

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2009 AT MS/HS 368, IN-TECH ACADEMY
2975 TIBBETT AVENUE**

PRESENT: R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. C. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, V. Gray, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

ABSENT: S. Balicer, D. Bowden, T. Feerick, B. Feinberg, P. Friedman, J. Goris, G. O. Koppell, J. O'Reilly, L. Spalter, S. Villaverde

STAFF: N. Stent – District Manager, CB 8
D. Bay – Community Associate, CB 8
P. Manning – Community Associate, CB 8

GUESTS: J. Dinowitz - Assemblyman
L. Copland – rep. Congressman Eliot Engel
J. DeSio – rep. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
A. Heller – rep. Councilman G. O. Koppell
R. Martos – rep. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
N. Danyluk – Department of City Planning
Capt. B. delPozo – 50th Precinct
Capt. A. Lindquist – 50th Precinct
P. O. M. Ramos – 50th Precinct
Det. L. Rodriguez – 50th Precinct
H. Barret – Memorial Grove
A. Bellows
K. Cucinell – Leake and Watts Services, Inc.
D. Currier
R. Fairweather-Clunie – Principal, MS/HS 368, In-Tech Academy
C. Giove – Riverdale Review
S. Gordon
D. Lennon
G. McNeil
P. Moerdler
D. Nussbaum-Vazquez – NYC Economic Development Corp.
E. Olivo
J. O'Toole – MS/HS 368, In-Tech Academy
M. Perron – Van Cortlandt Park
R. Press – Bronx News
A. Sandler
D. Sheehan
S. Spielberg
W. M. Suero
D. Tannen – Memorial Grove

Chairman McShane convened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Gallery Session

- A. Dara Nussbaum-Vazquez, NYC Department of Economic Development, advised of the pending plans to re-open the parking lot at West 230th Street and Broadway. It is expected that the lot will be opened prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.
- B. Herb Barret requested more support for Veterans Memorial Grove with regard to full restoration. The Department of Parks has only committed to restore 39 of the 100 plaques. He announced and invited all to the Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th at Memorial Grove, beginning at 12:30 PM. Mr. Barret thanked Community Board 8 for its past support.
- C. David Currier, Kingsbridge Armory Redevelopment Alliance discussed job wages for the Kingsbridge Armory development project. Members of the Alliance are urging City Council approval of the development only if living-wage union jobs are in place. He provided information of Horace Mann School's Petition for an Armory Community Benefit Agreement with a living wage requirement. Mr. Currier requested support of this issue.
- D. Gregory McNeil, representative for Kingsbridge, Riverdale communities also spoke about the issue of living wages for the Kingsbridge Armory. He further stated that wages should not be less than \$10.00 per hour with benefits or \$11.00 without benefits, considering that the project costs is \$60 million.

Chairman McShane referred Mr. Currier and Mr. McNeil to the chair of the Economic Development Committee.

1. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2009

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Discussion of Executive Board Committee Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2009

R. Fanuzzi corrected the Economic Development report to indicate that Stella D'Oro received tax subsidies before closing the factory, not after.

3. Chairman introduced and welcomed Captain Brandon delPozo, the new commanding officer of the 50th Precinct.

Chairman invited Captain delPozo to address the Board.

Captain delPozo gave an overview of his background and previous assignments. He is a former Army Officer and a 12-year-veteran of NYPD. He has worked in Brooklyn neighborhoods including Flatbush, Crown Heights and Brownsville. He also worked in the NYPD Intelligence Division and served two years as an intelligence liaison to the Middle East. Most recently, he led an NYPD Internal Affairs unit. Captain reviewed the crime statistics at the 50th, which is on track for 40% decrease in overall crime by year's end. However, car thefts are up by 11% with actual number of 17 additional stolen cars.

4. Report from the Bronx Borough President's Office – J. DeSio

- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., Congressman Eliot Engel, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz and Councilman G. Oliver Koppell have jointly announced that the New York City Economic Development Corporation has agreed to reopen the parking lot in Kingsbridge at West 230th Street in the coming weeks.
- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. will host the first ever Borough-wide Economic Summit on November 18th, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at the New York Botanical Garden. The event is free but reservation is mandatory. To reserve register online at <http://events.boedc.com/>.

- Kingsbridge Armory negotiations are on-going and Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. is taking a strong position on safety.
- Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and the Comite Noviembre will hold a celebration in honor of Puerto Rican Heritage Month on November 18th at 6:00 PM at the Pregones Theatres. All are invited. RSVP 718-590-3522.

5. Chairman's Report

- Chairman McShane advised of the Board's initiative and intervention with the reopening of the Kingsbridge Parking Lot at West 230th Street and Broadway. Chairman thanked NYC Economic Development, especially Ms. Dara Nussbaum-Vazquez and extended appreciation to Congressman Engel, Borough President Diaz Jr., Assemblyman Dinowitz, and Councilman Koppell for working to achieve a positive outcome on an issue vital to the sustainability of the business community.
- Attended a community meeting on the costs of the Croton Water Filtration plant.
- Reports on Permanent and Special Needs Housing in Community Board 8 by the office of the Borough President are being revised and will be reissued.
- Audio Visual Guidelines for use of Community Board 8's equipment has been distributed.

6. District Manager's Report

The attached report was distributed.

7. Report from the Department of City Planning – N. Danyluk

Two applications are pending for submission to the Community Board, the residential text amendment regarding curb cuts and parking, and Delafield Estates. Additionally, N. Danyluk will attend the meeting of Traffic and Transportation on November 17th, to discuss the Residential Streetscape Preservation Text Amendment.

8. Committee Reports

A. Budget – K. O'Brien

The Board approved FY2010 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities will be submitted to OMB for agency responses.

B. Economic Development – R. Fanuzzi

1. The Committee will review issues presented during the Gallery Session on the Kingsbridge Armory project.
2. The committee will address the issue of legal and illegal postings of hand bills with respect to business advertising; and huge fines levied on businesses.
3. The next meeting of the Committee will be held jointly with Traffic and Transportation on November 17th.

C. Education –

I.W. Stone reported in the absence of D. Bowden.

1. I. W. Stone corrected the Committee's attendance of the October 27th meeting to reflect that he was present.
2. Refer to the minutes for full report.

3. The Committee will hold its next meeting on November 24th. The agenda will cover gang awareness, violence, and bullying.

D. Environment and Sanitation – S. Scheinbach

1. The chair continues to remove illegally placed posters and advertisement postings.
2. The Department of Environmental Control's public hearing on gas drilling at the watershed is underway as of November 10th.
3. Congressman Engel sent a letter to Chairman McShane informing of his intention to co-sponsor H.R. 2766, the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act.
4. Refer to Committee minutes for full report.

E. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – M. Khury

1. The Committee held a public hearing on November 9, 2009 on the proposal by Leake and Watts Services for Residential Alternative homes for seven young adults. M. Khury presented the following resolution passed at the hearing:

WHEREAS, Leake and Watts Services, Inc. under the auspices of the New York State Office Of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities provided notice to Bronx Community Board No. 8 of an individualized residential alternatives proposal; and

WHEREAS, as provided in Section 41:34 (Padavan Law) of the Mental Hygiene Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE ITRESOLVED, that Bronx Community Board No. 8 approves the proposal by Leake and Watts Services, Inc. to operate Individual Residential Alternative (IRA) homes for seven (7) young adults with developmental disabilities at 600 Depeyester Street, Bronx, also known as 549 West 261st Street; for four (4) young adults at 600B Depeyester Street, also known as 545 West 261st Street; and for four (4) young adults at 600C, also known as 543 West 261st Street.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. C. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, V. Gray, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

2. The Committee will hold its next meeting on December 23rd. Nurses will speak on impact of suicide tragedy in homes.
3. The Committee has been contacted for support of the campaign to Stop Tobacco Advertisements, with regard to children eye level placement in stores.

F. Housing – T. Durham

1. Attended ground breaking for the Jericho Veterans Housing earlier in the day.
2. The Committee's next meeting on November 23rd will be attended by guest speakers to address changes in the Census, the Mayor and City Council Speaker's \$20 million pilot project for failed developments, and Department of Housing and Community Renewal oversight at Amalgamated Housing.

G. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

The Committee met and followed-up on decisions to request bills and legislative material from public officials. The committee will also review Mission Statements and “voting.”

H. Land Use – C. Moerdler

- 1. The meeting for November 18th was cancelled, looking into December for a new date.
- 2. The following resolutions were presented:

- a) **RESOLVED**, that Bronx Community Board No. 8’s Land Use Committee approve Urban Pathways’ request for a letter of recommendation to construct a residential facility at 3469 Cannon Place with conditions that Urban Pathways will write a letter to Land Use Committee stating that they will come back within a stated amount of time with some preliminary plans and renderings so that the committee can best understand the project.

Discussion ensued over concerns of premature issuance of a support letter giving credence for seed money for a project that is already generating community objection. C. Moerdler agreed to lay over the vote for further review at the next Executive Board meeting.

- b) **RESOLVED**, that Bronx Community Board No. 8’s Land Use Committee approves Board of Standards and Appeals Cal No. 248-09 –BZ – 3031 Bailey Avenue, for reinstatement of expired variance for operation of an automotive service station in a R6 zoning.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. C. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, V. Gray, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O’Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

- c) **WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board No. 8 is aware of the need for shelters for the homeless; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board No. 8 would like the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to provide notice of locations of any shelter contemplated in our community board area; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board No. 8 would like to have input in the siting and placement process of such shelters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Land Use Committee of Bronx Community Board No. 8 calls upon DHS to provide prior notice of the location and take all appropriate steps to obtain the prior input of Bronx Community Board No. 8 with respect to the siting and placement of such shelters.

Vote: 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. P. Cassino, A. Cohen, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, T. C. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, B. Fettman, S. Froot, T. Giallorenzi, R. Ginty, A. Goldman, V. Gray, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, Y. Levy, S. Marquez, B. Maybury,

D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Reyes, S. Scheinbach, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

I. Libraries and Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

Discussed Jerome Park Branch Library's need for larger space, especially with the new Ampark School opening in 2010.

J. Parks and Recreation – B. Bender

1. Jerome Park design has been approved by NYC Public Design Commission.
2. The Department of Parks will present designs on Sid Augarten Ballfield and Veterans Memorial Grove at the Committee meeting on November 25th.
3. Ceremony for Veterans Day will be held November 11th at Memorial Grove in Van Cortlandt Park at 12:30 PM.

K. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

The next meeting will be held November 19th at the 50th Precinct at 7:30 PM.

L. Traffic and Transportation – A. P. Cassino

1. Discussed the new Alternate Side Parking Regulations being installed. Updates will be disseminated as received.
2. A public hearing will be held on the route of the Greenway on November 18th, at Wave Hill. Public input is needed.
3. The committee will meet jointly with Economic Development on November 17th due to Department of City Planning's presentation on Streetscaping which overlaps with merchants and residences.

M. Youth – V. Gray

1. The Committee met in October and chose five candidates for the NY Yankees Leadership Award.
2. Committee agreed to support FIT TO LEAD initiative.
3. November meeting will be rescheduled.

N. Aging – K. Pesce

The Committee will meet on November 24th, at Atria of Riverdale, at 3:30 PM. There will be a speaker on holiday related depression.

Meeting adjourned 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning
Community Associate