RIVERDAL CORNER CAFÉ
3718 Riverdale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463

Committee Members	PRESENT/ABSENT
Sergio Villaverde, Chair	P
Julie Reyes	P
David Kornbluh	P
Shalva Gozland	P
Sergio Marquez	A
Tao Moran	P
Omar Murray	A
Steven Sarao	P

PRESENT	AFFILIATION	CONTACT
Rosalind Zarvas	Community member	<u>ROSALIND@RZARVAS.COM</u>
Adelaide Hanson	Community member	
Serina Guzman	Community member	
Shari Hall	KRVDC	<u>SHARIKRVC@GMAL.COM</u>
Robert Press	Robert Press	
Amy Joy Robateau	CB8	

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Committee chair Sergio Villaverde.

1. **Board Member's and community members present introduced selves to each other.**

2. **Minutes tabled**

3. Introduction of CSX Resolution. Passed by committee members unanimously. The resolution passed is identical to E&S Committee Resolution dated March 29, 2017.

4. Committee Vice-chair presented update regarding Hackethon. Written presentation annexed.

5. Broadway Corridor restoration discussed. KRVC presented.

6. Old Business:

   - None presented

7. New Business:

   - David Kornbluh presented idea for a resolution calling for a parking study of merchant strips on Johnson Avenue, Riverdale Avenue, West 231 Street area and Kingsbridge Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Submitted by Sergio Villaverde
Chair, Economic Development Committee

Memorandum

To: Chair, Economic Development Committee

From: Vice Chair, Economic Development Committee

Date: April 3, 2017

Re: **Community Board 8 Hackathon Update**

As you are aware, I have been speaking with representatives from Code/Interactive (C/I) for the past few months with regard to a proposed Community Board 8 involvement in a Hackathon which would support new avenues of business development in the Riverdale, Kingsbridge, and surrounding area. C/I designs and supports the creation of Hackathons in the Bronx area, supporting both local students and the economy with full day and full weekend events. For your reference, *"a Hackathon is a design sprint-like event in which computer programmers and others involved in software development, including graphic designers, interface designers and project managers collaborate intensively on projects"*[1].

These events are extremely beneficial towards the development of local economies outside traditional frameworks, but are also very time consuming, mostly in the planning stages. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that Community Board 8 contemplate partnering on any initial event. The long term plan would be for Community Board 8 to host one annual Hackathon that would bring together local schools, businesses and the community in the competitive development of future applications for our local community; this is the long range strategic goal.

Tom O'Connell, Vice President of Programs and Partnerships has been very supportive towards any efforts that would support specific development within Community Board 8. Tom most recently supplied a sample budget that he uses for hackathons, as follows:

Hackathon Full Program Package				
ITEM	**COST / ITEM**	**#**	**Totals**	**Source**
Food	$18 / person	120 People	$2,160	Cater2Me
T-Shirts	$6 / person	120 People	$840	CustomTees
Stickers	$0.30 / person	240 People	$72	StuckerMule
Transportation	$5.50 / person	120 People	$660	MTA
Program Manager 1 School Visits (Staff Time)	$120 (3 hours * $40 / hour)	10 Schools	$1,200	C/I Staff

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[1] The Hackathon Is ON: Pitching and Programming the Next Killer App, Steven Leckhart, Wired, March 2012

Program Manager 2 School Visits (Staff Time)	$120 (3 hours * $40 / hour)	10 Schools	$1,200	C/I Staff
Chromebook Prizes	250 / laptop	5 Prizes	$1,250	Amazon
Raspberry Pi Prizes	85 / unit	5 Prizes	$425	Amazon
Printing Materials	$1.20 ($.20 / page * 6 pages)	120 People	$144	FedEx
Gas (Materials Dropoff)	80 / vehicle	1 truck	$80	Staff Truck
		TOTAL:	$8,031	

As you will note, a majority of the above costs relate to prizes that are offered as an incentive for participants. Mr. O'Connell has suggested that Community Board 8 could begin a simple Hackathon for a more modest budget if necessary.

It was suggested by Community Board 8 Chairperson Daniel Padernacht that Community Board 8 consider some classroom instruction as an entrance toward developing a long-term Hackathon. C/I cannot provide any instruction at this time due to time constraints and I have continued to speak to other potential vendors and have not secured a suitable instructor as of yet. If other members of our committee can suggest instructors who can provide a small block of instruction on computer programming and coding, I would be greatly appreciative of those recommendations. Ideally, we might consider Directors of Technology at any of the area public and private schools and/or colleges.

Although money was available within the current budget, C/I does not have any time available and would only be available during the next fiscal year. The Economic Development Committee can potentially consider reserving time and dates to use C/I for 2018 if we believe this project to be fruitful as C/I's calendar fills up rather quickly based upon demand.

Conversations have also been completed with Sean Dagony-Clark, Director of Academic Technology from the Riverdale Country School. Riverdale Country School was recommended by Tom O'Connell. Riverdale Country School welcomes partnering with Community Board 8 in some of their upcoming Hackathons and might even support having some students from within our area to also participate in their events.

Mr. Dagony-Clark has invited members of our board to visit *The Agile Youth Challenge*, a Hackathon for students in grades 6-12 with any level of programming experience. The event will take place on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at Avenues: The World School, 259 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10001. Viewers will note that such events are at the current cornerstone of development to solve community problems, develop new business models, and work collaboratively towards entrepreneurial development. If any members of Community Board 8 would be interested in attending, in order to get firsthand experience of a Hackathon, kindly email me directly (steven@sarao.com) and I will provide a complete list of visitors to Riverdale Country School. Those interested should email me no later than Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

For your consideration.

Steven Sarao
Vice Chair, Economic Development Committee

1. Whereas, the 1998 Report From the Bronx Advisory Committee to the Hudson River Valley Greenway resolved in part to support a multi-use path along the Putnam Rail, although it was not formally included within the Hudson River Valley Greenway corridor, and it further recommended that NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) initiate a full study in cooperation with NYC Department of Environmental Protection; and

2. Whereas, Bronx Community Board 8's 197-a Plan adopted by the City Planning Commission and the City Council in 2003 proposed including reuse of the abandoned Old Putnam Line railroad right of way (ROW) south of Van Cortlandt Park as an opportunity for the creation of a new multipurpose linear open space in Kingsbridge; and

3. Whereas, on October 12, 2010 Bronx Community Board 8 voted to approve a ULURP application by DPR to amend the City Map in order to establish a new linear park south of Van Cortlandt Park, Putnam South, running generally alongside the Major Deegan Expressway, between Van Cortlandt Park South and West 230th Street; and

4. Whereas, on January 5, 2011 the City Planning Commission approved the DPR application, including authorization for any acquisition of real property related thereto; and

5. Whereas, in order for DPR to move forward with its plan for Putnam South, a "rails to trails" greenway, it must first acquire the ROW owned by CSX Corporation (CSX), which has not operated its rail line at this location for decades; and

6. Whereas, negotiations between CSX and DPR have reached an impasse, because CSX has placed an appraisal valuation of its property far exceeding monies allotted for this project from Croton Filtration Plant mitigation funds; and

7. Whereas, CSX donated their property in lower Manhattan, which enabled the High Line to be built; and

8. Whereas, there are tremendous recreational, economic, and environmental benefits to Bronxites who will use the mixed use bicycle and pedestrian greenway to connect to the Putnam Trail in Van Cortlandt Park and other greenways; and

9. Whereas, businesses on Broadway could benefit greatly by DPR's vision of several access points to Broadway at West 238th, West 234th and West 230th Streets along the three quarter mile greenway; and

10. Whereas, DPR has presented conceptual plans to construct a mixed use greenway, utilize green infrastructure, and daylight Tibbetts Brook both inside Van Cortlandt Park and along the proposed Putnam South greenway to relieve flooding and serious water pollution issues resulting from Combined Sewer Overflow; and

11. Whereas, on April 12, 2016 Bronx Community Board 8 passed a resolution presented by the Environment and Sanitation Committee to support the priorities of the Coalition for the Daylighting

of Tibbetts Brook, advocates for renewed negotiation with CSX in order to build the Putnam South Greenway; and

12. Whereas, CSX has recently demonstrated their willingness to work with Bronx Community Board 8 by acknowledging the sanitation issues and other problems along their property, and establishing a timeline to clean their ROW;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that Bronx Community Board 8 requests that the new management of CSX treat the Bronx as they treated Manhattan regarding the High Line, and either donate or reduce the price of their land sufficiently in order to enable the Department of Parks and Recreation to commence planning and construction of the Putnam South Greenway; and

Be it Further Resolved, that as a priority for Community Board 8, we will work with DPR, our public officials, relevant government agencies, community groups, and other stakeholders to make the Putnam South Greenway a reality for deserving residents of the Bronx.

Vote: 7-0-0
In Favor: Laura Spalter, Bob Fanuzzi, Bob Bender, David Kornbluh, Steve Froot, Rob Spalter, Karen Argenti.
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0