J. Misiurski, T. Accomando, R. Bieder, I. Guanill-Elukowich, M. Velazquez, M. Prince

The committee’s agenda was set as TBD. Therefore a discussion to place under new business, two possible budgets for the Board office. There was a review of a potential budget for the year 2019.

The committee led a discussion on several items: confirmation of a final budget for years 2018 and 2019, when will raises take effect for staff members, staff’s salary increase and the effect on job titles, and documentation to confirm all equipment purchases.

There was a discussion on which committee should deal with personnel matters.

There was a Motion to adjourn; it was seconded and unanimously approved by all.



**Housing & Zoning Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2017 7:30PM**

Present: L. Popovic, R. Bieder, A. Chirico, I. Guanill-Elukowich, B. McCarrick, C. Papastefanou

Absent: P. Cantillo, C. Lotta, J. Marano, M.J. Musano, R. Rodriguez, P. Sullivan

Guests: G. Cerini, E. Sementilli

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The committee led a discussion on the property located on 1730 Edison Avenue. There were permits filed for a potential 5-story building.

The committee could not discuss the following agenda item because the community member was unable to attend: Discussion with Mr. Bellini on zoning. There was a discussion on St. Paul Avenue which will reconvene at a later date.

There as a discussion on the next agenda item: Ad-Hoc Over-Development Report on meeting with Senator Klein on 10/24/17. The committee discussed the issue of over-development and parking within the community.

The committee would like to discuss the project at 3250 Westchester Avenue with its ownership at a later interval.

Old Business: none.

New Business: a brief discussion was held on the property located at 2800 Bruckner Boulevard. A discussion will follow when more information is available.

There was a Motion to adjourn; it was seconded and unanimously approved by all.



**Ad-Hoc Over-Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 7:00PM**

Present: I. Guanill-Elukowich, R. Bieder, G. Cerini, A. Chirico, B. McCarrick, C. Papastefanou

Absent: T. Franklin, P. Justiniano, J. Marano, M. Torrioni

Guests: E. Sementilli

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The committee began with the agenda item: Old Business. There was a discussion on the meeting with Senator Klein on 3250 Westchester Avenue and the issue of parking.

The committee moved onto the agenda item: Continued discussion on over-development issues. 3030 Middletown Road – the property has acquired a tenant for office space, however, the owner is charging for the parking spaces available. There was a discussion on parking, and the limited spaces available to community members.

There was a discussion on various properties within the confines of Board 10 that could potentially be used for a parking lot.

**Ad-Hoc Over-Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 9, 2018 6:45PM**

Present: I. Guanill-Elukowich, A. Chirico, M. Torrioni, M. Velazquez
Absent: G. Cerini, P. Justiniani, J. Marano

Guests: A. Boller

The committee led a discussion on the first agenda item: Continued discussions on over-development. The proposed buildings at both 1730 Edison Avenue and 3250 Westchester Avenue remain in disapproved status with no determination from NYC Department of Buildings on zoning.

The committee went onto the next agenda item: Old Business. The committee is requesting that the Department of City Planning attend the committee’s February 2018 meeting. The committee is also requesting a survey for a parking lot to be constructed in Pelham Bay. Properties on Burr Avenue and Continental Avenue recently sold to developers. 2937-2939 Wilkinson Avenue.

The committee discussed the next agenda item: New Business. Bronx Department of Transportation will evaluate parking lot on Crosby Avenue.

Street – Nivardo Lopez – DOT Commissioner.

BOEDC – Afredo Angueira. Edwardo Aveland.

Park and ride survey in Pelham Bay.

The meeting was adjourned.



**Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 2, 2018 7:30PM**

Present: T. Accomando, R. Bieder, T. Chambers, A. Chirico, I. Guanill-Elukowich, L. Popovic, J. Robert

Absent: A. Acampora, M. Johnson, B. Martinez, J. Onwu, R. Rodriguez

Staff: P. Caruso

Guests: Liquor License Applicants, L. Rocco

The committee opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The chairman of the committee led a discussion on the first agenda item: Review of Liquor Licenses.

**For Renewals:**

“Resolved…at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments applying for a renewal license have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority, along with the Resolution and the vote, and copies placed in the Board’s file:”

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\*Xin Hi Chinese Buffet, 2051-2053 Bartow Ave, 10475, between Asch Loop & Co-op City Blvd, License #1290916, which expires on 01/21/18.

\*Estrellita Poblana I, 2227-2231 Westchester Ave, 10462, between Castle Hill & Glebe Aves, License #1259128, which expires on 12/31/2017.

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Economic Development

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\*Seashore Restaurant. 581-593 City Island Ave, 10464, between Cross St & City Island Rd, License #1004284, which expires on 02/28/18.

**The Resolution was voted on favorably in Committee by 7 members in attendance.**

**Change in Method of Operation**

“Resolved…at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishment, who is applying for a change in method of operation by adding juke box, disk jockey, karaoke and live music, has agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority, along with the Resolution and the vote, and copies placed in the Board’s file:”

\*Sangria Café, 2085 Bartow Ave, 10475, between Co-op City Blvd & Asch Loop, License #1299476, which expires on 08/31/19. **(Adding Juke Box, Disc Jockey, Karaoke, Live Music)**

 **The Resolution was voted on favorably in Committee by 7 members in attendance.**

The committee moved onto the next agenda item: Discussion on Tosca Café and Tosca Marquee Liquor Licenses. There are discrepancies on the types of liquor licenses the establishments should possess. The committee discussed sending a letter to Tosca Café to rectify the liquor license discrepancies; failure to resolve the issues within 10 business days will lead the letter to being sent to the State Liquor Authority.

“Resolved… at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that a letter be written and sent to Tosca Café regarding discrepancies on the types of liquor licenses the establishment possesses and this issue be resolved within 10 business days upon receipt of this letter and that this request be forwarded to the full Board for approval.”

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Economic Development

**The Resolution was voted on favorably in Committee by 7 members in attendance.**

Mr. Bieder led a discussion on an internship program called “Scholars at Work.” He provided information to the present local businesses to host an intern with a February 2018 start date. The Department of Education screens the applicants and provides trainings on various topics such as work ethic and dress code.

Old business: none.

New business: none.

There was a Motion to adjourn; it was seconded and unanimously approved by all.



**Youth Services & Education Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 20, 2017 7:30PM**

Present: R. Bieder, G. Curbelo, M. Davila, I. Guanill-Elukowich, D. Krynicki, J. Onwu, A. Ponder

Absent: L. Council, N. Sala, R. Sawyer, S. Woods

Guests: R. Stemberga, A. Foreman, R. Pinto, A. Lynch Jr.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The committee led a discussion on the first agenda item: Continuation of discussion on internship program. The committee is looking to partner merchants within the community board area with students from the community through the “Scholars at Work” program.

The committee then moved onto the agenda item: Discussion on NY Yankees Community Council Youth Leadership Award. The Community Board needs to provide the program with the five students they will nominate for the scholarship. The following high school campuses will be asked to present candidate(s) to the Community Board for consideration: Herbert H. Lehman High School, Preston High School, Harry S. Truman High School, Monsignor Scanlon High School, and the Explorers at the 45th Precinct.

The following agenda item was conversed: Discussion with Educators for Excellence. The organization presented information in regards to Safe and Supportive Schools. The organization provided informational documents for the committee members to support the expansion of this program.



**Municipal Services Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 10, 2018 7:30PM**

Present: J. Russo, T. Accomando, R. Bieder, A. Chirico, M. Morris, D. Noble

Absent: H. Acampora, R. Baez, J. Boiko, I. Guanill-Elukowich, C. Papastefanou

Guests: L. Giacco, P. Grismaldi, L. Aurricito, K. DeLoia, F. Torres-Morris, J. Vargas

The committee meeting commenced at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum of 6 of 11 members was present.

The committee reviewed Street Activity Permit applications for the Spring and Fall City Island Arts & Crafts Fair and for the St. Theresa Feast. All three were approved by the committee unanimously.

“**Resolved**…at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the following multiday events be forwarded to the full Board for approval:

**ID 388599**, City Island Spring Arts Crafts Fair, Sidewalk Sale, 6/2/18 8:00 a.m. setup, 6/3/18 8:00 p.m. breakdown, actual event hours on 6/2/18 and 6/3/18 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., sponsor – City Island Chamber of Commerce, Paul Klein

**ID 388616**, City Island Spring Arts Crafts Fair, Sidewalk Sale, 9/8/18 setup, 8:00 a.m. 9/9/18 breakdown 8:00 p.m., actual event hours on 9/8/18 and 9/9/18 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., sponsor – City Island Chamber of Commerce, Paul Klein

**ID 388745**, Annual Feast of St. Theresa, Street Festival, 6/19/18 6:00 p.m. setup, 6/25/18 8:00 a.m. breakdown, actual event hours 6/20/18-6/24/18 4:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., sponsor Church of St. Theresa, Antonia Cipollone”

Following that we had a discussion around issues related to I-695 specifically:

1. The Randall Avenue exit is not in compliance with the federal statutes of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices in terms of signage and ramp length based on speed. We ask that the Board make a request to the State DOT to look into the situation and offer solutions to make the exit compliant.

The Harding Avenue entrance to the Thoggs Neck Bridge – which had been closed on weekends and during rush hours to avoid traffic buildup at Locust Point and Pennyfield

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Municipal Services

Avenue – is now open at all hours. With the implementation of “cashless tolling” the MTA deemed it unnecessary to close the entrance. Based on traffic issues in the area on Thanksgiving and Christmas, the

entrance should be closed in a manner consistent with what was in effect earlier. We ask that the Board send a request to the MTA-TBTA to re-establish closures of the Harding Avenue entrance ramp as had previously been in effect.

Finally, we reviewed a name change for a car dispatch firm at 3432 East Tremont Avenue. After discussing with the operator and understanding their business model and reasons for the name, we concluded that the name change would not have an adverse effect on the community. We passed a resolution, unamimously, asking for a letter of support to change the current licensee to Hermany Limo Transportation, LLC. (the new name).

“**Resolved**…at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee that the request for a name change of the Black Car Base License, located at 3432 East Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465 be changed to Hermany Limo Transportation, LLC and that this request be forwarded to the full Board for approval.”



**PARKS and RECREATION**

**January 11, 2017 7:30 p.m.**

Members: K. Lynch, T. Franklin, G. Curbelo, R. Bieder, M. Caruso, D. Krynicki

Guest: T. Kurtz, K. Zagorsky. P. Ferguson, M. Anerson, I. Otto, L. Giacco, S. Giacco, B. Dolensek

City Island dog run will not be going on Catherine Scott promenade. Two proposed sites are Rodman’s Neck and the left side just over the Bridge on to City Island. Before any decision is reached, a public meeting on City Island will be scheduled so the residents can speak on the subject.

Upcoming event at Orchard Beach – Polar Bears, Saturday, February 17, 2018.



**Health & Human Services Committee Meeting**

**November 28, 2017 7:30PM**

Present: D. Hunt, R. Bieder, J. Boiko, L. Council

Guests: J. Schulenburg, L. Hurwitz, C. Gershenson – Diabetic Relief Center, Bronx;

 L. Montalvo, RAIN

We had a good meeting. The attendance is in the file. Naita called in but Alvin P. did not attend.  I do not have time to prepare formal minutes but here is what we discussed:

Mr. John Schulenburg, Mr. Lon Hurwitz, and their Diabetic Educator Carolyn Gershenson from the newly opened Diabetic Relief Center in the Bronx, gave an informative presentation of the Diabetes Relief Center of America where they have a new approach (adjunct) to Diabetic Treatment. We invited them to share a 3-minute overview at our full board meeting.

Mr. Luis Montalvo of RAIN shared information about the support they provide to caregivers of Alzheimer patients. We invited Mr. Montalvo to come to the full board meeting, too! He left some handouts on Alzheimer's.

Old Business

J. Boiko requested Follow-up on the formal letter that was drafted to be sent to Montefiore about the need for additional beds to decrease wait times and hallway beds with support from local electeds.

New Business

R. Bieder requests a request be sent to Montefiore regarding parking spots at 2300 Westchester Avenue for the teachers at the local school. He shared they have a nice size lot and would like to request for 20-30 spots for the teachers.

Healthy Lifestyle Winter Walk at the Mall at Bay Plaza~~we would like to host a healthy lifestyle walk in January in the Mall at Bay Plaza. Bronxnet would like to cover this event. We would like to ask you, Matt, to contact Sam from Pergament Properties to facilitate this.  A Saturday morning perhaps at 9:30 before the Mall officially opens. Other malls have similar walks.



**Veterans' Services Committee Meeting Minutes**

**December 1, 2017**

Attendees: T. Salimbene, J. Misiurski, Col. W. Chin, I. Guanill-Elukowich

Absent: R. Barbarelli

Guests: N. Fernandez, NYS Governor’s Office, T. LaCrown, B. Gordon, P. Del-Debbio,

 J. Firriolo, J. Castro, J. Mallach, T. Mele, J. Perez, J. Bello, J. Mondello,

 E. Sementilli

Meeting opened by the chair with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm. Special guest recognized - Nathalia Fernandez from the Governor's Office.

Mr. H.P. Schroder, veterans' MTA discount - absent. Tony will speak on his behalf.

No Old Business

New Business:

First guest, Ms. Jordana Mallach, NYS Division of Veterans Affairs. She spoke about various state entitlements and how to obtain them, thereby assisting an observer in the audience. Jordana also cleared up rumors and misconceptions about various entitlements and easier ways to obtain needed documents, taking many questions. (She mentioned she is also Commander of the Lake Placid, NY American Legion Post which got a nice round of applause!)

John Perez spoke about his outreach to veterans contemplating suicide, being a recently returned 1st Sargent. He provided an update on an anti-bullying pilot program with the NY Army Guard Recruiting Command and the NYC School System, with a current push due to the recent Bronx bullying - alleged murder incident. He believes the young people may not care for police or teachers but seem to look up to our military. Money has been allocated but mostly for some web site. He will keep track of its value and progress with army vets as mentors.

Anthony (Tony) Mele' of AMI Global Security, LLC (and US Army veteran) spoke of the 65th Infantry Boriqueneers 17th annual awards dinner at Marina Del Ray. They are a

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Veterans Services

presidentially recognized, highly decorated US Army unit from Puerto Rico. They met at

the marina since the parade committee selected, in their opinion, a known terrorist and they declined to participate this year. He mentioned the awards they present and any person from any branch of service (or community worker) can be nominated. He began a long discussion on veterans owned businesses and how the many programs in place do not actually work and why.

Joe Mondello, BX Borough President's Veterans Advisory Board (and NYS Legionnaire of the Year) thanked CB #10 for the inclusion of this committee. He, as a small business owner, continued the discussion on the inequities veteran business owners face compared to other preference groups.

Joe Bello of NY Metro Vets and years with several advisory boards also mentioned how nothing seems to get accomplished, there's talk and promises from the elected officials and their newly created service offices, but there's always another rule or obstacle.

Javier Castro, NYC Veterans Day Parade Committee,advisory board member and former NYS Militia member reported the city has gone from 3 to 9 veterans' services committees and that BX CB #10 was his original model. His main project was a success - getting legal designation of veterans as a protected group against discrimination in NYC! The exact wording is available. The chair thanked him for this milestone in city legislation.

Tony spoke of H.P.'s project to have qualified veterans eligible for MTA Reduced Fare Cards. There will be a MTA Executive Board meeting next week where H.P. and CUNY Student Veterans will be on the agenda to present their need for a little assistance as they transition back to school and/or work. Joe Bello opined, cynically, that getting on the agenda was great but this has been tried before and with the state of NYC Transit, a fare discount is highly unlikely to pass. Tony will collect petition signatures anyway and forward them to the MTA.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with a moment of silence for veterans suffering physical and mental disabilities and those currently deployed.

The next meeting will be the last Friday in February, currently the same time and location. Tony wished all a happy and safe holiday season on behalf of CB #10.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Salimbene