

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD APRIL 4, 2012
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

PRESENT:

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair
Bob Abbott
Sylvia Alexander
Bob Bender
Andrew Cohen
Tom Durham
Phil Friedman
Steven Froot

Maria Khury
Irving Ladimer
Rosemary Ginty
Dan Padernacht
Karen Pesce
Joyce Pilsner
Nicole Stent
Diane Bay

ABSENT:

Brendan Contant
Damian McShane
Charles G. Moerdler
Sergio Villaverde

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

The Chair reviewed two resolutions from the Land Use Committee meeting of April 3, 2012. One resolution was approval of the proposal by Equity One, Inc. in response to their application to the Economic Development Corporation for the Broadway Plaza at West 230th Street. The other was Landmarks and Preservation Commission, 4707 Delafield Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471 application for addition to existing house. Revisions were requested and will be presented at the April 10, 2012 board meeting.

- There was a correction to last months Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee report that the Public Design Commission would hear Parks Department application to cut down trees along Jerome Park Reservoir, along with a proposal to commence Ft. Independence Park restoration and the construction of the jogging path. This agenda item was not discussed at that hearing. The date for the next hearing of the PDC is April 23, 2012.
- On March 29, 2012, R. Fanuzzi joined the Bronx Community Board District Managers and Father Gorman, Chair of Bronx Community Board 12 in testifying before the City Council's Government Operations Committee about the proposed budget cuts to the community boards. N. Stent added that the Bronx District managers presented a joint testimony and copies were distributed. In addition, the Bronx District Managers spoke with the City Council Bronx Delegation and received a letter of support.
- The Chair, along with District Manager went to the opening of the Van Cortlandt Park Classic Playground across from Amalgamated Houses. The NYC Parks Department received matching funds of \$150,000.00 from the Court of Dreams

Foundation which has connection to Horace Mann School. The Mayor also contributed \$75,000 toward the project.

- The chair asked Maria Khury, Vice Chair to work with Phil Friedman and submit a report on the proposed Friends of CB8 to the board.
- The Chair received a request from a board member to honor Debbie Bowden. After discussion it was noted to further discuss this at the Education Committee meeting.
- Patricia Manning will be honored for her 25 years of dedicated work for the community board at the June meeting.

2. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

- Applications requesting discretionary funds for Bronx Community Board 8 were submitted to Councilman Koppell, Cabrera and Rodriguez.
- A report on the statement of the FY 2013 preliminary budget will be sent to the board members.
- N. Stent reminded the Chair's that Brendan Contant, Budget Chair, sent an email to the executive committee members explaining the process of budget requests. A budget request form had been prepared by the prior budget chair. This form was recommended for use by the Committee Chair's in preparing the FY 2014 budget requests. It will be emailed to each Chair.
- The borough service cabinet meeting was held this morning and there was a Finance Department speaker discussing property owners who may have tax liens on their property for unpaid bills, i.e. water, sewer, etc. Bronx Community Board 8 has the lowest number of tax liens in the Bronx, but the Bronx has the highest number in the city. There is an upcoming tax lien assistance session hosted by the Department of Finance. The lien holders have an opportunity to receive a waiver on their lien. There is an assistance session to be held Monday, April 23rd from 5-7PM at 3030 Third Avenue, second floor, Bronx. A list was given to K. Pesce to discuss outreaching to seniors regarding these liens. More information will be forthcoming from the Borough Service Cabinet meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- No Treasurer's report.
- The "Friends of Community Board 8" committee will meet with a goal to decide on how monies might be spent. A report is expected to be distributed by the end of this year.

4. Committee Reports

A. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

- The committee received remarkable nominations for the Community Service Awards. It is the 20th anniversary of this award which was created by M. Wolpoff. B. Abbott spoke of the interesting award recipients over the past 20 years. It was suggested that the list of past recipients be posted on the board's website. A

committee will be created to select the 2012 recipients and they will be presented with this award at the May meeting.

- In FY 2013 the Mayor has proposed a 30% budget cut to the libraries that would result in significant cuts in staff, programs, etc. There will be a letter writing campaign opposing this cut.

B. Aging – K. Pesce

- River Terrace at 3247 Johnson Avenue, is a HUD Sec. 202 housing facility for seniors 62 years and older. There are public areas for activities but no meal service. The application process is now closed and 400 applications were selected. There are only 59 units which are expected to open in May.
- No report from the Hebrew Home on what their plan is for the Passionist Retreat house that was recently purchased.
- The new director of the Riverdale YMHA's Senior Center is Sharon Asherman, formerly of Washington Heights YMHA.
- The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 24th at the Atria of Riverdale.

C. Education – S. Alexander

- The next committee meeting is April 24th. David Meek of the Marble Hill School for International Studies will talk about the school and its programs, more specifically its green programs. S. Alexander will also try to contact Jennie Soler-McIntosh, Director of the New Visions charter School to speak of their green programs.
- S. Alexander asked that the board member requesting to honor Debbie Bowden come to the Education Committee for further discussion. The committee will also begin work on a street renaming in honor of Debbie Bowden.

D. Law, Rules & Ethics – I. Ladimer

- There was no March meeting.
- I. Ladimer requested a notice be sent to all board members before the April 10 board meeting reiterating the nominating committee process, guidelines, preamble and bylaws.

E. Housing – T. Durham

- T. Durham will hold another Heat Conversion Forum for the public when information is provided to the board on additional fuel conversion financial assistance.
- The chair plans to invite the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Commissioner to discuss security issues in and around NYCHA complexes in CB8 for the April meeting. M. Khury informed T. Durham that there are grants available for public safety issues. T. Durham will research this information.

F. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- The agenda for the next meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at the Riverdale Jewish Center will include: A NYSDOT presentation on the final design for the Henry Hudson Parkway signs. A letter was sent to NYSDOT clarifying the opposition from the community of removing Riverdale Avenue from this sign; there will be a speaker from the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission will discuss the Five-Borough Taxi Plan; NY Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) will give a Greenway Presentation on their recommended routes for the greenway. B. Bender stated the greenway is entirely in Bronx Community Board 8. It goes from the Henry Hudson Parkway to the Yonkers City Line. There will also be a discussion on the Henry Hudson Parkway Upper Roadway Path. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is to be notified of any major modifications to the highway or the bridge. B. Bender spoke to a representative from SHPO who said the MTA never notified them of any work being performed. This will be reviewed.
- The Chair added for the Corlear Water Main project which runs from West 230th to West 240 Street, is scheduled to begin in the next two weeks. It has a staging area that will be moved so it does not interfere with any events at Gaelic Park. The work should be completed within 8 weeks. Repaving will be done in accordance with Department of Transportation regulations which stipulate that "protected streets" where street re-surfacing had occurred within the past 5 years, required curb to curb repaving. Other streets will receive restoration resurfacing of trenched area only. Identification of streets resurfacing requirements is known at time of permit issuance. DDC told the community board this is an emergency project. D. Padernacht wanted to know why this project is an emergency. R. Ginty agreed with Dan and requested that a representative from DDC be invited to her meeting of April 18th to discuss notification of DDC projects.

G. Youth – A. Cohen

- A speaker from DYCD came to the March meeting.
- The next meeting will be on April 25th at the board office. The committee is working on their budget priorities.

H. Environment & Sanitation – R. Ginty

- L. Spalter, Vice Chair of the Committee wrote a letter to the not-for-profits in Bronx Community Board 8 informing them that the city is intending to charge them for garbage pick-up beginning FY 2013. This will be a topic for discussion at the E&S Committee meeting on April 18 at St. Stephen's Church beginning at 7:00 PM.

Note: The Chair, Rosemary Ginty recused herself from discussion and participation on this issue.

- The Chair is working on a Community Day Street Clean-Up event in the Marble Hill area. Board member Georgia Santiago has contacted the Marble Hill Tenants Association and Tony Edwards representing Councilman Ydanis

Rodriguez's office will speak to several churches in the area to participate in this event.

- M. Khury identified the Department of Sanitation's Adopt a Public Space Recycling Receptacle Program in North Riverdale is up and running well.

I. Parks & Recreation - B. Bender

- It's My Park Day is on Saturday May 19th and they will be cleaning up Ft. Four Park in Kingsbridge Heights. A couple of community associations will be participating.
- On April 11th B. Bender, Laura Spalter and Parks Commissioner Aponte will do a site visit with the Parks Department for a skateboard park. The two locations being reviewed are Van Cortlandt Park, south of the stadium and the Bailey Avenue playground.
- The Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy wants to draw up a new master plan for Van Cortlandt Park which has not occurred since the mid 1980's. There will be a one year planning session for this master plan. The first meeting to discuss this is on April 23rd at the Mosholu Golf house.
- The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) will be invited to the April 25th meeting to discuss how the NYMTC plans for the Greenway will affect local parks, specifically Riverdale Park.
- N. Stent reported there is a pilot program for a Youthmarket at Van Cortlandt Park near the pool area. Bon Secours is working with Friends of Van Cortlandt Park and an Inwood Park Group on this project. B. Bender reported this Youthmarket will be held on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 7:00PM in July and August.

J. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – S. Froot

- The next committee meeting is on Monday, April 16th at Atria Riverdale.
- There will be dental and blood pressure screenings at the Riverfest in June. Chairman Froot thanked Dr. Madeline Ginzburg for her assistance in securing the dental screening for this event.
- The Kingsbridge Riverdale Van Cortlandt Development Corporation (KRVCDC) is having an Arts Festival May 6th on Johnson Avenue.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate