

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON June 20th, 2023
50th POLICE PRECINCT, 3450 KINGSBRIDGE AVENUE
(Pending Approval)

PRESENT

Ed Green (Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Mary Ellen Gibbs (CCM)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Scott Krompinger	CB8 Public Safety Committee

Committee Members absent: Christopher Calhoun, Bob Kaplan, Sergio Villaverde

Guests: Battalion Chief Gregory Lehr (FDNY), Officer Cesar Sala (NYPD), Lieutenant Baez (NYPD), Sargent Caprino (NYPD), Kenia Peralta (DF Mexican & Patio), Mary Maloney (Beccofino / Bronx Burger House), Linda Lopez (Punto De Sabor), Chris Doherty (Keenen's Bar), Eddy Arnaud (Arnaud's Steak House), Franklin Vargas (Caribe Bites), Arelia Taveras (Caribe Bites), Victor Castro (Guest), Belkis Tappan (Guest), Luke Tappan (Guest).

Chair Ed Green called the meeting to order at 7:08pm

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

Rollcall of committee members. Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the May 16th, 2023, Public Safety Committee Minutes

Due to a lack of quorum, the committee was unable to vote on the minutes.

3. NYPD Report (**See attached NYPD CompStat Report*) –

Officer Cesar Sala presented the NYPD CompStat report. Lieutenant Baez and Sargent Caprino were present:

Complaint about damaged cars being parked near the 50th Precinct and Riverdale Diner. Lieutenant Baez stated the 50th Pct is in the process of addressing the issue.

Complaint about illegal parking on sidewalk of 140 Van Cortlandt Avenue. 50th Pct. stated they are aware of cars parking illegally in that area and often have vehicles ticketed and sometimes towed from that location.

Complaint from Hudson Rail Link about ongoing dispute at 261st St. & Riverdale Avenue between store owner and Bus Operators that stop at that location. 50th Pct is aware of the

complaints, has previously addressed this issue with all parties involved and will continue to monitor the situation.

Fatal shooting of 27-year-old Kingsbridge man outside 3470 Fort Independence Street on May 17th at 6:30am. This is the first homicide this year in the 50th Precinct. An investigation is ongoing. The 50th Pct. cannot disclose any information that could potentially compromise the investigation.

4. FDNY Report

Battalion Chief Greg Lehr (FDNY) stated that every day he comes to work there is at least one fire caused by lithium-ion batteries. Further public education of how frequent and extremely destructive these fires can be is needed. Preventative measures need to be taken to reduce the risk of these types of fires in our area.

Storing E-bikes and scooters in apartments is ill-advised. Overcharged lithium-ion batteries are often the cause of these fires. These types of fires spread extremely fast. Dousing them with water is ineffective and often causes the fire to spread more quickly. Dry powder fire extinguishers are more effective for putting out lithium-ion battery fires.

Public Safety Committee would like FDNY to provide statistics on how many lithium-ion battery fires occur monthly in the BXC88 area if data is available.

5. NYS Liquor Authority: Renewals

Officer Sala of the 50th Precinct stated there were no notable complaints about any of the business appearing before the Committee tonight:

Linda Lopez, a Representative of Punto De Sabo Express, located at 200A W 231st Street, appeared before the Committee for renewal of their liquor license.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

Chris Doherty, a Representative of Keenan's Bar, located at 5588 Broadway, appeared before the Committee for renewal of their liquor license.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

Mary Maloney, a Representative of Bronx Burger House, located at 5816 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Committee for renewal of their liquor license.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

Mary Maloney, a Representative of Beccofino, located at 5704 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Committee for renewal of their liquor license.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

6. NYS Liquor Authority: New Applications

Kenia Peralta, Representative of DF Mexican & Patio, located at 5602 Broadway, appeared before the Committee for a new liquor license.

A 2AM closing agreement was signed and received by the Board.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

Eddy Arnaud, Representative of Arnaud's Steak House, located at 5686 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Committee for a new liquor license.

A 2AM closing agreement was signed and received by the Board.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

7. NYS Liquor Authority: Method of Operation Change

Franklin Vargas, Owner, and Arelia Taveras, Representative, of Caribe Bites Bar & Restaurant, located at 5586 Broadway, appeared before the Committee for a Method of Operation Change.

The owner wishes to keep his business open until 4am (an additional 2 hours), because they are frequently asking a significant number of customers to leave at 2AM and losing potential profits.

Franklin Vargas stated the establishment would also like to have live music, which would be acoustic, non-amplified music only.

The Committee did not have a quorum to vote on this application - but had consensus that a motion should be brought from the floor of the next Full Board meeting to approve this application.

8. Old Business

Illegal cannabis retail stores were discussed. The 50th Precinct has been involved in joint task force operations with other agencies to police these businesses. Certain aspects of law enforcement towards these operations are not in their jurisdiction, so they must defer to other agencies in many instances.

9. New Business

None.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Minutes submitted by Committee Chair Ed Green.