

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2018  
50<sup>TH</sup> POLICE PRECINCT, 3450 KINGSBRIDGE AVENUE**

**PRESENT**

Margaret Donato  
Mary Yamagata  
Myra Joyce  
Louis Lopez  
Edward Green  
Jyll D. Townes

**AFFILIATION**

CB8 Public Safety Committee (Chair)  
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Guests: Dariella Rodriguez (Bar 57), David Gellman (CB8), Mario Segura, Christina Carlson, Katherine Brohier (Kingsbridge BID), Jen Sproull, Rosemary Ginty (Chair, CB8), Franklin & Marilyn Vargas, Mario Curanaj, Steve Catechis, Nemesi Ordonez, Surey I. Miranda

Absent: Diomarys Escaño

Chair M. Donato called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Committee members introduced themselves
2. Minutes of the October 16<sup>th</sup> Public Safety meeting was approved unanimously (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green)
3. Police Report

**28 day CompStat report ending November 12.**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Murder	0	0
Rape	1	1
Robbery	14	9
Felony Assault	13	8
Burglary	7	8
Grand Larceny	32	45
Grand Larceny Auto	9	11
Total	76	82

Detective Inspector O’Toole informed us that he was being transferred and this would be his last meeting with us. Everyone wished him well and all were sad to see him go. DI O’Toole was an active participant in our community, so it will be a loss.

O’Toole introduced Emilio Melendez, who will be the Commanding Officer of the 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct as of midnight, November 20, 2018. Lee (as he likes to be called) comes to us from the 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct

There was a robbery at 231<sup>st</sup> Street and Bailey Avenue. There is video on it.

Several domestic incidents were reported

6 new Argus cameras were installed: 3 from Cohen’s office and 3 from Cabrera’s office

O’Toole spoke about a social media post that appeared to be threatening. Turned out to be a non-credible threat.

In response though, rumors started and parents were posting about a school shooting. They have an idea who it was. A meeting was held at the school for discussion with parents.

Attendees complained about situation on 242<sup>nd</sup> and Broadway (bus bulb, bike lanes, traffic)

This individual was blaming the problems on the Community Board. CB8 Chair, R. Ginty tried to explain that CB8 voted against the plan.

Neighborhood resident brought up the issues at Barcelona Bites: noise, public urination, vomit in the streets, broken car window.

DI O'Toole stated that there are officers assigned to monitor that location. There have been crimes committed there and they have received summonses. Complaints have been issued to SLA. People who have been affected by the problems there should call 311 and additionally go directly to the SLA to lodge complaints.

4. Speaker from the Human Rights Commission to address the anti-Semitic flyers in VCP. She spoke about the role of the Human Rights Commission.

Basically protection harassment, etc., based on race, religion, orientation

Place to go for people to report incidents

Invite NCOs to meetings so people know who they are

Gave out materials

## 5. Liquor Licenses New applications

### **Change of ownership of Madden's to Bar 57, 5757 Broadway**

Daniella Rodriguez is taking ownership of the bar. She advised us that they will be doing private events. They plan to have DJs on a monthly basis. The DJs she hires do events at schools, so she said they won't be blasting music. She will not use outside promoters for events. Looking to attract crowd that is around age 30s and up.

Ms. Rodriguez was advised of the 2am closing for the first year. She stated that she has a problem with that. She was advised this is a Community Board 8 policy and the license would not be approved if she didn't sign the agreement. She ultimately signed the agreement that she will close at 2am for the first year.

Vote to approve:

In favor: (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

### **Home The Bronx Steakhouse, 222-224 West 238<sup>th</sup> Street**

Did not attend meeting, therefore no vote was taken on application

## 6. Liquor Licenses Renewal Application

### **Yokomo, 216 W. 242<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Did not attend meeting, therefore no vote was taken on application

### **Hola Restaurant, 5586 Broadway**

Primarily a restaurant.

DI O'Toole said there are no problems there

Vote to approve:

In favor: (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

### **El Econmico, 5589 Broadway**

They are open until 10pm.

Primarily a restaurant

Vote to approve:

In favor: (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

### **Barcelona Bites, 220 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Neither management nor owners of Barcelona Bites attended the meeting. They were officially invited to attend. All of the neighborhood residents' complaints were taken into consideration.

Every night there are people in the street making noise, vandalism, urination, vomiting

There have been 125 311 complaints that police respond to. They have been given summonses for disorderly premises. The NYPD is aware that there is crime there, but there is a process that must be followed. NCO Giordano will reach out to DEP to assess the noise issues.

The neighborhood residents were advised to complain to the SLA

Nuisance abated once about 3 to 4 years ago. Apparently it did nothing to solve the issue.

Mary Y made a motion to not approve approve the renewal. Vote was taken:

Unanimous to not approve the application.

Vote to not approve:

In favor: M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

### **7. Request for night permit for December 31, 2018**

Silhouette Lounge, 5668 Broadway

DI O'Toole stated that this request is granted every year. There has been no reports of problems during the New Year's Eve events.

In favor: (M. Yamagata, M. Donato, L. Lopez, M. Joyce, J. Townes, E. Green)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

### **8. Fire Department Safety Presentation on Fire Safety in the Home**

It is most important to have working smoke detectors. Smoke detectors last for 10 years. Call Red Cross to get detectors for free 1-877-redcross

Change battery two times per year. 10 volt batteries are being phased out and lithium batteries will power smoke detectors.

Space heaters: Should have an auto cut off if they tip over.

Turn heater off before going to bed

**Do not** use an extension cord to plug into wall outlet. If necessary, use a power strip with surge protector.

Smoking and candle related fires are common.

Fire department recommendations:

Put butts in a can with water and don't smoke indoors

Stop using candles altogether. If necessary, use electric candles

In case of fire:

Shelter in place. The hallway is worst place to be. Re stairwells: the FD designates a stairway, so it is necessary to use another stairway to evacuate.

They get many natural gas calls. Con Ed usually responds to these. There's an explosive range of gas, so do not open the window. Call 911 and get out.

For information available in every language: [FDNysmart.com](http://FDNysmart.com)

Captain Emilio Melendez introduced himself and spoke about his background and experience in the 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct. He was welcomed aboard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

Submitted by Myra Joyce  
Reviewed by Margaret Donato