

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 10, 2014  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Marvin Goodman
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Dan Padernacht
Joyce Pilsner, Secretary	Lamont Parker
Sylvia Alexander	Karen Pesce
Bob Bender	Sergio Villaverde
Brendan Contant	Nicole Stent, District Manager
Paul Ellis	Diane Bay, Community Associate
Arlene G. Feldmeier	
Steven Froot	

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Steve Balicer  
Sergio Marquez  
Charles G. Moerdler

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Michael Heller  
Robert Press  
Xaxia Sanchez

The meeting convened at 7:30PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- January Executive Committee minutes, as amended, were unanimously adopted by members of the committee.
- Chairman recalled that in December Executive Committee he had asked committee chairs to report back on results of committee discussion on issue of uploading digital recording for the February Executive Committee meeting. No committees supported the uploading of the digital taping of their committee meetings to a website.
- Councilman Vacca proposed a bill to webcast full board meetings within 72 hours. The Chairman noted that a City Council hearing would take place on February 24. He asked R. Ginty to review this issue with the Law, Rules & Ethics Committee and report back.
- The Treasurer, P. Friedman, has asked questions about board operations and board staff. In advance of the meeting, the Chairman responded and distributed to the Board information from the Bronx Borough President's office that addressed those questions. The Chair then asked each member of the executive committee if there were any additional questions regarding this topic. No committee member had any additional questions.
- The District Manager stated that she had received over 100 emails in the past several months from the Treasurer asking questions related to the office operations and committees. She asked the Treasurer if he could provide an outline of the issues and concerns, with a list of specific questions, and purpose of the inquiries, so that she may respond to the issues with facts and in a manner that is organized, open and

transparent, and within the guidelines of the board office and the context of its mission. The responses could be presented to the executive committee and to the board as a whole. The District Manager stated she welcomes all questions from board members and will respond to the best of her ability, with facts using the appropriate resources, including the Borough President's Office, Office of Management and Budget, the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit, or any other city agency.

- The Chair emphasized that all board operations are transparent and invited board members who have specific questions regarding the operations of the Community Board office to please email the District Manager who will provide answers. Chair Fanuzzi also stated that he will take questions in future Chair Reports from any member of the Executive Committee.
- At conclusion of Chair's remarks, members of the Executive Committee agreed to present the following statement at the February board meeting:  
"The Executive Committee endeavors to keep board operations transparent and shall distribute additional information as questions arose. If any board members have specific questions, please contact Nicole Stent, District Manager".

## 2. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- P. Friedman met with the District Manager and went over the board finances. The report was in order.
- OMB had moved \$450 that was remaining from the telephone budget to the personal services budget. It will be reallocated to the other than personal services budget in the coming days.

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

- There is a new DDC project on the Cannon Place Retaining Wall; it includes several phases one of which is a sewer project that will close Cannon Place and West 238<sup>th</sup> Street for a period of time. She is working with D. Padernacht and had scheduled a meeting and a walk through with DDC, FDNY, Sanitation, Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation & Care Center and 3 large building representatives in the area to learn more about the project impacted by the closure. In addition, there will be a community forum to inform the neighborhood. D. Padernacht has more information on this project in his committee report.

## 4. Committee Reports

### A. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

- Resolutions on the following liquor license applications will be presented at the board meeting:
  1. Riverdale Diner, 3657 Kingsbridge Avenue
  2. Riverdale Steakhouse, 5700 Riverdale Avenue
  3. William E. Irwin Post 744, 3035-37 Corlear Avenue
  4. Bottom Line, 3648 Bailey Avenue
  5. The Lounge, 4685 Manhattan College Pkwy
- Discussion was held on the resolution for The Lounge.
- A questionnaire had been approved by the Public Safety Committee and reviewed by the Law, Rules & Ethics committee. It will be distributed to liquor license applicants and will be distributed at the board meeting.

B. Land Use – R. Fanuzzi

- A resolution on the District Master Plan for Fieldston Historic District will be presented at the board meeting.

C. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- A resolution on the North Riverdale Merchants fair will be presented at the board meeting.
- The committee discussed the economic impact on small businesses if they had to pay sick leave for their employees.

D. Budget – B. Contant

- The Preliminary Budget Public Hearing will be delayed for 1 month and will be presented in March.
- Councilman Y. Rodriguez is having a forum on discretionary funding which Chair Fanuzzi will attend.

E. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- A resolution boycotting LG products will be presented at the board meeting.
- The pedestrian bridge in Van Cortlandt Park was discussed at the January meeting. There will be a public event on March 29<sup>th</sup> advocating for the pedestrian bridge to be built. There will be fliers with information at the next board meeting.
- The Van Cortlandt stables concession is up for renewal. Proposals were due last week. The Parks Department has received several proposals.
- Bronx Parks Speak Up will be on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Lehman College.
- The Parks & Recreation and Traffic & Transportation Committees will have a joint meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Hudson River Greenway.

F. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- The January meeting was cancelled due to a snowstorm.
- The Cannon Place Retaining Wall Project includes a sewer line project that will begin in a few weeks. Cannon Place and West 238<sup>th</sup> Street will have to be closed for nearly 1 ½ months each. Street parking will be eliminated. There will be two meetings: one with FDNY, Sanitation, DDC, N. Stent and D. Padernacht and the other to discuss with the community on February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation and Care Center at 7:30 PM.

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

- Refer to minutes.
- The February meeting was cancelled because of President's Day.

H. Housing – P. Ellis, Vice Chair

- There was a good discussion on the Mitchell Lama program and its challenges. The speaker was Assistant Commissioner of Mitchell Lama Housing. There will be another meeting in the near future.
- The next committee meeting will be in March. An agenda item will be affordable housing.

I. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- Refer to minutes.

J. Law, Rules & Ethics – R. Ginty

- Refer to the minutes.
- If there is a need for a February meeting it will be held but there is no present intention to have one.

K. Youth – L. Parker

- The Comeback Kid Certificate of Recognition was discussed. Application guidelines and a nomination form were reviewed. A resolution for the Comeback Kid Certificate of Recognition will be presented at the board meeting.
- A resolution for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Marble Hill Youthmarket will be presented at the board meeting.
- The Hebrew Home for the Aged had two speakers who presented a great program that the community centers will participate in: The Adopt a Grandparent program which will give youth the opportunity to connect with a buddy from the Hebrew Home and provide seniors with an interaction with young people.
- The Second Annual Youth Ice Skating Day at the Van Cortlandt Park Ice Rink may be postponed due to the predicted snow storm.
- Three youth from the 2013 Youth Poetry SLAM were featured on the weather channel with Al Roker.
- The next meeting is on February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Riverdale YM/YWHA in the board room.

L. Aging – K. Pesce

- The Aging Committee will meet on February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Hebrew Home at 3:30 PM. The committee will discuss NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community).

M. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes.
- The next committee meeting will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

N. Old Business

- R. Fanuzzi asked if there was a motion to go into Executive Session to report information regarding issue raised at January 2014 Executive Committee meeting. R. Ginty clarified that the Executive Committee could call an executive session only if those members intended to speak about the salary of a specific staff member. If the committee is going to discuss issues of general principle, of policy, of laws that have applicability to more than a particular person whose salary was discussed at the last meeting, then an executive session is not permitted.

- Finding no cause for executive session, Chair Fanuzzi proceeded to explain the following procedures according to the Office of the Bronx Borough President: that at the time of hire there is a minimum and a maximum salary for Community Associates and District Managers. Community Associates are subject to city wide collective bargaining and contract increases. District Managers receive the city-wide Mayoral Management increase that matches the collective bargaining. Community Boards may also give merit increases to staff. The process for staff merit increases is that the District Manager makes a recommendation on the basis of merit and budget capacity and then presents the recommendation to the Chair and the Executive Committee. The Chair oversees the District Manager's position and with Officers, makes a recommendation to the Executive Committee on the basis of merit and budget capacity and then presents the recommendation to the Board.
- Any increases from the union collective bargaining contract will be put automatically into the budget for the union employees. The District Managers' Mayoral management increase is also put automatically by OMB into the budget and the increase moves in tandem with the collective bargaining agreement through the Mayor's management increase. The board votes on whether the District Manager receives all of these monies, none of these monies or a percentage of these monies.

#### New Business

- P. Friedman reported on net neutrality. The principle is that Internet service providers and governments should treat all data on the Internet equally.
- P. Friedman stated that hydrofracking will be coming to reality and feels this should be brought up to our elected officials.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,  
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Joyce Pilsner,  
Secretary