

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2013  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Mike Heller (Vice Chair, Health Committee)
Sylvia Alexander	Sergio Marquez
Steve Balicer	Dan Padernacht
Bob Bender	Joyce Pilsner
Andrew Cohen	Sergio Villaverde
Brendan Contant	Nicole Stent
Arlene G. Feldmeier	Diane Bay
Phil Friedman	

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Bob Abbott  
Steven Froot  
Damian McShane  
Charles G. Moerdler  
Lamont Parker

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Press

**PUBLIC:**

Andrew Sandler, rep. Councilman Koppell

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- R. Fanuzzi reminded Executive Committee members to notify the board office of your absence at Executive meetings and if you are appointing a committee member to provide the Chair report.
- As previously reported, budget was restored for FY 2013. However, the Mayor's Office announced there will be approximately an 8% budget reduction in FY 2014. District Managers will begin advocating for budget restoration. Chair Fanuzzi will also testify to the Board of Government Operations for the same.
- The Chair noted that film crews working in the neighborhood used to patronize local businesses, offsetting inconvenience to community in terms of traffic, etc. He will send a letter to the Mayor's Office of Film on this subject.
- Chair Fanuzzi appeared with Community Board 12 chair Father Richard Gorman on the Bronx Talk television, hosted Gary Axelbank, to discuss news relating to the Croton Filtration Plant. He noted that there will be Parks funding for the Jerome Park reservoir/Ft. Independence park renovation.
- Joyce Pilsner reported that she had reviewed the committee meeting attendance and notified Chairs of members who have not attended committee meetings.

2. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- P. Friedman thanked the district manager, Nicole Stent for her invaluable work on the treasurer's report and budget process.

- P. Friedman recommended the board plan ahead for all future budget cuts. J. Pilsner stated advocacy work should continue but there is little control over the Mayor's budget decisions. M. Heller suggested advocating for a revision of the City Charter that would restrict the Mayor's ability to reduce the budget of the community boards or the Borough President. J. Pilsner suggested having petitions for the community to sign in support of the Community Board available at future board meetings.
  - A Treasurer's report will be distributed at the next Community Board meeting.
3. District Manager's Report – N. Stent
- No report
4. Committee Chair Resolutions
- A. Feldmeier, Public Safety committee chair discussed resolutions on new and renewal liquor license applicants that will be presented at the February board meeting.
  - The Youth committee will recommend supporting a farmer's market street activity permit application for the Marble Hill Youthmarket and will present it at the February board meeting.
  - D. Padernacht, Traffic & Transportation committee chair reported that the committee approved an unenclosed sidewalk café application renewal for Burke's Beal Bocht and a new sidewalk café application for Yo Burger. They also approved a street activity permit application for a block party for Amalgamated Nursery Spring Bazaar and a single block festival permit for the Israeli Independence Day. These resolutions will be presented at the February board meeting.
5. Committee Reports
- A. Budget – B. Contant
- The FY2014 budget priorities chart with city agency responses was distributed. He recommended the OMB website as a great resource when preparing for FY2015 boards budget requests due June 2013.
  - B. Contant presented a power point presentation on the committee's budget request process. Copies will be sent to committee chairs.
  - He suggested each committee meet with city agencies in the next couple of months to discuss community needs before the June deadline. It is also important to show that expenditure, will over the long haul reduce operating expenses, help stimulate the economy, will help improve city revenue and will help improve infrastructure.
  - B. Contant offered his help if needed.
- B. Law, Rules and Ethics – R. Ginty
- The committee did not meet in January.
  - The next meeting is February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Economic Development – S. Villaverde
- S. Villaverde shared a draft of guidelines for committee review of SAPO applications. At the January 3 Executive committee meeting, R. Fanuzzi had asked all committees reviewing SAPO applications to draft a set of guidelines, and so thanked S. Villaverde for responding first and providing the template. He reminded all chairs reviewing SAPO applications that the community and the board required clarification of guidelines following the approval of the new SAPO procedures and to bring their committee's recommendations to the March Executive Committee meeting.

- S. Villaverde noted that the Riverdale Merchants Association reported that the No Parking signs that were recently posted in North Riverdale by a film crew were too small and the not legible unless you got out of your car to read them. These signs need to be enlarged.
- S. Villaverde will present a resolution at the upcoming board meeting to approve a street activity permit application block party permit for South Riverdale Merchants Fair and North Riverdale Merchants Fair and single block festival permit for a Johnson Avenue Merchants Fair.

D. Housing – S. Balicer

- BOEDC presented on green jobs at the January meeting.
- A speaker from the Mayor's office discussed the fuel oil conversions and the clean energy law. The committee will reach out to landlords and co-ops that have not converted to attend a future meeting.
- M. Heller reported that ARC is having a gas conversion forum in March.
- Budget priorities and planning will be discussed at the next meeting.

E. Aging – A. Cohen

- The committee met at the Riverdale YM/YWHA in January. Minutes will be forwarded.
- The next committee meeting will be held at the Van Cortlandt Senior Center at 1:30 PM. There will be a speaker from DFTA.

F. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

- A speaker from the Department of Consumer Affairs discussed the differences between cabaret licenses and state liquor licenses.
- The committee has instituted a questionnaire for liquor license applicants. R. Fanuzzi suggested this questionnaire be forwarded to the board office. A. Feldmeier suggested posting it on the website.
- There was a hate crime committed at the S&S cheesecake factory that is being investigated.
- There have been several citizen complaints about car break-ins and Deputy Inspector Burke is increasing patrols in the reported areas.
- You can register your iPhone at the 50<sup>th</sup> precinct on February 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- The next Public Safety meeting is on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

G. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- A speaker from the Parks Department/Forestry division to discuss street tree plantings. The committee identified 9 different locations in Riverdale, Kingsbridge and Marble Hill. The next step will be a site visit to determine if the locations are suitable. Planting will begin in the fall of 2013.
- The committee will discuss "Friends of Vinmont Park" at the February meeting.
- It was reported at the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee meeting that the Parks Department hopes to begin work at the Jerome Park reservoir/Ft. Independence in the spring. B. Bender is hoping a representative from the Parks Department will speak to his committee about operational issues, such as how to keep the restroom open during the renovations.
- Bronx Parks Speak Up is on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Lehman College from 11AM to 5PM. Anyone interested can attend.

H. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- DDC presented the final plans for Cannon Place retaining wall. After much discussion on the aesthetics, cost and height of the fence arose, the committee decided to send DDC a letter of support.
- Residents who live in the area near the Riverdale Crossings Shopping Center have concerns of truck traffic on Putnam Avenue, near Visitation School and Visitation Church. The developer of Riverdale Crossings came to the meeting with his traffic consultant and explained that these trucks will be exiting off at West 230<sup>th</sup> Street, travel down Bailey Avenue onto West 238<sup>th</sup> Street and into the shopping area. They will schedule these truck deliveries during off peak hours. R. Fanuzzi suggested that a letter summarizing the neighbors' concerns be sent, and that board receive the developers' transportation plans in writing. The topic will be on the March Traffic & Transportation agenda.
- Transportation Alternatives has a program called "Play Streets", which replicates old-time street play in specific locations. There will be an informational presentation at the next Traffic & Transportation committee meeting for the benefits of local residents. The program is first being presented at the January meeting of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services committee.

I. Environment & Sanitation – S. Marquez

- On February 8<sup>th</sup> a walk through will take place with MTA at the Promenade building site where garbage has piled up along the tracks. There is a plan to do a cleanup at this location.
- The next Committee meeting is on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the board office. The Department of Environmental Protection will discuss water mains and sewer lines.
- Budget requests will be discussed at the February meeting.

J. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes. The next meeting is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup>.

K. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – M. Heller, presenting for S. Froot

- The committee is meeting tomorrow at Schervier Apartments. They will discuss having a forum for parents on underage drinking. S. Alexander is working with the Parents Association and the Riverdale Community Center to see if this is feasible.
- The committee is considering conducting another Health Care forum about the Affordable Health Care Act before it goes into effect in January of 2014.
- There will be a presentation on Active Design, a program to increase active use of public spaces. S. Froot is very supportive of one of its programs, Play Streets, which brings active recreation spaces to communities in need. The district manager added that play streets were created as a Department of Health & Mental Health program to combat childhood obesity in the city.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,  
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Joyce Pilsner,  
Secretary