

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD APRIL 2, 2014
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Sergio Marquez
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Dan Padernacht
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Lamont Parker
Joyce Pilsner, Secretary	Karen Pesce
Steve Balicer	Robert Press (Public Safety Vice Chair)
Bob Bender	Sergio Villaverde
Brendan Contant	Nicole Stent, District Manager
Rosemary Ginty	Diane Bay, Community Associate
Marvin Goodman	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sylvia Alexander
Arlene G. Feldmeier
Steven Froot
Charles G. Moerdler

The meeting convened at 7:30PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- Chairman Fanuzzi commenced the meeting noting that two resolutions and several committee minutes were missing. He stressed the importance of committee chair's submitting minutes and resolutions to the board office on time. New York State law requires submission of minutes within 15 days of committee meetings.
- Chairman thanked all the participants who helped bring to fruition in the Van Cortlandt Park Pedestrian Bridge Rally walk over the major Deegan on Saturday, March 29th. Special thanks to Christina Taylor, Friends of Van Cortlandt Park; B. Bender; M. Khury; R. Ginty; D. Padernacht; R. Press and the elected officials.
- The Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee (CFMC) meeting was primarily devoted to park issues. The replacement of 60 trees removed in Ft. Independence is still not resolved and the estimated cost to replace those trees is \$586,000. The CFMC passed a resolution stating that any tree taken down in that Croton area must be replanted in Bronx Community Board No. 8.
- The Comptroller is holding a demonstration of the Checkbook NYC program. It is being held on Friday, April 11th at 8:30 a.m. in the Municipal building.
- Legislation passed at the state level that will affect the Montefiore development. State Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblyman Dinowitz are holding a townhall on April 3rd at 7:30 PM at the Riverdale YM/YWHA. It will be chaired by the Commissioner of the State Department of Health. This will incorporate comments from the community and the community board.

2. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- P. Friedman and N. Stent reviewed the budget for the board and the budget is in order and on target for the fiscal year.

3. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

- No report.

4. Committee Reports

A. Resolutions

Committee resolutions were distributed and will be presented at the next board meeting. The following is a brief description of the resolutions:

1. **Libraries & Cultural Affairs:**

Two Street Activity Permit Applications:

- New York Public Library Summer Reading Kick-off Block Party
- New York Public Library Summer Reading End Block Party

2. **Health, Hospitals & Social Services:**

- Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's Play Street – This resolution was amended to include the following before the last paragraph - Whereas, Bronx Community Board No. 8 previously approved this very successful play street activity in 2013

3. **Parks & Recreation and Traffic & Transportation:**

- Hudson River Greenway – That further consideration of an all-river Greenway route should continue under the auspices of Bronx Community Board No. 8 in cooperation with local residents, community groups, and appropriate government agencies.

4. **Law, Rules and Ethics:**

- Upon the approval of the chair of a committee and the chair of the board, any community committee member whose term expires in June and has reapplied, may be reappointed effective July 1 or later, without having to fulfill the three consecutive meeting requirement again

5. **Traffic & Transportation:**

- Amalgamated Nursery School Spring Bazaar street activity permit.

B. Public Safety – R. Press

- Resolutions on Jay's Place LLC - 5782 Mosholu Avenue, Caridad Restaurant - 135-45 Kingsbridge Road and Patty Harrington/Corporation – 171 West 231st Street will be sent to the board office.
- Minutes will be submitted to the board office.
- The Alcohol training program was well attended by many merchants in the community.

C. Youth – L. Parker

- The Comeback Kid Certificate of Recognition will be presented at the next community board meeting. This award is for a student chosen from one of the community centers that has overcome challenges and demonstrated improvement.
- The Bronx Community Board 8 Youth Poetry SLAM! will be held on May 15th at the Kingsbridge Branch Library. Preparations are ongoing with further work for the poetry slam to take place at the April meeting.
- The Borough President's C-Ball event will occur in CB8 in September 2014.
- The next meeting is on April 23rd at the board office.

D. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- There was a joint committee meeting held with the Aging Committee in March. Ken Stuart of Access-A-Ride provided a solid background of what they do and who they serve. Questions were answered.
- DOT presented a design plan for Albany Crescent and Bailey Avenue. There have been 5 to 7 injuries at this location over the last few years and therefore is a high risk intersection. DOT plans to put an island at Albany Crescent and then do a reversal of the traffic leading into West 231st Street. D. Padernacht and N. Stent are going on a site visit with DOT next week. This will also be on the agenda at the May meeting.
- The Safe Route to Transit Project on Broadway at West 231st and West 238th Streets was presented by the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC). Their purpose is to improve safety for pedestrians using mass transit by installing pedestrian islands. Included in this work will be work on water mains, sewers, curbs, sidewalks, traffic signals and pavement markings at these two intersections. DDC will be coming back to the Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting in May with more information on the project.
- The developer of the West 230th Street Broadway Mall requested a letter of support from the community board for an after hour variance for work on the mall. The developer came to the Traffic & Transportation meeting and this topic was discussed under new business. Because of time constraints, the letter was approved by the committee since there was no time to wait for the April 8th meeting for a full board approval. The letter was distributed to board members.
- There are continued parking concerns on West 254th Street between Independence & Sycamore Avenues. Several homeowners in the area questioned the 6 or 7 parking spots that were left on the south side of West 254th Street where the residents were under the impression there would be no parking signs erected. This will be an agenda item at the May meeting.
- There is no April meeting due to the holiday.

E. Law, Rules and Ethics – R. Ginty

- The March minutes were distributed.
- As requested, the committee researched the Intro 28 bill; a bill that would require webcasting at community board meetings and then archived and available on the community board website or the NYC website. There was a hearing and testimony on the bill. Overall the community boards were in favor of the concept, but questioned the board's technical ability and available funding to implement this bill.
- The finalized version of the Reference Handbook for Community members of Board Committees was discussed. This will be emailed to the board members and a motion to accept this handbook will be raised at the April board meeting.

F. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- Please refer to the minutes.

G. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – J. Pilsner

- R. Ginty reported that the Health, Hospitals and Social Service minutes state that the minutes note that a quorum was met via phone. Quorums cannot be met via phone. However, it was noted that a quorum did develop after the phone call.
- J. Pilsner reported that a non-profit, federally funded social service agency will be providing foster care and shelter services for Unaccompanied Minors at 2865 Kingsbridge Terrace. These minors have entered the US without authorized immigration status. This topic will be on the agenda at the April 29th committee meeting.

H. Aging – K. Pesce

- The Director of Senior Services from the Borough President's office will be a speaker at the Aging Committee meeting in April.
- The committee is trying to develop a booklet of services for older adults. K. Pesce asked each chair to send her any services they may be aware of that could be included in this booklet, i.e. housing discount information, etc.

I. Environment & Sanitation – S. Marquez

- There is no April meeting due to the holiday.
- In May the committee meeting will include discussion of budget priorities with a representative from the Department of Sanitation.
- In June the committee will meet with a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection to inform the community of upcoming projects. Also on the agenda in June is the Clean Streets initiative in Marble Hill.
- A dumpster will be placed near the Riverdale Jewish Center at the corner of West 237th Street and Independence Avenue at 7:00 AM and removed by 3:00 PM on April 14th, 2014. This will be announced in next week's newspapers.

J. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- Businesses provided a lot of feedback about the paid sick leave bill that is now law and also expressed their concerns about a bill that may be introduced about a paid vacation law.
- S. Villaverde was introduced to people through his Church who are willing to help do an ESL for a jobs program. S. Villaverde thanked M. Khury and P. Ellis for their efforts in making this happen.
- There will be no committee meeting in May. The committee is working on hosting a job fair with the employers of the West 230th Street Broadway Plaza development.

K. Housing – S. Balicer

- Mr. Weinstein, Director of Development of Bronx HPD reported that the Mayor's new housing plan will be announced around May 1st.
- The upcoming meeting in May will include Marble Hill NYCHA issues.
- S. Marquez suggested that low income people be included in the SCRIE program.

- R. Ginty reported that the Mayor's office may introduce a bill to tax vacant land higher so as to force development.

L. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- The committee heard various proposals at the February meeting on the Hudson River Greenway. At the March meeting discussion took place with the committee members. L. Spalter proposed a resolution that did not pass. Bob then incorporated parts of L. Spalter's resolution into the committee resolution which was passed.
- Mr. McKinney, the urban planner for the Parks Department, discussed the Van Cortlandt Park master plan. Based on feedback, some changes were made. Some of the features are improving entrances to the parks to make them more inviting; dealing with the highway entrances and exits that divide the park, three pedestrian bridges, a playground in the northwestern portion of the park; and a number of other items. Although there are three community boards that share responsibility for Van Cortlandt Park, there is only one councilmember, which means limitations on council funding.
- The demonstration for the pedestrian bridge in Van Cortlandt Park was very successful. He was thankful to the community board members and elected officials who attended.

M. Budget – B. Contant

- A response from the School Construction Authority on the Education Committee's FY 2015 budget requests was received. Their response was funding limitations.
- A response was received from FDNY for the Health, Hospital and Social Service FY 2015 budget request for a restocking station. They monitored the number of incidents and response times and found no appreciable difference operating out of Station 27, after the closure of the 50 Outpost.
- B. Contant reminded each committee to meet with their respective city agencies in the next couple of months to discuss community needs before the June deadline.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Joyce Pilsner,
Secretary