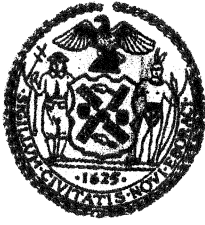


COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX

2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2

BRONX, NEW YORK 10467

(212) 653-0936



DOMINIC CASTORE,
CHAIRMAN

THOMAS J. BROWN,
DISTRICT MANAGER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH 17, 1983 AT BISHOP MESTICE

CENTER OF SAINT DOMINIC'S CHURCH

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 P.M. by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

A. Angelo Campanaro - President, Chester Civic Association

Mr. Campanaro thanked the Board for its help to the residents who will be affected by the Allerton Avenue reconstruction project. He stated that a Board Committee had held a meeting on this project with the residents, and that Ernie Odierna of the Board along with representatives from Highways and Environmental Protection were there to answer the questions of the residents.

MTA Garage

Angelo stated that last Thursday the Board of Estimate voted to hire another consultant for the bus garage. He said that Borough President Simon, the Comptroller and Borough President Andrew Stein of Manhattan had voted against this garage. Angelo said that the Borough Presidents of Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island voted for it because John Law of the Transport Workers Union told them that it would be good for service to the Bronx. He sarcastically suggested that letter of thanks be sent to those who voted for better service for Bronxites.

B. Kathleen Rowan - New York Public Library

Ms. Rowan reported that the Allerton Branch Library will be reopened as of Monday, March 21st at reduced hours.

II. Minutes

Motion by Lewis Goldstein - Second by Bill Liblick - That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously passed

III. District Manager's Report

Tom Brown reported that the District Service Cabinet Minutes had been sent to the Board members yesterday. He stated that he wished to note two items that are on the Agenda for the Cabinet meeting next week. Tom said that he hoped to have a representative from Parking Enforcement at the meeting. He also asked anyone having complaints about Parking Enforcement to call the office and give

the locations to the secretary. Tom said that he is concerned with some of the meter situations, some of the situations around the schools and situations where people are parking on the sidewalks.

Rhoda Gogatz reported that over the last few days she had noticed traffic officers walking on White Plains Road from Lydig Avenue to Pelham Parkway North. She said that they turn the corner and go up Pelham Parkway South on the grass side of the street. Rhoda said that she was there on three evenings, and took the names and badge numbers of the officers. She said that she had asked the officers to go over and give tickets to one particular car that was parked in front of the lottery merchant next to the Globe Theatre, and that he refused saying that he would take care of it in his own way. Rhoda said that she told him that the proper way was to give tickets to the people who are parked illegally.

Tom asked Rhoda to give him the names later.

Tom said that through the Cabinet he is trying to establish a mini-Task Force on some rodent complaints from apartment dwellers that he has received. He said that there is going to be an Education Program and eventually an eradication program. Tom said that the agencies involved want to educate the landlords, tenants, superintendents and merchants as to what actions they can take to prevent rats and mice.

Allerton Circle

Tom reported that on February 18th, a meeting was held which Lee and he attended along with several representatives from the Department of Transportation of the State, several representatives from various divisions of the Department of Transportation of the City, Ted Weinstein representing the Task Force for District #11, representatives of the Botanical Garden and the Parks Department. He said that the meeting regarded what action will be taken to improve safety conditions on the stretch which used to be known as the Allerton Circle and has since been renamed Dr. Theodore Kazimiroff Boulevard. Tom said that the stretch being discussed is between Bronx Park East across from Beth Abraham Hospital going around to the turnoff for the 52nd Precinct which is Mosholu Parkway proper. He said that the State people were looking at the bridge, bikeway, roadway curves and the traffic circle itself. Tom said that they do not see construction starting until the spring of 1985. He said that because of this, the group also was trying to see what the City could do in the meantime. He explained that the City does not want to put a lot of money in here, if the State is going to come along in a short period of time and do the whole job. Tom said that they also went out on an on-site visit. He said that one of the things that arose during the meeting is that the State has been basing its plans for the project on the premise that they cannot remove trees. Tom said that other safety measures can be taken if trees are removed. He said that it was suggested that Boards #7 and #11 hold a joint meeting sometime in the late spring to discuss with the community the possibility of removing certain trees. Tom said that by then the State should have some plans as to which trees it might remove if permitted. Tom said that he feels the community should have a chance to respond on tree removal before it is done. He said that once they walked the roadway, there were a number of things that Traffic and Highways agreed to do in the immediate future. One is to close half the traffic circle, put up speed limit plates which are not there, correct painting on the channelization, refurbish striping and make recommendations for better lighting.

Bus Stop at Mosholu Entrance of Botanical Garden

Tom explained that the construction of a bus stop at the Mosholu Entrance of the Botanical Garden has been a Board budget priority for many years, and explained why. He said that the Borough President was able to get this included in the budget of the Department of Higways. He said that if approved by the Board of Estimate there would be consultant money within the next few months, and that perhaps construction could start in July. Tom said that the consultant contract will be voted on tomorrow at the Board of Estimate. He thanked the Borough President and said that the Community Board is to be applauded for keeping it as a priority item when it did not seem to have much chance of happening.

Discussion took place on the barriers and why repairs take so long.

IV. Borough President's Report

Annette Marchitello reported that the Board of Estimate had approved the sale of 3215 Olinville Avenue to the Olinville Manor Housing Development Fund Corporation. She said that it is an Article 11 housing company. She noted that it is not in Community District #11.

Annette also reported that the Borough President will be holding Community Board orientation and training programs April 10th at 12 noon - 4:00 P.M at Lehman College in the Speech and Theatre Building.

Annette announced that Bronx Week '83 will be from May 8 - 15. She stated that the opening ceremonies will be in the Rotunda on May 6th at 10 A.M., and that the closing will be a parade on May 15th on the Concourse from Tremont Avenue to Kingsbridge Road. She stated that if any community groups would like to participate they should call 590-3854.

Tom stated that he was going to pass out a handbook on the Community Boards that the Community Assistance Unit had prepared.

Bill Liblick asked Annette to speak to the Borough President to ask him to speak to the other Borough Presidents any convey the feelings of Community Board #11's opposition to the bus garage.

Annette said that she was sure he had done so, but that would tell him the Board's feelings.

V. Committee Reports

A. Ad Hoc Committee Against the Arcade

Rhoda Gogatz stated that a meeting was held on Tuesday night with the Citizens Committee regarding the Arcade. She said there were also representatives from several community organizations present. Rhoda stated that they discussed things to be done up until they hear that the date of the hearing before the Board of Standards and Appeals has been set. Rhoda said that they have collected 1500 signatures. She said that there is going to be a mass petition drive the weekend of April 9th and 10th throughout the community. Rhoda said that letters would be sent to all the Planning Board members, community organizations and that it would be published in the newspapers. She also said that the Committee needs all the help it can get in order to educate the people as to what has been

done and what has to be done. Rhoda said that they discussed the possibility of a rally at the site prior to the Board of Standards and Appeals hearing, but that this is on hold until they learn the date of the hearing. She asked for suggestions or help from the Board and the community. Rhoda thanked Henry Yuspeh, Blanche Comras Rifkin, Tom Brown and Richard Lipsky. She said that petitions would be available within the next week.

Dom thanked Father Piccini for allowing Community Board #11 to use St. Dominic's Church tonight.

B. Housing

Simeon Goldstein reported that Al Medioli of the New York City Housing Partnership was here tonight to discuss plans for 1830 Amethyst Street.

Mr. Medioli gave the background of this site. He explained what the New York City Partnership is. Mr. Medioli stated that the City is concerned with small homes. He said that originally they had talked about twenty homes on that site, but that they have decided to reduce it to sixteen 3-family homes with 3-car garages, to be owner occupied. Mr. Medioli gave the income necessary to purchase these homes and answered questions from the Board members.

Motion by Lee Mager - Second by Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 schedule a Public Hearing on this site, and that the Executive Committee set the date for the Public Hearing prior to the Board's April meeting.

Passed.

C. Youth

Lewis Goldstein reported that the Youth Committee had interviewed seven candidates last night for the position of Project Director. He stated that 16 applications had been received and screened before interviews were set up. Lewis said that the Youth Services Committee was recommending that Community Planning Board #11 employ Gerard Riconda as the Project Director for the 1983 Summer Youth Employment Program to commence March 28, 1983.

Motion by Lewis Goldstein - Second by Rhoda Gogatz and Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 hire Gerard Riconda as the Project Director for the 1983 S.Y.E.P. to commence March 28, 1983.

Lewis introduced Jerry to the Board. Lewis said that Jerry had been a Crew Chief for the last four years.

Unanimously passed.

Motion by Lewis Goldstein - Second by Pat DeMartino - Be it resolved that Community Planning Board #11 hereby employ Deborah Ravner Merolla as a Crew Chief for the 1983 S.Y.E.P. effective as early as possible.

Passed.

Lewis stated that applications are being given out and accepted Monday to Friday from 2:30 - 5:30 P.M. He said that the volunteers who are accepting the applications were John Cifichiello, Brenda Petri, Sam Steinberg (from Co-op City) and himself. Lewis said that those interviewing applicants last night were Tom Miller, John Cifichiello, Brenda Petri, Madeline Saltaformaggio, Tom Brown and himself. Lewis thanked

everyone for their help.

Lewis reported that on March 8th there was a meeting of the Youth Services Committee held at the Van Nest Library. He stated that it was well attended. Lewis said that they are now formalizing the official Youth Services Committee.

Motion by Lewis Goldstein - Second by Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 direct the District Manager to investigate the legality, and if it is legal, that a job coordinator be hired on a part-time basis to seek summer job opportunities for the youth of Community District #11.

Tom said that this was a matter of feasibility rather than of legality and Lewis changed the wording of his motion from legality to feasibility.

Passed with 1 abstention.

Tom thanked with Carolyn Giuffre, the Resource Center Coordinator, and Grace Rosa, Principal of Christopher Columbus High School, for offering space to the Board for a job coordinator.

Lewis also thanked them. He stated that the Board had received a request for proposals for summer programs from the New York Grantmakers Program for Youth. This is a program sponsored by the New York Community Trust, Manufacturers Hanover Trust, and the New York City Youth Board, to allow the Board to recommend programs for up to \$5,000. Lewis said it was sent through the mails and was publicized. He said that Frances Lee of the Bronx Council on the Arts had contacted the Board to say that they have a recommendation. Lewis said that based on their past record for getting Youth Board funds under the auspices of the Planning Board, Tom will be meeting with Ms. Lee to discuss their proposal. Lewis said that with the Board's approval they will support a proposal from them.

D. Education and Cultural Affairs

Ruth Burko reported that a rumor came to her attention tonight that the Community Education Resource Center is being taken out of Columbus High School. She said that Carolyn Giuffre, the Coordinator, had been called by both her bosses and told she was no longer to be involved with the Center because the program is going to be removed. Ruth said that each of Carolyn's bosses explained that a letter would be sent, and that it was self-explanatory. Ruth said that they made no other comment as to why this was going to happen. She said that do date neither Carolyn nor Grace Rosa have received any written notice of this. Ruth said that yesterday, at a City-wide meeting, it was announced that Columbus High School was being removed because it does not lend itself as an educational resource center. She said that nobody knows why. Ruth said that an emergency meeting is being called for Monday evening at Columbus High School to investigate this rumor. Ruth reported that in spite of this rumor they are announcing that the Metropolitan Museum will present a slide show of the Vatican, and that there will be a lecturer on May 4th at 8:00 P.M., assuming that the Center is not closed. She said they are also having a Monday afternoon program from 12 - 5 P.M. for individualized diets, needlecraft, exercise and health.

Lee asked Ruth to give all the information that she has to Annette after the meeting.

Frank Muccioli spoke. He stated that he felt that the Planning Board should send a letter to the Board of Education to find out whether or not this rumor is true.

Carolyn Giuffre spoke. She said that she has not received a letter explaining anything to date. She said that she was told on Monday not to report to the monthly meeting

downtown because Columbus is no longer involved as a Community Resource Center. Carolyn explained what her two bosses had said to her on the telephone. She said that she had learned from some of her co-coordinators that when they asked why she was not at the meeting they were told that the program is being taken out of Columbus because it does not lend itself to community education.

Much discussion took place on this.

Motion by Frank Muccioli - Second by Mike Prisco - That Community Planning Board #11 send a letter to Mr. Halverson, Acting Chancellor, with a copy to Mayor Ed Koch, seeking any information about the rumors that have been circulating in the community about Columbus High School, and whether or not the activities that are in there now are going to be taken out, and whether or not the placement of Carolyn Giuffre has any substance.

Joe Reda added that it also be sent to the elected officials.

Passed.

Ernie Odierna added that it say that the Board is against the removal of this program from Columbus High School.

2. Library

Henry Yuspeh reported that on February 24th he had attended a Library Open House at the Mid-Manhattan Library. He stated that it was sponsored for the benefit of all the friends of the library within the system. Henry stated that the library system is in jeopardy now of losing some funds. He stated that the Pelham Parkway Citizen's Council had met with Councilwoman Ryan and the librarians of the Allerton and Van Nest libraries. Henry said that there is going to be a 4% cut. He suggested that a letter be sent against the budget cuts to the councilpeople. Henry asked everyone to write these letters. He said there will be a letter writing campaign sometime in April.

E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection

Ernie Odierna reported that the Environmental Protection Committee together with the Highways Committee met on March 1st at Father Winter Hall at Holy Rosary Church with representatives of the City. He said that it was a large community meeting to discuss the Allerton Avenue sewer and roadbed work that will be constructed this summer. Ernie said that 50 people were there. He stated that they explained the potential problems, the potential expenses, and answered most questions. Ernie said that the Chester Civic Association was helpful in getting the people to the meeting.

F. Highways, Traffic and Transportation

1. Reconstruction of Allerton Avenue Highways and Sewer Project

As Mike LaGuardia was ill, Tom gave the report. Tom reported that the Highways Department had sent blueprints of the project, including the Highways portion, and sewer and water main portions of the reconstruction, to the Board. He said that these drawings were available for review at the Chester Civic Association meeting. Tom said that there did not seem to be any problem with the design. He suggested that the Board send a letter to the Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Transportation saying that there are no problems, and that it has been shared with the community, and the Board is on record as approving the plans.

Motion by Lee Mager - Second by Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 send a letter to the Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Transportation saying that the

plans were shared with the community, that there are no problems, and that the Board is is going on record as approving the plans.

Approved.

Joe Reda spoke about the traffic situation on Eastchester Road from Pelham Parkway South to Morris Park Avenue and Williamsbridge Road. He asked why the traffic is worse since the new traffic signals were installed.

Tom said that no one had ever called the office about this.

Joe said that the bottleneck starts about 3:00 P.M.

Dom said that the inspector should go out around 4:15.

Tom reported that tomorrow he was going to attend a meeting of the Mayor's M.T.C.C.C. (Mayor's Traffic Coordinating Construction Committee). He said that there is a sewer project that will be starting shortly on Stillwell Avenue across Pelham Parkway to approximately Tieman Avenue that would very likely aggravate the situation. Tom said he will raise this with them tomorrow. He said he had already told them to look at the hospital. Tom invited Joe to attend and Joe said he would be there.

A lengthy discussion took place on parking problems near Bronx House.

2. Rehabilitation of Trojan Field Tennis Courts

Tom said that he had looked at the tennis courts and Sid Jacobs Little League Field with Parks people. He said that both projects should be moving along for 1984. Tom said the Board should be receiving preliminary scope plans for Board approval within the next few months. He said they looked at the drainage problems and the fence around the tennis court. Tom said that the tennis courts are going to need extensive rehabilitation. He explained that by the time the Board receives the scope there may be no lighting for the courts. Tom said the problem is that Parks would have to pay for the electricity, and this seems to be the problem. He said the courts could be used for other things besides tennis, e.g., dancing.

Norman Engel asked Tom when they were going to paint in the double line where they repaved the road on Boston Road between Thwaites Place and Pelham Parkway South.

Tom said he would be speaking on this matter at the Cabinet.

G. Health and Social Services

Rhoda Gogatz reported that Tom Miller and she had been installed as the representatives of Community Planning Board #11 to Bronx Municipal Hospital Center Advisory Board last Thursday. She said they would be going to their first meeting on April 6th. Rhoda said there is going to be a Health Fair at Bronx House on April 19th. She has not received any information on it as yet, but when it comes in it will be sent to the Board members.

H. Land Use

550-27BZ

Art DeLuca reported that in October 1982 the Board had voted to approve the application for an extension of a variance for Pelham Heights Service Station. Art ex-

plained that the applicant had asked to be allowed to establish a superette there and that B.S.A. approved it. He said the Board had just received notice from the applicant that he is going to file an amendment to the application to do away with the superette.

Motion by Lee Mager - Second by Joe Reda - That Community Planning Board #11 approve this amended Variance.

Passed with 35 For and none Against

VI. Old Business

Norman Engel reported that there have been serious accidents at Boston Road and Thwaites Place. Tom explained the difficulty in getting constant police surveillance of the intersection.

Frank asked about the property at Boston Road and Allerton Avenue.

Tom said he had not been able to talk with the owner, but he hoped to be able to do it next week.

Office Relocation

Tom stated that at the last meeting the Board had approved contracting with David Turner, an architect, to develop plans for the renovation of office space. Tom said he has submitted the first part of the budget forms to get him paid. He said that Mr. Turner had sent the Board preliminary drawings, and asked the Officers to remain after the meeting to discuss the plans. Tom said that this submission was preliminary to Mr. Turner's submission of them to the hospital, which will have to approve them before they can go to the Buildings Department so a permit can be granted. Tom said that once the Buildings Department approves the plans, then we can start getting a construction contractor to do the work.

Frank Muccioli asked about the status of the Coops as to monies for rehabilitation.

Brenda Petri said the management is telling the tenants that rehabilitation will begin in two weeks. She said a flyer that management gave out in October 1982 said that rehabilitation was going to start then. She also said she had received a letter from Charlie Reiss, Deputy Commissioner of H.P.D., in March 1982, saying he would get in touch with her when the Section 8's became available. Brenda said she has not heard from him in a year. She explained the importance of the Section 8's and the length of time they are good for. She said she sent a letter to Charlie Reiss again last week, and hoped to hear from him shortly.

VII. New Business

Tax Abatement for Mitchell-Lama Housing

Norman Engel stated that he felt that Community Planning Board #11 should get involved in this very important issue for City and State Mitchell-Lama Housing.

Dom suggested that Norman meet with Frank and Simeon to discuss this.

A. Nominating Committee

Dom named the following people to the Nominating Committee: Sal Napolitano, Mike Prisco, Bill Liblick and Charlie Re. He named Mike Prisco as Chairman.

B. By-Laws Review and Revision Committee

Dom named the following people to the By-Laws Review Committee: Lewis Goldstein, Leslie McHenry, and Bill Liblick. He named Lewis Goldstein as Chairman.

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis Goldstein (TB)

Lewis Goldstein,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING MARCH 17, 1983 *

PRESENT

Ruth Burko	(4)	William Liblick	(3)
Dominic Castore	(2)	Richard Lipsky	(0)
John Cifichello	(1)	Steve Lovitch	(6)
Nicholas Cremonese	(0)	Lee Mager	(3)
Silvana DeBellis	(0)	Leslie McHenry	(4)
Arthur DeLuca	(2)	Thomas Miller	(2)
Pat DeMartino	(0)	Joseph Milone	(2)
Gloria DiGianni	(6)	Frank Muccioli	(3)
Norman Engel	(1)	Salvatore Napolitano	(4)
Nora Fox	(4)	Ernest Odierna	(3)
Barbara Fried	(3)	Brenda Neuman Petri	(0)
Rhoda Gogatz	(2)	Michael Prisco	(0)
Elia Goldsmith	(0)	Joseph Reda	(4)
Lewis Goldstein	(0)	William Ricevuto	(1)
Simeon Goldstein	(0)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(2)
Rabbi Israel Greenberg	(9)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(1)
Abraham Kleinman	(9)	Henry Yuspeh	(2)
Rabbi Simon Konovitch	(8)	Steve Zarkin	(6)

ABSENT

Ruth Bernstein	(6)	Romolo Imundi	(5)
Robert Black	(8)	Michael LaGuardia	(1)
Elizabeth Brown	(3)	Raymond Locascio	(1)
Stella Fernandez	(2)	Abraham Pereira	(5)
Kenneth Fleisser	(5)	Charles Re	(6)
Anthony Funigiello	(2)		

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Vincent J. O'Donnell - representing Hon. Joseph Savino

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jeanie Noto - Representing Assemblyman Eliot Engel
Caroline Sozio - Representing Congressman James Scheuer
Eric Barr - Representing Comptroller Harrison Goldin

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

Thomas J. Brown, District Manager, Community Planning Board #11
Harriet Lasky, Secretary, Community Planning Board #11
Annette Marchitello - Bronx Borough President's Office
John Lavin - Bronx Department of City Planning

GUESTS

Thal Davis, Chairman - 2424 Boston Road Senior Citizens Center
Al Medioli - New York City Housing Partnership

* Numbers in parentheses denote absences since January 1982 Board meeting.