

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON October 9, 2018
AT AMALGAMATED HOUSES, 74 VAN CORTLANDT PARK SOUTH, VLADECK HALL

PRESENT: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

ABSENT: R. Fanuzzi, M. Gluck, C. G. Moerdler, P. Mullen, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, I. W. Stone, C. Wilcox, H. Young,

STAFF: D. Bay – Community Associate

GUESTS: D. Ojeda-Tiru – rep. Congressman Engel, T. Outlaw – rep. Public Advocate L. James, P.O. Ventura - NYPD, 50th Police Precinct, Assemblyman Dinowitz, V. Thomas – office of Assemblyman Dinowitz, Councilman Cohen, A. Toledo – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, J. Stephenson – office of Councilman Cohen, R. Press, C. Perez, L. Southard, E. Yaker, J. Pilla, K. Armstrong, L. Bodem, R. Barbier – Riverdale Branch Library, T. O'Mara, R. Fass, J. Kisslinger, B. Antunes, J. Gelfans, J. Blaustein, J. Arnold, R. Zuckker, E. Oliff, L. Hirlehey, C. Weingard,

PUBLIC HEARING: Capital & Expense Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2020

Budget Chair D. Gellman asked for speakers.

Not hearing from any, D. Gellman called for a vote to close the hearing.

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

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

1. Gallery Session

- Troy Outlaw, representative of Public Advocate L. James, presented a proclamation to board member L. Parker for his outstanding work with youth in the community.
- C. Weingard spoke of the closing of the pedestrian pathway on the Henry Hudson Bridge for 2 years and the inconvenience it causes. He also brought up the lack of notification to the public.
- Rebecca Barbieri, Riverdale Branch Library Manager thanked the board for adding libraries in their budget priorities. She recommended registering for a library card and a culture pass. Library registration is very active this year.
- E. Yaker asked about status of the Putnam Trail. B. Bender reported that a contractor is being vetted by the State Department of Transportation and should be ready to start work by December.

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

- Congratulated L. Parker on the proclamation he received from the Public Advocate.
- Approximately 20 board members have not completed the EEO form.
- Sexual harassment training is mandatory for every board member and must be done by December 14, 2018. It can be done in the board office, the Supreme Court Office building on October 23rd at 11AM or November 15th at 5PM or at DCAS. For more information call T. Lucania or A. Toledo at the Borough President's office. Board members who do not do the training will not be reappointed. This training will need to be done annually.
- The annual Tour De Bronx is on Sunday, October 28.

3. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – P.O. Ventura

- 28 day comp stat report – 2018 vs. 2017, murders - 0 vs 1, rape 2 vs. 0, robbery 7 vs. 7, felony assaults – 18 vs. 11, burglary – 11 vs. 9, grand larceny 46 vs. 54 and grand larceny auto 8 vs. 2. Total of 92 crimes vs. 84 crimes. Traffic statistics for Broadway – January 2018 thru October 8, 2018 – 242 to 261 Street - 53 collisions, 613 moving violations, 3 pedestrian collisions; January 2017 thru October 8, 2017- 55 collisions, 791 moving violations and 4 pedestrian collisions.

4. Chair Report – R. Ginty

- See Executive Committee minutes.
- Paul Ellis stepped down as Vice Chair of the Board. Chair Ginty conveyed her sincere gratitude and appreciation of his invaluable contributions and service. P. Ellis said it was a privilege and an honor working with the officers of the Board and being Vice Chair. It was difficult to step down but he will continue on as a board member. The bylaws call for a nomination from the floor and a new Vice Chair will be elected at the November meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report – R. Zavras

- R. Zavras is working with OMB to get the budget set up. There should be a Treasurer's report at the next board meeting.

6. District Manager Report – C. Gannon

- Interviews are ongoing for a Community Associate and filling this position is near.
- Borough budget consultations began in September and concluded last week. C. Gannon, D. Gellman and R. Ginty worked together prioritizing the committee budget requests as a draft for the hearing.
- As per the Public Officers Law office files are continuously updated.
- The New York City Transit Authority is hosting a series of bus workshops to redesign the bus network – including one at Christ Church on October 18 from 6 to 8PM.
- C. Gannon stressed that the sexual harassment training is required by law. Please call the board office in advance to schedule an appointment. If taken already, forward certificate to the board office.
- The Department of City Planning is conducting a training for new board members on November 1 from 6 to 9PM. Location is yet to be determined.

7. Department of City Planning – No City Planning representative was present

8. By-Law Revision from Law, Rules & Ethics Committee on the Establishment of an Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee – M. Wolpoff

Motion to create a new committee Education, Libraries and Cultural Affairs as a standing committee and this action would replace the Libraries and Cultural Affairs and Education as standing committees.

Vote: In favor: 33 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 1

In favor: E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

Opposed: Sharon Paige Abstention: S. Alexander

The Bylaws may be amended by resolution of the Board adopted at two (2) consecutive regular meetings. Since the above vote was positive this will be another vote at the November board meeting.

A resolution revising the role of the Treasurer was presented:

Whereas, the City of New York has recently mandated that only City employees can access and be trained in use of the FMS system, it is no longer compliant to mandate that any board member elected to the position of treasurer be required to engage in activities that are now prohibited for them to do.

Be It Resolved that Sec. 8 – The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the Board. The Treasurer shall monitor board finances, maintain the Board's financial records and oversee budget modifications and expenditures. The Treasurer shall submit a written report to the Board each month. ~~(and shall approve all payments of the Board, pursuant to methodologies prescribed by the City of New York. If the Treasurer is incapacitated another individual selected by the Chair may approve the payments of the Board.)~~ In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairperson may designate any other officer of the Board to act as Treasurer on a temporary basis. In addition, the Treasurer shall have such powers and perform such duties as shall be assigned to the Treasurer by the Chairperson of the Board.

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

Chair Ginty welcomed Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the board

- There was a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Van Cortlandt Library. This is expected to be opened next year.
- Flu shots will be administered on October 15th at the Riverdale Y, October 17th at St Gabriel's and October 22nd at Vladeck Hall, all between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- Reminded people to vote and spoke of the proposals on the ballot. Be sure to look at the back of the ballot.
- Upcoming town hall meetings are being arranged.

Chair Ginty welcomed Councilman Cohen to address the board

- Flu shots were announced (see Assemblyman Dinowitz report)
- Councilman Cohen often meets with the Parks Commissioner. The improvements to the Putnam Trail is moving along.
- The City owns the site of the new Van Cortland Library.

- Worked with a tenant organizing group at 3050 Godwin Terrace. Their complaints against the landlord was certified as a class action.
- A Tenant Resource Fair is scheduled for October 23rd at the Church of the Mediator, 6:30-8PM.
- A Participatory budget will be held at Spuyten Duyvil Library on October 17th at 7PM.
- Free citizenship application assistance will be held at Tracy Towers on October 13th from 11AM to 2PM.
- Upcoming City Council hearings will include a small job survival act, taxi cab legislation, street vendors, City Council Charter Revision.
- Councilman Cohen will report on the Hebrew Home at the next board meeting.

9. Committee Reports

A. Aging – E. Dinowitz

- The Aging Committee meeting met in September. A speaker from the DOHMH spoke about fall prevention. The best way to prevent falls is to exercise.
- The next meeting is at Riverdale Senior Services. They will discuss what items to take up on their committee.

B. Budget – D. Gellman

The Budget Chair presented the draft of the FY 2020 Capital and Expense budget priorities to the board members. The order of the priorities was reviewed. Recommendations were made for switching, moving and rewording some of the priorities and then voted on:

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

C. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- A Committee meeting was held on October 2nd. The Broadway Merchants along Broadway and West 242nd Street have many concerns of the negative impact the new traffic design has on their businesses. The Economic Development Committee did not have a quorum to consider a resolution therefore, Chair Villaverde offered a resolution to amend the agenda to add the following resolution:

WHEREAS, representatives of the Broadway Riverdale Merchants Association attended the October 2, 2018 meeting of the Economic Development Committee to report on negative impacts due to implementation of the Department of Transportation (DOT) plan affecting Broadway and 242nd Street;

WHEREAS, the Broadway Riverdale Merchants Association previously presented a petition in opposition to DOT's Broadway Corridor Plan to the Board signed by 20 merchants whose businesses are located between West 242nd Street and Mosholu Avenue;

WHEREAS, the merchants stated that their businesses, livelihoods as well as the community at large have been adversely affected by changes including but not limited to reduced parking, installation of a concrete bus bulb, elimination of moving traffic lanes for a de facto bus lane, and elimination of the slip lane, thereby greatly reducing customer access to their businesses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NYCDOT in conjunction with our elected officials, stakeholders and Bronx Community Board 8 work together to study and implement solutions that will remediate

these conditions that are currently creating gridlock and other negative unintended consequences for our local businesses in this important commercial hub.

The following is the vote to accept this new item:

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

The following is the vote on the resolution:

Vote: In favor – 34 Opposed – 0 Abstention for cause: 1

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

Abstention for cause: D. B. Jackson

- Once traffic changes are implemented by The Department of Transportation (DOT) and the public questions them DOT will not revisit them again for 12 months. It was stressed how important it is for DOT to hear feedback on the Broadway traffic changes **now** in order for them to consider any resolution to the problems that have transpired.
- Refer to minutes. The next meeting is Monday, November 19th.

D. Education – S. Alexander

- The next meeting is October 23rd, 7:30PM in the board office.

E. Environment & Sanitation – L. Spalter

- The committee will have a table at the Bronx Community Green Fair at the Church of the Mediator, 231st and Kingsbridge Avenue on October 16th, from 1:30 to 4:00.
- DEP gave notice on how to counteract lead in your water. Call 311 and they will send a kit with instructions.
- The next meeting is on October 17th, 7:30PM at Mosaic Mental Health and there will be a speaker from DEP.

F. Health, Hospitals and Social Services – O. Murray

- The Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 15th, 7:30PM at the board office. A speaker from Montefiore will speak about flu shots. Minutes are forthcoming.

G. Housing – Chair not present

- The next Housing meeting is on October 22nd.

H. Land Use – Chair not present

- The Department of City Planning (DCP) is having an open house presentation on the proposed changes to the Special Natural Area District on Monday, October 15th from 7-8:30pm at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in the Student Commons building.

I. Law, Rules and Ethics – M. Wolpoff

- City & State magazine recognized the top up and coming people in the Bronx, including C. Moerdler and D. Padernacht.
- After the board voted on a resolution at the September board meeting on the Charter Revision the City notified the board that they cannot take a position.
- There will be no meeting in November due to a holiday.

J. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- The committee did not meet. There will be a vote in November to merge the Education and Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee

K. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- The following vote was to amend the agenda to present the Fort Four Playground resolution.

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

The following resolution was presented:

Whereas Fort Four Playground is a heavily used playground located in Kingsbridge Heights; and

Whereas Fort Four Playground has no restroom, and the closest public restroom is in Fort Independence Park, which is several blocks away; and

Whereas installing a restroom in Fort Four Playground has been the number-one capital budget priority of the committee for many years; and

Whereas the funding for this restroom has now been allocated; and

Whereas the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) presented a design for the restroom at the committee's September meeting; and

Whereas several residents of the community attended the meeting; and

Whereas both residents and committee members endorsed the design as presented; and

Whereas DPR requested a letter of support for the design from the community board; and

Whereas the committee lacked a quorum at that time during the meeting; therefore

Be It Resolved, that Bronx Community Board 8 approves the design of the restroom as presented to the Parks & Recreation Committee at its September 26, 2018 meeting.

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

- The next meeting is on October 24th at the Conservative Synagogue in the downstairs room.

L. Public Safety – M. Donato

The following resolutions were presented:

1. WHEREAS, Catering Facility - College of Mt. St. Vincent – 6301 Riverdale Ave., appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for a NEW Beer, Wine and Cider license.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.
2. WHEREAS, Las Palmas Restaurant II Inc. – 240 West 231 Street appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for a NEW Liquor license.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.
3. WHEREAS, Moon Star Grill, 3519-3525 Johnson Avenue appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for a renewal Liquor license.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.
4. WHEREAS, Sante Fe Grill & Bar, 6025 Broadway appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for a renewal Liquor license.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.
5. WHEREAS, Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC, 197 West 237 Street Broadway appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for change in method of operation, previously closing at 10PM and will now close at 11PM.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.

6. WHEREAS, P&K Grille, Inc., 170-72-74 West 231 Street appeared before the committee on September 27, 2018, seeking approval for corporate change in title.

WHEREAS, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that the Public Safety Committee approves the application.

The board members voted the same for all the applications above:

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

- The next meeting is Tuesday, October 16th at 7PM.

- M. Hudson River Greenway (HRG) – B. Bender

The committee will meet October 10th at the Riverdale Y in the board room. The Metro North feasibility study will be discussed.

- N. Special Committee on Veteran Services – No report

- O. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- The next meeting is October 18, 7:15pm at Park Gardens Rehab on Broadway. Con Ed will speak about ongoing projects. DDC will speak about an upcoming water main project. The exit ramp, southbound on Broadway will be discussed and DOT will be present.
- A workshop by the MTA aimed to provide residents the opportunity to offer their input on ways the service can and should be improved will be held October 18th at Christ Church from 6 to 8PM.

- P. Youth – L. Parker

- Refer to minutes. There will be no meeting in November.

10. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2018

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

11. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2018 – None

12. Miscellaneous – R. Ginty

- The Chair reported that announcements from DDC/Con Ed/DOT will be put on facebook and the newsletter to better inform the public of ongoing work in the district.
- The District Manager urged people to call the board with any questions about a work permit for a street closure.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Vote: In favor – 35 Opposed – 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, S. Froot, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, J. Gomez, M. Goodman, E. Green, D. B. Jackson, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, L. Spalter, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

Submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate

Reviewed by Lisa Daub, Secretary