

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD JANUARY 6, 2016
AT THE RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daniel Padernacht, Chair	Steven Froot
Rosemary Ginty, Vice Chair	Marvin Goodman
Karen Pesce, Secretary	Michael Heller
Phil Friedman, Treasurer	Joseph O'Brien
Sylvia Alexander	Robert Press
Bob Bender	Sergio Villaverde
Lisa Daub	Martin Wolpoff
Paul Ellis	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Demetrius McCord
Charles Moerdler
Lamont Parker

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amy Joy Robateau

GUESTS:

Captain Terence O'Toole, 50th Police Precinct
Ramessis Aponte, Mon Amour, 234 West 238 Street
Jeffrey Garcia, Mon Amour, 234 West 238 Street

STAFF:

Patricia Manning, District Manager
Diane Bay, Community Associate

Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:35 PM. He amended the agenda to announce special guest, Captain O'Toole.

Captain O'Toole reported:

- The person who NYPD believes to be the perpetrator of a homicide that occurred at McDonald's on Broadway turned himself in, accompanied by his lawyer. He has not been arrested or charged yet. McDonald's will be closing their dining room at night and will only have the 24 hour drive thru window.
- Crime stats for 2015 – 2 murders vs. 1, rapes 17 vs. 18, robbery 154 vs. 140, felony assault 104 vs. 141, burglaries 109 vs. 175, grand larceny 472 vs. 422, auto grand larceny 95 vs. 85, narcotic arrests 302 vs 204. For the year 953 crimes vs. 982, down 3%. Since reporting crimes, these are the lowest crime statistics in the 50th precinct.
- Approximately 10 Argus cameras will be installed throughout the neighborhood. Installation will take approximately a year to a year and a half. Councilman Cabrera provided \$600,000.00 for the cameras.
- Captain O'Toole verified that panhandling is legal.
- On New Year's Eve there were noise complaints and the Captain encountered one homeless person.

Chair Padernacht expressed his condolences on the loss of Detective Joseph Lemm, a 15-year veteran of the police department who was one of six American service members killed in Afghanistan.

1. B. Bender sent changes to the office before the meeting and the changes were made. Approval of the amended December Executive Committee Minutes.

Vote: 13 in favor Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1

In favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, P. Friedman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff

Abstention: P. Ellis

2. Mon Amour Café – Liquor license change from Restaurant to Tavern

When filling out the application the owners checked off, in error, restaurant instead of tavern. They explained that the difference between a restaurant and tavern license is the amount of food being served, food preparation and a tavern does not require gas lines. During the week closing time will be 10:00PM, Thursdays slightly later and weekend closing will be no later than 1:00AM. They will have scanners and Id's will be checked. They also have Wi Fi. A vote will be taken at the board meeting on January 12, 2016 and the owners will attend.

Vote: 12 in favor Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2

In favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, P. Ellis, P. Friedman, M. Goodman, M. Heller, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff

Abstentions: R. Ginty, R. Press,

3. Chairman's Report – D. Padernacht

- Councilman Andrew Cohen and Bronx Community Board 8 will be holding a forum on drug use and dependence on Thursday, January 14, 2016 from 6:30PM to 8:00PM at the Riverdale Neighborhood House, 5521 Mosholu Avenue.
- D. Padernacht sent a memo to the executive committee regarding the use of abstentions. M. Wolpoff will elaborate on this when he gives his Law, Rules and Ethics report.
- A new intern will begin working in the office the end of January. Her focus will be on social media and outreach to the community.
- Office space – We're waiting to hear from OMB to see whether or not we're approved to move. Once approved we can begin the process of looking for space. Suggestions are welcomed.
- The new Treasurer's report was distributed. The Chair, in consultation with P. Friedman and P. Manning have placed the monies into different object codes. It's a projection of how they plan to spend the money in our budget. These monies have to be spent by the end of the year or have a plan to spend it going into the following year.

4. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

The report was sent to the executive committee. After it's finalized it will be distributed to the board. The board's budget from the financial management system is on the report. The report is more condensed. For the first time in years there is significant money in the budget for other than personal services. With the collaboration of the Chair and District Manager the funding being added to the original object code budget is projected in this report. There is also a balance of \$10,298.27 for further programming. Decisions must be made now on how to spend this money.

The Chair thanked P. Friedman for putting together the report. He said the money allocated into the different object codes was based on suggestions made at previous Executive committee meetings. In the next 30 days the Chair would like to have a discussion with the chairs about the monies allocated in the different object codes.

Some examples given on how to spend the money were hiring a consultant to work on social media, grant writing, and having resource guides printed for the community. The Senior Resource Guide put together by the Aging Committee can now be printed so it can be given to the community.

Discussion ensued about what would happen if a new space was found for the board office and the rent was higher than what is currently paid. The Chair stated that The NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) decides on the space and whether they're willing to pay an increased rent.

The report also includes the annual leave and comp time of the staff.

5. District Manager's Report – P. Manning

- Borough Service/Borough Board meeting report of December 17, 2015:
 - Lobbying Bureau announced that a six month amnesty will commence January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016 to give non-compliant individuals and organizations the opportunity to come forward and register without incurring any penalties. Flyers were issued.
 - NYC Commission on Human Rights presented on the recent changes in Credit Discrimination and Criminal History laws. It is now illegal for prospective employers to discuss either at interview. Credit can be checked, but cannot be a part of the interview. Criminal History can be checked but only following job offer. Complaints can be brought to CHR. Also CHR is contacting businesses for training about these laws. CHR will mentor and prep job applicants for interviews and provide letter of reference.
- Business cards for board members were distributed
- DSC meeting – Captain O'Toole disclosed preliminary locations for the Argus cameras. Councilman Cabrera provided \$600,000 for the cameras.
- 640 West 238 Street – DOT has not received an application for a street closure for this location. When they do they will inform FDNY, DOT, DSNY, OEM and the community board when they receive this application. They must also have a flag person at this location.

6. Committee Resolutions

a) Traffic & Transportation – M. Heller

The Committee voted in favor of a renewal for an unenclosed sidewalk café for Tin Marin at 3801 Riverdale Avenue. The board will vote on this at the January 12, 2016 board meeting.

7. Community Service Award Committee

The Chair discussed creating an Ad Hoc Committee for the Community Service Award instead of having the Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee work on this every year. The Executive Committee agreed. M. Heller, M. Goodman and S. Alexander volunteered for the committee. The Chair will ask for more volunteers at the next board meeting.

8. Discussion on outstanding Committee minutes

It is extremely important to submit the committee minutes along with the attendance sheets. There are a significant amount of minutes that are outstanding. S. Villaverde believes that if there is no quorum minutes are not required in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and Committee on Open Government. M. Wolpoff, Law, Rules and Ethics Chair believes that if a committee was called and an agenda was sent out then minutes of this meeting must be submitted. D. Padernacht believes that if a meeting is held, there must be minutes, whether there is a quorum or not. Also, even if the Committee on Open Government (COG) rules somehow define that minutes are not required for a meeting, the Executive Committee discussed this topic at several meetings and have concluded it to be good practice to have minutes for each meeting. One of the committee chairs indicated how helpful it was to review the committee minutes when joining the board and signing up for committees. This topic will be reviewed and further discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting. The Chair requested that any outstanding minutes be submitted by then.

Some committees are having difficulty reaching a quorum. If a Committee Chair wants a committee member removed because of absence at meetings you can ask the Chairman of the board to remove that member. If removed, that board member still has to serve on two committees and therefore must select another committee. This could be problematic for another committee. There was discussion and recommendation on making a certain standard for committee attendance and if not adhered to a board member will be removed from the board. If written into the bylaws each board member will know they can be removed after missing a certain amount of meetings. This will be further discussed at the Law, Rules and Ethics committee meeting. Community committee members are removed after missing three meetings. There are no excused absences

9. Issues raised by Committee Members for Discussion

- M. Wolpoff distributed the legislative update and thanked R. Ginty for preparing the updates. M. Wolpoff noted items of interest #1046-2016, to publicly post CB member information and #992-2015 requiring NYPD to post crossing guard deployment map on website.
- The LRE committee did not meet in November and December since the meeting fell on the holidays and there were no alternative dates available.
- M. Wolpoff reported that the initial response from the Conflict of Interest Board (COIB) regarding abstentions were distributed to the executive committee. In summary, an abstention is in fact a negative vote. If you're abstaining for cause it means you are not entitled to vote. You count for the quorum but you don't count for the vote.
- B. Bender recommended there be a system in place to announce that the board received master plans and can be reviewed in the board office. The Chair requested that the District Manager contact the Land Use Chair and ask him if the list of master plans be distributed.
- S. Froot reported that after voting in favor of an Individual Residence (IRA) at 3016 Corlear Avenue the Chair was informed that the social service organization opened a second IRA at 3018 Corlear Avenue. The second residence did not fall under the Padavan Law and therefore the agency did not have to inform the community board. S. Froot did contact the organization to get further information and invited them to the Health, Hospitals and Social Services committee meeting in January, which they attended.
- S. Froot announced Councilman Cohen's forum on drug use and dependence on Thursday, January 14, 2016 from 6:30PM to 8:00PM at the Riverdale Neighborhood House, 5521 Mosholu Avenue.
- M. Goodman announced IDNYC, a free, government-issued identification card for NYC residents which makes you eligible for free membership packages at cultural institutions. The Kingsbridge Library at 291 West 231 Street is an enrollment site through January 15, 2016.

- S. Alexander recommended a street renaming for Grace Belkin be initiated. The Chair requested that Sylvia confer with the Secretary, K. Pesce. The District Manager announced that she has already reached out to some organizations and agreed to work with Sylvia.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Bay,
Community Associate

Reviewed by:

Dan Padernacht
Chairman