

## **BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8, Traffic and Transportation Committee**

### **Minutes of April 19, 2016 Meeting**

#### Committee Attendance:

M. Heller, Committee Chair  
D. Fuchs, Committee member  
A. Creaney, Committee Member  
R. Press, Committee Vice Chair  
G. Santaigo, Committee Member  
H. Young, Committee Member  
S. Sarao, Committee Member

#### Committee Absences:

S. Alexander  
J. O'Brien  
M. Joyce Community Committee member

Guests: Pending update

The meeting was held in the RMHA second floor conference room 5676 Riverdale Avenue and was called to order at 7:36 PM by Chairman M. Heller with a quorum present. The minutes of the March meeting were approved 6 – 0 – 0 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Fuchs, Santiago, and Young.

There was no report from the Chair, who went to the SAPO application for the Cayuga Avenue Block Party. The event is from noon to 8 PM between West 246<sup>th</sup> Street and the dead end, The vote was approved 6 – 0 – 0 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Fuchs, Santiago, and Young.

The Street Renaming in honor of former CB 8 District Manager Grace Belkin at West 246<sup>th</sup> Street and the Henry Hudson Parkway service road was discussed. The chair spoke of the process of renaming a street after a local icon has passed away, and that this was only the first step in the process. Next the full board must approve this at two meetings; then it is turned over to the City Council to vote on the street renaming. If the council approves then there would be a ceremony, as has happened with other street renaming. Several members of the committee who knew Ms. Belkin spoke highly of her, and the resolution passed 6 – 0 – 0 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Fuchs, Santiago, and Young. This will now go to the full community board to be voted on.

Mr. N. Lopez of the NYCDOT came before the committee for a letter of support from BXCB8 (this is being presented to all Bronx CB's) for their Fast Lane application which is a federal grant by the U.S. Department of Transportation for 42 million dollars of the 240 million dollar cost. Items include installation of weigh in gathering stations which are automated to check truck weights as they travel over them. Replacement of the Unionport Bridge over the Bruckner Expressway. Also technology to eliminate low bridge strikes on the Hutchinson Parkway. The chair recommended that the committee vote to offer a letter of support for this

since the deadline was April 11<sup>th</sup>. The vote was approved 6 – 0 – 0 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Fuchs, Santiago, and Young.

A request for a letter of no objection supporting a new TLC base station to be located at 209 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street was discussed. The chair explained a base station operation which can include Green cabs, and Uber for hire cars. He then read for a letter – Royal 777 Car and Limo Service, Ms. Ingrid Soto is asking for a letter of support which includes an incorporation lease at 209 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street for a TLC license. The chair questioned Ms. Soto about the need for more car service in the area. Ms. Soto said the office space at 209 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street is owned by Rapid Realty, is about 600 Square feet, is at the foot of the end of the #1 subway line, and that she has a parking agreement with Rapid Reality that will give her parking space in the new building across the street. Committee member Fuchs said that she uses car services, and mentioned at times there is a demand. Vice-Chair Press mentioned that there is no parking in front of 209 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street, and that the new building across the street has no foundation yet, and is to be market-rate/affordable housing which will have a minimum amount parking if any as per the city's new zoning regulations. Other comments were that the cars would be parked on Broadway to pick up passengers going to Yonkers, there is Westchester bus service on Broadway, and the possibility of driving intoxicated patrons from night clubs across the street which was answered possibly. The Chair then ended the discussion saying that he would be voting against giving a letter of support, but that should not stop any member from voting for the letter, and moved the question not to give a letter of support for a base station at 209 West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street. The vote was approved 6 – 0 – 1 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Sarao, Santiago, and Young, member Fuchs abstained. Member Sarao arrived at the beginning of the discussion.

Budget request proposals was next – The repair of a Step Street off Bailey Avenue was discussed. A lighting survey of CB8's merchant areas. A traffic study of the new Riverdale Crossings area from Irwin Avenue to Bailey Avenue from Van Cortlandt Avenue to West 231<sup>st</sup> Street. This will be reviewed for the next meeting.

A resolution to ask the DOT to change the Muni Meters on Mosholu Avenue from Broadway to Fieldston Road was presented by the chair. The vote was approved 7 – 0 – 0 by members Heller, Press, Creaney, Fuchs, Sarao, Santiago, and Young. Mr. Heller will prepare correspondence to DOT.

New Business – The Chair mentioned that the community board receives a report from the MTA quarterly about ridership. He said overcrowding sometimes occurs due to bus bunching. On the #7 bus an extra bus has been added during the PM rush hour. Residents from the Kappock Street area appeared and described a petition they are preparing to get better bus service. They said that the #10 buses are crowded saying that there are more #7 buses than #10 buses. They would like more frequent #10 buses, all day 7 day a week #20 bus service, and standard sized large buses not the new smaller buses that they say are running. The Chair replied that the bus size is the same. He also mentioned headway times, and how to find where the bus is on the MTA app. He added that the rush hour subway trains can also clog the buses. Also that the MTA continues to change headway times as statistics come in on ridership.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Minutes submitted by Vice-Chair Robert Press.