

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 4, 2012
RIVERDALE GARDEN
4576 Manhattan College Parkway, Bronx, New York

PRESENT

Sergio Villaverde
Sylvia Alexander
Andrew Cohen
Paul Ellis
Robert Fanuzzi
Maria Khury
David Kornbluh
Skip Piscitelli
Robert Press
Xaxia Sanchez
Cara Vaccarro
Andrew Sandler
Daniel Johnson
Dan Turner
Tony Edwards
Miawling Lam
Mario Curanaj
Tracy Shelton

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair, CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
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CB8
CB8
Manhattan College
rep. Councilman Koppell
rep. Assemblyman Dinowitz
Manhattan College
rep. Councilman Rodriguez
Riverdale Review
Salvatores of Soho/South Riverdale Ave Merchants
KRVDC

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by Chairperson Sergio Villaverde at Riverdale Garden.

1. Approval of minutes.

Paul Ellis moved to approve minutes second by David Kornbluh. Motion passed by acclamation.

2. Recommendation to Department of Consumer Affairs.

- Recommendation of the department of consumer affairs sidewalk café for 3738 Riverdale Avenue Bronx, New York.
- David Kornbluh moved that Community Board 8 recommend approval of the renewal application for unenclosed sidewalk café at Salvatores of Soho Inc., 3738 Riverdale Avenue Bronx, New York. Second by Paul Ellis.
- Discussion held, Mr. Mario Curanaj (applicant) present and addressed issue.
- Question called 4 yes, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions. Motion carries.
- Discussion held regarding EDC approval for sidewalks cafes. Issue remains open, should NYC Department of Consumer Affairs applications come before EDC as they almost always deal with a merchant? Issue to be continued in EDC and with Executive and Board as appropriate.

3. Hurricane Business Impact and Recovery

- Chair gave update and report on community board office and interaction with merchant during Hurricane Sandy. General report from merchants was positive with CB8 activity relating to Hurricane Sandy.

4. Equity One – Plan developments

- Chair gave update regarding recent conversation with Equity One, Michael Keley. Equity one is in process of acquiring former gas station site. No immediate schedule changes for project. Committee discussed loss of parking and communication issues with board.

5. Merchant Based Street Activity Permit Application Office (SAPO) internal CB Process

- Discussion was held regarding SAPO process. Traffic and Transportation resolution discussed. Committee member expressed numerous issues including the need of consistency for applicants and among committees.

6. Old business

- Discussion was held regarding impact of Parking lot loss near West 231 Street and Broadway area.
- Discussion was held regarding skating rink
- Presentation made regarding successful Riverdale Holiday festival, December 2, 2012
- Mario Curanaj, South Riverdale Avenue Merchants and Tracey Shelton, KRVCDC provided reports material and photos of event. Mr. Curanaj reported event was a great success. Merchants and community thrilled with the outcome, would like to repeat.

7. New Business

- None.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

**Next meeting date, location and time to be determined.
Have a Happy Holiday!**

Submitted by,

Sergio Villaverde
Chairman
Economic Development Committee