

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
April 6, 2022
Held on Zoom
(pending approval)

Committee Members Present

Laura Spalter (Chair), Sylvia Alexander, Bob Bender, Nick Fazio, Robert Fanuzzi, David Gellman, Rosemary Ginty, Edward Green, Rob Jacklosky, Daniel Padernacht, Ramdat Singh, Martin Wolpoff.

Committee Members Absent

Joy Campbell Priveterre, Margaret Della, Julia Gomez, Charles G. Moerdler, Ted Morris, Omar Murray, Deb Travis, Sergio Villaverde.

Staff

Tania Ochoteco, Community Coordinator.

Guests and CB8 Members

Lisa Daub, Camelia Tepelus, Sachi McClendon.

Chair Spalter called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of March 2022 were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Report

Chair Spalter reported that Diomarys Escano-Bell, Courtney Dastis-Galvin, Paul Ellis have not reapplied to the board. She thanked them for their service.

Ciara Gannon, Ramdat Singh and Chair Spalter met with New Parks Commissioner Sue Donoghue, and honored Iris Rodriguez for her service at a luncheon at the Bronx Zoo.

Chair Spalter reported the NY Philharmonic is coming back to VCP on our regularly scheduled meeting date. Because of that, we will need to reschedule our June Meeting. Wednesday June 29th is the proposed date for the full board meeting.

CM Dinowitz organized a Johnson Avenue retail tour with Chair Spalter, Ydanis Rodriguez, Nick Fazio, Chuck Moerdler, and representatives from the Department of Consumer Affairs. There are still many unanswered questions about the open restaurants-streets policy and impact with the community board. We don't know what the role of the CB will be. Traditionally T&T has been the lead committee on side walk cafes. A recent lawsuit raised an issue: there was a Neg Dec and an Environmental Assessment but not an Environmental Impact Statement. The judge

ruled that DOT must provide an EIS in their application. We will continue to follow this. R. Ginty noted that there was an EAS and a Neg Dec and we should obtain it. L. Spalter said she would send out the lawsuit on Open Streets to everyone.

At the next meeting we are going to hold the election for our nominating committee.

On April 15th we will find out if Gov. Hochul is extending the suspension of open meetings rules. It's unfortunate that it was only extended a month.

At the end of tonight's meeting, we will go into Executive Session in accordance with Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law regarding a topic related to the acquisition or lease of real property.

D. Padernacht thanked the office for getting the notice out for the nominating committee with the board agenda. He asked that nominating Committee notice be sent out individually.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers report will come at the Full Board.

District Manager's Report

The DM report will come at the Full Board.

Committee Resolutions

Public Safety

E. Green presented several resolutions. First, a renewal for full liquor license for Blackstone Bar and Grill at 3713 Riverdale Avenue was unanimously approved. It had no outstanding issues according to the 50th Precinct.

Second, there was a new application for Temporary Retail Permit for Full Liquor Licenses at 220 Osteria LLC at 220 W. 242nd Street. The 50th Precinct stated that there were disturbances at this location due to a previous business, but none connected with applicant. It was unanimously approved by the committee.

At the March 15th meeting, a letter was requested for a Method of Operation Change by Caribe Bites at 5586 Broadway. The business was notified by SLA that their license had to be amended to allow them to play recorded Karaoke and live music. The 50th Precinct said there were no prior complaints. The PS committee unanimously approved the request for a letter to the SLA supporting their application.

Land Use

M. Wolpoff presented a resolution on the question of handicap accessible entry at the 50th Precinct.

Traffic and Transportation

Two resolutions were presented.

The first was the Riverdale Y application for a one-day pop market on Johnson Avenue.

D. Padernacht offered that the hours and other basic things should be in the resolution, including fire lanes, whether there will be music, etc.

The second resolution was on the DOT proposal for the Riverdale Avenue Road Diet. Chair Spalter said she informed D. Travis there would be several friendly amendments. Chair Travis was not in attendance. There was discussion of methods to amend resolutions.

Several members noted that the way in which DOT withheld the proposal was unfortunate and disrespectful to the Community Board and elected officials.

Issues for Discussion

D. Gellman asked that the Capital Requests and Expense Requests be formulated by the Chairs and distributed to Committee Members ahead of their respective Committee meetings, and at the meetings simply formalize their request priorities and submit them to the office (and CC to him) by Friday April 22nd. He said if you need help in the technical shifting of the rows or other formatting contact him.

E. Green recalled Michael Greco (of the FDNY EMT & Paramedic Union) appeared at the March full board meeting to say that EMT units would be removed. The FDNY has informed E. Green that the unit is not going to be removed until October and the FDNY union is on board with this.

E. Green reported Bronx D.A. Clark has committed to attending the April 19th PS committee meeting to discuss bail reform.

M. Wolpoff reported on conflict of interest issues that he's seeking answers to, and reminded us that the Open Meetings law requires publication of minutes 2 weeks after the meeting, and that the agenda and resolutions must be posted 24-hours before the meeting.

R. Fanuzzi said that the DEP and DPR are expected to come to an April 27th joint E&S and Parks Committee meeting for preliminary approval of the greenway/daylighting proposal that was first presented in December. They intend to present it to the Public Design Commission (PDC) in June. L. Spalter said that she thought this April 27th joint meeting would be important and hoped everyone would attend.

L. Spalter announced that there is now a Tibbett Advisory Group. There will be a remote meeting on April 19th where DEP and DPR will review the Tibbetts Brook Daylighting and Greenway plan. On April 21st they will conduct a site visit, where people can go to Broadway and look at prospective access points. An email will go out with registration information.

D. Padernacht asked if there was a more detailed proposal on the daylighting. R. Fanuzzi responded not at this point.

D. Padernacht asked if there were any more conversations about the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee (CFMC) meeting with other CB chairs. L. Spalter said she has contacted DEP, CB 7 and 12 chairs, and it may happen in June, but it wouldn't be before June.

L. Spalter made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a topic related to the acquisition or lease of real property. The motion passed 11-1 with D. Padernacht voting "no." The CB went into Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. and left Executive Session at 9:09 p.m.

The meeting Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by Rob Jacklosky, Secretary

Reviewed by Ciara Gannon, District Manager