

Bronx Community Board No. 8

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 1, 2017 AT THE BOARD OFFICE 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE, SUITE 100

Attendance: S. Alexander, B. Bender, L. Daub, P. Ellis, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, A.J. Robateau, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, M. Yamagata

Absent: C. Moerdler, O. Murray, L. Parker

1. Chair's Report: DHS Community Advisory Board for the Broadway Homeless Shelter plans a quarterly meeting schedule. People are currently moving in. Ellis will follow up to have DHS at meetings of Housing and possibly Public Safety. There are 380 individuals who are homeless whose last address was in CB8, not all of whom will be housed in Broadway facility. DHS will notify CB8 with 30 day notice if another site has been selected.

Bronx Borough Board presentation: City planning is proposing a zoning text change to require hotels, which are now as of right in M1, to obtain a special permit. Homeless facilities will be in special zoning category and remain as of right, in apparent opposition to the administration's policy to stop using hotels for the homeless.

Croton Filtration Plant Monitoring: Bridge over Major Deegan is 5% - 10% designed and now is located further north. Anticipated is connecting trails with minimal tree removal. Plan will go to Parks Committee at some point.

DM Search: approximately 30 resumes received at closing and those are being reviewed and plans made to schedule interviews.

Meeting venues: updated list distributed. Self Help site was added but has limited availability.

Public Officer's Law required notice: all office records listed and can be reviewed.

The request for new office space has received a favorable response from City Hall, however it is a lengthy process and requires a ULURP.

2. Treasurer's Report: for simplification, there are captions underneath column summaries. Longevity payment to be investigated by AG at the request of a Board Chair.
3. Resolutions
E&S, resolution of 10/18/17: change last Whereas paragraph to read: In 1970 the city benefitted from the anti-litter public service campaign then known as "The Crying Indian". Remainder unchanged.

Economic Development: no written resolution available at time of meeting but sense from the Economic Development Committee was that an alternative plan to reduce plastic bag usage needs to be identified.

Resolutions from both E&S and Economic Development to be presented at full Bd. Meeting for consideration with brief summary and question period. NYS has task force to study and develop a plan.

Public Safety:

Renewal of license for Yokohama was approved.

Blackstone Bar and Grill requested a sidewalk café, requiring a variance of liquor license. Request for sidewalk café was already considered by T&T.

Land and Sea Restaurant did not appear and was not considered.

CSX clean up: graffiti has been removed from 230 Street to Van Cortlandt Park as well as litter including 50 refrigerators and weeds and overgrowth. The plan is to promote walking/biking in the area. No sale price has been determined.

4. Committee Reports

Parks: a plan for a new entrance to VC Park with formal plantings and benches with a focus on design to monitor that things are getting better with better funding available. Complaints have been noise, barbequing and tents with parties late at night. Contractor for skate park has declared bankruptcy.

Land Use: since there was no quorum, 4 resolutions will be presented for consideration. Consideration will be given to requests for extensions filed beyond deadline date.

LRE: a directive from Bronx Borough President's office relating to Conflicts of Interest activities including usage of city property by full time employees was reviewed and given to Community Associates. A change to Ethic Guidance Manual is to be suggested stating that Board members cannot apply for two positions simultaneously, i.e. Officer and Committee Chair when applying to Nominating Committee.

5. Other Reports

Bender for Special Committee on Greenway: Metro North presented its 2nd stage of feasibility study. Final plan due by year end or early next yr. Cost to build bridges over Spuyten Duyvil train station and over Amtrak bridge, inc. several small bridges may involve building piers or over rip rap with est. cost of 125 million.

Bender: Parks Committee will hold a forum concerning new Park support groups called Friends of the Parks. They support projects in all local parks. Experts in the area will be on the panel and Councilmember Cohen and Bronx Parks Commissioner will speak. Meeting 11/29. BronxNet will broadcast and film the discussion at the Forum for CB 8 and the borough.

Veterans Program at VC Park 11/5 at noon, VC Park.

Budget: Gellman reported 27 capital items had been submitted; only 15 Boards met the deadline, ours being one!

Misc. Business

Dan Padernacht: North Riverdale streetscape includes plans to eliminate one traffic lane from city line to 254th, southbound. T&T to address in the future.

ConEd and its contractors are creating traffic disturbances with closures without notice and unskilled flag people. ConEd needs to get CB8 earlier notification of gas projects to allow planning. DOT refers issues back to ConEd. Planning implementation is lacking. ConEd to come back to CB8 before issuing permits.

Meeting changes, beginning 12/17

T&T: 3rd Thurs of mo.

Public Safety: 3rd. Tues of mo.

6. Minutes of previous meeting: approved unanimously.
Meeting adjourned @ 9:12PM

Submitted by K. Pesce, Secretary