

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

### MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE METHODIST HOME 4499 Manhattan College Parkway, Bronx, NY JUNE 18, 2013

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#### PRESENT

Daniel Padernacht  
Robert Press  
Sylvia Alexander  
Bob Bender  
Steven Balicer  
Robert Fanuzzi  
Arlene Feldmeier  
Anthony Fella  
Maria Khury  
James Rather  
Herb Young  
Andrew Sandler  
Tony Edwards  
Haydee Camacho  
Marion Clutchker  
Mahesh Rana  
Marlon Rangel  
Andrew Ryan

#### AFFILIATION

CB8, Committee Chair  
CB8, Committee Vice Chair  
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rep. Councilman Koppell  
rep. Councilman Rodriguez  
Riverdale Review  
Methodist Home  
NYC DDC  
NYC DDC  
Manhattan College

The meeting was held at the Methodist Home 4499 Manhattan College Parkway, and was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Dan Padernacht. A quorum was present.

Mr. Andrew Ryan of Manhattan College spoke about the displacement of parking on Waldo Avenue due to the new student center construction. Seven to twelve parking spots will be taken away for about four to six weeks. Manhattan College will provide the same number of parking spots at its garage on Broadway and West 242<sup>nd</sup> Street on a first come first serve basis. This is done as an accommodation to the residents. Those parking in the facility must be out by 9:00am the next morning.

DDC gave an update on the West 238<sup>th</sup> Street water main project. Mr. Marlon of DDC said that the project should have started yesterday but has been put on hold. The reason for the delay is that the contractor found that the sewer mains are below in the same trench as the water mains and it may make sense to replace both lines at the same time. There will be at least a one to two month delay as more tests are done to determine if the sewer lines have reached the end of their life-cycle. Work can be done at anytime of the year as long as temperature is above 28 degrees. The rocky terrain of the area was also discussed. Andrew Sandler of Councilman Koppell's office spoke of a sinkhole and sewer breach by the Waldo Avenue office. There was a concern raised about whether the gas mains were in the same trench as the water and sewer. The Chairman stated to DDC that they should reach out to Manhattan College about this project to inquire about any interruptions with their facilities and the student center project. Mr. Marlon

of DDC said that DDC will inform the community and the board of the decision by DEP as to the question of replacing the sewer lines in addition to the water lines in the area. Since it was said that there will be no liaison for this project, Mr. Marlon said DDC will inform the community and the board of the progress of the project.

DDC then gave an update of the Corlear Avenue project. Mr. Marlon said that only half of the street will be repaved. When he was told that the area was milled and repaved by DOT within one year of the project, making it a protected street requiring curb to curb repaving, Mr. Marlon responded that there was only enough money to do half of the street. Chairman Padernacht told DDC that all of their projects should be relayed to DDC at the earliest point of planning.

Chairman Padernacht told the committee that the contractor for the Parks Department removed thirty (30) parking spots on the Memorial Day weekend on Sedgwick Avenue between Giles Place and Fort Independence Street and did no work on the street at all. The Chairman raised the issue of contractors restricting parking when no work is being performed such as the Sedgwick Avenue example. The Chair spoke to Bronx DOT Commissioner Moran who stated that contractors are given signs by DOT to remove parking only when necessary, and the community and the board must be the watchdogs. The Chairman recommended that all residents contact 311 and the community board when a contractor unnecessarily removes parking. Another example was of the Tulfan Terrace construction site where parking spaces have been removed and no construction activity is going on. There is limited street parking during the day and at night in the board area, and if construction is not going on parking should be returned to the community if only at night.

A Slow Zone proposal was presented by Andrew Sandler of Councilman Koppell's office for the North Riverdale area. The boundaries are West 261<sup>st</sup> Street to the north, West 254<sup>th</sup> Street to the south, Riverdale Avenue to the East, and Palisades Avenue to the west. This area encompasses several schools and residences. When Mr. Sandler was asked why Mosholu Avenue behind PS 81 with a library, after school & child center, and a park was not included he said that the councilman did not want to make the area too big. The deadline for submitting Speed Zone applications this year was May 31, 2013. Mr. Sandler said since Riverdale Avenue is a major commercial road only signage can be placed on it but speed bumps or humps can be placed on the other local streets. There was also mention that the North Riverdale merchants were seeking diagonal parking to increase parking and slow down traffic. A vote for a letter of support for the North Riverdale Slow Zone was 8 in favor (S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. Feldmeier, A. Fella, M. Khury, D. Padernacht, J. Rather, and H. Young), 1 against (R. Press), and 0 abstentions.

A Slow Zone Proposal for the Marble Hill area was presented by Mr. Tony Edwards of Councilman Rodriguez's office. Mr. Edwards said that there are several churches, an entrance to Kennedy High School, a pre-school and a park in the area. The vote for a letter of support for the Marble Hill Slow Zone was 8 in favor (S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. Feldmeier, A. Fella, M. Khury, D. Padernacht, J. Rather, and H. Young), 1 against (R. Press), and 0 abstentions.

The question of placing speed bumps/humps on Cannon Place between Giles Place & West 238<sup>th</sup> Street was tabled until the September meeting as it was not known how this would affect the facility on Cannon Heights Rehabilitation Center and emergency vehicles that use Cannon Place.

The question of three bills in the City Council on the subject of Sidewalk Cafes were discussed. The first bill would allow sidewalk cafes to open at 10 AM on Sundays. It was mentioned that there could be a conflict with the Blue Law if alcohol was sold during that time frame. The second bill would change the renewal period from two years to four years. The third bill would reduce the amount of time the community board can comment from 45 days to 30 days. After discussion by the committee it was decided that a letter of opposition on the third bill regarding a community board comment time be sent to the City Council. The vote was unanimous in favor of sending the letter of opposition. Board Chair Fanuzzi commented that on June 28, 2013 he will be giving testimony to increase the community board response time to the Franchise & Review Commission before the City Council.

Old Business: West 259<sup>th</sup> Street between Riverdale Avenue and Arlington Avenue will be discussed at the September meeting.

James V. Downey Way has been approved by the city council and is awaiting the mayor to sign the bill, then 4-6 weeks for the official ceremony. Ted Corbitt Way will occur in September or a little later so that his family can attend the street renaming.

The minutes of the April and May meetings were approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Dan Padernacht, Chair  
Traffic & Transportation Committee