

(PENDING BOARD APPROVAL)

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 on Zoom

PRESENT (35):

S. Alexander	I. De Leon	R. Hilliard	J. Reyes
C. Barnes-	M. Donato	R. Jacklosky	G. Santiago
Watson	M. Esema	M. Joyce	R. Singh
R. Bender	S. Froot	R. Kaplan	L. Spalter
K. Buford	N. Fazio	S. Krompinger	L. Teten
C. Calhoun	R. Fanuzzi	R. Pochter-Lowe	C. Tepelus
S. Chittilappilly	R. Ginty	C. G. Moerdler	D. Travis
L. Chong	J. Gomez	O. Murray	M. Wolpoff
L. Daub	E. Green	D. Padernacht	
N. Fazio			
S. Froot			
S. Villaverde			

ABSENT (3):

D. Gellman	T. Morris
S. Vazquez	

STAFF: P. Romano Community Associate

GUEST: AM Jeffrey Dinowitz, Randi Martos (AM Dinowitz office), CM Eric Dinowitz, Tanbir Chowdhury (CM Dinowitz office), Miguel Matos, (Bronx Chamber of Commerce), Shaun Blatant (ACS)

Chair L. Spalter convened the meeting at 7:00 PM and welcomed all.

1. GALLERY SESSION:

Karen Argenti, of Bronx Council of Environmental Quality (BCEQ), announced that the Bronx Speak Up event will be held in person on Saturday February 25th at Lehman College. The comment period regarding the proposals by the Army Corps of Engineers to control future surges like occurred during Hurricane Sandy has been extended to March.

Deirdre Burke raised concerns about unintended consequences of DOT projects throughout the city. The response time for emergency vehicles has been prolonged. School buses are getting to school late. DOT projects may be slowing traffic and in turn causing safety issues throughout the city.

Veronica Sexton of Women Create Change was founded in 1919 and has deep roots in policy and advocacy. The goal of this organization is to increase women's civic engagement. Feel free to visit <https://wccny.org/> to get more information on programs and to sign up for their newsletter.

Roll Call R. Jacklosky 35 present.

2. REPORT FROM THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT OFFICE – No Report

3. REPORT FROM THE 50th PRECINCT- Captain Ozuna

- Crime is up 30% for the month and 25% for the period. There is an increase in grand larceny/ auto crime.
- The NYPD is short staffed citywide. The precinct is working hard with minimal staffing. It is anticipated that the precinct will receive 25-30 new officers next month.
- Arrests are up by 200%.
- The Captain will attend the Public Safety Committee meeting.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Laura SPALTER

- Refer to Executive Committee Minutes for full report.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – Scott Krompinger

- Personnel Services has increased due to salaries and OTPS has increased as well.
- Noted that equipment purchased this year to assist hybrid meetings were an external camera for the laptop, SD storage cards, extension cords, etc.
- Will report back on telecommunications budget line from previous Fiscal Year as well funding not spent at end of year.

6. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – C. GANNON- NO REPORT

10. REPORT FROM DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING – No Report

7. REPORT FROM ASSEMBLY MEMBER JEFF DINOWITZ

- Working with CB8 & elected officials with DHS regarding proposed shelter at 6661 Broadway. Thanks to advocacy of the board and community, AAPCI is no longer the provider.
- Office is doing a food drive for Kingsbridge Heights Community Center & St. Francis De Rome.
- Legislative Session beginning in January. Wishes the board Happy Holidays & Happy New Year.

8. REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC DINOWITZ

- Spoke about the proposed homeless shelter. Warehousing people is not a good shelter model.
- Composting is available in CB 8. Sign up through DSNY.
- Held Coyote Seminar and highlights that food should be secured in composting bins.
- Currently Higher Education Chair in the NYC Council and working on legislation.
- Application for discretionary funding will be available through the Council Member's Office.
- When asked about development at the Visitation Site, CM Dinowitz is working changing the make up of units to be geared toward families.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Youth- Julia Gomez

- Please refer to minutes for full report.
- Meeting date is 12/28 for December.

b. Aging- Lisa Daub

- Meeting minutes will be distributed shortly. Department for the Aging (DFTA) attended the meeting and led an informative discussion.

c. Budget- No Report

d. Economic Development- Nick Fazio

- Thanks to Bronx Burger House for hosting meeting
- Committee did a walk through with Chair Spalter & DM Gannon, representatives from the DA's Office, Bronx Chamber of Commerce and 50th Precinct to businesses on W. 238th Street. Information on NYPD paid detail was distributed. There will be more commercial walk throughs.
- Thanks to owners of Blue Bay and offered condolences on closing diner.
- Asks board to support local CB8 businesses.

e. Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs- Sylvia Alexander.

- Minutes were distributed. Errors made will be corrected.
- Edge Hill Church has been taken over by the Kingsbridge Historical Society. The Committee Chair will set up a tour of the landmarked building.

f. Environment & Sanitation- Camelia Tepelus

- DSNY spoke at the recent meeting about the snow removal program and compositing

- initiatives. There is no meeting in December; the next meeting is January 3rd.
- The committee is commenting on the New York/ New Jersey Harbor and Tributary study conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers.
- The committee will be planting daffodil bulbs.

g. Health, Hospitals & Social Services- Omar Murray

- There was no meeting in November. December Meeting will have a guest speaker from Jacobi Hospital.

h. Housing- Lee Chong

- The meeting was held on November 26th. Speaker from Residents to Preserve NYCHA spoke about the NYCHA Preservation Trust program. Speaker discussed issues with this new program, such as resident vote and outside monitor.
- The committee discussed updating the Housing Resource Guide
- Discussion of AMI & Visitation Site took place.
- Refer to minutes for additional information

i. Land Use- Charles G. Moerdler

- Committee held second discussion on Affordable Housing. A report will be forthcoming to the committee for discussion at the next meeting.
- C. Moerdler is working on setting up a meeting date with Tishman Speyer regarding the Visitation site. Increase of interest rates is causing a delay for the developer.
- There is a lawsuit from a local resident regarding this site. SCA will not appear before CB8 during the ongoing lawsuit.
- D. Padernacht stated his intention to withdraw his resolution now that the Visitation Site will be addressed.
- M. Wolpoff reported that a meeting with Stagg about 3745 Riverdale Ave will take place next week. Despite a CB8 resolution passed by CB8 allowing Saturday work, DOB has not approved it. Delaying project.
- The next meeting will be held on January 12th.

j. Law, Rules & Ethics – Martin Wolpoff

- Discussed hybrid meetings. CB8 is in compliance with the Open Meetings Law regarding virtual meetings.

k. Parks & Recreation – Deb Travis

- The next meeting will be held on December 22. The new Bronx Borough Commissioner, Jessenia Aponte, will be at the meeting to discuss her priorities and goals for Bronx parks, composting and PEP. The Amateur

Astronomer Association will also be at the meeting to discuss a proposal for a public observatory at Jerome Park.

I. Public Safety- Ed Green

- The committee voted on 9 resolutions.

The seven below resolutions were presented by Chair Green. They were unanimously approved at the committee meeting.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Fran Hage, President of Mr. Vigg's, located at 5670 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to renew this establishment's liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Jin Feng Chen, President of Moon Star Grill, located at 3519-2525 Johnson Avenue Store A & B, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to renew this establishment's liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, David Lindsay, Owner of Kingsbridge Social Club, located at 3625 Kingsbridge Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to renew this establishment's liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

WHEREAS, Franklin Vargas, President of El Economico Restaurant, located at 5589 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to renew this establishment's liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Norberto Benjimin Hoff, President of Bella Notte of Riverdale, located at 3524 Johnson Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 for a new liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Diosado Soto Mordan, President of El Tina, located at 5782 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 for a new liquor license.

WHEREAS, a 2AM agreement was signed by the establishment's owner and received by the Board.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Franca Gaudio, President of Emiliano Gourmet Market, located at 5626 Mosholu Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 for a new liquor license.

WHEREAS, a 2AM agreement was signed by the establishment's owner and received by the Board.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote: Unanimously approved

S. Alexander	I. De Leon	R. Hilliard	J. Reyes
C. Barnes-	M. Donato	R. Jacklosky	G. Santiago
Watson	M. Esema	M. Joyce	R. Singh
R. Bender	S. Froot	R. Kaplan	L. Spalter
K. Buford	N. Fazio	S. Krompinger	L. Teten
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N. Fazio			
S. Froot			
S. Villaverde			

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, Maria De La Cruz, Representative of Kalle Bar & Grill, located at 3638 Baily Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to apply for an alteration to the establishment.

WHEREAS, at the September 20th Public Safety Committee meeting, 50th Precinct Representatives stated they had received multiple 311 complaints for noise, double parking, and other quality of life disturbances at the location of this establishment.

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 has since received a written statement from the Representatives of Kalle Bar & Grill detailing measures they have taken to address the areas of concern.

WHEREAS, Representatives of the 50th Precinct stated they have received no further complaints about the establishment since the September Public Safety Committee meeting.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee is satisfied with measures taken by the owners to address previous complaints.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote: Unanimously Approved

S. Alexander	I. De Leon	R. Hilliard	J. Reyes
C. Barnes-	M. Donato	R. Jacklosky	G. Santiago
Watson	M. Esema	M. Joyce	R. Singh
R. Bender	S. Froot	R. Kaplan	L. Spalter
K. Buford	N. Fazio	S. Krompinger	L. Teten
C. Calhoun	R. Fanuzzi	R. Pochter-Lowe	C. Tepelus
S. Chittilappilly	R. Ginty	C. G. Moerdler	D. Travis
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L. Daub	E. Green	D. Padernacht	
N. Fazio			
S. Froot			
S. Villaverde			

- ❖ **WHEREAS**, a Representative of Tijuana Nites, located at 216 West 242nd Street, failed to appear before the Public Safety Committee on November 15th, 2022 to renew this establishment's liquor license and apply for a corporate change.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated that, over the years, they've received many complaints about noise, parking violations and various other disturbances at this establishment and frequent complaints continue to this day.

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Dinowitz's office notified Bronx Community Board 8 of various constituent complaints and provided a lengthy list of 311 complaints against this establishment in 2022.

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Dinowitz's office sent an inquiry to the Department of Health about this establishment and several violations were found.

WHEREAS, a resident of 216 West 242nd Street stated Tijuana Nites caused frequent disturbances, and cited public drunkenness and drug use outside the club, harassment of building residents by the club's patrons and loud music that disturbs sleeping residents until 4am; he also stated he was concerned for the welfare of his wife and child because he suffered a broken jaw due to being assaulted by employees of the club.

WHEREAS, 216 West 242nd Street was previously occupied by an establishment called Barcelona Bites, which had the same Owner and Representative as Tijuana Nites and had a corporate change disapproved by the State Liquor Authority in 2019 for failing to provide required information about Principals of the transaction.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee has seen no attempt by this establishment to accommodate area residents and address the well documented history of complaints against them.

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee unanimously disapproved this application.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Bronx Community Board 8 disapproves this application.

Questions regarding this complaint were raised. After discussion, a vote was called and seconded:

Vote:

Approved: S. Alexander, R. Bender, K. Buford, C. Calhoun S. Chittilappilly, L. Chong, L. Daub, I. De Leon, M. Donato, M. Esemá S. Froot, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Hilliard R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, R. Kaplan, S. Krompinger, R. Pochter-Lowe C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, G. Santiago , L. Spalter, L. Teten, D. Travis, M. Wolpoff, S. Froot

Oppose: S. Villaverde, R. Fanuzzi, M. Della, J. Reyes, C. Tepelus

Abstain: N. Fazio, C. Barnes- Watson, R. Singh

m. Traffic & Transportation- Kelli Buford

- DOT attended the November meeting and presented a carshare proposal for the district. The next meeting will be January 19th. The following resolution was discussed:

- ❖ WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) first presented its Permanent Carshare Program to the Traffic and Transportation Committee on November 17, 2022;

WHEREAS, DOT stated that it would give Bronx Community Board 8 only 30 days for comment on the Permanent Carshare Program;

WHEREAS, Traffic and Transportation Chair Buford and Community Board 8 Chair Spalter asked that DOT give the Community Board 90 days to comment on the Permanent Carshare Program;

WHEREAS, DOT stated that they would get back to Community Board 8 on whether they will permit comments beyond the 30-day period;

WHEREAS, this is an interesting yet complicated proposal;

WHEREAS, Community Board 8 wishes to have a meaningful, merit-based discussion on the proposed Permanent Carshare Program with an opportunity to investigate the locations, inform the public and elicit testimony from the Community District;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bronx Community Board 8 rejects the Permanent Carshare Program locations in Community Board 8 based upon a failure of DOT to give Community Board 8 adequate time to review the proposal, especially given the fact that the presentation was not given to the Community Board to review the details prior to the November 17, 2022 Traffic and Transportation meeting.

Vote:

Approved: S. Alexander, R. Bender, K. Buford, C. Barnes- Watson, C. Calhoun S. Chittilappilly, L. Chong, L. Daub, I. De Leon, M. Donato, M. Esema, N. Fazio, S. Froot, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, R. Kaplan, S. Krompinger, R. Pochter-Lowe C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, G. Santiago , L. Spalter, L. Teten, M. Wolpoff, S. Froot, S. Villaverde, J. Reyes, C. Tepelus

Oppose: None

Abstain: R. Fanuzzi, M. Della, R. Hilliard

D. Travis (ineligible to vote), R. Singh (ineligible to vote)

n. **Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway – Bob Bender**

- The current greenway map is 30 years old and NYC is tasked with updating the report. CB8 will be part of the conversation over the next year. The next meeting will take place during the spring.

o. **Special Committee on Racial Equity – Margaret Della**

- No meeting in December but will meet January 5th.

p. **Special Committee on Veteran Services – Sergio Villaverde**

- Refer to minutes. The tentative date for next year's Veteran's Day Event is November 5, 2023. If there are unserviceable American Flags on buildings please call 311.

9. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2022 – NONE

10. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2022

A discussion of the vote taken in November regarding a proposed bylaws is not descriptive in the minutes and will be corrected. The minutes were voted on as amended.

Vote: Unanimously Approved

Approved: S. Alexander, R. Bender, K. Buford, C. Barnes- Watson, C. Calhoun S. Chittilappilly, L. Chong, L. Daub, I. De Leon, M. Donato, M. Esema, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, R. Hilliard, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, R. Kaplan, S. Krompinger, R. Pochter-Lowe C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, G. Santiago , L. Spalter, L. Teten, M. Wolpoff, S. Froot, S. Villaverde, J. Reyes, C. Tepelus

Motion to Adjourn meeting at 9:11 PM by R. Singh, seconded and passed by unanimous consent.

Prepared By: Ciara Gannon, District Manager

Reviewed by: Rob Jacklosky, Board Secretary