

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>, 14  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rosemary Ginty  
Charles G. Moerdler

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robert Press

The meeting convened at 7:30PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- February Executive Committee minutes were adopted by members of the committee. S. Balicer abstained due to his absence at the February meeting.
- Chairman gave a presentation on NYC Open Data Law, passed in 2012, and the Open Data portal managed by DOITT, which provides detailed “data sets” of city services. He recommended that Committee Chairs investigate the site and use as resource for assessing community needs and determining budget priorities.
- Chairman thanked M. Khury for attending Councilman Rodriguez’s community forum on the FY 2015 budget.
- The Chairman and the District Manager attended the Bronx Borough President's Borough Service/Board Public Hearing on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for FY 2015. He noted the appearance of Christina Taylor, Executive Director of Friends of Van Cortlandt Park, a partner in CB8 efforts to fund the building of the Pedestrian Bridge over the Major Deegan Expressway as stipulated by City Council agreement for building the Croton Filtration Plant in Van Cortlandt Park. At Bronx Borough Public Hearing, Chair asked all Community Boards and elected officials to support this effort and invited them to participate in “Build the Bridge” walkthrough in Van Cortlandt Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10AM, co-sponsored by CB8 and Friends of Van Cortlandt Park.
- Chair attended hearing of NYC City Council Government Operations Committee on efforts to increase community board applications and participation. Several Community Board chairs testified on need for increased budget and dedicated city planner within each board office.
- The Chairman announced that Bob Bender has been chosen by Friends of Van Cortlandt Park as March's Friend of the Month. .

- Chair Fanuzzi inquired if there were any questions regarding board operations. No one had questions.

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

- P. Friedman reported that OMB reallocated the \$450 that was remaining from the telephone budget back to other than personal services budget.

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

- The Mayor's FY 2015 Preliminary Budget had been issued late and Community Board 8's response to the Preliminary Budget will be submitted next week after the Board's Public Hearing on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- N. Stent attended Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's Early Childhood Services new space ceremony on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 295 West 231st Street. The Borough president and elected were in attendance.
- N. Stent attended a Summer Jobs for Youth at the Bronx Zoo.
- The monthly e- newsletter has been distributed and Facebook is updated.
- Kingsbridge Heights Community Centers Playstreet application is being prepared and will be filed in April. The Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee will review this application at the March meeting.
- The March District Service Cabinet meeting minutes will be distributed in April.
- The Corlear Avenue Watermain project is completed. Resurfacing will commence in warmer weather.
- Baily Avenue Retaining Wall and Watermain project is 85% complete. Remaining work is paving, sidewalk repair and striping.
- There is a community meeting to discuss the DDC project on the Cannon Place Retaining Wall on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM, at the Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation & Care Center, 3426 Cannon Place, Recreation Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. DDC, FDNY and Sanitation will also be in attendance.
- There will be a presentation by DDC on Safe Routes to Transit at the Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Manhattanville Nursing Care Center. D. Padernacht stated that DDC's report will include a construction plan for a sewer line project at West 231<sup>st</sup> Street and West 238<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway.
- The last piece of the Storm Fortification project is almost complete. They are installing an electrical vault at Kappock Street. S. Alexander asked about red markings on the east side of Oxford Avenue between West 235<sup>th</sup> Street and West 236<sup>th</sup> Street. The District Manager said she will ask Con Edison if it is their markings.
- The oil and gas conversion continues with three locations remaining;
  - 1) West 238th Street, between Henry Hudson Parkway and Riverdale Avenue.
  - 2) Henry Hudson Parkway, between West 235th Street and Netherland Avenue.
  - 3) Henry Hudson Parkway, between Netherland and Riverdale Avenues.
- S. Balicer asked if the board received any information regarding a gas line installation on Waldo Avenue. The District Manager said no information had come into the office on this issue and she will ask Con Edison about it.

## 4. Committee Reports

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

The following Street Permit Applications were approved by the Traffic & Transportation Committee and will be presented at the next board meeting:

- PS 24 Springfest scheduled for June 24, 2014 on West 235<sup>th</sup> Street between Independence and Douglas Avenues.
  - Kingsbridge Heights Community Festival scheduled for April 12, 2014 at Kingsbridge Terrace between Perot Street & Summit Place.
  - April Birthday Neighborhood Block Party to be held April 12, 2014 on Spencer Avenue between West 261<sup>st</sup> Street and West 262<sup>nd</sup> Streets.
  - Israeli Independence Day scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> on Netherland Avenue between West 236<sup>th</sup> Street and the service road of the Henry Hudson Parkway.
  - Lag B'omer Picnic scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> on West 235<sup>th</sup> Street between Independence and Douglas Avenues.
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- D. Padernacht advised all to attend the DDC Cannon Retaining Wall community meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at the Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation & Care Center, 3426 Cannon Place, Recreation Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
  - In February T&T had a joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Committee. B. Bender's committee report will elaborate on that meeting.
  - The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Aging Committee. Access-A-Ride will be one of the topics.

#### B. Land Use – R. Fanuzzi

The following resolutions were distributed and will be presented at the next board meeting.

1. **RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8 Bronx approves, pending receipt of letter from applicant of agreement to conditions set forth by the Land Use Committee, the Department of City Planning Application No. N 140229 ZAX, for grant of authorizations involving modifications of topographic features on Tier I sites and authorization of a development, enlargement, or site alteration on a Tier II site or portion of a zoning lot having a steep slope buffer to allow the expansion of the single-family home and an above ground spa/hot tub with a wood deck on property located at 5625 Independence Avenue, Block 5947, Lot 70, within the Special Natural Area District (NA-2).
2. **RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8 Bronx approves, pending receipt of letter from applicant of agreement to conditions set forth by the Land Use Committee, the Department of City Planning Application No. N 140260 ZAX, for the grant of authorizations involving modifications of topographic features on Tier I sites, and authorization of development, enlargement, or site alteration on a Tier II site or portion of a zoning lot having a steep slope or steep slope buffer to allow the construction of a swimming pool and terrace on property located at 3020 Palisade Avenue Block 5945, Lot 255, within the Special Natural Area District (NA-2). **The aforementioned letter was received March 4, 2014.**

#### C. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

- Resolutions on the following liquor license applications were approved by the Public Safety Committee and will be presented at the board meeting:
  - a. Tin Marin Bar & Lounge, 3708 Riverdale Avenue
  - b. The First Tee Metropolitan New York, 3545 Jerome Avenue
  - c. Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course, 115 Van Cortlandt Park South
- There was a responsible beverage server training held in February at the 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct for bar and restaurant workers. Participants will receive a certificate. This certificate may help reduce the cost of any fines received in the future.

D. Education – S. Alexander

- A resolution from the Education Committee supporting the renaming of PS7 to “The Milton Fein School” was discussed and will be presented at the next board meeting.
- At the Education Committee meeting David Garcia-Rosen, Administrative Director of Small School Athletic League (SSAL) explained its mission to improve student athlete’s academic performance, behavioral outcome, and attendance by facilitating sports competitions tailored to the unique needs of small high schools. Research shows that academics are helped by athletics and it is important that students participate. The lack of athletic programs in underserved areas is unacceptable. Sylvia plans to support this program by adding this as one of her budget items and will also seek assistance from Councilman Cohen.
- Refer to minutes.
- The next committee meeting will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

E. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- A resolution approving the Kingsbridge Road Summer Kick Off Party scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> on Reservoir Avenue between West Kingsbridge Road and West 195<sup>th</sup> Street was discussed and will be presented at the next board meeting.
- The committee met at Montezuma Restaurant. Mr. Garcia from Mosholu Preservation Corp. and a representative from Montefiore attended. They are very involved with the development of Kingsbridge Road.
- S. Villaverde, N. Stent, Chair Fanuzzi and Vice Chair Khury participated in a conference call with representatives from Equity One/Broadway Plaza. They plan on opening in September and will have a job fair in May or June. Residents hired will participate in a training program for a couple of months and begin work in September. Their plans are to hire 15 to 20 local residents. The pay is \$12.25 to 12.50 per hour. After 90 days employees receive health benefits and there is also vacation time and sick time, etc.
- S. Villaverde expressed his thanks to M. Khury and P. Ellis for initiating talks and establishing a relationship with Equity One. This has benefited the community. Construction jobs were filled by local residents and as stated above, 15 to 20 people will be hired locally.
- Discussions will continue with the Economic Development Committee on the law that will mandate small businesses to pay sick leave to their employees.

F. Aging – K. Pesce

- The Aging Committee met in February. Refer to minutes.
- There is a joint meeting with the Traffic & Transportation Committee on March 18<sup>th</sup> at Manhattanville Nursing Care Center and they will have a speaker from Access-A-Ride. There will also be a discussion on meeting the needs of the disabled.

## G. Parks &amp; Recreation – B. Bender

- The ice rink in Van Cortlandt Park closed prematurely. A letter was sent asking for cause of early closure.
- Six towns in Bergen County, NJ are in opposition of the LG Electronics building along the Palisades. An organization called Protect the Palisades will hold a demonstration boycotting LG products in front of Best Buy at Broadway and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM.
- Gerry Bogacz of NYMTC gave a presentation on The Hudson River Greenway. This project ended December 31, 2013 and Mr. Bogacz was considerate enough to come back to give the community. B. Bender summarized the project as follows:
  - The majority of people want the greenway as long as it's down by the river.
  - Riverdale Park should remain as is, without the greenway going through it. People don't want the streets in the community changed.
  - If Senator Chuck Schumer vows to seek federal funding for the Hudson River Greenway project there will have to be a plan on how to implement these monies. Engineering and traffic studies would be paramount.
- This will be further discussed at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Also on the agenda at the March meeting will be the revised version of the Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan.

## H. Housing – S. Balicer

- The Housing Committee did not meet in February.
- The next meeting will be on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The topic will be affordable housing.

## I. Libraries &amp; Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- The next meeting is on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the board office. There will be a discussion on local Riverdale artists.
- Nominees are now being accepted for the Community Service Awards. The deadline for submission is Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

- The February meeting was cancelled because of President's Day.
- The next committee meeting will be March 17<sup>th</sup>.

## K. Youth – L. Parker

- The Second Annual Youth Ice Skating Day was cancelled due to the early closure of the Van Cortlandt Park Ice Rink. Approximately 100 children were going to attend this event.
- The meeting in February was held at the Riverdale YM/YWHA and Youth programs were discussed.
- The Poetry Slam will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Erik Maldonado/Wordz for Advocates is meeting with the children in the community centers now to prepare for the slam.
- The next meeting is on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Refer to minutes.

## L. Budget – B. Contant

- The FY 2015 budget priorities chart with city agency responses was distributed and reviewed. B. Contant reported that the community board did well. He recommended the OMB website as a great resource of information when preparing for FY2015 boards budget requests due June 2014.
- B. Contant suggested each committee meet with city agencies in the next couple of months to discuss community needs before the June deadline.
- M. Khury attended Councilman Y. Rodriguez's budget forum. The information M. Khury received at that meeting will be sent to B. Contant.
- Any questions or changes can be directed to the District Manager.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,  
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Joyce Pilsner,  
Secretary