

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 3, 2012 AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

#### **PRESENT:**

Robert Fanuzzi, Chair  
Bob Abbott  
Sylvia Alexander  
Steve Balicer  
Bob Bender  
Brendan Contant  
Arlene G. Feldmeier  
Phil Friedman  
Rosemary Ginty

Sergio Marquez  
Dan Padernacht  
Lamont Parker  
Joyce Pilsner  
Sergio Villaverde  
Nicole Stent  
Diane Bay

#### **ABSENT:**

Andrew Cohen  
Steve Froot  
Maria Khury  
Damian McShane  
Charles G. Moerdler

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

#### 1. Chairman's Report – R. Fanuzzi

- The Bronx Health REACH held a day-long summit on September 22, 2012 at the Bronx Museum of the Arts to provide an opportunity for Bronx residents and organizations to voice ideas and promote healthy eating and active living in their communities and engage policy makers in addressing issues identified by Bronx residents. Chairman Fanuzzi sat on a panel that included Senator Gustavo Rivera and Community Board No. 4 District Manager Jose Rodriguez that addressed the role of community boards in furthering community health goals.. were panelists. The chairman discussed Board 8's successful community outreach in the area of health and wellness, the Marble Hill Youthmarket, which is the first urban market created by a community board, and the important of community participation in the budget process.
- The combined September Borough Service and Board meeting was attended by the Chairman and District Manager. One of the agenda items was the annual presentation of the Department of Education regarding its "portfolio management" program. The Chair voiced his dissatisfaction at that meeting about the infrequency, wide range, and obscurity of the presentation, and joined other board chairs and district managers in calling for more frequent and focused presentations, possibly held on a quarterly basis, in order to improve the system for children and families.

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

- No Treasurer's report.
- The "Friends of Community Board 8" committee met in September. There will be a presentation and recommendation at the November executive committee meeting.

#### 3. Budget Report – B. Contant

- The FY 2014 Capital and Expense Budget reports were distributed. Adjustments were made and distribution will occur before the Board meeting.

#### 4. Resolutions

- Report of the Special Committee on the Establishment of a Youth Committee – J. Pilsner. The By-Laws of Community Board No. 8 are to be amended to add the Youth Committee as a standing committee. These Bylaws may be amended by resolution of the Board adopted at two (2) consecutive regular meetings by a 2/3 majority of Appointed Members present and entitled to vote at each meeting. A resolution was presented modifying the Bylaws and will be presented at the October board meeting.
- A resolution was presented by the Traffic & Transportation Committee on a Street Renaming for Ted Corbitt Way from West 225<sup>th</sup> Street to West 228<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway and will be presented at the October board meeting. If passed, the resolution will go back to the board in November for another vote.
- A resolution was presented by the Traffic & Transportation Committee on a Street Renaming for James V. Downey Way on Mosholu Avenue from West 254<sup>th</sup> Street to West 256<sup>th</sup> Street and will be presented at the October board meeting. If passed, the resolution will go back to the board in November for another vote.
- A resolution was presented by the Public Safety Committee on liquor license renewals and will be presented at the October board meeting.

#### 5. Committee Reports

##### A. Environment & Sanitation – S. Marquez

- At the September committee meeting there was discussion on clogged drains in the district and specifically from West 230<sup>th</sup> to West 235<sup>th</sup> Streets and Broadway where there are pools of water and possibly a mosquito population. They also discussed global warming, vacant lots, recycling by the Department of Sanitation and a Clean Street Day in Marble Hill for April or May of 2013.
- The next committee meeting will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in the board office. A representative from the Departments of Environmental Protection and Sanitation will be there for discussion.

##### B. Youth – L. Parker

- At the committee meeting a representative from Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, Sadie Mahoney came to discuss Kingsbridge Heights Community Center programs and the impact of the budget cuts from last fiscal year.
- L. Parker met with Geronimo Ruiz, Director of the Marble Hill Community Center about not receiving their O.S.T. funding and also the failure of the afterschool program to open September 10<sup>th</sup>. There are 120 children registered, the program is waiting for its funding. B. Bender reminded everyone that Councilman Koppell reported the OST funding had been restored. L. Parker said the district manager and he were investigating why the money had not been distributed to Marble Hill.
- L. Parker also visited Wave Hill and spoke with the Director of Education who has been invited to the next Youth committee meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> in the board office.
- L. Parker plans to meet with the directors of Riverdale neighborhood House and Ft. Independence to learn about the programs and to invite them personally to a Youth committee meeting.

## C. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- The committee met in October with Equity One as a speaker. They agreed to work with representatives on specific local job opportunities.
- The South Riverdale Merchants Association is having a Riverdale Holiday Festival on December 2<sup>nd</sup> on Riverdale Avenue between West 235<sup>th</sup> and 236<sup>th</sup> Streets which would close for a part of the day. Their street activity application was submitted timely. The Economic Development Committee supported the festival and also received well over 100 signatures collected from merchants and local residents in support of the day.
- Discussion followed regarding the review of street activity permits. The new regulations and the question of committee review and board review of permits was discussed.

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

- A representative of the VCP Ice Rink presented an update of their plans. They hope to open some time during November with a formal opening just prior to Thanksgiving.
- There was a Parks Department presentation on renovations plans for Cooney Grauer ball field in Bailey Park, used by the Kingsbridge Little League. A new fence will be built which will prevent balls from landing on the Major Deegan Expressway.
- Over the summer there were inquiries about the Putnam Trail which were invited to the September meeting but did not attend. The Putnam Trail was discussed with the Parks Department (DPR) in detail in prior meetings and ADA compliance is required. Rock dust can be made ADA compliant if it is constantly maintained and repaired, which is not possible in Van Cortlandt Park. DPR is firm in its position that only a hard surface will meet the requirements of the Putnam Trail.
- The next committee meeting is on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

## E. Libraries &amp; Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

- A speaker, Jane Fisher described the NYPL priority collaboration with the NYC Department of Education. The pilot program began last year to integrate the local school's library catalog with NYPL's catalog, enriching the student's search experience; the Department of Education has now included the other two city library systems in the project. Schools in CB8 are being invited to participate.
- There are going to be FY 2012 budget cuts that will be announced at the end of this year.

## F. Education – S. Alexander

- The next committee meeting is on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Panel for Educational Policies is having a meeting in the Bronx on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

## G. Public Safety - A. G. Feldmeier

- After a NYPD undercover investigation, the spa at 3733 Riverdale Avenue has been closed due to prostitution.
- Chair Feldmeier reported that if an applicant for a liquor license renewal or an applicant for a new liquor license does not appear at the Public Safety Committee meeting another invitation will be sent to them to attend the next Public Safety committee meeting.

## H. Housing – S. Balicer

- The October committee meeting will have a representative from Bronx Health Reach to discuss a smoking identification process that will be coming before the council which will require apartment

owners as well as boards to identify smokers in their building. There will also be a representative from the Mayor's Office who will make a presentation on a new housing law mandate for buildings to cease using No. 6 heating oil.

- In November a forum will be held on the workings of Housing Court that will include advocacy groups for tenants and landlords.

I. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- The City Council passed a street name addition for Tibbett Avenue from West 240<sup>th</sup> Street to West 238<sup>th</sup> Street to Frank Durkan Way and a street name change for Giles Place to add Howard E. Padernacht Place.

J. Law, Rules and Ethics Committee – R. Ginty

- The minutes have been submitted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.