

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD JANUARY 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair  
Maria Khury, Vice Chair  
Bob Abbott  
Sylvia Alexander  
Bob Bender  
Andrew Cohen  
Brendan Contant  
Tom Durham  
Arlene G. Feldmeier

Phil Friedman  
Steven Froot  
Irving Ladimer  
Dan Padernacht  
Karen Pesce  
Joyce Pilsner  
Sergio Villaverde  
Nicole Stent  
Diane Bay

**ABSENT:**

Rosemary Ginty  
Damian McShane  
Charles G. Moerdler

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- The Chair commented on the importance of submitting committee minutes to enable both board members and the community to be well informed of important issues and committee work. Minutes should be submitted prior to the day of the Executive Committee meeting.
- Committee Chairs should contact J. Pilsner if committee members are not attending committee meetings. The Chair encouraged Committee Chairs to speak to committee members who have poor attendance at their committee meetings. This could be due to members being on more than 2 committees. Each board member is required to commit to participating on 2 board committees.
- R. Fanuzzi participated in US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's listening session for the 2012 Food and Farm Bill. She spoke about the need to increase funding for food stamps, urban agriculture and thriving borough initiatives.
- R. Fanuzzi thanked A. Feldmeier for hosting the Board Holiday party.

2. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

- The lease for the board office was signed October 2011 and went into effect December 6, 2011. It is a 10-year lease. The landlord has agreed to allow board members only, to park twice a week after 7:00PM in the back parking lot.
- District Manager Stent responded to a query about seeking new space. There is 2 year opt-out provision and new space must first be reviewed and approved by the Office of Management and Budget.
- Chairman Fanuzzi responded to a question about a possible satellite board office noting that board members should bring proposals to his attention.
- Ongoing projects are community collaborations with Horace Mann School, High School of American Studies, Riverdale Country School and Fieldston School to involve students in community service. There is an existing program that was started by the Community Board with Horace Mann and the Marble Hill Community Center where high school students provide homework help and Lego robotics to the center students. A new collaboration has been created with the High School of American Studies which has instituted a community service program with 20 high school students at the Kingsbridge Heights Community

Center. The program supports children K-6 in homework help and recreation activities from 4-6PM, Monday and Thursdays.

3. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- The Treasurer's report was distributed. S. Alexander reported that there was a discrepancy in the numbers. The report will be reviewed and revised.

4. Budget Report – B. Contant

- No report.

1. Committee Reports

A. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – Bob Abbott

- The Libraries and Cultural Affairs and Education committee's are having a joint meeting on NYPL Resources for Educators and Students. This will be held at the Kingsbridge Library on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Approximately twelve representative s of the local public school have agreed to attend this presentation.

B. Parks & Recreation - B. Bender

- Some individuals are opposed to the paving of the Putnam Trail in Van Cortlandt Park. In February of 2011 the Department of Parks and Recreation presented their design to the Parks Committee and the Board took a position to support the paving of the Putnam Trail. Councilman Koppell held a meeting in October of 2011 and the consensus was to also support paving the Putnam trail.
- Holiday marathon runners were denied a permit for their holiday run in Van Cortlandt Park. The problem for the Parks Department is that this group has grown to approximately 500 members and there is a lack of insurance and also one of the trails they wanted to use is in poor condition. This trail is being renovated next year.
- The Croton Filtration mitigation money funds expenditures are being reviewed. There is a question as to whether the budget for capital expenditures in Bronx parks flattened because of funding the Bronx received from the building of the Croton Filtration plant. Van Cortlandt Park has received substantial monies but other Parks in the board 8 community have not. Comptroller Liu is considering an audit of these funds.
- At the January committee meeting the New York State Department of Transportation will present its final design on the on the Henry Hudson Parkway project. There will be a joint meeting of the Parks & Recreation and the Traffic & Transportation Committee's on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Location to be determined. The design team for this project would like to receive feedback from the community.

C. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- The last meeting was well attended.
- Community Committee member Gregoria Feliciano has been approved again as a committee member.
- At the Governor's State of the State address it was announced that there will be a re-organization of the state master plan. They hope to coordinate agencies to work more efficiently together in hopes of creating job programs. The committee would like to look into this to see how it could benefit our community.

- There will be a discussion on the West 230<sup>th</sup> Street project at the next committee meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the board office.

D. Aging – K. Pesce

- K. Pesce is having difficulty getting a speaker from DFTA for her committee meeting.
- N. Stent learned at the District Service Cabinet meeting that the City has partnered with the Department of Aging (DFTA) to provide snow removal assistance for pre-qualified seniors and person with disabilities.
- The next committee meeting is on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Location to be determined.

E. Education – Sylvia Alexander

- The Principal of MS/HS 141 will be invited to the Education Committee meeting in January or February.
- The Education Committee will have a joint meeting with the Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee on January 10<sup>th</sup> at the Kingsbridge Library at 10:00AM and they will also be meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> in the board office at 7:30PM.

F. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

- A. Feldmeier thanked everyone for coming to the holiday party.
- Winners lounge on West 261<sup>st</sup> Street has received numerous violations. They have not renewed their state liquor license. There is rumor they may have a change of ownership. This business will be carefully monitored as it has been a source of difficulty for many years. A letter will be also sent to the College of Mt. St. Vincent thanking them for their support with the closing of this establishment.
- A speaker from the District Attorney's office will be invited to speak on gang violence at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- A resolution was presented on liquor license renewal applications to be presented at the January 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

G. Housing – T. Durham

- On Monday, January 30, 2012 is the eighth annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE). Coleen Hanley will participate in counting individuals living unsheltered.
- The carbon dioxide detectors given out by the New York City Fire Department 5 years ago are expected to expire. Individuals are responsible for replacing these devices in their residence.
- The Director of the Jericho Project (Housing for Veterans) is now accepting applications for 2701 Kingsbridge Avenue. T. Durham would like this information distributed to the American Legion.
- Picture the Homeless partnered with the Hunter College Center for Community Development will develop and execute a count of vacant buildings and lots in 20 of NYC's 59 community boards. The findings will be released on January 26<sup>th</sup> at Roosevelt House, 47-49 East 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan from 2-4PM
- There was a fire at 215 West Kingsbridge Road. This is an abandoned property. There were 3 squatters in this location but they are no longer there. T. Durham suggested contacting Bronx Community Board 7 and Councilman Cabrera's office to see if there were any complaints of squatters seen at this property prior to the fire.
- The Housing meeting in February will have a speaker from the New York State Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA). This will be an information session on the heating oil conversion.

## H. Youth – Andrew Cohen

- Assemblyman Dinowitz will be a speaker at the January 25<sup>th</sup>, Youth Committee meeting and will discuss funding for youth centers.

## I. Traffic &amp; Transportation – D. Padernacht

- A letter will be sent supporting the Neighborhood Slow Zone at West 227<sup>th</sup> Street to West 235<sup>th</sup> Street and Independence Avenue near PS 24 and MS/HS 141.
- DOT would like the Boards input on the design of the handicap accessible pavings at Broadway and West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street. Councilman Koppell was opposed to the initial design. D. Padernacht will have a site visit with DOT to discuss/review a revised design.
- There will be a speaker from the Cross Bronx Expressway Initiative at the next committee meeting. Their focus is on environmental health & engineering, civil engineering, quality of life, traffic congestion, solutions, funding and more.
- The Department of Transportation has approved the striping requests at Waldo Avenue and Manhattan College Parkway. The letter from DOT is forthcoming.
- The January Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting will be a joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Committee on January 26. The New York State Department of Transportation will be presenting their plans for the Henry Hudson Parkway project. They would like feedback from the community.

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

- The Bronx Borough President 's Veterans Advisory Council is having a Community Services & Health Fair for Veterans on January 11<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 4PM at Bronx County Bldg, 851 Grand Concourse, Rotunda-First Floor. The purpose of this fair is to give veterans the accessibility to community resources as well as a health assessment all in one location. Michael Heller will be attending on behalf of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee.
- There is a NYC sponsored program run by Columbia Presbyterian at 3125 Tibbett Avenue.
- The next meeting is on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at Manhattanville Health Care Center. A speaker will discuss reducing access to Alcopops which are sweetened, soda-like alcoholic beverages attracting youth.

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

- I. Ladimer reported on his research on the nominating committee procedures and practices of several Community Boards.
- The Law Committee voted to make some change in the nominating committee procedures.
- The Law Committee will prepare Nominating Committee Guidelines incorporating these changes. I. Ladimer and Andy Cohen agreed to work on preparing the guidelines for final review by the Law Committee in January.
- These Guidelines will be presented to the Board for discussion and approval at the February 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

## L. Miscellaneous

- J. Pilsner will be letting Committee Chairs know members who have been absent from their meetings more than 50% of the time.
- R. Fanuzzi presented a resolution from the Land Use Committee on the Delafield Estates. The resolution will be presented at the board meeting on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay  
Community Associate