

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX

2280 WALLACE AVENUE - ROOM 2

BRONX, NEW YORK 10467

(212) 653-0936

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LEE MAGER,  
CHAIRMAN

THOMAS J. BROWN,  
DISTRICT MANAGER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 20, 1984 AT

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:22 P.M. by Mr. Lee Mager, Chairman. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself as the new Board Chairman. He asked the Board members and staff to introduce themselves.

I. Gallery Session

a. Ms. Lynda Tucker - 762 Brady Avenue Tenants Association

Ms. Tucker spoke about the problems that the tenants of 762 Brady Avenue have had since the renovations. She described the problems as being: 1) Lights that blink on and off, 2) Mail boxes which have been through two fires, 3) Building lacks security and intercom systems, 4) Elevators reek of filth and garbage in the basement, 5) They are faced with indifferent management and ineffectual craftsmanship, 6) Management failed to communicate with the tenants, 7) Workmen's inability to keep to a schedule, 8) Workmen often missed their appointments by days or weeks at a time, 9) The landlord Empire never appeared to put pressure on anyone to get the job done in a timely, professional manner. She suggested that, for any future rehabilitation of this kind, the tenants and the landlord meet on a regular basis.

b. Mr. Pedro Rosado

Mr. Pedro Rosado stated that he had purchased a building at 646 Baker Avenue. It is bounded by a lot 50' x 200' long which has been used as a dumping ground for several years. The Sanitation Department informed him that they are responsible for only X number of feet from the sidewalk. He stated that there are rodents and insects in this lot.

District Manager stated that this item is on the Agenda for the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, and he would check into whether this was one of the properties that the City now owns.

II. Minutes

Correction to the Minutes: The installation of a Panic Alarm system at 2424 Boston Road, a New York City Senior Housing was incorrect and should read 2440 Boston Road \$55,000 for a Bell Alarm system with an Annunciator.

A Motion was made by Mr. Dominic Castore, Seconded by Mr. Frank Muccioli and carried, to accept the Minutes as corrected.

III. Chairman's Report - Mr. Lee Mager, Chairman

The Chairman stated that two newly appointed members were present and he introduced Mr. Vincent Zarccone and Mrs. Renee Biller, and welcomed them to the Planning Board. The October meeting date was being changed to October 25th due to the holidays. The construction of the new Board office has been completed. We are awaiting delivery of carpet and telephones. The move-in date is hoped for October or November.

IV. District Manager's Report - Mr. Tom Brown, District Manager

District Manager explained the purpose of the District Service Cabinet for the new Board members. He stated that it's not for Board members. District Manger discussed a rumor that came into the office about Olinsky's supermarket, the butcher shop next door on Lydig Avene, and around the corner on Wallace Avenue a Synagogue - Congregation Ohel Moshe. He stated that the rumor of a methadone clinic going in there was false. A rumor that a massage parlor would be going in there is also false and illegal as far as zoning is concerned. The methadone clinic rumor was checked out by Assemblyman Engel and Mr. Ken Kearns of his staff with the State Division of Substance Abuse.

V. Borough President's Report - Mr. Marvin Hecht

Mr. Hecht presented his report to the Board: The Board of Estimate approved a contract between the City of New York, the Office of Economic Development in the Bronx, and the Overall Economic Development Corporation. The contract would be funded through the Community Development Block Grant Program. They would provide consultant service and related activities to promote economic development and retain and expand employment and business in the Bronx. Bronx Borough President Stanley Simon urged college bound High School seniors and their parents to attend Big Apple College Information Day on Monday October 22nd from 1-4 P.M. at Lehman College. Bronx Borough President Stanley Simon cleared the way for the construction of 390 new bus shelters in the Bronx among 2,500 in New York City. Sites for the shelters, to be erected within the next 2½ years were recommended by the community boards.

Mrs. Rhoda Gogatz stated that she felt that a letter of appreciation from the Planning Board should be sent to Borough President Simon in conjunction with Local 802 for the presentation of those fantastic concerts, and state that the Planning Board hoped for more concerts next year. Mrs. Gogatz stated that the parks were full and the concerts enjoyed by all.

A Motion was made by Mrs. Rhoda Gogatz, Seconded by Mrs. Renee Biller and carried, to send a letter of appreciation to Borough President Simon for the concerts in the park.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Land Use - Mr. Kenneth Gelnick, Chairman

Mr. Gelnick stated that since the community and the Board were so opposed to the Traffic Violations Bureau going in that it is not going to happen. The Land Use Committee has not had a chance to meet on the properties taken in recent vesting. Mr. Gelnick stated that the application variance for 2566 Boston Road had not been received as yet, so no action was necessary.

B. Education and Culture - Mrs. Ruth Burko, Chairperson

Request for support of change in local law to appoint more historians. Mrs. Ruth Burko stated that the Committee had been contacted regarding the Association for Municipal Historians in the State of New York who are seeking Board support for a recommendation to change the local law to appoint, through the Mayor's office or through the Borough President's office, an individual who is not necessarily a professional, as a community official historian. If this law comes to fruition, the law will give New York City 59 historians instead of the five it now has, one from each borough.

A Motion was made by Mrs. Ruth Burko, Seconded by Mr. Henry Yuspeh, to support the Association of Municipal Historians of New York State in its efforts to change the local law regarding the number of historians from New York City.

An Amendment was made by Mr. Lee Mager, Seconded by Mrs. Ruth Burko and carried, to send a copy to the local officials.

Proposed naming of a school yard at P.S. 105 for Ben Abrams . The Committee met to discuss this item. The Committee did not agree and Mrs. Burko was now bringing it before the Board for discussion. Discussion took place.

A Motion was made by Mr. Henry Yuspeh, Seconded by Mr. Dominic Castore and carried, that this item be tabled until the Parents Association of P.S. 105 is notified.

Mr. Lewis Goldstein asked when it is tabled until, and Chairman Mager stated that the Committee would contact the Parents Association and the Principal of P.S. 105 and the item would be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

C. Housing - Mr. Frank Muccioli, Chairperson

Mr. Muccioli read from the Housing Committee report: "Within a week following the June Community Board meeting, the New York State Legislature adjourned without taking action on legislation which was described to the Community Board as safeguarding the rights of tenants in Mitchell-Lama developments. As the letter approved by the Community Board to local legislators urging support of that legislation was not sent during that week, and it would have been moot to send it after adjournment, does the Community Board now want to send a letter to local legislators urging the reintroduction and passage of this legislation? Should such a letter wait until after the November election?"

A Motion was made by Mr. Frank Muccioli, Seconded by Mr. Dominic Castore and carried with one opposed, to wait until after the elections in November before sending a letter on the Mitchell-Lama houses.

Neighborhood Initiatives Development Corporation would like Community Board #11 support for two applications: 1) Renewal of \$54,000 grant from New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal for on-going activities in tenant organizing and rehabilitation loan packaging, 2) New \$25,000 grant from New York Community Trust for and additional tenant organizer.

A Motion was made by Mr. Frank Muccioli, Seconded by Mrs. Rhoda Gogatz and carried, to support the grant requests of the Neighborhood Initiatives Development Corporation to the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal and the New York Community Trust, and that letters indicating such support be transmitted to the appropriate persons.

Mr. Muccioli stated that Mr. Ted Weinstein spoke to the Committee in regard to Code Enforcement and monies needed for the rehabilitation loan programs. Since the Board has been supporting his Neighborhood Preservation Office over the last few years,

he would like the Board to continue its support of these requests.

A Motion was made by Mr. Frank Muccioli, Seconded by Mrs. Rhoda Gogatz and carried, that Community Planning Board #11 attach its support to the application by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development for additional funds for the Home Improvement Loan Program, and that separate letters to appropriate members of Congress and the Department of Housing and Urban Development be sent once the application is made.

D. Highways, Traffic and Transportation - Mr. Ernest Odierna, Chairman

Proposed relocation of Williamsbridge Road Bus Line #5. Mr. Odierna stated that there is some question as to where the bus should end up or wait. There is also some question as to whether they obstruct traffic along the service road of Pelham Parkway North. Mr. Odierna stated that he would like the Committee to discuss this and come back with a recommendation.

Proposed elimination of the bus shelter at Bronxwood Avenue and Pelham Parkway North. Mr. Odierna stated that the shelter on Bronxwood Avenue is in shattered condition and has been constantly replaced. There is a request that on Eastchester Road near Calvary Hospital a bus shelter be placed. He asked the Board's permission to recommend that the site on Eastchester Road be used instead of the one on Bronxwood Avenue.

A Motion was made by Mr. Ernest Odierna, Seconded by Mr. Dominic Castore and carried with three opposed and one abstained to recommend replacing the shelter on Bronxwood Avenue and Pelham Parkway North with a shelter on Eastchester Road near Calvary Hospital.

Mr. Ernest Odierna stated that he had received a flyer on "Adopt a Station". If any community groups are interested they are to contact the District Manager and a meeting would be set up.

Mr. Dominic Castore informed the Board that there is a feasibility study being done on the Cross Bronx Expressway, costs are \$20 million to \$180 million. They will go to the Community Planning Boards to get their input.

E. Community Development and Budget Priorities - Mr. Robert Black, Chairperson

Mr. Robert Black stated that he received a letter regarding the schedule for the Budget Consultations on September 25th. There would be a Public Hearing on the Budget on Tuesday, October 9th, at Christopher Columbus High School in the Auditorium. Mr. Black urged every committee to sit down and discuss its budget needs. He explained the need to keep the most important services as a top priority.

Chairman Mager stated that the meeting on October 9th will be a mandated hearing.

F. Youth Services - Mr. Raymond Locascio, Chairperson

Mr. Raymond Locascio welcomed Mrs. Linda Loeb, the new Youth Coordinator to the Board. Mr. Locascio discussed the guidelines for being on the committee. If a person misses three meetings they will be taken off the committee and the organization will be asked if they wish to replace that person. If a person missed six meetings the same procedure would follow. Mr. Locascio stated that, during the strike, those youths who were assigned to the nursing homes were reassigned to Orchard Beach.

Mrs. Linda Loeb was introduced. Mrs. Loeb announced that the New York City Youth Bureau has a request for proposals for 1984-1985. The deadline is October 11, 1984. The proposals are available in the Board office from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

#### G. Public Safety - Mr. Joseph Reda, Chairperson

Mr. Joseph Reda stated that there have been a lot of problems with the construction of the 49th Precinct. There was a problem with the lockers. The lockers that were delivered are two-door lockers which is not acceptable to the Police Department. If they are thrown out, they would have to wait three to four months for new ones. The lockers cost \$70,000. On Wednesday, September 26th, the Police Department, General Services and the City will get together and go over the Precinct building. They are waiting for a letter from the contractor stating that he would pay for a bar to go across the lockers to be secured by a lock. If a letter comes from the contractor for the metal bar and lock, then they will accept it; if not, they won't. The furniture has been delivered, the grass is being planted, everything is painted and the electrical work is done.

Discussion took place on whether the qualified police officers have been selected and are ready to go into the Precinct when it opens.

Mr. Reda stated that this has all been taken care of.

Mr. Reda stated that the Committee recommends that both groups, Morris Park and Van Nest Block Association, be approved for funding.

A Motion was made by Mr. Joseph Reda, Seconded by Mrs. Stella Fernandez and carried, to recommend the approval of the Renewal Preservation Programs for Morris Park and Van Nest Block Associations.

#### H. Parks and Recreation - Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Chairperson

Mrs. Elizabeth Brown stated that Mr. John Cifichiello would give the report. Mr. Cifichiello reported that he had attended a meeting at the Parks Department. This meeting dealt with the entrance to Pelham Parkway area from approaching both sides of Pelham Parkway and Boston Road. In that location they want to put up a suitable monument or opening to indicate that you are approaching the cultural part of the North Bronx, with the zoo on the left and the Botanical Garden on the right, and on the extreme west would be Fordham University.

Mrs. Elizabeth Brown stated that on October 1st a license of a vendor who services Loretto Park, and whom the Board had previously approved, will expire. Mrs. Brown stated that before the next Board meeting he will probably have renewed that application, and she asked for the Board's permission to give its approval if the application comes in.

A Motion was made by Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Seconded by Mr. Dom Castore and carried, to approve the request for a license to sell at Loretto Park by Michele Iannitti when it comes in.

#### VII. Old Business

Mrs. Rhoda Gogatz asked if the Board would have representatives at the Festival on Sunday. They had not heard from the Board on this. Chairman Mager asked any Board members who wished to volunteer to do so.

Mr. Frank Muccioli stated that several months ago he had requested that the Board take action on the Dyre Avenue #5 line, on the lot on Astor Avenue, the Esplanade and Laconia Avenue. The lot and the sidewalks are in dire need of repairs. The Board cannot

find out who actually owns that lot. District Manager stated that if the Committee puts sidewalks as one of its priorities, it will greatly help its chances of getting it done. Mr. Muccioli suggested that Highways look into this.

VIII. New Business

Office Staff:- Chairman Mager stated that he had introduced a proposal to the Executive Committee that Planning Board #11 employ two new people, one in the position of Assistant District Manager, and a full-time secretary. A job description based on information provided by the City for the job of Assistant District Manager was put together. Chairman Mager asked the Board to approve the Executive Committee, the Officers (Employee Relations Committee) to advertise for two positions to be selected by them for an Assistant District Manager, and the other position would be that of Secretary or Office Associate. The Executive Board would discuss the titles at its next meeting.

Mr. Robert Black asked about the cost to the Board if a full-time person is hired. District Manager checked it out, and there was no budgetary cost to the Board for benefits as the City pays all.

A Motion was made by Lewis Goldstein, Seconded by Leslie McHenry and carried, that the Executive Board be empowered to advertise and interview for the position of Assistant District Manager and full-time secretary.

Mr. Bill Ricevuto spoke about the traffic problem on Eastchester Road and Stillwell Avenue. On Stillwell Avenue south of Pelham Parkway, vehicles with commercial plates have been parking in such a manner as to interfere with residential parking. District Manager stated he would ask the police to look into the situation again.

There being no further business to discuss, a Motion was made by Mr. Joseph Reda, Seconded and carried, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Petri, Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 1984

PRESENT

Renee Biller  
Robert Black  
Elizabeth Brown  
Ruth Burko  
Dominic Castore  
John Cifichiello  
Anthony DelGaudio  
Norman Engel  
Stella Fernandez  
Nora Fox  
Kenneth Gelnick  
Rhoda Gogatz  
Lewis Goldstein  
Michael LaGuardia

William Liblick (arrievied at adjourment)  
Raymond Locascio  
Lee Mager  
Leslie McHenry  
Frank Muccioli  
Ernest Odierna  
Brenda Petri  
Charles Re  
Joseph Reda  
William Ricevuto  
Madeline Saltaformaggio  
Henry Yuspeh  
Vincent Zarcone

ABSENT

Nicholas Cremonese  
Thomas Denaro  
Gloris DiGianni  
Kenneth Fleisser  
Anthony Funigiello  
Eli Goldsmith  
Rabbi Israel Greenberg  
Lillian Holtzman  
Romolo Imundi  
Abraham Kalish  
Abraham Kleinman

Charles Lefkowitz  
Murray Lewinter  
Steve Lovitch  
Joseph Milone  
Salvatore Napolitano  
Abraham Pereira  
Michael Prisco  
Blanche Comras Rifkin  
Anthony Rizzo  
Alfred Tartaglia  
Steve Zarkin

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:

John Farrell - Rep. Hon. Michael DeMarco

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Kenneth Kearns - Rep. Hon. Eliot Engel  
Robert McGuire - Rep. Hon. Vincent Marchiselli  
John DeGaetano - Rep. Hon. Abraham Bernstein

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT, AND AGENCY OFFICIALS:

Tom Brown, District Mananger - Community Board #11  
Linda Loeb, Youth Coordinator - Community Board #11  
Harriet Lasky, Secretary - Community Board #11  
Marvin Hecht -Bronx Borough President Stanley Simon's Office

GUESTS:

Lynda Tucker  
P.O. Strafella - 43rd Precinct Community Affairs  
P.O. DiVico - 43rd Precinct Community Affairs  
Thal Davis - Northeast Bronx Council on Aging