

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8 BRONX

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2020
MEETING HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM
(pending approval)**

PRESENT

Edward Green (Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Myra Joyce (Vice Chair)	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Nick Fazio	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Ted Morris	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Margaret Donato	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Georgia Santiago	CB8 Public Safety Committee
Jyll Townes	CB8 Public Safety Committee

Committee members absent: Eider Garcia, Louis Lopez, Donnell Leverett

Guests: Laura Spalter, Conejo948805, Leslie Hogan, Audrey Bleier, Andy Laub, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, George Tsikis, Angela Conley (Senator Biaggi's office), Jamie Bruck, Councilman Andy Cohen, Sam Liedtka (Assemblyman Dinowitz's office), Robert Callahan, Eva Rosenfeld, Chantal McLaughlin, Ellen, Jeffrey Allen, Jim, Richard Puentes, Shamsan, Audrey Bleier (Abigail Martin for City Council Volunteer), Mariel (NYC Comptroller's Office)

Chair Edward Green called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

2. Approval of Public Safety Committee Minutes: October 20, 2020

Approve in favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

3. NYPD Report presented by Officer Conejo (Captain Melendez was out sick)

Compstat Report

	28 Day-Ending 11/8/2020		
	2020	2019	% Chg
Murder	0	0	
Rape	0	1	
Robbery	7	6	
Fel. Assault	14	8	
Burglary	10	5	
Gr. Larceny	47	53	
G.L.A.	13	10	
TOTAL	91	83	+9.64

Ed: received an email regarding tire theft at 3103 Sedgwick Ave. Sergio sent Ed photos.

4. Excessive Noise/Disturbing the Peace

High volume of complaints re vehicle noise, drag racing, and donuts. It was proposed that Public Safety and Traffic and Transportation begin a discussion to address this issue. Street racing and modified vehicles specifically to make noise are 2 separate issues. There are 2 ways to address this: enforce current laws or pass new legislation to address these issues.

Assemblyman Dinowitz: Potential legislation. 3rd way to address this: Change structure of roadway.

Legislation was passed a number of years ago to increase number of speed cameras and to make speed cameras 24 hours). There was pushback re speed cameras saying it's only implemented to raise money for the city.

3 bills proposed recently:

- Rozic & Hoylman: Fighting Underground Racing in Our Streets Act
- Magnarelli & Gounardes: Measurable limit 60 dB for cars 95 dB for motorcycles. Every police vehicle would be equipped with a decibel reader.
- Dinowitz: Amend VTL – For vehicle inspections: add sound level testing. Vehicle could not exceed a specified limit.

CB8 Chair Laura Spalter said this is the main issue the board office has been getting complaints about. Complaints are also coming in to Senator Biaggi's office.

Ed asked if the lack of enforcement is because of bail reform. Lt. Garcia stated bail reform absolutely does contribute to their inability to enforce. Assemblyman Dinowitz said this is not due to bail reform. Jyll Townes said you can't blame this on bail reform. She also spoke about noise complaints in Inwood and that we should connect with them (organization or 34th Pct) and see what they are doing about it. Moving forward: this is going to be an ongoing issue. Existing laws and legislation. We will continue to monitor it here and in T&T committee.

5. NYS Liquor Authority → RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

Dale Diner (189 West 231st Street)

George Tsikis representing

No issues or complaints from pct.

Having a difficult time for outdoor café due to covid.

Vote in favor to approve

In favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Riverdale Gourmet Inc. (3543 Riverdale Avenue)

Shamson Alfalahi (owner for 17 years)

No issues or complaints from pct.

Vote in favor to approve

In favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Las Palmas Restaurant II (240 West 231st Street)

Ellen from ABC License, representing

No issues or complaints from pct.

Vote in favor to approve

In favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Yukka Latin Bistro (5684 Riverdale Avenue)

Elizabeth representing Arnaud Espinal

No issues or complaints from pct.

Vote in favor to approve

In favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

El Economico Restaurant (5589 Broadway)

No one showed – Application was tabled until December’s Public Safety Committee meeting.

Committee will attempt to contact applicant.

6. NYS Liquor Authority → NEW APPLICATIONS

Greek Express (3733 Riverdale Ave)

Robert Callahan representing

Owner, Manos, on the phone

Open for 10 years, small Greek restaurant, close by 10 pm every night. A little background music.

2am agreement signed

Vote in favor to approve

In favor: 7 (E. Green, M. Joyce, N. Fazio, T. Morris, M. Donato, G. Santiago, J. Townes)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

None

9. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm

Submitted by Myra Joyce. Reviewed and submitted by Chair, Ed Green.