

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

MINUTES OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LIBRARIES & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 24, 2008 AT THE COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX OFFICE 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

PRESENT:

Julie Reyes
Libby Vazquez

Robert Fanuzzi
Beverly Fettman
Juan Goris
Maria Khury
Damian McShane
Martin Wolpoff
Robert Abbott
Katherine Brohier
Rosemary Murray
Howard Ring
Stephanie Deluca
Janett Florindo
Gerri Macagone
Ellen Pollan
Doris Quinones
Nestor Reyes

AFFILIATION:

CB 8-Economic Development Committee Chairperson
CB 8-Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee Chairperson

CB 8- Committee member, E.D.
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CB 8- Committee member, L & C.A.
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Committee member, E.D.
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Committee member, E.D.
Manhattan College
Bronx Tourism Council
KRVDC Development Corp.
Bronx Council on the Arts
Bronx Tourism Council
NYC Business Solutions

Committee Chairpersons J. Reyes and L. Vazquez called the meeting to order at 7:37 P.M., committee member M. Khury recording minutes.

Welcome and introductions of all present conducted.

Minutes of the November 29, 2007 Economic Development committee meeting approved with no amendments.

Minutes of the November 5, 2007 Libraries & Cultural Affairs committee meeting approved with no amendments.

Vice Chairperson R. Fanuzzi gave a brief synopsis of the Economic Development committee's vision to bring a Cultural Trolley service into the confines of Community Board 8 which would showcase the various cultural institutions located throughout our community.

Guest Speaker: Ellen Pollan, Director of the South Bronx Corridor Trolley Program

- Ellen Pollan's presentation was focused on the operation of the Bronx Corridor Trolley program. The Trolley program runs through the South Bronx to pull together the cultural programs of the various institutions in the community. The Trolley, which seats 35, is owned by the Bronx Tourism Council (BTC). The operating times vary with each program or rental which starts at \$150 per hour inclusive of insurance, driver, etc. Evening rental for 4 hours is \$300.00. The cost to run the Trolley under the South Bronx Corridor Trolley program is approximately 150K. Some funding obtained through grants and various bank foundations.
- Discussion had on how a Trolley program could be instituted in Community Board 8. Suggestions of either a new umbrella organization or several long standing non-profit entities in the community could be candidates to start, run and operate the program. A Trolley program will help to bring economic development to the community.
- Discussion had on some considerations: Who is the target audience, How do you get people to partake in Trolley services, Advertisement and Marketing...etc.
- Doris Quinones and Janet Florindo, both from BTC joined the discussion. BTC currently has one (1) Trolley and in the process of obtaining another one. Reiterated rental price of Trolley. Advised one of the most important thing is to give the Trolley audience a positive visitor's experience. The top priority to the Council is that the goals of economic development, cultural, and tourism of the Bronx are met.
- Ideas were introduced: Buy a button to hop on and off and go around on the trolley, Possibility of holiday or late evening Trolley events, Use of the Trolley for the aging members of the community to bring them to the shops in the community....Discussions as to the use of the Senior trolley or the Commercial trolley discussed previously in the Economic Development committee and will continue in future meetings.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Committee member Ring advises new Dunkin Donuts opened 24 hr.

Announcements:

City of New York Parks & Recreation has begun to recruit lifeguard candidates for the 2008 summer season, must be 16 yrs. old by June/July, \$12.55 an hour and typically 6-day work week. Qualifying test offered at locations throughout the five boroughs. Complete list of testing sites and qualifications can be obtained at www.nyc.gov/parks or call (212) 360-1328.

On January 31, 2008 at the Riverdale Temple Community Board 8 will be conducting Public Hearing on reforming alternate-side parking rules, soliciting the community's views on reducing the alternate side parking regulations from two days a week per side to one day a week per side in certain areas of CB 8.

In the month of January 2008, the Public Service Commission (PSC) will be conducting Public Statement Hearings regarding Con Ed's proposal to increase rates for electric service by 1.2 billion. May leave written report, call PSC Opinion Line (800) 335-2120, www.AskPSC.com or write to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223-1350 re: Case 07-E-0523 Consolidated Edison Company of NY, Inc.-Rates. *All comments should be submitted or postmarked no later than **February 8, 2008.***

Committee member Khury advises Bon Secours/ Schervier Health Care System of Riverdale will have a Fundraiser on Thursday, March 27, 2008 at the Botanical Garden. For further information and donations please contact Joella Sawyer at (718) 548-1700, X326 or e-mail Joella_Glaude-Sawyer@bshsi.org

Committee member Goris invites all to attend a promotional event at his establishment, Ibiza Lounge on 1/25/08.

The *next* **Economic Development committee** meeting will be held on Thursday, **February 28, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Board office. **Guest speaker** from 7-Eleven will make presentation on 7-Eleven's Business Conversion Program which offers select businesses the opportunity to convert their store to a 7-Eleven franchise. All welcomed to attend.

The *next* **Libraries & Cultural Affairs committee** meeting date will be announced at a later date.

Thank you for your attendance.

Meeting adjourned 9:00P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Reyes
Chairperson
Economic Development Committee

Libby Vazquez
Chairperson
Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee

