

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2019 MANHATTAN COLLEGE
3825 CORLEAR AVENUE

PRESENT: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

ABSENT: E. Bell, D. Gellman, D.B. Jackson, C. Genao-Mejia, K. Pesce, S. Sarao
C. Wilcox, M. Yamagata.

STAFF: C. Gannon— District Manager
M. Ortiz – Community Associate

GUESTS: D. Ojeda-Tiru rep. Congressman Engel, A. Mutnick rep. Senator Biaggi, Assemblyman Dinowitz- J. Stephenson rep- C.M Cohen, A. Toledo rep- Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., Det. M. Ramos NYPD, 50th Police Precinct, P.O. Ventura, NYPD 50th Precinct, Det. Santiago 50th Precinct, P. Pamphile Van Courtlandt Library, I. Nedds rep. Dinowitz, Victor Cruz Grace Tabernacle Church, Robert Press, M.E. Gibbi, C. Rodriguez, G. Ammiano, M. Evans, L. McGrady, R. Lish, M. Smith, D. Travis.

Chair Ginty convened the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

1. Gallery Session –

- Speaker Robert Press expressed his concerns with the increase in murder rate between 1998 vs 2019 in the 50th precinct.
- R. Press submitted two Freedom of Information Law (“FOIL”) requests to the office: 1) Information pertaining to the District Manager selection committee in 2016. 2) FOIL request from the Editor of the Riverdale Press. He stated his belief that his emails, during this time as previous board member, are protected under a media privilege law.

2. Report from the Office of the Bronx Borough President- A. Toledo

- The Community Board renewal applications have been mailed to board members who are up for re-appointment.
- Community Board applications for new members are available on the Bronx Borough President’s website. They are due back February 8th.

3. Report from the 50th Police Precinct- Det. Ramos presented for Captain E. Melendez:

- Crime rate 2018 vs 2017 - murder 0 vs 0, rape 0 vs 0, robbery 0 vs 0, felony assault 3 vs 1, burglary 0 vs 1, grand larceny 9 vs 7, and grand larceny auto 1 vs 1
- Traffic stats from West 242 Street to the City line Broadway Collisions 56 vs 41 Injuries 24 vs 24, Pedestrian struck 8 vs 3, Bicycle 2 vs 1.
- Blood Drive at the 50th Precinct is on January 10th from 8:00am-4:00pm. There will be free T shirts for blood donors.
- Thanked the community for the successful Coat Drive. No more donations are needed at this time.
- Captain Melendez is available for one on one meetings with community members.
- Chair Ginty asked if there were any hate crimes. There were 2 in 2018 vs 0 in 2019.

4. Chairs Report - Chair Ginty

- Chair Ginty apologized for not attending the Executive Committee Meeting due to illness. Thanked Vice Chair Laura Spalter for running the meeting.
- There was a presentation on Electric Vehicles Charging Stations at December's Bronx Borough Board Meeting. If the pilot program comes to Community Board 8, street parking will be impacted. Had a discussion with Traffic & Transportation Chair, Dan Padernacht, to reach out to DOT regarding a presentation to his committee.

5. Treasurer's Report - R. Zavras

- R. Zavras presented and distributed the Special Funding and Treasurer Reports. If there are any questions please email.
- Developing a spreadsheet to use in parallel with Financial Management System ("FMS"). This will ensure that data is readily available to permit distribution of Treasures Report in advance of Board meetings.
- Fiscal Year 2019 budget will be presented in February for approval.
- Processes are being established to enable presentation of Community Board budget each May for Board approval.
- An Annual Report will be prepared every September providing details of past fiscal year.

Report from Assemblyman Dinowitz

- January 9th is the opening day of the New York State Legislative Session. Assemblyman Dinowitz was happy to report that last year the following laws were passed in Albany: \$15 minimum wage, paid family leave, universal pre-k. He is looking forward to working on health care, women's health issues, reproductive rights, criminal justice reform, and

tenants' rights this year.

- Local elected officials hosted two successful town hall meetings in Community Board 8. The purpose was to hear from the community about their priorities both on community and legislative issues.
- Thanked the community for all the help with the canned food drive for Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas. He especially thanked P.S.7 for their generosity.

6. District Manager Report - C. Gannon- refer to January Executive Committee Report

- DM thanked all the Board Members who have completed the Sexual Harassment Training. Also, a reminder to the few members who have yet to take it, please do so as soon as possible.
- NYC stores and food services business can no longer sell or possess single-use foam food containers such as takeout clamshells, cups, plates, bowls and trays.
- Four pay phones in our district will be replaced with LinkNYC kiosks that will have free high speed WiFi.
- The elevators at the 168th street station are being replaced so 1 trains will not stop at the 168th street station until next year.

7. Committee Reports

A. Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs - S. Alexander

- No December meeting due to the holidays
- Next meeting will be January 29th

B. Environment & Sanitation - B. Fanuzzi

- An upcoming joint meeting with Environment & Sanitation and Economic Development will focus on the Commercial Waste Zones Proposal.
- There is new fencing being installed around the Jerome Park Reservoir. The site lines are improved but there continues to be no public access.
- S. Villaverde thanked DSNY Superintendent C. Agazzi for his productive approach to the waste management efforts.
- Next meeting will be held January 16th and there will be an update from the Water Committee.

C. Health, Hospital & Social Services- J. Gomez presented - Chair not present

- No meeting in December 2018, or January 2019
- Next meeting will be February 13th.

D. Housing - D. B. Jackson – R. Ginty presented- Chair not present

- No December meeting
- Next meeting will be January 28th.

E. Land Use - Charles Moerdler

The following resolutions regarding Gaelic Park were presented:

- ❖ Whereas the Land Use Committee did not have a quorum at the January 7, 2019 Meeting, Land Use Chair Chuck Moerdler requests that the resolution pertaining to Gaelic Park be placed on the Full Board Agenda.

Vote: In favor 37

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

- ❖ Whereas, The Public Design Commission and as per a requirement of the ("PDC") the owner of Gaelic Park, 201 West 240th Street, is requesting review of proposed horizontal and vertical enlargement of the existing one story building;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, Bronx Community Board 8 approves and supports the application.

Vote: In favor 35

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 2

S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. T. Moran, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

Abstentions: C. G. Moerdler, J. Townes

- C. G. Moerdler gave an update on 2395 Palisade Ave. The developer has agreed to meet with immediate neighbors to discuss project. A permit will not be approved, pending approval from the MTA because, of proximity to the Henry Hudson Bridge.
- C. G. Moerdler updated Board regarding 3745 Riverdale Ave. The Community Board Office worked with the Condo President next to the site owned by Simone Development, both attended Land Use Meeting and will continue to work together on flooding issues.

F. Law, Rules & Ethics - M. Wolpoff

- No meeting in December
- Next Meeting will be January 14th.

G. Parks & Recreation - B. Bender

- No December meeting, next meeting January 23rd
- Parks without Borders will begin on the new entrance to Van Cortlandt Park at W. 242nd Street.
- The Committee will be addressing two specific issues regarding the Putman Trail: storage during the renovation and the protocols to ensure public safety once the construction is completed.

H. Public Safety - M. Donato

The following resolutions were presented:

- ❖ Whereas, Home The Bronx Steakhouse, located at 222-224 West 238th Street, appeared before the committee on December 18, 2018 seeking approval for a NEW LIQUOR LICENSE.
The applicant signed the Committee Board Agreement to close at 2 AM for the first year of operation.
- ❖ Whereas; TCR Tennis Club located at 2600 Netherland Ave., appeared before the Public Safety Committee on December 18, 2018 seeking approval for a Renewal of their liquor license
- ❖ Whereas, An Beal Bocht, located at 445 West 238th Street, appeared before the committee on December 18, 2018 seeking approval for the RENEWAL OF THEIR SIDEWALK CAFÉ.
- ❖ Whereas, The Committee voted unanimously to approve the applications
Therefore, be it Resolved that Bronx Community Board 8 approves the applications

Vote S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

In favor: 38

Opposed: 0

Abstention: 0

I. Special Committee Greenway - B. Bender

- A meeting was held December 10th. The committee met with the State Greenway officials to discuss a sponsoring agency for the project and funding authorizing the engineering study. The State Greenway officials recommended that City Parks & Recreation should be involved.

J. Special Committee for Veterans Services – No report

K. Traffic & Transportation - D. Padernacht

- The next meeting will discuss the DEP closing of Palisades Ave. to West 235 Street to traffic for 18 months and the replacement of City phones with towers

The following Resolutions were presented:

- ❖ WHEREAS, William J. Scribner died on September 16, 2016 and this resolution is brought more than two years after his death; and

WHEREAS, William J. Scribner has been nominated for the honor of this proposed street co-naming by the Bronx Arts Ensemble, Friends of Van Cortlandt Park and the Amalgamated Housing Corporation, which are three community organizations that are active in Bronx Community Board 8 and as such, are on the list required to be kept by Bronx Community Board No. 8 under the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, William J. Scribner received a B.Mus. in Music Education from the University Of Michigan School Of Music in 1961, and went on to become one of New York's busiest freelance bassoonists, performing with the Brooklyn Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, and Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. American Symphony, Long Island Philharmonic, New Jersey State Opera Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, the Bolshoi Ballet Orchestra, Royal Ballet Orchestra, Royal Danish Ballet Orchestra and also performed in many Broadway productions; and

WHEREAS, William J. Scribner was on the faculties of University of CT at Storrs, Rutgers University (Newark) and Queens College and was also a member of the Advisory Board of Hostos Community College and Board of Bronx Council on the Arts.

WHEREAS, the evidence and testimony presented to Bronx Community Board No. 8 has demonstrated that William J. Scribner has benefited a cross-section of Bronx Community Board No. 8 and the Borough of the Bronx and the City of New York;

WHEREAS, in 1972, answering the need for arts instruction which had been decimated in New York schools, Bill founded the Bronx Arts Ensemble, and guided that organization from its beginning as a wind quintet to its present status as the preeminent performance group in the Bronx, becoming one of the most acclaimed arts-in-education programs in

the city, with instruction in music, visual arts, drama, dance and such innovative areas as capoeira, Latin and African drumming and electronic media, employing teaching artists in schools and a Residency at Fordham University comprising free concerts for campus and community and free summer programs.

WHEREAS, under William J. Scribner's leadership, the Bronx Arts Ensemble championed new and little-known repertoire for both performance and recording, developed the works of little-known Latino composers, and compiled an impressive CD list for the Bronx Arts Ensemble, and which now performs over 50 annual live concerts and family theater in Bronx neighborhoods and parks, including Bronx Community Board 8 and that teaches 14,000 art classes annually in 45 Bronx public schools; and

WHEREAS, William J. Scribner has shown his creativity, and helped mold the creativity of performers across the Borough of the Bronx and the City of New York through his arts-in-education programs and has brought notoriety to the Borough of the Bronx; and

WHEREAS, this street has a specific connection to William J. Scribner as it is the location of the headquarters of the Bronx Arts Ensemble; and

WHEREAS, the name change will not engender confusion as there are no other streets with similar name in the vicinity;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the northwest corner of Van Cortlandt Park South and Hillman Avenue be co-named William J. Scribner Way.

Therefore: Be it Resolved that Bronx Community Board 8 approves the resolution.

Vote In favor: 36

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 2

S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Donato, E. Dinowitz, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

Abstention: R. Fanuzzi, M. Della

- Chair Ginty: Complimented the District Manager on a flyer distributed to neighbors near Henry Hudson Parkway and 237-239th streets regarding changes to parking regulations as described in the following resolution:
- ❖ WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 acknowledges and understands the lack of on-street parking within the Community District and always seeks additional parking where possible in the Community District; and

WHEREAS, the NYC Department of Transportation has proposed additional parking along Henry Hudson Parkway West between West 237th Street and West 239th

Street; and

WHEREAS, testimony has been presented against the additional on-street parking proposed by DOT for safety reasons and quality of life reasons by neighboring buildings;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Bronx Community Board No. 8 requests that the NYC Department of Transportation implement a No Standing zone starting at the northerly end of the parking garage entrance to 3701 Henry Hudson Parkway West and extending 16 feet north from that point in order to daylight the garage entrance at that location.

Vote: In favor 35

Opposed: 3

Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, C. G. Moerdler, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

Opposed: T. Moran, I.W. Stone, R. P. Lowe

L. Youth - L. Parker

- No meeting in December, Next meeting will be January 24th.
- Applications for the New York Yankees Community Council Youth Leadership Award are available in the Community Board Office. The application deadline is January 21st.

M. Aging - E. Dinowitz

- No December meeting. Next meeting will be January 15th.

N. Budget - Laura Spalter - Chair not present

- D. Gellman distributed a memo with deadlines for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Last September the Board voted on Capital and Expense Budget and on January 31st the Board will get the response to those budget priority requests.
- On February 12th the Community Board will hold a budget hearing to solicit community input on responses the Boards Fiscal Year 2020 requests.
- Preparation for Fiscal 2021 budget cycle is starting now.

O. Economic Development - S. Villaverde

- No meeting in December, or January. Next meeting on February 5, 2019
- Would like to hire a consultant to work on streetscape and beautification on a retail street in the district with the newly allocated funding.
- A meeting was held with elected officials and Department of Transportation to discuss

Minutes of Bronx Community Board No.8 Meeting held on January 8, 2019

merchant issues on W. 242nd Street and Broadway. Notes of meetings will be included in next month's minutes.

8. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2018 Meeting

Vote: In favor: 38

Opposed: 0

Abstention: 0

S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano
R. Fanuzzi, M. Frishman, S. Froot,, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M.
Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R.P. Lowe, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D.
Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J.
Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young, R. Zavras

9. Discussion Of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 2, 2019 - None

10. Miscellaneous Discussion - None

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Submitted by,

Maritza Ortiz

Community Associate

Reviewed by Lisa Daub Secretary