

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON September 12, 2018
AT SCHERVIER REHABILITATION AND NURSING CENTER
2975 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

- PRESENT:** S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, K. Pesce, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras
- ABSENT:** M. Della, R. Fanuzzi, S. Froot, M. Goodman, D. B. Jackson, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago
- STAFF:** D. Bay – Community Associate
- GUESTS:** DI O’Toole - NYPD, 50th Police Precinct, P.O. Ventura - NYPD, 50th Police Precinct, Assemblyman Dinowitz, A. Toledo – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, J. Stephenson – rep. Councilman Cohen, E. Nolan – Transportation Alternatives, J. Goodwin, L. Southard, C. Tepelus, A. Rodriguez, A. Deluca, H. Diaz, A. Farciert, M. S-Reyes, Z. Kostro, M. Salazar, T. Tureski, L. Cucco, M. Sarles, B. Antones, T. Edwards

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

1. Gallery Session

- Camelia Tepelus of NYC Small Business Services Neighborhood 360 is applying for a Department of Environmental Conservation & Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant and needs the community board’s support and guidance for doing a green project in the Marble Hill area with particular focus on the Broadway corridor. She is based at the Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Van Cortlandt Corporation office. She will submit a proposal to the board office which the Environment & Sanitation Committee will review.
- Liza Cucco of City as Living Laboratories – their mission is to create public programs to increase awareness. Daylighting Tibbetts Brook is a project transforming possibilities associated with daylighting the brook under a plan put forth by the NYC Parks Department. Join them in events imagining the future of Tibbetts Brook every Sunday starting September 16th, 1-4PM. Sunday, September 30, 2018 is at Marble Hill Houses and October 14th is at the Church of the Mediator from 1:30 to 4:30PM. For a list of events go to <https://www.cityaslivinglab.org/events/>
- Mariella Salazar of Montefiore Hospital announced opening its doors to all men 40 and older who needs a prostate exam on Saturday, September 29th from 9AM to 2PM at the Tower at Montefiore Medical Park, 1695 Eastchester Road. To register call 718 405-8076.

Chair Ginty welcomed Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the board

- The alternate side parking calendar is forthcoming.
- Sunday, September 16, 2018 shred day from 10AM-2PM at 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue from 10am-2pm.
- Speed cameras which are placed in the NYC School zones had expired but will now resume.
- Assemblyman welcomed new board members.

2. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – DI O’Toole

- 28 day comp stat report – 2018 vs. 20176, murders 2 vs 0, rape 0 vs. 2, robbery 12 vs. 6, felony assaults – 7 vs. 12, burglary – 6 vs. 6, grand larceny 42 vs. 36 and grand larceny auto 16 vs. 7. Total of

85 crimes vs. 69 crimes.

- Uptick in crime due to more people hanging out over the summer. NYPD and the PEP Officers have been working together on keeping crime down at Ft. Four Park.
- No hate crimes reported.
- Grand larceny auto down 50% for the year. Remember to lock your cars.
- NYPD presence around the Jewish Holidays was acknowledged.
- The Neighborhood Community Officers are doing a good job.
- NYPD is receiving more argus cameras through a generous grant and also from Council members Cabrera, Cohen and Assemblyman Dinowitz.
- Patrol Sergeants, Lieutenants and patrol officers have body cameras.

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

- A. Toledo welcomed new board members.
- Requested that new board members RSVP regarding their attendance at the September 17th orientation.
- The Bronx Borough President funded \$10 million in funding to education in the Bronx and \$3 million for affordable housing.
- There will be upcoming workshops for the community boards. Topics will include Conflicts of Interest, Parliamentary Procedures and Zoning and Land Use.
- All are invited to September 11th Day of Remembrance, Friday, September 14th from 12PM-2PM at Lou Gehrig Plaza. Please RSVP.

4. Chair Report – Rosemary Ginty

- Top priority – find new office space for the community board. Councilmember Cabrera and his Chief of Staff G. Faulkner have been instrumental in moving this process along.
- City Council gave \$42,500 to each community board that can be used only for furniture, tech updates, zoning consultants and/or community events.
- The Mayor's Charter Revision will have proposals on the ballot in November. The City Council Charter Revision Commission is starting their work. It will last for 16 months and they will have some proposals on the ballot November, 2019. Law, Rules and Ethics will work with committee's on proposals for the commission.
- Chair thanked all who volunteered National Night Out, D. Gellman, M. Della, K. Pesce, M. Joyce, E. Dinowitz, M. Goodman, L. Daub, D. Padernacht and S. Paige.
- There will be a street fair on Johnson Avenue, September 16 from 1PM to 5PM. Volunteers are needed.

Introduction of New Board Members

- Margaret Della – not present
- Michael Frishman – works at Bronx Supreme Court, volunteers at various schools, joined E& S and Youth
- Edward Green – grew up in the Bronx, lives in the Van Cortlandt Village, works for the transport workers union, joined T&T and Public Safety
- Louis Lopez – from Kingsbridge, goes to Brooklyn Law, works for Part of the Solution (POTS), joined Economic Development, Public Safety and Housing
- Patricia Mullen – is an Education activist and was a High School teacher, works at Lehman College with ESOL adults and GED students, joined Education and Housing
- Carlos Wilcox – is a Senior at Hunter College, interested in local government, worked with City Council on the Participatory Budget, joined Economic Development and Law, Rules and Ethics,
- Sharon Paige – is a 5th grade teacher for 10 years, joined Education and Housing Committee

- Tracy Pardo – Born and raised in the Bronx, is the Bronx Chief Clerk in Bronx Supreme Court, joined Economic Development and Housing
- Donell Leverett – lives in Riverdale for 10 years, works in affordable housing for Hope, joined Parks & Recreation and Housing
- Cesar Genao-Mejia – works at NYU Hospital, does cancer screening, joined Economic Development and Health, Hospitals and Social Services

5. District Manager's Report – R.Ginty

- Family commitment prevented C. Gannon from attending the meeting. See Executive Committee minutes for report.

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

7. Election to fill the position for Treasurer Pursuant to Bylaws, Article V, Sec. 3 – R. Ginty

Upon the death, resignation, termination of Board membership or removal of any officer or elected Committee Chairperson, the vacancy created shall be filled by the Board. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, upon the occurrence of a vacancy in the position of Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the position of the Chairperson for the remainder of the term. The election to fill any vacancy shall take place upon written notice not later than the second regular meeting following the creation of the vacancy. The election procedure shall be the same as that set forth in Section 2 of this Article V, except that no nominating committee shall be elected and all candidates shall be nominated from the floor. Any officer elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term, and until a successor shall have been elected and shall have qualified.

[Added 3/9/04]

The Chair opened nominations from the floor. Eric Bell nominated Rosalind Zavras. Being no other nominations from the floor the board voted unanimously in favor to elect R. Zavras Treasurer.

Vote: In favor: 39 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, K. Pesce, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

8. Committee Reports

A. Youth – L. Parker

The next Youth meeting will be held September 27, 2018, 7:30pm at Kingsbridge Heights Community Center.

B. Aging – E. Dinowitz

- Thanked L. Daub in helping him transition to Chair of the Aging Committee.
- The Aging committee meeting will be held on September 17th, 4:30PM at the Atria. The Department of Mental Health will do a presentation on fall prevention.

C. Budget – D. Gellman

- Budget consultations started last Thursday and there are 2 more in the next 3 weeks.
- The City provided a guide to the Capital budget.
- Budget priorities will be discussed at the October Executive Committee meeting and a budget hearing will be held prior to the board meeting on October 9th at 7:00pm

D. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- Parking meters changed around 242nd Street. The business merchants in this area will be invited to the October 2nd committee meeting.
- K. Pesce asked about the slip lanes on 242nd Street. D. Padernacht said it was part of the Broadway plan. This item will be on the T& T agenda in September.
- S. Villaverde thanked KRVC for working in Marble Hill.

E. Education – S. Alexander

- September meeting was cancelled due to the holidays and no alternative dates.
- The next meeting is October 23rd, 7:30PM in the board office. S. Alexander encouraged all to join the committee.

F. Environment & Sanitation – L. Spalter

- There is no September meeting due to the Jewish holidays. The next meeting is on October 17th, 7:30PM at Mosaic Mental Health and there will be a speaker from DEP.

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

- The Committee meeting will be held on Monday, September 17th, 7:30PM at the board office.

H. Housing – S. Sarao

- No meeting in September due to the Jewish Holidays.
- S. Nuzzo from the Department of Buildings will be a guest speaker at the October 22nd meeting which will be held in the board office.

I. Land Use – C.G. Moerdler

The following resolution was presented:

Be It Resolved, Bronx Community Board 8 approves application for 360 W 253 Street - CPC Appl. (N 190002 ZAX/N 190003 ZAX) and the related drawings submitted by Hanjun Huang pursuant to Sections 105-422 and 105-425 of the Zoning Resolution, for the grant of an authorization for a site alteration on a Tier II site or portion of a zoning lot having a steep slope or steep slope buffer, modification of botanic environment and tree preservation and planting requirements to allow for site alterations to an existing single- family residence located at 360 West 253rd Street (Block 5837, Lot 3710) within the Special Natural Area District (NA-2), within Community District 8, Borough of The Bronx. * CB review period deadline of September 17, 2018.

- Be It Further Resolved, that the application is approved provided that at the time of the September 12 board meeting the applicant secures and forwards to the Board office the written consent/approval of the neighbor, failing which the approval is limited construction solely on the applicant's property and excluding any easements.

Vote: In favor: 39 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, K. Pesce, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

- C. Moerdler thanked Carlos Wilcox for agreeing to take minutes of the Land Use meetings.
- C. Moerdler mentioned the absence of Schervier's master plans.

J. Law, Rules and Ethics – M. Wolpoff

- The committee met in September.
- At the next Executive meeting three potential changes in the bylaws will be discussed; merging the Education and Libraries & Cultural Affairs committees; updating Bylaw definition of the role of the Treasurer and revisiting the structure of the Land Use Committee.
- The Conflict of Interest Board oversees what is permissible or impermissible. The Borough President's office will be giving a session on COIB rules which he will attend. The COIB rules were emailed to board members.
- The Mayor's Charter Revision Commission will have 3 resolutions on the ballot in November which consist of:
 - The proposals would significantly reduce campaign contribution limits in city elections
 - apply term limits and appointment reforms to community boards
 - create a new agency to civically engage the public

Four out of the five Borough Presidents are against term limits and creating an Office of Civic Engagement. They agree that the amount of knowledge a board member achieves over the years is essential and beneficial to the community and Creating an Office of Civic Engagement would change the way the community boards operate. Creation of a centralized city-wide bureaucracy will limit the support available to the local community boards.

For these reasons the following resolution was presented:

Whereas, the Mayor's Charter Revision Commission has voted out three resolutions to appear on the November 2018 ballot, and

Whereas, one resolution seeks to establish term limits for community board members, and

Whereas, a second resolution seeks to establish an Office of Civic Engagement to replace the expertise and support for community boards that are currently provided by the Borough Presidents, Therefore, Be it Resolved that

Community Board 8, Bronx, Joins with the Borough Presidents of the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island in asking voters to reject the Mayor's Charter Revision Commission's attempt to undermine the discretion of the Borough Presidents. In calling for community board member term limits they are questioning the Borough Presidents' judgements in selecting who best represents local communities. In addition, term limits prevent the development of expertise over time. For example, in areas such as land use, community boards would lose the knowledge of local leaders who know the history of developers who have demonstrated a lack of concern for the needs and benefit of the community. And, Be it further resolved that,

In addition, Community Board 8 seeks the rejection of the Revision Commission's intent to establish an Office of Civic Engagement in which they seek to remove from the Borough Presidents an area for which their local support and expertise are needed by the community boards. Creation of a centralized city-wide bureaucracy with extended new staffing, will limit the support available to the local community boards.

It was suggested to bifurcate the above resolution and after considerable discussion there was a vote to amend the wording by eliminating the phrase “asking to voters to reject” and substituting “opposing”.

All in favor of the above motion:

Vote: In favor – 27 Opposed: 10 Abstentions: 1

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, D. Escano, M. Frishman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, M. Joyce, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, M. Yamagata, R. Zavras

Opposed:

L. Daub, D. Gellman, D. Fuchs, E. Green, D. Leverett, C. G. Moerdler, L. Spalter, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Abstention: P. Ellis

The resolution on term limits was amended as follows:

Whereas, the Mayor’s Charter Revision Commission has voted out three resolutions to appear on the November 2018 ballot, and

Whereas, one resolution seeks to establish term limits for community board members, and

Be It Resolved, Community Board 8, Bronx, Joins with the Borough Presidents of the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island opposing the Mayor’s Charter Revision Commission’s attempt to undermine the discretion of the Borough Presidents. In calling for community board member term limits they are questioning the Borough Presidents’ judgements in selecting who best represents local communities. In addition, term limits prevent the development of expertise over time. For example, in areas such as land use, community boards would lose the knowledge of local leaders who know the history of developers who have demonstrated a lack of concern for the needs and benefit of the community.

Vote: In favor: 36 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

Abstentions: P. Ellis, R. Ginty

The Resolution on the Office of Civic Engagement was amended as follows:

Whereas, a second resolution seeks to establish an Office of Civic Engagement to replace the expertise and support for community boards that are currently provided by the Borough Presidents,

Therefore, Be it Resolved that in addition, Community Board 8 opposed the Revision Commission's intent to establish an Office of Civic Engagement in which they seek to remove from the Borough Presidents an area for which their local support and expertise are needed by the community boards. Creation of a centralized city-wide bureaucracy with extended new staffing, will limit the support available to the local community boards.

Vote: In favor: 38 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, K. Pesce, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

K. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – Chair not present

L. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- Parks & Recreation meeting is on September 26, 7:00pm, at Citadel Rehab Center on Cannon Place. The parking at this location is very difficult. Two presentations; 1) Design of new rest room in Ft. Four Park; 2) Update & new information on the Putnam Trail
- C. Moerdler mentioned that the Parks Department is responsible for maintaining and pruning trees along HHP and asked that they direct their attention there before an accident happens.
- S. Villaverde expressed his extreme disappointment of the Parks Department's neglect in picking up tree trunks throughout the neighborhood, but especially along Sedgwick Avenue. He called 311 numerous times with no results. When he looked up his 311 service request numbers the Parks Department claims that the issue was addressed but the issues are still outstanding. B. Bender will investigate.
- Last year CSX, the owner of the property south of Van Cortlandt Park South to West 230th Street accepted to reduce the price of their land sufficiently in order to enable the Parks Department to plan the construction of the Putnam South Greenway. Since then the CEO of CSX passed away and a new CEO has taken over and rejected the appraisal and is asking significantly more money. A letter was sent to elected officials asking them to tell CSX to honor its commitment and accept the independent appraisal.

M. Hudson River Greenway (HRG) – Met with MTA over the summer where the final report on the HRG was reviewed. The study showed there is a way to build a greenway from the Spuyten Duyvil station to the Ludlow station in Yonkers. The Greenway Committee will meet in October to have a public hearing to discuss the final report.

N. Public Safety – M. Donato

The following resolutions were presented:

- ❖ Whereas, Pizzeria Supreme, Inc., located at 5959 Broadway, appeared before the committee on August 21, 2018, seeking approval for a NEW LIQUOR LICENSE. They are aware of the 200 foot rule, the SLA will make the final determination.

Whereas, the committee voted unanimously to approve the application;

Be it resolved that Bronx Community Board 8 approves the application.

Vote: In favor: 36 Opposed: 2 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

Opposed: T. Moran, P. Mullen

- ❖ Relocation of Alltown Car Service from 244 West 231 Street to 206 West 231 Street. The office where they are presently located at presents a serious health problem.

The sewer located under their office backs up and has created unsafe working conditions.

Be it resolved that Community Board Eight approves the application.

Vote: In favor: 38 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

O. Special Committee on Veteran Services – H. Young

- Important to support Veterans. Plans to get together with the Veterans at the American Legion in Kingsbridge to open up a dialogue.

P. Traffic & Transportation – D. Padernacht

- Con Ed projects will be reported on at the next committee meeting.
- The next meeting is on September 20th, 7:00PM at Kelly Commons at Manhattan College. An agenda item will be a proposal by DOT to parking regulations on west side of the street on Henry Hudson Parkway West between W 239th Street and W 237th Street.

9. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2018

Amended to Complete the Traffic & Transportation Resolution asking DOT support 238th street crosswalk on page 5.

Vote: In favor: 38 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

10. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2018 – None

11. Miscellaneous – None

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Vote: In favor: 38 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

In favor: S. Alexander, E. Bell, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, M. Frishman, D. Fuchs, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe, C. Genao-Mejia, C. G. Moerdler, T. Moran, P. Mullen, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, S. Paige, T. Pardo, L. Parker, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata, H. Young, R. Zavras

Submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate

Reviewed by Lisa Daub, Secretary