

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD APRIL 3, 2013  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Sergio Marquez
Bob Abbott	Dan Padernacht
Sylvia Alexander	Lamont Parker
Steve Balicer	Joyce Pilsner, Secretary
Bob Bender	Sergio Villaverde
Arlene G. Feldmeier	Nicole Stent, District Manager
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Diane Bay, Community Associate
Steven Froot	

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Andrew Cohen  
Brendan Contant  
Charles G. Moerdler

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:**

Tony Edwards, rep. Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez  
Margaret Donato, UFEC

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

**1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi**

- R. Fanuzzi presented testimony to the City Council, Government Operations Committee and Chaired by Gail Brewer on the Mayor's FY 2014 proposed community board budget cuts that will affect the 59 community boards.
- R. Fanuzzi, as Chair of the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee, reported on the meeting of March 21, 2013. Information from DEP is still pending regarding questions of need for a back-up generator in case of a power outage. They also have not provided any information about their process of oversight of contracts. At the meeting, DDC made a presentation to CFMC on two of the projects made possible by the Croton Filtration mitigation funds, the building of the Mosholu Golf House and the restoration of the Mosholu Golf Course driving range, under which the filtration plant is buried. Rather than giving approval of the CFMC, R. Fanuzzi referred DDC to the Parks Committee meeting in April so Community Board 8 could review and approve.
- R. Fanuzzi noted rules regarding quorum regulations for community members of committees as stated in Mayor's Community Assistance Unit Handbook for Community Board Members. Discussion ensued on possible discrepancy with quorum regulations as stated in Community Board 8 Bylaws. R. Ginty will review this at the Law, Rules and Ethics committee meeting.
- The nominating committee election will occur at the April board meeting. R. Fanuzzi will notify Board members of rules and regulations regarding Nominating Committee as found in the Ethical Guidance manual.

- The next Board meeting is at the Fort Independence Community Center, community room.

## 2. Treasurer's Report

- A Treasurer's report was distributed. There is a \$5,000 surplus for FY2013.
- The Mayor's budget has a \$13,600 budget cut for FY2014. This would be a serious cut that would deeply affect the operations of the office. P. Friedman feels the board should come up with a plan in case the budget is cut. S. Villaverde recommended making an itemized list of the monies spent in relation to the services provided by the board. R. Ginty requested the board receive the testimony that was given to the Board of Operations. R. Fanuzzi agreed.
- There has been no increase in the operations budget for over 20 years.
- B. Abbott asked if the monies received from Councilmen Rodriguez and Cabrera will be encumbered over the next three months. N. Stent said it will be used for the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and the Marble Hill youthmarkets and office operations support. S. Alexander remembers the distribution of the monies explained differently, in that the monies were to be spent in the Councilperson's District. N. Stent explained the monies received from the Councilmen are to be used for operational support as well. The money is not given to a specific organization, but is given to the board to use for operational expenses with respect to the various communities that we serve within the board area, in addition to other needs the Community Board may have. The City Council applications from FY2013 and FY2014 will be provided to the Board for a better understanding of the distribution of the funds.

## 3. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

- N. Stent participated in a conference call site visit for a special project grant of \$25,000 from the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center (KHCC) is applying in collaboration with Bon Secour. The grant will support the play street and youth farmer's market at the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center. The KHCC playstreet and farmers youthmarket was approved by the Board in March.
- Applications requesting discretionary funds for Bronx Community Board 8 were submitted to Councilmen Koppell, Cabrera and Rodriguez. The requests were for funding office operational funding to continue board initiatives, programs, public forums & office operations to inform, educate, outreach and support the community with computer generated flyers and mailings. We learn the results by June 2013.
- Reminder from Brendan Contant, Budget Chair, for executive committee chairs to invite their respective agencies to committee meetings to discuss the agency and community needs. A budget request form was recommended for use in preparing the FY 2014 budget requests. It has been emailed to each Chair.
- The district service cabinet meeting was held on Tuesday April 2, and an update to several projects was provided: Corlear Water Main – the project will commence with street paving work once the weather improves. Curb to curb will only be on those streets that were repaved in the last 5 years. Palisades Retaining Wall Project wall is complete, fencing, planting and guard rails will be installed.

## 4. Committee Chair Resolutions

- A. Feldmeier, Public Safety committee chair, showed copies of resolutions for liquor license approvals from her committee meeting for Kelly Ryan's and Winners, with conditions. They will be presented at the board meeting in April.

- D. Padernacht, Traffic & Transportation committee chair reported that the committee approved the following resolutions:
  - ❖ No Stopping, No Standing, No Parking on West 254<sup>th</sup> Street between Independence Avenue and Sycamore Avenue, on both sides of the street. A double yellow line is also being requested to guide motorists as they are going up and down the hill.
  - ❖ No Parking on the east side of Sycamore Avenue between West 252<sup>nd</sup> Street and West 254<sup>th</sup> Street between 7AM and 5PM.
  - ❖ No Parking on the West side of Independence Avenue between West 252<sup>nd</sup> street and West 254<sup>th</sup> Street between.
  - ❖ Two daylighting sections at West 254<sup>th</sup> Street at the corner of Sycamore Avenue (on the Sycamore side), another one at West 254<sup>th</sup> Street on the Southeast corner of West 254<sup>th</sup> Street and Independence Avenue. A daylighting section is a simple pedestrian safety measure achieved by removing parking spaces adjacent to curbs around an intersection, increasing visibility for pedestrians and drivers and minimizing conflicts.
  - ❖ No Standing on the South Side of West 254<sup>th</sup> Street at the southwest corner of the intersection of West 254<sup>th</sup> Street and Independence Avenue.
  - ❖ The Committee voted in February to put up No Parking Signs on the West side of the Street on Independence from West 246<sup>th</sup> Street to West 247<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - ❖ The Committee reviewed and approved a resolution for a SAPO Application for **Two** Street Activity Permit Applications; Lag B'omer Picnic a block party to be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> and a Springfest block party to be held on June 5, 2013. The resolutions will be presented at the April board meeting.
- R. Fanuzzi asked D. Padernacht on disposition of committee support for community request to remove parking on Independence Avenue between 246 and 247<sup>th</sup> Streets, as stated in minutes of February 2013. D. Padernacht confirmed that resolution will be brought to the board.
- S. Villaverde reported that Economic Development Committee approved the Kingsbridge Road Summer Kick Off Party on Reservoir Avenue between West Kingsbridge Road and West 195<sup>th</sup> Street on June 22, 2013. It is a repeat event and will be presented at the April board meeting.

## 5. Committee Reports

### A. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

- A. Feldmeier created a liquor license questionnaire requesting information from applicants. The questionnaire will be further reviewed by the Law, Rules and Ethics Committee.
- Detective L. Rodriguez has officially retired.
- A letter recommending a promotion for Police Officer Migdalia “Mindy” Ramos and Auxiliary Police Coordinator Officer Iacovides will be submitted on their behalf.
- An event - Hands Across the Concourse will join with community and clergy members to join hands in opposition to gun violence and domestic violence. Anyone wishing to organize and attend please register at <http://bit.ly/acrosstheconcourse> or call (718) 590-3562. The event is on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. A. Feldmeier would like to meet as a group.
- A. Feldmeier requested the office purchase a Bronx Community Board No. 8 banner. N. Stent confirmed this will be purchased.

B. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- There was a question raised by a member of the Economic Development Committee about parking being taken away on the south side of Riverdale Avenue by Con Edison. This same question was raised to the board office and Con Ed's response was forwarded to the member. It was an emergency project.
- S. Villaverde thanked everyone for their well wishes when he was ill.

C. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- Refer to minutes.
- At the March meeting there was a discussion on traffic concerns at West 238<sup>th</sup> Street and Putnam Avenue once the Riverdale Crossing Shopping Center opens. There were specific requests by the residents. A future meeting with the developer of Riverdale Crossings, the Economic Development Committee and the Traffic and Transportation Committee will be arranged to discuss further.

D. Housing – S. Balicer

- S. Balicer thanked all for reaching out to him when he was ill.
- The next committee meeting is on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

E. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. The committee is still working on the Community Service Forum that will feature student projects from local schools and is planned for May. S. Alexander reported that the Kingsbridge Library is open to using the Children's Library on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10AM for this event.

F. Law, Rules and Ethics – R. Ginty

- The Committee did not meet in March due to the Passover holiday.
- The next meeting is April 25<sup>th</sup> in the Riverdale Mental Health Association.

G. Environment & Sanitation – S. Marquez

- S. Marquez spoke to the President of the Promenade Tenants Association about the dumping under the Promenade. She mentioned there had been a clean up by the maintenance crew of the Promenade. S. Marquez will try to get a status report of Metro North Railroad's efforts to clean the tracks and the roadbed adjoining the site.
- The next committee meeting will be held on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

H. Youth – L. Parker

- There was no March meeting.
- The next meeting is on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Riverdale Neighborhood House at 1:00PM. Information will be given by a Community Affairs officer on how to register your phone, laptop, etc.
- A representative from Van Cortlandt Golf will talk about hosting a Youth Day in July and there will be a presentation from the Foster Parent Advocacy Foundation.

- There will be continued discussion at the next Youth Committee meeting on the Youth Poetry SLAM scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Kingsbridge Library.

I. Libraries & Cultural Affairs– B. Abbott

- Refer to March minutes.
- There is no meeting scheduled for April.
- B. Abbott reported on the Mayor's significant cuts in the FY2014 NYPL budget. The Libraries are now preparing an outreach in the community to help them write to City Council.
- Nominations for the Community Service Awards must be submitted by April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Awards will be given out at the May Board meeting.

J. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- There was no March meeting.
- The April meeting will consist of:
  - ❖ A presentation by DDC on the Mosholu Golf House
  - ❖ A presentation by the Parks Department on the renovation of the basketball court and the tot lot in Ewen Park
  - ❖ "It's My Park Day" will be in Ewen Park on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The "Friends of Ewen Park" will be invited to attend the April committee meeting. The committee would like to help jumpstart the group
  - ❖ A discussion on LG Electronic's plan to construct an office tower along Englewood Cliffs, just behind the Palisades Preserve which will rise up well above the tree line in New Jersey. B. Bender would like to propose a resolution in opposition against the construction of this tower. Once the first building goes up B. Bender feels the battle is lost. The look of the Palisades from our Community will be forever altered. There are many organizations who have taken a position of opposition towards this construction.
- The first meeting of the "Friends of Vinmont" will be on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Riverdale Neighborhood House at 7:00 PM. L. Spalter has been instrumental in forming this group. Once the group is set up they will be self sustaining similar to "Friends of Van Cortlandt Park".
- The Sid Augarten ball field in Vinmont Park has been renovated and opening day is Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 11AM.
- For the first time since 2008, the proposed FY2014 Parks Department budget will include an increase in maintenance. Maintenance workers, Parks Enforcement Officers, tree climbers, pruners and trades workers will be hired.

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

- The Services for the Developmentally Challenged discussed their plan to open a group home for 6 people who suffer from an unusual condition that afflicts 1 out of 13,000 people called the Prader-Willi syndrome, a genetic disorder. The affect of the disease prevents the person from ever feeling full which causes a number of complications. The location being considered for this facility is 3001 Independence Avenue. There will be a Public Hearing on this as soon as the application is received.
- The underage drinking forum has been cancelled due to time constraints and also there are no other options to schedule this at MS/HS 141 while the community center is operating. This would have helped in involving parent organizations, etc. to attend.

L. Miscellaneous

- J. Pilsner distributed an invitation from the Riverdale Mental Health Association to its benefit on April 22nd.
- J. Pilsner reminded all Chairs of the importance of listing separately their committee members' attendance at committee meetings from the board members.
- M. Khury announced that Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez will give The State of Northern Manhattan on April 21, 2:30 PM at Yeshiva University. Also, there will be a Town Hall meeting at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Participants will be State Senator Espaillat, Assembly member Gabriela Rosa and Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez. Representation from the 50, FDNY, NYCHA, Department of Buildings, Human Resource Administration, Department of Parks, Department of Sanitation and many more.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,  
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Joyce Pilsner,  
Secretary