

PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON JUNE 16, 2016
50TH POLICE PRECINCT, 3450 KINGSBRIDGE AVENUE**

PRESENT

Joseph O'Brien, Committee Chair
Lenora Croft
Herb Young
Diego Santiago
Diomarys Escaño
Mary Yamagata
Myra Joyce

AFFILIATION

CB8 Public Safety Committee
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CB8 Public Safety Committee
CB8 Public Safety Committee
Community Committee Member

Karen (Moonstar Grill)
Jason Winfield
Karen Pesce (CB8)
Tom O'Connor (Precinct
Community Council)
Robert Press (Bronx Voice)
Danielle Ellerbe (Mis So-Melo
Lounge)
Arelia Taveras (Truffa Pizzeria)

**The following came to speak about the
Mis So-Melo Lounge**

Toni Butler
Barbara Velez
Paul
Kena McKay
Carl Mehling
Fiona Brady
John Guasconi
Michael Scuastakis
Tim Murphy
Abby Turner
Heidi Slatkin
Fintan O'Sullivan
Carol Krauss
Banks

Absent: Margaret Donato

Chair O'Brien convened the meeting at 7:10 pm. Public Safety Committee members introduced themselves. Chair report: nothing to report

Police Report: presented by Detective Inspector O'Toole (28-day period 2016 vs 2015)

Crime	2016	2015
Murder	0	0
Rape	1	2
Robbery	19	15
Felony Assault	18	8
Burglary	13	9
Grand Larceny	34	31
GLA	1	7

There was a shooting in Van Cortlandt Park in which 3 people were shot. This was the result of a dispute between 2 groups at a fraternity party, neither of which had permits for a large gathering.

Lenora Croft brought up an issue of car license plates being switched and cars getting towed. DI O'Toole is aware of the issue.

Bob Press stood to give praise to DI O'Toole for the wonderful job he is doing as Precinct Commander.

A woman who jogs in VCP asked if the police could do a run around on the jogging path (not the track) because there have been a few incidents. DI O'Toole said they do a run around, but the speaker said they don't cover the whole trail.

Fire Report: none

Liquor Licenses – New Applications

Moonstar Grill, 3519 Johnson Avenue

Wine and Beer License request. This restaurant has been at this location for over a year. They are primarily a restaurant. There is no bar at the location, just tables.

Vote to approve: Unanimous in favor: Joseph O'Brien, Lenora Croft, Herb Young, Diego Santiago, Diomarys Escaño, Mary Yamagata, Myra Joyce

Truffa Pizzeria and Wine Room, 3535 Riverdale Avenue

Wine & Beer license currently held, they are now applying for a full liquor license. This location has been home to 2 previous Italian restaurants and has had no issues in the past. They are in the process of applying for a sidewalk café permit. The restaurant is open until 2 am but they often close by midnight. They did state they want to stay open until 4 am, but were advised by the chair that in the first year of the license they must close at 2 am. The only music recorded is ambient music. Noise is not an issue.

Vote to approve: In favor: Joseph O'Brien, Lenora Croft, Diego Santiago, Diomarys Escaño, Mary Yamagata, Myra Joyce. Abstained: Herb Young

Mis So-Melo Lounge, 4685 Manhattan College Parkway

This location, formerly "The Lounge" has been leased to new owners. Danielle Ellerbe is representing the owners. Committee Member, M. Joyce pointed out that this location has been the source of numerous complaints (noise, public nuisance, public urination, etc) for many years. Ms. Ellerbe stated that they are aware of the past situation and they will try their best to keep things like that from happening. They are installing soundproofing insulation. There were many people from the neighborhood around the location who came to speak out in opposition to the granting of a liquor license. The major concerns are noise, fights, loitering, urination, etc. The geography and building configuration of the street is such that noise is magnified and echoes off the building. A woman who lives directly across the street did some research into the zoning and building codes for that address. It appears that the location is not zoned for a restaurant. The Certificate of Occupancy shows that the basement is for a "retail store", first floor is "accessory storage" and the second floor is for "office" space. There are also several outstanding DOB violations against the building.

The committee unanimously voted to table the SLA request and look into the building and zoning restrictions and take it from there.

Liquor Licenses – Renewals

Madison's, 5686 Riverdale Ave. – No-show

Chair O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 8:15pm.

Submitted by Myra Joyce