

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD MAY 7, 2014
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair	Steven Froot
Maria Khury, Vice Chair	Rosemary Ginty
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Marvin Goodman
Joyce Pilsner, Secretary	Dan Padernacht
Sylvia Alexander	Lamont Parker
Steve Balicer	Karen Pesce
Bob Bender	Laura Spalter (Vice Chair E&S)
Brendan Contant	Nicole Stent, District Manager
Arlene G. Feldmeier	Diane Bay, Community Associate

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sergio Marquez
Charles G. Moerdler
Sergio Villaverde

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Press

The meeting convened at 7:30PM.

1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- Executive minutes of April 2nd were approved unanimously.
- Chairman Fanuzzi stressed the importance of committee chair's submitting minutes and resolutions to the board office on time. A reminder is sent to committee chairs for outstanding minutes and resolutions.
- Chair Fanuzzi distributed the following resolution that will be presented to the board:

WHEREAS, Families and Children residing in the Bronx are experiencing epidemic rates of diet-related disease like obesity and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the Grow NYC is a Mayoral Office non-profit corporation whose mission is to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the freshest, most nutritious locally grown food and which administers the Youthmarket program a network of urban farm stands operated by neighborhood youth, supplied by local farmers, and designed to bring fresh fruits and vegetables to underserved communities throughout New York City; and

WHEREAS, Board 8 has a continuing interest in supporting the GrowNYC Youthmarket program, which trains youth in small-business skills and which is designed to bring healthy, farm fresh, locally grown produce to low-income communities and communities who need it most, which are disproportionately affected by diet-related health issues like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board No. 8 (Board 8) has created and supported GrowNYC Youthmarkets in Marble Hill for six years the Kingsbridge Heights area for two years in collaboration with Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and Bon Secour Health Systems ; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

1. Bronx Community Board No. 8 will engage GrowNYC as an independent contractor to provide startup activities for Marble Hill Youthmarket and Kingsbridge Heights Community Center Teen Market including but not limited to securing all necessary permits for market sites and acceptance of healthy food subsidies such as Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, training Youthmarket Managers, and creating training curriculum during the summer and fall of 2014;
 2. Bronx Community Board No. 8 will pay GrowNYC in this consultant capacity the amount of \$4000 for the Marble Hill Youthmarket and the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center Teen Market before the end of fiscal year 2014.
- Discussion on the resolution followed regarding whether community board's should be earmarking money for a not for profit agency even though members of the Executive Committee agreed that the Youthmarkets were worthy causes. The chair explained that the monies were for a program founded by Bronx Community Board No. 8 that is run by GrowNYC. Spending priorities for discretionary funds provided by Councilman Cabrera and Rodriguez for this purpose were announced at the October 2013 Executive Committee
 - Applications requesting FY 2015 discretionary funds for Bronx Community Board 8 were submitted to Councilmen Cabrera, Cohen, and Rodriguez. The requests were for funding office equipment and office operations. The request to Councilman Cabrera included funding to support Bronx Community Board 8's Youthmarket located at the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center.
 - The Chair stated that the board was not able to fund the Jerome Park and the Kingsbridge Library cooking programs as planned because the NYPL had put the programs on hold until insurance issues were clarified. The monies that were allocated for those programs will be used to purchase office supplies.
2. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman
 - \$2,150.00 was transferred from the discretionary funds from the City Council into office supplies and office equipment for the purchase of printer/scanner/fax, computer and supplies.
 3. District Manager's Report – N. Stent
 - No report.
 4. Committee Reports
- A. Resolutions

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

1. Law, Rules and Ethics:

Re: Intro 28

WHEREAS, the New York City Council introduced legislation (Intro 28) requiring that all community boards record their monthly public meetings in digital video format, and

WHEREAS, such meetings and hearings are to be webcast live, where practicable, and archived and made available to the public on the community board or city's website not more than seventy-two hours after adjournment of the meeting or hearing recorded, and

WHEREAS, webcasting and archival video increase public access to government resulting in increased transparency and community involvement, and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation does not provide any capital or expense funding or technical staff necessary for the required effort;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bronx Community Board 8 supports the purpose of Intro 28 to increase public access and transparency to government by requiring that community boards webcast and archive their monthly meetings, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bronx Community Board 8 recommends that the City Council not adopt Intro 28 unless and until sufficient and supplemental technical and financial resources necessary to meet the requirements of the proposed legislation be provided to community boards by the City of New York.

Vote: 11 In favor, 0 Opposed

In Favor:

S. Alexander, A. Feldmeier, R. Ginty, I. Ladimer, D. Lennon, D. Padernacht, J. Pilsner, A. Piscitelli, R. Press, I.W. Stone, M. Wolpoff

2. Parks & Recreation

Re: Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan

The Parks & Recreation Committee of Bronx Community Board 8 endorses the Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan with the understanding that the surfaces of the trails in the Master Plan will be natural, permeable, non-toxic, and pliable to the maximum extent possible and will meet the standards for adjacent wetlands, and that the Department of Parks & Recreation will return to the community board at the earliest possible time before proceeding with the projects described in the Master Plan.

Vote: 8 In favor, 0 Opposed, 3 Abstentions

In Favor:

CB8 members – B. Bender, M. Heller, R. Press, M. Zegarra-Soja, M. Khury.
Community committee members – H. Barret, T. Durham, D. Gellman

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 3

R. Ginty, L. Spalter; Community Committee member: C. Taylor (with cause)

- L. Spalter and D. Padernacht recalled that the Van Cortlandt Master Plan states concrete for the Putnam trail but it should be permeable asphalt. B. Bender will speak to the Parks Department about correcting this.
- **B. Bender noted that the Bronx Community Board 8 197a plan had only specified asphalt for the greenway. ??**
- There is one councilmember that has Van Cortlandt Park in its district and that is Councilman Cohen. R. Ginty said other council members can and has supported funding projects that are not in their district.

B. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- Refer to minutes.
- There have been several complaints about vandalism, teen drinking and starting fires near an old fireplace located in Riverdale Park. Parks Department dismantled the fireplace this week.
- A new concessionaire was selected for the VCP stables. The new license agreement can be reviewed prior to the Franchise and Concession Review Committee (FCRC) public hearing. The Parks Department will ask the new operator to meet with CB8's Parks committee to discuss their plans when it's appropriate to do so.
- It's My Park Day will be held on Saturday, May 17th at the Marble Hill Playground between West 229th and 230th Streets from 10AM-3PM. Volunteers are welcome.
- Copies of the section from the Daily News on Experience Riverdale will be at the next board meeting. It is all about celebrating the river in Riverdale.

C. Environment & Sanitation – L. Spalter

- The next meeting is on May 21st at the Kingsbridge Rehabilitation and Nursing Care Center on Cannon Place.
- DEP will be presenting the plans to rehabilitate a gate house at the Jerome Park Reservoir and budget priorities.
- On Monday, May 19th L. Spalter and Riverdale Country School lower school will do a clean-up in Riverdale Park.

D. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- The committee did not meet in April due to a holiday.
- Cannon Place project is on track. The DDC community liaison sends regular updates to the community.
- After a stall in work on the Bailey Place retaining wall, the project has resumed work. There is community interest in beautifying this location with plantings when completed.
- D. Padernacht attended the Mayor's new Vision Zero Workshop. It is a workshop to discuss strategies to implement new initiatives to improve street safety in every neighborhood and in every borough. Dan submitted the following locations in our community that needs to be studied: West 259th Street and Riverdale Avenue; Broadway between Mosholu Avenue and West 242nd Street; Ft. Independence and Bailey Place; and Ft. Independence and Heath Avenue.
- N. Stent added that locations can also be submitted via a vision zero link:
<http://visionzero.herokuapp.com/place/183378>

- An item on the May agenda is the design plan for Albany Crescent and Bailey Avenue. This is a high risk intersection. DOT plans to put an island at Albany Crescent and then do a reversal of the traffic leading into West 231st Street. Seven accidents have been reported at this location. Other agenda items are requested and include removal of parking on south curb of West 254th Street between Sycamore & Independence Avenues, street resurfacing and striping requests, left turn signals at 256th Street and Riverdale Avenue, North and Southbound.

E. Public Safety – A. Feldmeier

- There was no April meeting due to the holiday.
- The next meeting is on May 15th. There will be a discussion on kids loitering and vandalizing Riverdale Park and also disruptive patrons leaving Fenwick's bar at 3 and 4 in the morning and causing a disturbance at 3636 Greystone Avenue.
- N. Stent added that the 50 Precinct had been informed about the Greystone incident and was reviewing it.
- The Lounge did not reapply for a renewal of their liquor license and it is now closed.

F. Aging – K. Pesce

- The next meeting is on May 20th at the Atria Riverdale.
- K. Pesce thanked all who submitted ideas to include in the research directory the committee is trying to develop for older adults.

G. Budget – B. Contant

- B. Contant reminded each committee to meet with their respective city agencies and discuss their budget priorities before the June deadline.

H. Housing – S. Balicer

- P. Ellis chaired the April meeting. The focus of that meeting was NYCHA's Marble Hill Houses. The committee plans to hold a public forum in the Marble Hill Community in June. Minutes will be forthcoming.
- Four committee members met with Ms. Shomo, President of the Marble Hill Tenants Association in preparation for the June forum.

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

- The committee met late in the month and held a Public Hearing on the topic of Lutheran Social Services, a non-profit, federally funded social service agency that have foster care and shelter services for Unaccompanied Minors at 2865 Kingsbridge Terrace, a Mitchell Lama co-op. These minors have entered the US without authorized immigration status. There will be 2 group residences in 5 bedroom apartments on the 4th and 9th floor that house up to 11 kids each between the ages of 13 to 17 years old and spend up to 30 days there while Lutheran Social Services investigates a local family member. They will be put in the care of these family members until their hearings come up. These kids go to school during the day and are accompanied by a staff member.
- Bon Secours/Schervier gave a presentation on the Corner Store Initiative which is a project striving to help small stores better improve access to nutritious food in hopes of increasing access of high quality food for all residents.
- Minutes will be forthcoming.

J. Education – S. Alexander

- The next Education meeting is on May 27th. Budget items will be discussed.
- S. Alexander met with Councilman Cohen about the small school athletic league which is on the City Council budget.

K. Youth – L. Parker

- At the April meeting budget requests were discussed with the community centers. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center (KHCC) submitted their budget request.
- The Riverdale Neighborhood House reported on the Mayor's visit to their facility, and summer camp for 6 to 8th graders which starts July 7th to August 8th.
- KHCC spoke about their neighborhood festival on April 8th sponsored by Horace Mann.
- The last C-ball was May 3rd at Lehmann High School with Marble Hill playing their event.
- May 15th is the Poetry Slam at the Kingsbridge Library from 6-8PM. L. Parker thanked M. Khury, N. Stent and the staff for help with the flyer.
- Because the Poetry Slam is in May there will be no Youth meeting until June 25th.

L. Economic Development – reported by M. Khury

- The job fair with the employers of the West 230th Street Broadway Plaza development is this Friday, May 9th at the Kingsbridge Branch Library from 5-8PM.

M. Law, Rules and Ethics – R. Ginty

- The March minutes were distributed.
- As requested, the committee researched the Intro 28 bill; a bill that would require webcasting at community board meetings and then archived and available on the community board website or the NYC website. There was a hearing and testimony on the bill. Overall the community boards were in favor of the concept, but questioned the board's technical ability and available funding to implement this bill.

N. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- The committee did not meet in April.
- The next meeting is tomorrow, May 8th at the Derfner Judaica Museum located at the Hebrew Home at 6:30 PM. This is the only public museum in Bronx Community Board No. 8.
- The community service awards ceremony will be held at the May 13th board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Bob Fanuzzi
Chair