

**COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2009 AT
RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4763 HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY WEST**

PRESENT: R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, G. O. Koppell, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. G. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

ABSENT: D. Bowden, A. P. Creaney, W. S. Dolny, B. Feinberg, A. Goldman, M. Katzenstein, V. Gray-Lewis, R. Moll, J. O'Reilly, C. Prentice

STAFF: N. Stent – District Manager, CB 8
D. Bay – Community Associate, CB 8
P. Manning – Community Associate, CB 8

GUESTS: J. Dinowitz – Assemblyman
R. Fedderman – rep. Congressman Eliot Engel
C. Harvey – rep. State Senator Eric Schneiderman
J. Martin – rep. State Senator Jeffrey Klein
R. Martos – Office of Assemblyman Dinowitz
A. Keefe – Councilman G. Oliver Koppell's Office
A. Toledo – rep. Borough President Adolfo Carrión, Jr.
S. Alexander
S. Bear
H. Carmona – Dubai Lounge
A. Cohen
J. Cohler – Riverdale Nursery School
B. Contant
Capt. J. D'Adamo – 50th Pct.
L. Dunbar - The Make-a-Wish Foundation of Metro New York
R. Fernandez – Dubai Lounge
M. Germain – Dubai Lounge
J. Gordon
J. Hendler
A. Martinez – Dubai Lounge
J. Mises
P. Moerdler
J. Olivares
P. Pacheco – Jewish Board of Family Services
M. Perron – Van Cortlandt Park
R. Press – Bronx News
Det. L. Rodriguez – 50th Pct.
M. Rosen
B. A. Torres – Summer on the Hill

Chairman McShane convened the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Gallery Session

Leslie Dunbar, Manager of Community Outreach for The Make-a-Wish Foundation of Metro New York, provided information on sponsorship, services and criteria for wish referrals. The Foundation grants wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. The four WISH categories are: I Wish to Go, I Wish to Be, I Wish to Meet, and I Wish to Have. For further information call 212-505-WISH. Volunteers are encouraged to participate.

1. Approval of regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2008

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Discussion of Executive Committee Minutes of January 7, 2009

The minutes were accepted as written.

3. Chairman welcomed Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Councilman G. Oliver Koppell; Andy Toledo, representing Borough President Adolfo Carrión, Richard Fedderman, representing Congressman Eliot Engel; Christina Harvey, representing State Senator Eric Schneiderman; Jay Martin, representing State Senator Jeffrey Klein; Nestor Danyluk, Department of City Planning; Randi Martos, Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz; Margot Perron, Van Cortlandt Park; Captain John D'Adamo and Detective Luis Rodriguez, 50th Precinct.

4. Chairman invited Captain D'Adamo to address the Board.

Captain D'Adamo reviewed the year end statistics for 2008, which showed year to date overall crime down by 1.65%. The 50th made 1,886 arrests, the highest number ever in the history of the 50th. Category crime stats were provided: homicide down 2, rape up 2, robberies up 6, felony assaults down 8%, burglaries up 3% grand larceny up 4%, grand larceny auto down 11%, shootings down 42%.

5. Chairman invited Assemblyman Dinowitz to address the Board.

Assemblyman Dinowitz informed the Board that he had been in touch with City Planning Commission regarding the Alternate Side Parking reform issue, and that he is not in favor of the reduced days of street cleaning in certain areas, i.e.; Kingsbridge. MTA hearings on proposals will be held on February 4, 2009, at Lehman College, Lovinger Theatre, at 6:00 PM. He added that the Mayor had withdrawn the Request for Proposal on restructuring of senior centers.

6. Chairman invited Councilman Koppell to address the Board.

Councilman Koppell advised that the real estate property tax check for \$400 had been mailed to property owners, however, he noted that property taxes were increased; the City Council had opposed the Request for Proposal with respect to senior centers; the Councilman is currently reviewing the five-year education plan; a new school has been proposed in Bronx Community Board 8; Councilman supports the return of a school in the Whitehall building; and the Council prevailed with the reinstatement of a January Police Officers class. Aya Keefe was introduced as new staff member in the Councilman's office.

7. Chairman's Report

Chairman McShane informed the Board that the Mayor's 2.5% Board budget cut was negated; the proposed budget cut for fiscal year 2010 is significant at 12%. The Chairman proposed that Board 8 members join with fellow Bronx boards in submitting letters to the Mayor and Council Speaker Quinn opposing the cuts. He asked that each Board member and community resident sign the letter placed before them which would be mailed by the Board office. He added that the New York Yankees Youth Leadership Awards will be presented at the February 10, 2009 Board meeting; schematic plans for the Jerome Park Reservoir pathway will be uploaded to the Board's website and committee minutes and agendas are available on the Board's website.

8. Treasurer's Report – J. Reyes

The ad hoc committee appointed to research the appropriateness and feasibility of conducting fundraising for the Board held its first meeting. Contact has been made with the Conflict of Interest Board and an attorney will be assigned to assist in this effort. Meetings will be held monthly. Inquiries may be referred to either J. Reyes, or any of the following members of the committee: Ken O'Brien, Bob Moll, I. W. Stone, and Evelyn Tossas-Tucker.

9. District Manager's Report – N. Stent

To prepare for the possible creation of a new Charter Revision Commission by the Mayor, the Community Board District Managers citywide met last year and established four subcommittees to address the major areas of concern. The subcommittees are: Budget, Land Use, Service Delivery and Administrative. N. Stent is the co –chair of the service delivery committee along with Manhattan Community Board 11 district manager. The sub-committees will review and make recommendations for the enhancement and clarification of the responsibilities of the community boards which would be submitted to the Commission for its consideration.

10. Report from the Office of the Borough President – A. Toledo

February 6, 2009 is the deadline for all Board membership applications and reapplications. A. Toledo reiterated the information provided on the MTA Bronx hearing scheduled for February 4th.

11. Report from the Department of City Planning – N. Danyluk

There are no new applications and the DCP is awaiting the Board's comments on the Ittleson Center application.

12. Committee Reports –

A. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – R. Abbott

The Committee will meet jointly with the Aging Committee at the Riverdale YM/YWHA on January 14th at 1:00 PM for a presentation by the New York Public Library on Outreach to Senior Citizens: A Dialogue on Plans and Programs. The program will cover the public library's wide range of classes, programs, services, and materials for older adults living in our area through its extensive network of libraries, which includes five branches in our community board.

B. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

1. At the Committee's January 8th meeting, the Parks Department presented the schematic plans on the Jerome Park Reservoir Pathway, a new recreational pathway

or jogging trail that will be constructed around the reservoir focusing largely on the side of the park along Ft. Independence Park and Sedgwick Avenue.

2. The Ft. Independence Park dog run was also an issue of being too large was discussed.

C. Public Safety – A. G. Feldmeier

1. The Committee will not meet in January.
2. The Committee is planning a joint meeting with Youth and Parks Committees regarding youth summer activity in the parks.

D. Traffic and Transportation – A. P. Cassino

1. The Committee will discuss the MTA fare proposals, along with building parking requirements and bike racks at its January 20, 2009 meeting.
2. A. P. Cassino presented and reviewed the Board's Alternate Side Parking recommendations, and advised of the City's follow-up on the proposal. The following resolution was presented in support of the measure:

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2008, Community Board No. 8, Bronx, adopted the recommendation report of the Special Committee on Reforming Alternate-Side Parking Rules calling for a reduction in alternate-side parking on District 8's residential streets, and an increase in street cleaning on District 8's commercial thoroughfares; and

WHEREAS, in response to District 8's proposal, the Mayor of New York City and the Commissioner of the Department of Sanitation announced a plan (the New Street-Cleaning Plan") to clean each side of District 8's residential streets once a week rather than twice (meaning two days of alternate-side-parking regulations per street, rather than four), and to clean District 8's commercial streets six times a week; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, supports the New Street-Cleaning Plan for Bronx Community District 8.

Vote: 29 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention with cause

In Favor –

R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Abstention With Cause –

C. Moerdler

3. The next meeting will be held on January 20th, Board Office, at 7:30 PM.

E. Aging – K. Pesce

1. K. Pesce thanked the Board for its support of the resolution opposing the Mayor's senior centers Request for Proposal for restructuring.
2. I. Ladimer advised that \$26,000 had been raised in an effort to maintain the services for Riverdale Senior Center's Adult Day Activity Program. He thanked members of the Board for responding and asked for continued support of this vital program.

F. Budget – K. O'Brien

At the next Board meeting in February the Board will have a public hearing reviewing the city agencies responses to the Board's FY 2010 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities.

G. Economic Development – R. Fanuzzi

1. Job seekers can refer to the Borough President's Workforce Outreach program for further information.
2. February 1st, is the deadline for the on-line publication for Bronx 360, which promotes community cultural events and commercial promotions throughout the Bronx. Refer to BOEDC.org
3. Refer to Executive minutes for full report.
4. R. Fanuzzi met with Ray Salaberrios, Director, Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation and was advised of the Borough Presidents dedication to the Broadway Plaza development at West 230th and Broadway.
5. The Council on the Environment of New York City will present on green markets in Board 8 at the next Committee meeting on January 22nd, Board Office, 7:30 PM. Board attendance was urged.

H. Education

I. W. Stone reported in the absence of D. Bowden.

1. Representatives from the AmPark School, and School Construction Authority made a presentation to the Committee at its December meeting. Refer to the minutes for full report.
2. The Borough President will sponsor a forum for Children with Special Needs on January 15, 2009, at 198 East 161st Street, Suite 201, at 5:30 PM. Pre-registration is requested, but not necessary.
3. The Committee will not meet in January. The next meeting is scheduled for February 24th.

I. Environment & Sanitation – S. Scheinbach

1. The Committee will not meet in January.
2. Refer to report in the Executive Committee minutes.
3. Discussed the concerns of the method used for gas drilling and its potential to pollute the water supply.
4. The Croton Water Filtration Monitoring Committee meeting will be held on January 16th at the Department of Environmental Protection office on Jerome Avenue. Discussion will include emergency evacuation in the event of chlorine leaks at the Jerome Park Reservoir.

J. Health, Hospitals & Social Services

Refer to Committee minutes.

K. Land Use – C. Moerdler

1. C. Moerdler complimented the Borough President on his recommendation report on the Broadway Plaza development.
2. The following resolutions were presented:

- I. **WHEREAS**, the Land Use Committee of Community Board No. 8, Bronx approved with conditions on January 6, 2009, City Planning Application No. N 080489 ZAX, Ittleson Center Reconstruction, 5050 Iselin Avenue (Block 5839, Lot 4001) for the grant of authorizations involving modification of topographic features on Tier I sites, and modification of botanic environment and tree preservation and planting requirements to allow the construction of a multipurpose building, patio, walkways and parking area; and

WHEREAS, Community Board No. 8, Bronx received the letter of agreement on the conditions from the applicant on January 13, 2009 outlining a plan for greenery (plantings), trees replacements, fencing and the containment and safeguarding of the construction site;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx approves the above application.

Vote: 30 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor –

R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

- II. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, approves Landmarks Preservation Commission, Docket No. 080832, 4640 Livingston Avenue, application for second floor renovation to existing brick and stone house vertical extension.

Vote: 29 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

C. Moerdler recused himself and following the vote, disclosed that the application involved property belonging to his daughter.

- III. BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, approves Landmarks Preservation Commission, Docket No. 094753, Wave Hill, 675 West 252nd Street, application for accessibility upgrades (including new interior Elevator), improvements to public areas of the house (i.e., Kerlin Center, Café, Gallery and Armor Hall), mechanical (MEP) upgrades, and façade restoration work.

Vote: 30 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor -

R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

- IV. BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 8, Bronx, approves Board of Standards and Appeals Cal. No. 617-56-BZ, application to extend variance for a period of ten years for existing parking lot at 3120 Albany Crescent.

Vote: 30 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

In Favor -

R. Abbott, R. Bender, A. P. Cassino, T. Durham, A. Fana, R. Fanuzzi, T. Feerick, A. Garbett Feldmeier, B. Fettman, P. Friedman, T. Giallorenzi, J. Goris, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, B. Maybury, D. McShane, C. Moerdler, K. O'Brien, K. Pesce, J. M. Pilsner, J. Plaza, J. M. Reyes, T. Rubinstein, S. Scheinbach, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, B. Trebach, E. Tossas Tucker, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

3. C. Moerdler discussed the need to identify lots for clean-up.
4. The Committee discussed the property at 6015 Independence Avenue. Refer to the Land Use minutes for report.

L. Housing – T. Durham

1. T. Durham will take part in the count of the homeless on the night of January 26th.
2. The Acting Buildings Borough Commissioner will be guest speaker at the Committee meeting on January 26th, Board Office, at 7:30 PM.
3. T. Durham on January 30th will attend Councilman Miguel Martinez' Town Hall meeting with residents of Marble Hill community, regarding housing, sanitation, building structure, public safety, and other community related issues .

Meeting adjourned 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Manning
Community Associate