

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8 BRONX
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON MARCH 15, 2022
MEETING HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM
(Pending Approval)

PRESENT

Edward Green (Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Myra Joyce (Vice Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Christopher Calhoun	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Stephen Vazquez	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Sergio Villaverde	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Robert Kaplan	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Margaret Donato	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Georgia Santiago	CB8 Public Safety Committee

Committee members absent: T. Morris, N. Fazio.

Guests: Captain Girven (50th Pct.), Cesar Sala (50th Pct.), User2 (Marie Claude – Local resident), Steve Catechis, Derwin Greene: KHCC, Iricelis Vargas, Susan Landgraf, Ryan Acquattro, Sachi, Thomas McCallen, David Gellman.

Chair Ed Green called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Roll call of committee members

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

2. Approval of the February 15, 2022 Public Safety Committee Minutes

Approve in favor: 8 (E. Green, M. Joyce, M. Donato, C. Calhoun, S. Vazquez, R. Kaplan, S. Villaverde, G. Santiago)
Opposed: 0
Abstain: 0

3. NYPD Report

Captain Girven presented the report:

2 rapes – domestic; robberies up; felony assaults up. Tremendous GLA auto increase. Anti-crime team has been expanded: One on evening and one on midnight shifts.

Chair Green asked if there is any news regarding the new establishments on Riverdale Avenue near 261st Street. There have been inspections from DOB. FDNY was notified to go to the establishment with Captain Girven to verify licenses.

Issue from Traffic and Transportation Committee: Double-parked cars during school hours at St. Gabriel's. Police have been writing tickets on the double-parkers at Johnson Ave and 235-236th St. Captain Girven stated he will speak with the Traffic Captain about this issue.

User2 (Marie Claude) brought up the issue of motorcycles and souped-up cars on Bailey Ave. Captain Girven stated his Officers have made 5 arrests and he requested installation of Argus cameras on Bailey.

Compstat Report

28 days, ending 3/20/22

	2022	2021
Murder	0	0
Rape	2	2
Robbery	17	5
Fel. Assault	16	10
Burglary	10	4
Gr. Larceny	38	47
G.L.A.	20	9
TOTAL	103	77

4. FDNY Report

No report.

5. NYS Liquor Authority: Renewals

Blackstone Bar & Grill (3713 Riverdale Avenue)

Steve Catechis representing.

50th Precinct stated there have been no issues with this location.

Approve in favor: 8 (E. Green, M. Joyce, M. Donato, G. Santiago, C. Calhoun, S. Vazquez, R. Kaplan, S. Villaverde)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

6. NYS Liquor Authority: New

220 Osteria LLC (Name TBD, 220 West 242nd Street)

- Thomas McCallen, Attorney representing (Owner was unable to attend).
- Signed 2am closing stipulation
- Italian restaurant.
- Looking to move forward with this now.
- Will advocate for electronic scanner.
- Margaret Donato asked if there is any relationship with this new establishment and Yokomo? - Mr. McCallen stated there is no affiliation with next-door premises.
- Downstairs area will be used for billiards.
- Music will be one or two-piece acoustic.
- Captain Girven stated there were complaints about Barcelona Bites downstairs business. We closed that location.

Approve in favor: 8 (E. Green, M. Joyce, M. Donato, G. Santiago, C. Calhoun, R. Kaplan, S. Vazquez, R. Kaplan, S. Villaverde)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

7. NYS Liquor Authority: Method of Operation

Caribes Bites Bar & Restaurant (5586 Broadway)

- Iricelis Vargas representing
- Requesting a letter from our PS Committee & Full Board.
- Licensing board asked for permission for recorded music, live music and karaoke. The SLA is requesting a letter stating we have no objections to having this music because the application was filled out incorrectly.
- In agreement with 2am closing.
- Ed suggested something in the form of a resolution:

Whereas the applicant, Caribe Bites failed to check the box indicating the playing of live and recorded music and karaoke,

Whereas the SLA requested a letter from the Public Safety Committee to approve the addition of a check in the box on the SLA application for the playing of live and recorded music and karaoke,

Whereas the Public Safety Committee approves Caribe Bites playing live and recorded music and karaoke,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee of Community Board 8 approves writing a letter for Caribe Bites to add live and recorded music and karaoke to their application.

In favor of the resolution:

In favor: 8 (E. Green, M. Joyce, M. Donato, G. Santiago, C. Calhoun, R. Kaplan, S. Vazquez, R. Kaplan, S. Villaverde)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

8. Old Business

Prioritization of Public Safety Capital & Expense Budget Items:

Capital Budget Requests:

- Resubmit locations for Argus cameras that were requested last year.
- Chair Green asked Captain Girven if there are other areas where cameras would improve public safety.
- 259 & Riverdale Ave, 260 & Riverdale, lots of business there, SAR; Bailey & VCPS, Webb & Reservoir.
- Chair Green is requesting a master list of locations of cameras, maybe a map.
- Request FDNY EMS unit funding. David doesn't think that this is within our scope. David suggested not get too deep into it at this meeting, check with Ciara.

Expense Budget Requests:

Police Athletic League (PAL) after school program, youth crime prevention services:

- Captain Girven would love to see a PAL program here

- They have a program at JFK and have different programs each season (football, basketball, volleyball).
- Derwin Green of KHCC (After school program at Kingsbridge Heights Community Center) wants to be in partnership with NYPD.
- Officer Sala gave his contact info to Derwin Greene

Additional School Safety Officers for JFK High School:

- Captain Girven stated problems generally happen off-campus. Could use more School Safety Officers down there.
- Chair Green stated he will consult the BXC8 Youth Committee for a possible joint budget request on this item.

School Crossing Guard at PS 95 (Hillman & Sedgwick):

- Captain Girven stated they are not paying enough salary, so no one is applying.

ATV for PEP Officers

Educational program for seniors: Phone scams, email scams, and check washing.

9. New Business

CB8 member David Gellman brought up issue of trucks parking along Jerome Ave extension of Major Deegan.

Captain Girven stated he was getting complaints, and the 50th Precinct is aware. Spoke with Yonkers PD. Traffic Officers have been writing parking summonses. They are already on it.

Discussion of Mayor's Blueprint to End Gun Violence report:

(What effect will these policies have on law enforcement and public safety in our community?)

Ed asked Captain Girven if these proposed changes will have any effect on the 50th Precinct area. Captain Girven stated that our area doesn't have a lot of gun violence, compared to the rest of the city, so many of the resources mentioned in the report are unlikely to be provided to us.

Georgia Santiago stated that in 2019, a couple of Officers patrolled 11 buildings. Q: Do we still have the two Officers? A: There are 2 officers specifically assigned to Marble Hill & Ft. Independence. Two officers in sector B.

10. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

Minutes submitted by Committee Vice Chair Myra Joyce; reviewed by Committee Chair, Ed Green.