

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2020
AT ST. PATRICK'S HOME, 66 VAN CORTLANDT PARK SOUTH

- PRESENT:** S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Leverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras (32)
- ABSENT:** E. Bell, D. Fuchs, M. Goodman, D. B. Jackson, L. Lopez, R. Pochter Lowe C. G. Moerdler, T. Pardo, C. Wilcox, M. Wolpoff, (10)
- STAFF:** C. Gannon – District Manager, T. Ochoteco – Community Coordinator
- GUESTS:** Parker Quinlan, Caroline Clanton-Calnan, Tom Russell – Founders Entertainment, Caroline Clanton-Calhan, Founders Entertainment, Debbie Dolan, Matt Turov, Elvis M. Machuca, Daniel Nunez, Victor Cruz, Danise Silva, Augustina K. Baidoo, Peter Pamphile, Michelle Villaverde, Moses Esema, Ianitza Ianachkova, Epifania Adames, Nereyda Franco, Patricia Judge, Courtney Dastis-Galvin, Jon Campbell Priveterre, Wayne L. DeBeotham, Council Member Vanessa Gibson, Patrick Hill – rep. Council Peter Lewiski – rep. Assemblyman Dinowitz, Maris Gelman – rep. Senator Biaggi, Israel Gonzalez – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., P.O. Mercedes Conejo – 50th Precinct, P.O. Cesar Sala – 50th Precinct, Marilex Santana Tavaréz – rep. Bronx District Attorney, Orlando Ovalles – rep. Assemblywoman De La Rosa, Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark

Budget Chair, D. Gellman commenced the Public Hearing on Responses from City Agencies on the Capital/Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2021 at 7:15PM.

D. Gellman welcomed the public and board members for their comments. There were no comments from the public.

- Karen Pesce inquired about funding for NYCHA. D. Gellman stated that funding for NYCHA continues to be an issue and added that replacements on refrigerators, windows and roofs were made. However, no funding has been allocated for boilers.
- R. Fanuzzi inquired about request for Argus cameras to which D. Gellman responded that it is a Public Safety line item that has been previously funded by the City Council and the Assembly. Fort Independence park's capital improvements around the reservoir were also discussed.

D. Gellman closed the budget hearing at 7:25PM.

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

1. Gallery Session –

- Tom Russell previously applied for a special event's permit with the NYC Parks Department for the Governor's Ball Music Festival at Van Cortlandt Park which was denied along with an

approval. He thanked the board and the community for their feedback and asked for their openness when he considers a future proposal.

- Debbie Dolan, a volunteer at Van Cortlandt Park since 2001, supports the Parks Department's denial of the Governor's Ball proposal and thanked the Parks Committee for voting in support of the resolution. She asked the Community Board to also support.
- David Beller presented on the U.S. Census' (Federal) Bronx operations, impact and various outreach strategies as well as the job opportunities available through the Census. He also thanked our Board office for pushing the Census' materials on Facebook. L. Spalter inquired about the security of providing personal information online.

2. Report from the Office of the Bronx Borough President – I. Gonzalez

- Some board members have not completed their Sexual Harassment Training. I. Gonzalez urged anyone who has not completed the training, to please do so as soon as possible.

3. Chair's Report – R. Ginty

- R. Ginty recognized "Pitchers & Catchers" report dates- NY Mets 2/12, NY Yankees 2/13
- R. Ginty stated that she was under the weather on the day of the Executive Community therefore her report will be brief.
- R. Ginty asked if there were any applicants for Community Board membership other than the two (2) applications previously received. The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10th at the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center. R. Ginty thanked Margaret Della for hosting. The District Attorney is interested in addressing the board in March therefore the meeting will begin at 7:00pm instead of 7:30pm [Note: due to DA's appearance later during this meeting, the March presentation is pending].

4. District Manager's Report – C. Gannon

- C. Gannon referred to her full report in the Executive minutes.
- She attended Governor Espaillet's State of The District event last week. The Governor's Legislative agenda for this session in Washington was discussed as well as issues close to home such as Domestic Violence, Traffic & Transportation issues and Immigrant issues.
- Last week the office staff had a training from the Department of Finance on benefits and exemptions for both homeowners and renters such as Scie/Drie/Sche. The office is prepared to assist residents interested in applying for these benefits/exemptions.

5. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – Officers M. Conejo and C. Sala reported on CompStat 28-day period.

- Nothing changes to report on Murders, Rapes and Robberies.
- Burglaries, Grand Larcenies and GLAs are the Precinct's biggest issues.
- Burglaries are at 9 for the 28-day period.
- 53 Grand Larceny crimes versus 9 last year
- 1 robbery versus 1 last year.
- 3 Felony Assaults versus 4 last year
- The shooting that took place on West 238th Street is still under investigation. Suspects have been identified. The incident was unrelated to the bar near the crime scene.

- S. Villaverde requested that if any businesses are involved in similar incidents, our Board office is informed. The PD assured we were.
- PO Sala also reported that there was an attempt by an unknown individual to draw what appeared to be a swastika on wet cement. The marking was removed.

R. Ginty called on Council Member Andy Cohen:

- Council Member Cohen will do his best to fund budget priorities made by our Chair.
- The Councilman also stated that he is not doing participatory budgeting this year and he is asking the community to simply contact him with Capital ideas.
- The Council and The Mayor convened a Task Force to study NYC Property Tax to come up with solutions to address gross inequities that homeowners face.
- Reminder March 1st kicks off the ban on plastic bags.
- Council Member Cohen was named Chair of the Council's Consumer Affairs Committee.
- R. Fanuzzi thanked the Councilmember for funding Fedcap as the organization is making a difference particularly in our step streets.
- D. Gellman thanked the Councilmember for funding the City of Science event at Lehman College.

6. Treasurer's Report – R. Zavras

- Referred to the minutes of the Executive Committee for more details.
- We are more than halfway through the fiscal year and we have approximately \$185K remaining in our PS/OTPS budget.
- Special Funding from City Council is still available and next month we will review proposals from a variety of committees.
- Updated our last computer from Windows 7 to Windows 10. We are requesting new computers.
- We want to purchase a new email communication platform: "Constant Contact"
- No budget modifications to approve.

R. Ginty called to approve the Board minutes from the January 14 meeting.

Vote: In favor: Unanimous, **Opposed:** 0, **Abstentions:** 0

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

7. Committee Reports

A. **Aging** – E. Dinowitz - referred to his minutes of the January Aging Committee. The next Aging meeting will take place at the Board office on February 13.

B. **Budget** – D. Gellman – reminded the Board that we are approaching the FY2022 we will have to present our information in May therefore the Committees should be voting on Capital and Expense budget priorities in April. Grade a prioritization during March meetings. Deadline is April 24.

C. **Economic Development** – S. Villaverde – Thanked the Board office for assisting with a timely process of disseminating information pertaining to the Most Valuable Merchant (MVM) Award. Nominations are out and all relevant details can be obtained from the Board office. Deadline for submission is 3:00pm on March 16. The winner will be announced in Spring at a Board meeting and a separate event is planned for May. The EDC is looking to partner with one or more of the committees to strengthen support for budget priorities.

L. Spalter mentioned that information for the Irving Ladimer Community Service Award was also disseminated with similar deadlines. The person or group/s will be honored in May. L. Spalter thanked Marvin Goodman, Eider Garcia, Julie Reyes and David Gellman for volunteering.

C. Tepelus shared information regarding the NYC Department of Small Business Services - Neighborhood 360 Fellowship, based at Morris Park Business Improvement District.

D. **Education** – S. Alexander – referred to her Executive Committee minutes. The next ELCA meeting will be February 25 at 7:30pm.

E. **Environment & Sanitation** – R. Fanuzzi – Updated the Board on Jerome Park Reservoir issue, DEP committed to make filling the reservoir a priority. Thanked the community of Ft. Independence and Van Cortlandt Village for their efforts leading up to this victory. DEP will attend the E&S February 19 committee meeting. Sanitation will attend the E&S March meeting at Marble Hill Houses to address access to reusables.

F. **Health, Hospitals & Social Services** – O. Murray – Next meeting is tomorrow, February 12. Montefiore will present on heart disease and we will discuss budget priorities.

G. **Housing** – C. Gannon for D. Jackson – refer to the January Housing Committee minutes. The next meeting will take place on February 24 at Ft. Independence Community Center.

H. **Land Use** – D. Padernacht for C. Moerdler – The architect for the developer appeared from Delafield Estates and the applicant will be returning to update the committee. There are numerous questions and concerns from the community including the entrances, which the developer plans to use several of around the development. The next Land Use meeting will be March 2.

I. **Parks & Recreation** – B. Bender – resolution on the Governor's Ball:

Whereas, Mr. Tom Russell of Founders Entertainment appeared before the committee on December 12, 2019, and proposed to move the Governors Ball musical event from Randall's Island, where it has operated for several years, to the Van Cortlandt Park Parade Grounds from June 5 to 7, 2020; and

Whereas, Founders Entertainment will sell 50,000 tickets to the event each day; and

Whereas, the largest concert currently held at the Van Cortlandt Park Parade Grounds, the New York Philharmonic concert, draws an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 people, and the largest cross-country meet, the Manhattan College Invitational, draws close to 10,000 people and produces severe traffic challenges for the NYPD and neighborhood residents; and

Whereas, the set-up and breakdown periods would require that parking be eliminated from the east (park) side of Broadway from the Mansion Road entrance (approx. W. 244th St) to West 252nd St.

from May 26 to approximately June 12, eliminating dozens of parking spaces for community residents during that time; and

Whereas, the set-up and breakdown periods would require gradually closing the Parade Grounds to other activities during a time when the Parade Grounds are typically heavily used, denying access to existing permit holders; and

Whereas, Founders Entertainment would be selling food and beverages, including alcoholic beverages, at the event, creating the potential for substantial disturbance to the community immediately adjacent to Van Cortlandt Park; and

Whereas, Founders Entertainment intends to try to discourage concertgoers from parking in the area and hopes to persuade the MTA to run additional #1 trains to the Van Cortlandt Park station and to obtain parking facilities from Manhattan College during the event, neither of which has yet been confirmed, and

Whereas, Founders Entertainment's proposed transportation plan, described as "a very fluid document," has been reviewed by NYPD but neither approved nor disapproved; and

Whereas, equipment placed on the Parade Grounds during the construction and breakdown of the stages and other necessary work could potentially damage the thousands of irrigation sprinkler heads that irrigate the Parade Grounds and were installed as part of a \$15 million renovation of the Parade Grounds; and

Whereas, the presence of 50,000 or more people on the Parade Grounds for three consecutive days could damage the Parade Grounds and necessitate extensive repair, further limiting use of the Parade Grounds during the peak summer season; and

Whereas, community groups such as Bronx Council for Environmental Quality and the Broadway Community Alliance strongly oppose the proposed concert; and

Whereas, DPR policies do not recommend the use of Van Cortlandt Park for events of more than 5,000 people and a duration of more than one day; and

Whereas, the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) has denied a permit for the event, noting that the event cannot be reasonably accommodated in this location, that it would deny access to a significant portion of the park to other park users, and that it is completely out of scale with other events held in the park, in addition to which the use of this large public space for a paid limited-access event raises concerns about a potentially harmful precedent for park use, and furthermore has rejected Founders Entertainment's appeal of the original permit denial;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Community Board strongly supports the decision by DPR to deny a permit for the Governors Ball at Van Cortlandt Park.

Vote: In favor: 24, Opposed: 4, Abstentions: 3

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, E. Dinowitz, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, J. Townes, D. Travis,

Opposed: J. Gomez, T. Moran, C. Tepelus, S. Villaverde

Abstentions: M. Della, O. Murray, R. Zavras

S. Villaverde stated this resolution is moot since permits were denied and any resolution should not be negative against the sponsor.

R. Ginty stated that Tom Russell requested the Board's opinion which was rendered in this resolution. S. Froot emphasized the importance of documenting all angles of the Board's opinion with respect to this resolution for future reference should a similar proposal arise. The next Parks & Recreation meeting will take place on February 26. B. Bender informed the board that the renovation of Seton Park project, the soccer field was not renovated because the Soccer League did not want to renovate as they would lose the season. The project went forward exactly as it was supposed to go forward and the Ball Field will be available when the season begins.

R. Ginty suspended the Committee Reports to allow **Council Member Vanessa Gibson** to address the Board. Council Member Gibson spoke about Legislation and Policy issues at the City Council.

R. Ginty also welcomed **Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark** who spoke about Bail Reform.

J. **Public Safety** – M. Donato – The following resolutions were presented:

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar

Whereas, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar, 193 W. 237th Street, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on January 21, 2020 for a new liquor license for Beer, Wine & Cider,

Whereas, the agreement to a 2AM closing for the first year in business was signed,

Whereas, the committee voted to approve the application,

Therefore, Be It Resolved that Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote: In favor: Unanimous, **Opposed:** 0, **Abstentions:** 0

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Renewal Applications Liquor or Beer/Wine/Cider License

William E. Irwin, Jr. American Legion Post 774, 3035 Corlear Avenue

Whereas, William E. Irwin, Jr. American Legion Post 774, 3035 Corlear Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on January 21, 2020 for a renewal of their liquor license,

Whereas, there have been no issues or complaints at this location,

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote: In favor: Unanimous, **Opposed:** 0, **Abstentions:** 0

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

A motion was made and approved to amend the agenda to include the following two (2) resolutions.

Riverdale Steak House, 5700 Riverdale Avenue

Whereas, Riverdale Steak House has been at this location for 40 years with no issues or complaints,

Whereas, the Community Board received the application on December 12th, 2019;

Whereas, a representative appeared at the December Meeting, but since the application was not placed on the December agenda, they were asked to attend the January Meeting;

Whereas, there was a misunderstanding about the date of the January meeting, the owner appeared the day after the meeting;

Whereas, the establishment did contact the Board office to explain their absence;

Whereas, their license expires at the end of February;

Be it resolved that Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application

Vote: In favor: Unanimous, **Opposed:** 0, **Abstentions:** 0

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, S. Froot, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Miah Steak and Sushi Lounge, 3638 Bailey Avenue

Whereas, Miah Steak and Sushi Lounge came before the PS Committee for a new liquor License;

Whereas, the committee made clear to the applicant that the CB's policy for new liquor licenses was to require a 2 am closing;

Whereas, the applicant asked for time to consider;

Whereas, the applicant has informed the CB Office that they will not sign a 2 am closing;

Therefore, be it resolved that CB disapproves the application of **Miah Steak and Sushi Lounge**

Vote: In favor: 21, **Opposed:** 3, **Abstentions:** 3

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, S. Froot, R. Ginty, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, , J. Townes, D. Travis, R. Zavras

Opposed: M. Gluck, J. Reyes, S. Villaverde

Abstentions: N. Fazio, E. Garcia, O. Murray

L. Law Rules & Ethics - D. Padernacht for M. Wolpoff

D. Padernacht made a motion to amend the agenda to present a resolution. Chair Ginty requested an explanation to first inform the board before adding to the calendar as the resolution was not discussed before a committee. D. Padernacht explained that M. Wolpoff sent in a resolution Friday that was distributed Sunday and that he is presenting a substitute resolution, concurred by LRE chair, that was circulated. The resolution is to amend the board's co-naming guidelines to include street co-naming for sites or buildings of historic significance.

On the motion to add the resolution to the agenda:

Vote: In favor: 26, Opposed: 4, Abstentions: 1

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Della, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, E. Garcia, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Opposed: S. Froot, D. Gellman, D. Loverett, D. Travis,

Abstentions: R. Ginty,

The item was added to the agenda and the following resolution was presented with the amended language underlined.

Whereas, CB 8, Bronx has established a mandatory procedure for the naming of a street or park or park subdivision in memory of individuals who have provided service to assist the Community Board 8 community;

Whereas, there is currently no provision for procedures for the honorific street co-namings for sites or buildings of historic significance;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board No. 8 modifies the Standards for Street Name Changes to include the appropriate honoring of sites or buildings that are representative of the history of Community Board 8;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Bronx Community Board 8 street co-naming guidelines be amended as follows:

A. Community Board Mandatory Standards

1. Honoree must be deceased.
2. Honoree must be nominated by 3 or more organizations which are on the list required to be kept by the Community Board under the new City Charter.
3. Honoree must have demonstrably benefited the community as, for example;

- i. Time: if honoree has devoted time to assist the community, a significant portion of such time should have been devoted on a volunteer basis, without remuneration; or
- ii. Creativity: if honoree was a creative or artistic person, honoree must have been identified with community so as to increase local pride in the creative works of the honoree; or
- iii. Heroics: if honoree places himself or herself in significant physical danger, above and beyond the call of duty to benefit or protect this community district and/or its inhabitants; or
- iv. Elected Officials: honoree may be an elected public official, whose constituency included all or part of the Community Board district, in which case standard 3 (i) may be considered satisfied, because of the extensive nature of community involvement by public officials.

(For more guidance on this standard, see Discretionary Standard No. 3).

4. At least 2 years must have elapsed between decease of the nominee and the final vote by Community Board No. 8.
5. The location bearing the name change should have a specific connection to the life or work of the honoree.
6. The name change should not engender confusion (i.e., too many other similar names in the vicinity).

B. Community Board Discretionary Standards

(Introduction: The Community Board need not approve all proposals which fit within the mandatory guidelines. The following will also be considered):

1. Honoree's impact should be on widest possible cross-section of the community (i.e., benefiting a neighborhood rather than a single building).
2. The nominating organizations should reflect the diversity of the community district.
3. The honoree should be associated with creation of specific neighborhood project (a park, a youth program, tenants group, etc.) or with aid to those in need (youth, elderly, the poor, the disabled, etc.) or with work which has bettered the lives of a wide population and has reflected credit on this community district, or with exceptional valor and heroism beyond the call of duty.
4. Special consideration will be given where honoree's death was untimely or occurred in the course of honoree's community work.

C. Street Co-Naming of a Site or Building of Historic Significance

1. The site or building must be at least 30 years old.
2. The site or building must have a special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the community district, city, state or nation.
3. The site or building must be nominated by 3 or more organizations which are on the list required to be kept by the Community Board under the new City Charter.
4. The location bearing the name change should have a specific connection to the site or building.
5. The street co-name change should not engender confusion (i.e., too many other similar names in the vicinity).

D. Procedure

1. Upon nomination by 3 or more community groups, the proposed name change will be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee, or the Parks and Recreation Committee which will upon written notice, consider the proposal within the next 90 days and recommend acceptance or rejection.
2. The Executive Committee, at its first meeting following the vote on the proposal by the Traffic and Transportation Committee, or the Parks and Recreation Committee, will consider the proposal upon written notice, and may recommend acceptance or rejection of the name change.

3. After the first approval by a Committee of the Community Board, but, in any event before the vote of the full Board, consent to the proposal must be obtained from the family of the honoree (usually, through the next of kin). After eliciting consent, the process may continue.
4. Any Committee vote shall also include the reasons for approval or rejection, under these standards.
5. Following the vote by the Executive Committee, any of the following may bring the matter onto the agenda of the next meeting of Community Board No. 8: The Traffic and Transportation Committee, or the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Executive Committee, and/or any member of the Board
Once added to the agenda, upon written notice, to the members the proposal will be submitted to a vote at two successive Board meetings (unless it is defeated at the first vote of the Board). Two successive affirmative results are necessary (one at each of two monthly meetings) to approve the name change.
6. The above schedule may be extended whenever any committee, or the Board, decides it needs further information. In such case, consideration of the proposal, may be tabled month-to-month, until such information is obtained.

Vote: In favor: 21, Opposed: 5, Abstentions: 6

In Favor: S. Alexander, M. Della, M. Donato, D. Escano, N. Fazio, E. Garcia, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, C. Tepelus, J. Townes, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Opposed: E. Dinowitz, P. Ellis, S. Froot, D. Gellman, D. Travis

Abstentions: B. Bender, R. Fanuzzi, R. Ginty, E. Green, O. Murray, L. Daub

Chair Ginty explained that our current guidelines only allow for co-naming to recognize individuals. It was thought that the LRE committee would research and review co-naming practices for buildings and the criteria to use for approval. Several board members voiced agreement that the committee first conduct research and deliberate the standards in front of LRE members. Other board members supported the resolution as presented.

M. **Traffic & Transportation** – D. Padernacht – The following resolutions were presented:

WHEREAS, Villa Rose Bonheur has been nominated for the honor of this proposed street co-naming by Along the Hudson Homeowners Association; Bronx Council for Environmental Quality; Friends of Spuyten Duyvil; Kingsbridge Historical Society; the Spuyten Duyvil Neighborhood Coalition; Riverdale Nature Preservancy; and the Coalition to Save Brust Park;

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa Bonheur was built in 1924 as a co-operative by John J. McKelvey — a lawyer, writer and developer, who also was the first editor-in-chief of the *Harvard Law Review*, Villa Rosa Bonheur has been a beloved landmark of the neighborhood, located at 2395 Palisade Avenue in the Spuyten Duyvil section of Riverdale, in the Bronx.

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa Bonheur was perched at the top of the Bradley Terrace step street, she has been etched into the landscape of the community for 96 years; Every commuter descending the fieldstone and winding stair case or driving by in a Raillink bus, has gazed upon her charming exterior clad in stucco, with its red Spanish tile roofs, steep, pitched roofs and balconies off of individual

apartments; She was the first of John McKelvey's multi-family homes and exceedingly unique from any other homes of its kind in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa looked like no other apartment house of its day, in McKelvey's vision, Villa Rosa Bonheur would exude charm and be a design for living, rather than the brick tenements of little distinction mushrooming all over the Borough of the Bronx at the turn of the twentieth century;

WHEREAS; Villa Rosa Bonheur's architect was Robert W. Gardner, a famous and visionary pioneer of the use of reinforced concrete in residential buildings;

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa Bonheur was named after Rosa Bonheur, widely thought of as one of the most famous female artists of the 19th century, Rosa Bonheur was renowned for her exceptional ability to paint animals with insight into their characters and psyches with her paintings hanging in museums around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC; and

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa Bonheur is included in *The Architectural and Historical Resources of Riverdale, The Bronx, New York A Preliminary Survey* (Oct. 1998) published by the Riverdale Nature Preservancy;

WHEREAS, Villa Rosa Bonheur is an influence on the modern development of the Spuyten Duyvil community which resonates today in the picturesque tranquility of our green space and our sustained commitment to a planned and balanced community; and

WHEREAS, the evidence and testimony presented to Bronx Community Board No. 8 has demonstrated that the architectural influence of Villa Rosa Bonheur has benefited a cross-section of Bronx Community Board No. 8 and the Borough of the Bronx and the City of New York;

WHEREAS, this street has a specific connection to Villa Rosa Bonheur as it is the building's location; 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 Palisade Avenue between Bradley Terrace and Edsall Avenue be co-named **Villa Rosa Bonheur Way**.

Vote: In favor: 24, Opposed: 4, Abstentions: 2

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Opposed: M. Della, S. Froot, D. Gellman, D. Loverett,

Abstentions: E. Garcia, R. Ginty

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr. died on October 19, 1947 and this resolution is brought more than two years after his death; and

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr. has been nominated for the honor of this proposed street co-naming by Along the Hudson Homeowners Association; Bronx Council for Environmental Quality; Friends of Spuyten Duyvil; Kingsbridge Historical Society; the Spuyten Duyvil Neighborhood Coalition; Riverdale Nature Preservancy; and the Coalition to Save Brust Park;

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr. has shown his creativity, and helped mold the landscape of the Borough of the Bronx and the City of New York, specifically the Spuyten Duyvil area; and

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr., John J. McKelvey — a lawyer, writer and developer, who also was the first editor-in-chief of the *Harvard Law Review*, was alarmed by the wave of high-rise development spreading through New York City at the time, decided to construct cooperative apartments resembling villas as part of the famous “City Beautiful” movement of the early twentieth century, notably the Rosa Bonheur, Charlotte Brontë and Victoria; and

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey Sr. acted as the secretary and director of the two entities -Along-the-Hudson Company and the Edgehill Terrace Company, whose development footprints are still apparent today; as attorney for the Edgehill Co- Operative Savings & Loan Association; member of the Contracts and Bronx, and Executive Committees of the Hudson–Fulton Celebration Commission of 1909; as secretary of the Henry Hudson Monument Committee of 1909; as founding member, trustee and incorporator of the Edgehill Church, and as trustee of the Barnard School for Boys (now part of Horace Mann School).

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr. also served as attorney, secretary and trustee of the Park District Protective League (PDPL) which took on a preservationist role in Riverdale, one example being Riverdale Park, which was created by the contributions of landowners convinced by the PDPL of the need to protect the green space from the encroaching development of the city; In the 1950’s, the PDPL became the Riverdale Community Planning Association¹⁶, which went on to champion the rezoning of Riverdale and the environmental protections of the first SNAD regulations; Without the stewardship and influence of John McKelvey, Sr. in early years, it is quite possible that Riverdale would have a different landscape;

WHEREAS, John J. McKelvey, Sr. had such an influence on the modern development of the Spuyten Duyvil community which resonates today in the picturesque tranquility of our green space and our sustained commitment to a planned and balanced community; and

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

WHEREAS, this street has a specific connection to John J. McKelvey, Sr. as it is the location of Villa Rosa Bonheur, one of McKelvey’s unique designs; 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 Bradley Terrace between Palisade Avenue and Edsall Avenue be co-named **John J. McKelvey, Sr. Way.**

Vote: In favor: 28, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 2

In Favor: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Ellis, D. Escano, R. Fanuzzi, N. Fazio, E. Garcia, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Gluck, J. Gomez, E. Green, R. Jacklosky, M. Joyce, D. Loverett, T. Moran, O. Murray, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. M. Reyes, G. Santiago, L. Spalter, J. Townes, D. Travis, S. Villaverde, R. Zavras

Opposed:

Abstentions: M. Della, S. Froot

N. Youth – J. Gomez – The Youth committee took place on February 10 and minutes will be submitted on Friday, February 14.

1. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2020 – No Discussion
2. Miscellaneous – None

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

Submitted by,

Tania Ochoteco, Community Coordinator
Reviewed by Lisa Daub, Secretary