

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH, HOSPITALS & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEES MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2009, RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

| PRESENT | AFFILIATION |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| S. Alexander | CB 8 |
| B. Bender | CB 8 |
| A. Cohen | CB 8 |
| T. Durham | CB 8 |
| B. Feinberg | CB 8 |
| B. Fettman | CB 8 |
| B. Maybury | CB 8 |
| D. McShane | CB 8 |
| J. Pilsner | CB 8 |
| R. Press | Education Committee Community Member |
| M. Shelton | Education Committee Community Member |
| G. Adames | Education Committee Community Member |
| K. Bourgeois | CMSV |
| K. Cuccinell | Leake & Watts |
| M. Gunn | PS 81 |
| A. Muscatel | Leake & Watts |
| S. Philpips | Leake & Watts |

Meeting began at 7:35 PM. Maria Khury, Chairwoman of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee introduced Alan Muscatel, Executive Director and Kathleen Cuccinell, Director of Developmental Disabilities Services at Leake and Watts. They are proposing to open and operate a group home for the developmentally disabled at 600C Depeyster Street also known as 543 West 263rd Street.

Maria asked Bill Stone to explain the options available to the Community Board under the New York State Padavan Law. They are:

- 1- Approval of the site request.
- 2- Recommend an alternate site.
- 3- Disapprove the site based on saturation and changing the character of the neighborhood.
- 4- Do nothing which is the same as approval.

Bill Stone stated, for disclosure purposes, that his son lives in a group home in another Board in the Bronx.

Mr. Muscatel said that the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) had informed their agency that Community Board approval was not necessary under the Padavan Law, due to a change of auspices, and that their appearance before the Community Board was a courtesy. If required they

would not object to following the Padavan process. The community Board will follow-up on this matter.

There would be three residences on the site. The first would be handicapped accessible for 4 residents. The second, also for 4 residents and would not be handicapped accessible, and the third residence would be for 7 residents, 3 of which would be handicapped accessible and 4 not handicapped accessible. Each resident would be from the Bronx, either from a State facility or from living at home. All residents will be adults. He further stated that all residents would be in a day program and none would use public transportation. The immediate neighbors would be the College of Mount Saint Vincent and the Hyatt apartments. Questions regarding staffing, nursing, administration and smoking were asked and answered as well as the relationship to the New York City Fire Department. Saint Joseph's Hospital in Yonkers is the hospital of choice.

Maria Khury said that a Public Hearing would be held November 9, 2009 at the Riverdale YM/YWHA.

The minutes of the prior Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee were approved.

Bill Stone, Vice Chairman of the Education Committee, introduced Karen Bourgeois, RN of the Department of Nursing of the College of Mount Saint Vincent, who spoke about the seasonal and H1N1 flu.

She explained the flu facts including items such as what is influenza, the symptoms, how the flu is spread, what is flu pandemic, what is H1N1 flu, caring for someone with the flu and how to prevent the spread of flu. Karen continued by noting the difference between a cold and the flu. She spoke about the higher risk caused by health complications and the treatment for the flu and how to attempt to prevent it. She described in detail the H1N1 flu, its symptoms, how it is spread and applicable statistics, the different vaccines, vaccine safety and the priority groups for the H1N1 vaccine. She further spoke about hand washing, cough etiquette, flu prevention in the community, personal flu prevention and flu care at home. Questions and answers followed.

Bill Stone thanked Karen for her presentation.

The minutes of the prior Education Committee minutes were approved.

The meeting concluded at 9:05 Pm.

Submitted by
Bill Stone