

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2016
AT THE RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daniel Padernacht, Chair	Marvin Goodman
Rosemary Ginty, Vice Chair	Michael Heller
Karen Pesce, Secretary	Joseph O'Brien
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Lamont Parker
Sylvia Alexander	Robert Press
Bob Bender	Sergio Villaverde
Lisa Daub	Martin Wolpoff
Paul Ellis	
Steven Froot	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Demetrius McCord
Charles Moerdler

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Gellman
Amy Joy Robateau

GUESTS:

C. Figueroa

STAFF:

Patricia Manning, District Manager
Diane Bay, Community Associate

Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

1. Approval of January Executive minutes

S. Villaverde requested that the January Executive minutes be amended to add Under Discussion of Outstanding Committee minutes, 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence: S. Villaverde believes that if there is no quorum there is no meeting and minutes are not required in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and Committee on Open Government.

S. Villaverde also requested the minutes be amended to read Under Discussion of Outstanding Committee minutes, 1st paragraph, 4th sentence: Change the word explained to believes.

Chair Padernacht accepted the amendments and called for a vote on the minutes as amended:

Vote: 14 in favor Opposed: 2 Abstention: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, P. Ellis, S. Froot, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, R. Press, S. Villaverde,

Opposed: P. Friedman, M. Wolpoff

2. Chairman's Report – D. Padernacht

- The board office learned today that The City Planning Commission voted to approve the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and the Zoning for Quality and Affordability text amendments.
- The CPC will not release the report until Friday, February 5, 2016, the same date the City Council will receive this report. The board office asked their liaison at CPC if they could see the documents before February 5, 2016 and the response was no because they were not yet signed. The Chair finds this troubling since the City Council hearing is scheduled for February 9 and 10 which only gives the public 4 days to review it. There was discussion that a resolution could be put forward at the Land Use meeting on February 4th and then sent to City Council before the Public Hearing.
- A new intern, who is a Mt. St. Vincent student, began working in the office last week. Her focus will be to improve communication and outreach in the four corners of the community. The Chair gave her a tour of the whole community and conveyed the importance of outreach to neighborhoods in the east side of the district.
- D. Padernacht notified the staff to ask the Chairs to complete their own minutes and agenda's and if there are missing pieces send it back to them for completion. The purpose is to save the time of the staff in order to focus on other community issues and tasks.
- Lydia Hernandez is updating the information on the website and also working on making it more user friendly.
- Our request for new office space has been rejected. This request to centralize the office within the community will begin again soon. It was suggested that we ask the City Council for their support in this endeavor.

3. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

No report.

4. District Manager's Report – P. Manning

- The office Interns term ended and a new intern will start March 1st.
- Per official regulations: Minutes are due for public review within 2 weeks of meeting. Once the office receives them they'll be posted on the website stating pending committee approval. When the committee votes on the minutes and they're finalized the committee chair can then send the final minutes to the office to be reposted.
- Reminder to list names of "Absent" Members to minutes.
- Resolutions must be extracted from minutes and sent in noting the votes.
- P. Manning attended Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez FY 17 Budget Forum on January 27th.
- P. Manning attended the Borough Board on January 21st. The Borough President held the budget hearing for FY 17. There were also three speakers: Bronx Community College, Bronx Cultural Institutions Group, and HANAC for senior services support. Lastly there was a presentation by the Department of Education on Equity and Excellence. They outlined 7 goals by 2026. A handout was distributed. They will attend meetings upon invite. Two Resolutions passed: Housing Works – *Support of the NYC and State to End AIDS; Community Action for Safe Apartments – Support for Right of Counsel in Housing Court *Enlisted support of resolution, template on BP website. A handout was distributed.
- NYPD Office of the Chief of Community Affairs Bureau offered to attend meetings to present, in particular Aging and Youth. The contact information is in the board office.

5. Committee Resolutions

Traffic & Transportation – M. Heller

The following resolutions on Street Activity Permit Applications will be presented at the February 9th board meeting:

- Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled “Kingsbridge Heights Festival”, August 27, 2016, on Reservoir Avenue between Webb Avenue to West 231st Street. The event has taken place before. The street will be closed from 9 AM-6PM. A motion to approve the applications was approved 7-0-0 with members M. Heller, R. Press, S. Alexander, J. O'Brien, S. Sarao, H. Young, and CCM M. Joyce in favor.
- Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled “Kingsbridge Heights Community Festival Block Party”, April 16th on Kingsbridge Terrace, between Perot Street and Summit Place. The event has taken place before. The street will be closed from 9 AM – 5 PM. A motion to approve the applications was approved 7-0-0 with members M. Heller, R. Press, S. Alexander, J. O'Brien, S. Sarao, H. Young, and CCM M. Joyce in favor.
- Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled “Israeli Independence Day Street Festival”, May 12, 2016 on Netherland Avenue between West 236th Street and the Henry Hudson Parkway service road. The event has taken place before. The street will be closed from 12 noon–9 PM. A motion to approve the applications was approved 7-0-0 with members M. Heller, R. Press, S. Alexander, J. O'Brien, S. Sarao, H. Young, and CCM M. Joyce in favor.
- Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled “Bronx Week Food and Arts Festival, May 15, 2016 on Mosholu Parkway between Bainbridge Avenue and Van Cortlandt Avenue East. The event has taken place before. The street will be closed from 12–8 PM. It appears the event will be entirely in Community Board 7, but Van Cortlandt Avenue East may be the borderline of the two community boards. A motion to approve the applications was approved 7-0-0 with members M. Heller, R. Press, S. Alexander, J. O'Brien, S. Sarao, H. Young, and CCM M. Joyce in favor.

The Chair asked the District Manager to alert CB7 and SAPO that this is not in CB8.

- Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled PS 24 Springfest Block Party, June 8, 2016 on West 235th Street between Independence and Douglas Avenues. This event has taken place before. The street will be closed from 3-10 PM. Approved 6–0–1 with members M. Heller, S. Alexander, J. O'Brien, S. Sarao, H. Young, and CCM M. Joyce in favor, and Vice Chair R. Press abstaining for cause.

Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

The following resolution on the Putnam Trail will be presented at the February 9th Board meeting.

The Parks & Recreation Committee of Bronx Community Board 8 approves the design for the Putnam Trail in Van Cortlandt Park as presented to the committee at its meeting of January 27, 2016, by the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) with the following conditions:

DPR agrees to consult with knowledgeable members of the community as identified by the committee, such as the Bronx Council on Environmental Quality (BCEQ), in drawing up its Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which is required by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and further agrees to provide the committee with a draft copy of the SWPPP plan

before submission to NYSDEC and to answer questions that the committee may have about the plan; and DPR further agrees to extend the bioswales and the precast concrete planking proposed in the plan to the maximum extent possible within budgetary constraints; and

If substantive alterations to the design for the Putnam Trail are made in response to review by the Public Design Commission (PDC) or the DEC or any other governmental or regulatory agency, DPR will submit those changes to the committee for review; and

DPR agrees to appoint a liaison with the contractor chosen for the project to ensure that the contractor follows the approved design and to consult with the committee or any group it may designate in the event that substantive changes to the design are proposed in the course of construction.

The resolution was passed by a vote of 7 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstained.

In favor: B. Bender, R. Fanuzzi, D. Gellman, M. Goodman, A.J. Robateau (CB8), H. Barret, C. Taylor (Community Committee Members)

Opposed: L. Spalter

Public Safety – J. O'Brien

The following Liquor License Renewals were approved by the Public Safety Committee on January 21st, 2016. A resolution will be presented at the February 9th board meeting.

Riverdale Diner, 3657 Kingsbridge Avenue
Riverdale Steak House, 5700 Riverdale Avenue
American Legion Post, 3035 Corlear Avenue
Blackstone Bar and Grill, 3713 Riverdale Avenue
Tin Marin, 3708 Riverdale Avenue
Caridad Restaurant, 135 West Kingsbridge Avenue

Vote: In favor was unanimous to approve all applications (Board members - Margaret Donato, Lenora Croft, Joseph O'Brien, Robert Press, Mary Yamagata and Community Committee member Myra Joyce).

6. Discussion on outstanding Committee minutes

- P. Manning reported that the committees with completed up to date minutes are Aging, Education, Land Use, Law, Rules and Ethics, Libraries & Cultural Affairs, Parks & Recreation, Traffic & Transportation and Youth. Economic Development is missing minutes from January 2015, March 2015, April 2015 and June 2015. Environment & Sanitation is missing September, October and November minutes. Health, Hospitals and Social Services is missing January minutes. Housing is missing October and December minutes and Public Safety is missing November minutes.
- The Chair asked Committee Chair's pay closer attention to submitting their minutes within two weeks of their meeting.
- Since the last Executive meeting, S. Villaverde indicated to the Chair that he will not produce the various sets of minutes that are missing from previous Economic Development Committee meetings. S. Villaverde sent information to the board office indicating what substantiates what a meeting is or isn't and when minutes are required. The Chair does not want to argue this further. He has repeatedly stated that the board members and the executive committee have conveyed

how important the minutes and the issues being discussed in the committees are to the community.

The Chair proposed the following resolution which will be sent to the full board before the February 9, 2016 meeting:

Minutes shall be required for all meetings of Bronx Community Board No. 8 which are noticed to the public by the Community Board, whether a quorum exists or not.

Vote: 16 in favor Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, P. Ellis, P. Friedman, S. Froot, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, L. Parker, K. Pesce, R. Press, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff

- D. Padernacht reported that in 2015 minutes from the January, March, April and June meeting are missing from the Economic Development Committee meetings. S. Villaverde's has stated to Chair Padernacht that he will not produce minutes from those meetings. The Chair decided that he will personally go back to the members of that committee to try to recreate the missing minutes by reviewing board minutes and attendance sheets. He reiterated that the public deserves to have this information.
- P. Friedman concurred with the District Manager's statement that minutes are a legal requirement. He stated that the Committee on Open Government very clearly states, most importantly, above all, is accuracy of minutes. All committees of CB8 submitted minutes of their meetings, in spite of not having a quorum. P. Friedman's concern is that the minutes produced by S. Villaverde which say no quorum, no meeting do not reflect what the board minutes say in his committee report. He went on to say that every member of the board is responsible for legal compliance of this agency. P. Friedman stated that if he himself does not comply with his duties as a board member, remove him from the board. He feels this should apply to all board members. Enormous changes by the Chair and the Officers have, and are still being made to improve the actions of the board and he finds this disheartening when a position is being taken, contrary to other committees, that is a detriment to the community. When the Chair and the Officers met with the committee chairs in the beginning of the fiscal year S. Villaverde was the only Chair who did not meet with the Chair and the Officers.
- S. Villaverde responded by saying that going forward he understands the Chair's resolution, however, his argument is that he has sent in notes for past meetings that were concise. They stated no quorum, no meeting. D. Padernacht said these "notes" have not been accepted as minutes due to lack of information including meeting details and attendance. S. Villaverde said he feels this is a personal attack. He said according to documents he sent to the board office (COG & handbook on what a meeting is) the meetings with the Chair, Officers and committee chairs in the beginning of the year should have produced minutes and public notice of the meetings.
- D. Padernacht responded that he disagreed and in no way was this a personal attack. D. Padernacht stated that these allegations are nothing more than a smokescreen to distract members from the issue. The issue is **only** about producing minutes to inform the public of the work of the board. This is what the board members and chairs have been elected to do, volunteered to do and were appointed to do by the Borough President. The Chair told S. Villaverde that if he believes minutes should have been produced from the meetings with the Chairs he can contact anyone he wants for an opinion. The Chair stated that the resolution put forward tonight is not a new rule, it's a clarification that minutes and agendas must be produced. Other Committee Chairs agreed with the Chairman.

7. Issues raised by Committee Members for Discussion

- B. Press reported that he gave a letter to Community Board 2 requesting information. As a result of this he received two threats from members of the Bronx Democratic County Organization informing him to be careful because he is up for reappointment this year. B. Press wanted this noted in the minutes.
- P. Ellis noted that the response to Board of Standards and Appeals and Notice of Comments from 6469 Broadway (Self Help) is on the agenda at the Land Use meeting tomorrow night.
- P. Ellis thanked the District Manager and the board office for helping Ft. Independence whenever they have a problem with getting heat in their building.
- M. Wolpoff thanked the District Manager in getting snow removed in the vicinity of the Conservative Synagogue.
- M. Wolpoff reported that a letter is being sent to COIB to get further clarification on what is the position to be taken if a member wishes to abstain on approval of minutes when that person(s) may not have been in attendance at the subject meeting and secondly, a question was raised concerning the concept of "recusal."
- M. Wolpoff also reported on the issue of what sanctions are in the bylaws with respect to if a member misses 3 consecutive meetings. D. Padernacht said Article III, section 3 of the bylaws state that an appointed Member may be removed by the Board for failure to comply with section 3 of this Article; for three consecutive absences from meetings of the Board; for failure to attend six or more meetings of the Board in a period of any one year; or for other good cause. A proceeding to remove an Appointed Member shall be initiated by the Board's Executive Committee, by serving written notice on such Member, specifying the grounds for the proposed removal.
- M. Wolpoff noted that a member raised the issue that if the Chairperson of the Board speaks to the Press on behalf of the board why are other people being quoted in the Press. Chair Padernacht said when he received a media inquiry he usually gives it to the committee chair and either him or the chair will contact the media person. Board members questioned by the media can say they are responding as an individual and not on behalf of the board.
- M. Wolpff thanked R. Ginty for the recent legislative update.
- Chair Padernacht reported that they will submit a request for discretionary funds from our three City Council members. After discussion it was agreed to request \$5,000.00 from each council member.
- The Chair announced the incredible job Aging Chair, L. Daub did on the Senior Resource Guide. The discretionary funding received last year will be used to have this guide copied for the community. The initial amount being copied is Fifteen hundred. L. Daub would like the guide posted on the website and copies for the public at the next board meeting.
- The Chair would like all the Chair's to consider working on a Resource Guide for the community. Monies will be made available for printing.
- Monies have also been put aside for advertising. Some ideas being considered is a bookmark or a palm card to hand out at meetings or events. The goal is outreach to the community.
- There is a full agenda at the next board meeting. It includes the preliminary budget responses for FY 2017, the NY Yankee Youth Leadership awards, SAPO's, resolutions, and other presentations. The Chair asked the Committee Chairs to refer the audience to their minutes unless they have something important to report. The meeting will end at 10PM.
- B. Press suggested that the board member read the budget report before the board meeting so he can expedite his report.

8. Follow up on Outstanding Issues

- B. Bender followed up on his request from the last executive meeting for board members to receive the list of master plans that are in the board office. This would enable the board members to review the plans in advance of a Land Use meeting. The Chair will ask the Land Use Chair if he can give an updated report of master plans on file in the Chair's report at Executive meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Dan Padernacht
Chairman