

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD JANUARY 13, 2011
BOARD OFFICE
5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

PRESENT

Maria Khury
Sylvia Alexander
Bob Fanuzzi
Gregoria Feliciano
Dianne Kirksey-Floyd
Philip Friedman
Nils Graham
Tricia Mullen
Robert Press
Ari A. Spett, Esq.
Gregoria Feliciano
Carmelo Alvarado
Katherine Broihier
Frank Goris
Irene Karma
Victor Kassey
Michael Nixon
Katherine Broihier
Jennifer Javier
Jay Patel
Ivelisse Pena
Rachel Quinones
Kevin Vega
Maria Vidal

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
CB8
Community committee member
Community committee member
TD Bank
Kingsbridge BID
Ibiza Lounge
Country Bank
Newsstand applicant (friend)
BOEDC/NYC Business Solutions
Kingsbridge BID, Executive Director
Capital One Bank, 231st. Street
Newsstand applicant
Ponce De Leon Bank, 5560 Broadway
Citibank, Riverdale Ave. , W. 254 St.
Citibank, West 234th Broadway
Ponce De Leon Bank, 5560 Broadway

Chair opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. with a moment of silence for Arizona victims.

1. Minutes of December meeting approved with caveat to revise attendance list.
2. Roundtable introduction of all attendees.
3. Acknowledge new committee members, Ari Spett and Gregoria Feliciano.

I. Applicant for newsstand on West 231st Street – J. Patel

- Family already working on existing newsstand – vested interest
- What will they do to be helpful to the community?
- Will attend Economic Development committee meetings
- 15ft away from steps
- NYC DOT inspects for size, location, placement, etc.
- Items Sold – newspapers, magazines, candy, cigarettes, other news
- Currently he is at 23rd and 7th Avenue for 5 years
- Prior to ownership he worked 15 years at a newsstand
- Quickly resolved all issues
- NYC DOT will maintain newsstand
- Discussion ensued: Members voiced pro's and con
- K. Broihier - Kingsbridge BID – three newsstands already exist – BID does not support project. The BID feels the newsstand will not contribute to the “cost of doing business” in the district.
- F. Goris – not necessary – area congested
- M. Khury covered history of how Traffic & Transportation approved project and what the process is – she has concerns of this being a redundancy business, heavy pedestrian traffic, inappropriate sale of items and magazines, selling cigarettes without adequately identifying the purchaser(minor), what if they're not a community fit? What's the recourse? Displacing of licensed vendor already on the street.
- Another member stated never to stifle news business

The Chair indicated that a Resolution was not deemed necessary as this item was sent to her Committee for recommendation and it is in the jurisdiction of the T&T Committee. She asked the members by a show of hands who were in favor of the application. The majority (8) gave a favorable recommendation to move the approval of the application.

II. Why a Banker's Forum?

- Economic Growth
- New prospects can be supported by banks
- Address economic climate change

- Solicit suggestions as to forum/purpose/format, topics, layout
- Ask for ideas/suggestions
- Owner of Ibiza (downstairs) Lounge
- 8 rect. Tables – 8 guests
- Bankers rotate from table to table

Topics

- Definition of business
- Who would be the audience
- Times sessions (8 minutes)
- Individual sessions - each bank
- NYC business to business solutions – referral list
- What are the business goals/target
- What would make this forum successful for all

Set – Up

- Open with each bank – a presentation
- Banks at tables – set up/individual
- Closure – goodies

Outreach Efforts:

- Newspaper Ad's (Chair indicated there are no funds for Ad's)
- BID/Merchant's Association
- Press Release – Needs review and Bank's Approval
- Parking Availability?
- Five Tables

Banker's forum will be February 3rd at 7:30 PM

B. Fanuzzi – South Riverdale Avenue

- May 15th Arts Festival
- Solicited donations/support
- Transportation needs – 238th – 235th installation
- Chair indicated Citibank has been on board to pay for the trolley and will open Sunday (lobby) to display Art work.

III. **Small Business Survival Act**

- A. Spett reviewed the details
- Discussed with City Council meeting: by Jackson
- What the Act entails – NYC mediation/process – arbitration
- November legal forum hosted by Bronx Borough President Diaz
- Revision – Economic Development Committee plans to create forum inviting Bieder, Reyna, Espailat and other suggested panelists in June meeting to discuss bill

IV. **P. Friedman**

- provided group and thorough overview of budget process
- Discussion of current budget priorities
- Requests: responses of 2012 budget requests will come soon
- Chair indicated that she wanted to request a budget request to fund a person to work on the GIS data collection at BOEDC to facilitate district information.

Upcoming Events –

- May Arts Spring Festival (South Riverdale Merchants Association)
- June meeting Small Business Survival Act "On the Table"

V. **New Business – M. Nixon of BOEDC**

- Global Info System – provide update-still no funding for employee

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

**Gregoria Feliciano
Committee Member**

Approved by,

**Maria Khury, Chairperson
Economic Development Committee**