Community Board No. 8 Bronx

MINUTES OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 31, 2008 AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

PRESENT

Jerald Kreppel
Anthony C. Creaney
T.C. Durham
Lisa Pineda

AFFILIATION

CB#8 Committee Chairman
CB#8 Housing committee member
CB#8 Housing committee member
Lehman College Journalism student

The Chairman brought the committee up to date on the four items on the agenda:

- 1. 3333 Giles Place Appellate Division case of GRA v. Board of Standards and Appeals.
- 2. Jericho Project 2701 Kingsbridge Terrace.
- 3880-84 Cannon Place construction site.
- 4. Buildings Department Construction Safety and Code Enforcement Press Release.

With regard to:

3333 Giles Place

The appeal of the Board of Standards and Appeal's denial of a variance to the owner was argued in the Appellate Division on February 13, 2008. The Chairman attended the argument. Both sides made good arguments and the Court appeared to be divided. There has been no decision yet.

Jericho Project

The Chairman wrote to the Jericho Project to inquire about the status of the acquisition of the property (2701 Kingsbridge Terrace).

The Jericho Project responded that they had obtained the necessary financial commitments and expected to close title in the middle of April.

3880-84 Cannon Place

A demolition permit was applied for in December 2007, but a permit has not been issued yet.

The Chairman wrote to the owner on March 19, 2008 to inquire about the status of this matter. The owner has not responded yet. A follow-up letter will be sent.

The Chairman also wrote to the Bronx Borough Commissioner of the Buildings Department, Marshal Kaminer, P. E. to inquire whether the City will demolish the

illegal structure at this site, if the owner fails to do so. We have received no response from Mr. Kaminer's office yet. A follow up letter will be sent.

<u>Buildings Department Construction Safety and Code Enforcement Press</u> Release

On February 28, 2008 the New York City Buildings Department issued a press release announcing a new construction safety and code enforcement initiative. Community Board No. 8 received a copy of this press release, which is available for anyone who is interested. The Committee agreed that in light of recent crane collapse in Manhattan a new safety and code enforcement initiative is definitely needed.

New Business - Photo Identification

Lastly, committee member Tom Durham suggested that a Community Board No. 8 photo identification would be helpful when Housing Committee members visit construction sites and other properties that the Housing Committee is looking at. The Chairman agreed to bring this up at the Community Board No. 8 Executive Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerald D. Kreppel Chairman Housing Committee

Enclosures (2) JDK:db (April 2, 2008)