

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 1, 2012  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Irving Ladimer
Bob Abbott	Dan Padernacht
Sylvia Alexander	Karen Pesce
Bob Bender	Joyce Pilsner
Brendan Contant	Nicole Stent
Tom Durham	Diane Bay
Arlene G. Feldmeier	
Steven Froot	

**ABSENT:**

Andrew Cohen  
Phil Friedman  
Damian McShane  
Charles G. Moerdler  
Sergio Villaverde

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- The Chair encouraged all to attend the Special Board Meeting on February 2, 2012 (tomorrow) to discuss the intent to award as a concession the development, operation, and maintenance of a seasonal ice rink at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx to Van Cortlandt Park Ice Rink, LLC. This is a full board meeting and the rules for a quorum will apply.
- The Chair reported that the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee (CFMC) meeting was very productive. The new CFMC Chair is Paul Foster, Chair of the Bronx Community Board No. 7. It is a rotating chairmanship. Three resolutions were passed: the first resolution asks the Mayor to fund the Pedestrian Bridge in Van Cortlandt Park. The second requests that the Department of Parks & Recreation spend the two million dollars that is slated to be spent in Ft. Independence Park and the third resolution is a request that all trees cut down around the reservoir should be replanted in Bronx Community Board No. 8. R. Fanuzzi asked for a tree replanting plan.
- Julie Reyes has accepted R. Fanuzzi's request to join the West 230<sup>th</sup> Street Committee. Members now consist of R. Fanuzzi, C. Moerdler, M. Khury, S. Villaverde and Julie Reyes. The developer of West 230<sup>th</sup> Street will be requested to come before the board to answer any questions from board members and the public about the site.
- R. Fanuzzi shared his condolences and sadness on the passing of board member Debbie Bowden. He spoke of her service and leadership as chair of the Education Committee and her commitment, contributions and dedication to the community. A letter was written on behalf of the board and was read by the Rabbi at the funeral service.

2. District Manager's Report – No Report

3. Treasurer's Report – No Report

4. Committee Reports

A. Aging – K. Pesce

- The next committee meeting is on February 28<sup>th</sup> at Riverdale Housing for the Elderly at 3:30 PM. A presenter from Albert Einstein will talk about a senior research project that looked at aging and Alzheimer's development in the aging population.
- The Hebrew Home will open a facility with subsidized housing on Johnson Avenue in the fall. Applications are being accepted. Call 718-418-2157 and leave name, address to have application sent. There will be a lottery for available apartments. K. Pesce will try to get a speaker from the Hebrew Home for her March committee meeting.

#### B. Law, Rules and Ethics – I. Ladimer

- A resolution was presented by I. Ladimer regarding the nominating committee and selection of officers and committee chairs. This will be presented to the board at the February 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting.
- I. Ladimer, A. Spett and A. Cohen are preparing Nominating Committee Guidelines for final review by the Law Committee.

#### C. Education – Sylvia Alexander

- S. Alexander spoke about the loss of her best friend and board member, Debbie Bowden. She read a statement written by Marvin Goodman on how Debbie's passing will be felt throughout our community and the significant impact her work had on so many people.
- A. Diacou presented a proposal for a charter school that will be under the auspices of the Board of Regents. Chairman Fanuzzi would like to see the proposal when it becomes finalized.
- I. Ladimer was invited by The American Bar Association to develop a series of programs for schools on How Democracy Works.
- The Principal of MS/HS 141 will be a guest speaker at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting in the board office.

#### D. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – S. Froot

- There will be a presentation by the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at the St. Gabriel School on Reducing Youth Access to Tobacco Products on February 15 at 590 West 235<sup>th</sup> Street (between Arlington & Netherland Avenue) from 4:15 to 5:00 PM.
- Ms. Aviva Grasso from The Department of Health gave a presentation on Alcopops which are sweetened pre-mixed alcoholic beverages attracting youth. Examples include Mike's Hard Lemonade, Smirnoff Ice, and wine coolers. Moving alcopops to liquor stores will significantly reduce the number of opportunities for youth to purchase them.
- There is good progress in getting health screening for the upcoming Riverfest in June.
- The next meeting is on Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at Manhattan College School of Engineering.

#### E. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

- The New York State Liquor Authority conducted an operation that monitored the sale of liquor to underage youth in grocery stores and bars. They visited 212 facilities in the City. In the Bronx in August, 38 of 48 stores and in November, 11 of 25 stores sold liquor to underage youth. No stores in Bronx Community Board 8 were found responsible for selling to underage youth.
- At the January meeting a resident spoke about the children skateboarding late at night near the overpass by MS 141. A letter will be sent to the Principals of PS 24 and MS141.
- A resolution was presented on liquor license renewals and new applications to be presented at the February 14<sup>th</sup>, Board meeting.

- A resolution will be presented opposing the granting of a new liquor license of an unnamed establishment at 123 West Kingsbridge Road the owner was invited to the December 2011 and January 2012 Public Safety meetings but failed to appear at either meeting.
- The next meeting is on February 16<sup>th</sup> at the 50<sup>th</sup> precinct.

#### F. Housing – T. Durham

- The Heat Conversion Forum is being held on February 27, 2012 at Manhattanville on West 231<sup>st</sup> Street.
- The Department of Environment Protection's (DEP) Property Water Overflow Amendment (PWOA) is a new rule in place to monitor the volume of water entering the sewer systems from property run off. DEP may begin to start metering water discharging from residential property into the sewer system.
- The Mitchell Lama houses at 3800 Waldo Avenue and the Promenade are initiating rent increases. Tibbett Towers is looking into privatizing.
- 3882 Cannon Place is an unoccupied 10 unit supportive housing unit in our community with no Certificate of Occupancy and a lien against the property that is privately owned. The Housing Committee agreed and asked Mr. Andrew Sandler (rep. for Councilman Oliver G. Koppell) to ask the councilman to look into purchasing the property as a possible site for an annex for the Van Cortlandt Library. R. Fanuzzi suggested that T. Durham also refer this idea for library purchase to Bob Abbott.

#### G. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- Department of Transportation (DOT) gave a presentation of a proposed final design for signs on the Henry Hudson Parkway (HHP) from West 125<sup>th</sup> Street to the northern New York City border with Yonkers.
- MTA Bridges and tunnels will be widening the Northbound Kappock Street exit in late February to early March. The northbound right lane on the HHP just before Kappock Street will be closed for approximately two weeks for the project and the MTA will provide further details when they have the information.
- There are plans by the MTA that the #7 bus will have less headway during rush hours to provide better service. There will be a speaker at the February meeting on this issue.
- There were complaints by merchants and residents regarding no parking signs on Riverdale Avenue from West 257<sup>th</sup> Street to West 260<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. The signs were put up by NYPD without notifying the Community Board. The district manager spoke to the police captain and this process will not occur in the future without community board input.
- The next committee meeting is on February 21<sup>st</sup> in the board office.

#### H. Budget Report – B. Contant

- The Mayors Preliminary Budget will be published this week.
- The Bronx Borough President is hosting the Bronx Borough Board Public Hearing on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 and the capital and service needs of the Borough on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 12PM at the Litigation Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 198 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street.

#### I. Environment & Sanitation – R. Ginty

- A series of letters were received concerning a resident's request that alternate side of the street parking be instituted on the west side of the Henry Hudson Parkway between West 239<sup>th</sup> Street and West 246<sup>th</sup> Street for street cleaning purposes. The resident along with neighboring houses and buildings were invited to the January E&S meeting. One building

superintendent attended the meeting. After discussion, the committee unanimously decided that there was not sufficient evidence to recommend the institution of ASP for this stretch of Henry Hudson Parkway. A letter was sent to the complainant with the final results of the committee's decision and also to the Department of Investigations.

- On January 19<sup>th</sup> the Borough President's office had a meeting with local state and federal officials on The Harlem River Waterfront Working Group, committee member Thailary Lim attended on behalf of the committee. The group is working on public access to the Harlem River for the entire borough. There are 3 scheduled meetings on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at Hostos Community College, March 29<sup>th</sup> Bronx Community College and April 5<sup>th</sup> at Lehman College.

J. Parks & Recreation - B. Bender

- DPR will accommodate Holiday Marathons for certain events, but not for Thanksgiving, Christmas or Easter events unless these marathons are held prior to or following the holidays because staff does not work on holidays. The Van Cortlandt Track Club which has a long record with DPR will operate a modified version of the Holiday Marathons. Events will not be run on the Putnam Trail or the Old Croton Aqueduct trails, only on the cross country course. DPR and Holiday Marathons have agreed on these procedures for the future.
- B.Bender is very disappointed with the lack of progress at the Memorial Grove restoration and will focus on trying to find a way to complete the project.
- The Special Board Meeting on the Van Cortlandt Park Ice Rink proposal is tomorrow at 7:30 PM at Manhattan College. Two representatives from the Parks Department will be at this meeting to help answer questions.
- The next Parks Committee meeting is on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the board office.

K. Miscellaneous

- J. Pilsner submitted her summary on absenteeism of board members at meetings more than 50% of the time to R. Fanuzzi.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay  
Community Associate