



COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD # 11, THE BRONX  
 Bronx Municipal Hospital Center  
 Nurses Residence - Room 11N22  
 Bronx, New York 10461  
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**Frank Muccioli,**  
 Chairman

**Fernando Ferrer,**  
 Borough President

*District Manager*

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1995 IN THE

**COMMITTEES**

*Community Development &  
 Budget Priorities*

*Economic Development*

*Education & Culture*

*Health & Social Services*

*Highways, Traffic &  
 Transportation*

*Housing*

*Land Use*

*Parks & Playgrounds*

*Public Safety*

*Sanitation & Environmental  
 Protection*

*Youth Services Planning*

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE HALL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 P.M. by Mr. Frank Muccioli, Chairman.

Frank announced that immediately prior to this meeting, the board had held a public hearing on an application #643-60-BZ by Poplar Street Parking for renewal of an existing parking lot on Poplar Street between Bronxdale and Paulding Avenues. Frank stated that no one spoke in opposition. Frank also stated that the owner was present and he waived his right to speak as no one was opposed to the renewal.

I. Gallery Session

a. Jeffrey Silverberg

Mr. Silverberg stated that he was here about the house at the corner of Pelham Parkway North and Throop Avenue that he had spoken to the board about at the last meeting. Mr. Silverberg stated that this house was bought by Dr. Levy of the Eye Center and was to be torn down and replaced by additional facilities for the Eye Center.

Mr. Silverberg passed around photos of the property, and gave a drawing of the area to the Secretary.

b. Howard Tannenbaum

Mr. Tannenbaum spoke about the solicitation he received from an organization called New York State Fraternal Order of Police Empire Lodge, Inc. He stated that he had spoke to Captain Romaine and that this was not a legitimate operation. Mr. Tannenbaum gave a copy of this solicitation to the Secretary.

Mr. Tannenbaum also spoke about the assessment inequities in Community Board #11 which he had been working on since 1993.

Simeon suggested that he give the letter to the Economic Development Committee, if this would be appropriate.

Frank stated that the Assessment breakdown should be provided to Ms. Leslie McHenry, Chairperson of the Housing Committee and he asked her to look into this and be in contact with Mr. Tannenbaum.

Mr. Tannenbaum gave the assessment breakdown he had prepared to the Secretary.

c. Diane Cerino - 191 Graham Place

Mrs. Cerino stated that she had come before the board last month concerning access from her house which will be limited once the owner of the lot next to her house fences it in. She stated that she had gone to the buildings department and had spoken with the Borough Commissioner who told her she had a real problem, but that they could not help her. She also stated that an inspector from the buildings department had come to look at her house.

Frank asked Mrs. Cerino to give the board the names of all the people she had spoke with so that we might follow up on this.

Several board members spoke. It was suggested that Mrs. Cerino speak to the bank that holds her mortgage. Frank and several other board members told Mrs. Cerino that she needs to get a lawyer.

Terri Blank, Counsel to the Borough President stated that she would look into this.

Mrs. Cerino spoke about the survey that was done on her house.

d. Lawrence Piergrossi

Mr. Piergrossi stated that he was here tonight to talk about Intro No. 535. Mr. Piergrossi spoke about the fact that he had been shot in the neck in August of 1993 and also handed out copies of the legislation.

According to Mr. Piergrossi, Intro No. 535 would provide gun manufacturers with a financial incentive to police themselves, their distributors and agents, thus decreasing the overall trafficking of illegal guns. It would help alleviate the financial burdens that the taxpayers of New York City bear for violence associated with illegal gun trafficking by shifting the burden to the manufacturers.

Mr. Piergrossi stated that Councilmember's Michael DeMarco, June Eisland and Jose Rivera who represent a portion of community board #11 are currently not sponsoring the proposed legislation.

Mr. Piergrossi stated that the support of Community Board #11 can held gain momentum for this legislation in the Council, and our overall gun control efforts city-wide.

Mr. Piergrossi was asked if he had spoken to these Councilmembers. He replied that he had not. It was suggested that he do so and follow up with Joe Reda, Public Safety Chair.

e. Cesare Passudetti - Allerton Branch Library

Mr. Passudetti stated that the budget for the Allerton library has been cut 2.8% for FY'95. He stated that right now the Van Nest, Allerton and Eastchester branches are open 6 days a week. Mr. Passudetti stated that the current budget will not include 6 day service. He further stated that during the last 2 years 6 day service has been used extensively. He asked the board to contact the City Council and tell them how important 6 day service is.

f. Joseph Carozza

Mr. Carozza thanked the board and the Morris Park Community Association for their awareness of Quality of Life Issues. He spoke about the installation of water meters and about water fluctuation. Mr. Carozza also spoke about problems with real estate solicitations.

g. Bessie Glosser

Ms. Glosser stated that at last month's meeting the board voted not to renew the license for the Train Depot. She stated that it was suggested that a letter be sent by the 49th Precinct to the State Liquor Authority. She asked if this was done.

P.O. Nick Stanich stated that any time the police take action it is brought to the attention of the State Liquor Authority.

h. Mort Twersky

Mort reported that on Bronx Park East and Thwaites Place a school bus collided with a car. He stated that this is the third accident to occur there in 3 months. He asked for a traffic light or speed bumps.

Frank introduced Helen Korman, representing Councilman Michael DeMarco; Danny Cestaro representing Senator Joseph Galiber; Rosemary DeLuca of the Botanical Garden; Terri Blank representing Borough President Fernando Ferrer, Linda Loeb, Acting District Manager and P.O. Nick Stanich of the 49th Precinct.

II. Minutes

Frank stated that there was a problem with the tape and that as soon as the minutes are completed they will be mailed out.

III. Chairman's Report - Frank Muccioli

1. Report on search for new District Manager

Frank reported that the board had received 14 resumes as of May 5th. He stated that he was requesting that a date be set up by the Employee Relations Committee to meet and schedule a date for interviews before the Executive Committee meets.

## 2. Committee Assignments

Frank stated that he had received Committee assignment requests from Elaine Weisbrot, Dr. Mahendra Patel and Joseph Thompson. He stated that he was placing Ms. Weisbrot on the Education and Culture Committee and the Public Safety Committee. He was only placing Dr. Patel on one committee, Health & Social Services, and that owing to his schedule, he felt that Dr. Patel could best serve the board on this committee. He was placing Mr. Thompson on the Parks and Playgrounds Committee and Public Safety Committee. Frank stated that letters would be sent to the board members confirming their appointment to the various committees.

## 3. Neighborhood Conditions Committee

Frank reported that the following people had requested to be on the Neighborhood Conditions Committee: Stephen Holtz; Francisco Santiago; Sandra Leventhal; Michael Kenny; John Zoccolillo and Laura Fischman. He stated that he was placing Lori Motta and Pat Torney, Youth Members on the Committee. Frank stated that Al Locascio will be the Chairman of this Committee.

Frank stated that this Ad Hoc Committee will be getting community groups organized to try and target graffiti areas and then maintaining these areas. He stated that the board will coordinate the groups getting proper equipment to maintain these areas. Frank stated that this Committee will also target areas where liquor is being sold to minors. He stated that it will work with all the other committees of the board.

Frank asked that the board take a moment of silence for the passing of Tony Rizzo, a former Board member and community activist.

## V. Acting District Manager's Report - Linda Loeb

Linda stated that it is a pleasure to be back working with Community Board #11.

### 1. Street Activity Permit Applications

a. Side Street Productions - 1332 Blondell Avenue - Application for a two day festival on Blondell Avenue between Westchester and Ponton Avenues from 10 A.M. to 11:30 P.M. on Saturday, August 19th and from 8 A.M. to 11:30 P.M. on Sunday, August 20th (Rain dates Saturday, August 26th and Sunday, August 27th)

b. F.E.G.S. - Application to close Bronx Park East between 2292 and 2270 Bronx Park East on June 25th from 12:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. for a block party.

c. Application by the residents of the 1700 block of Hering Avenue to close Hering Avenue between Van Nest and Morris Park Avenues on July 4th from 8 A.M. to 11:30 P.M.

d. Application by the residents of the 2000 block of Hering Avenue to close Hering Avenue between Pelham Parkway South and Lydig

Avenue from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M. on July 4th with a rain date of July 9th.

Linda stated that she had spoken with the police in reference to the application from Side Streets. She stated that Captain Romaine had met with the applicant and that the police have no problems with this application.

A Motion was made by Al Locascio, Seconded by Dominic Castore and Ralph Lanzilli - That Community Board #11 approve all 4 applications for street closings as received.

Passed unanimously.

V. Borough President's Report - Terri Blank

As the report was lengthy Terri submitted the following to Harriet:

1. BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERNANDO FERRER ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT THE CITY COUNCIL'S HEARING ON YOUTH SERVICES:

Despite dogged attempts by the City Council and others, including my Administration, to restore funding as well as order to this beleaguered agency, City Hall has tried to wash its hands of its financial as well as moral obligation to the young people of our city.

2. BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERRER ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED EXECUTIVE BUDGET:

Mayor Giuliani's proposed executive budget brings more hardships and pain to New Yorkers by balancing a \$3 billion deficit through disproportionate service cuts and illusory savings that damage our city's short and long term health.

This budget hurts kids by cutting vital programs at every stage of their development--from day care and then public school through neighborhood-based youth programs and finally city college. The cuts are proof positive that this administration has no youth agenda.

The cutbacks are not a real savings for this city, but a service reduction at the expense of our young people. Furthermore, the workfare program leveled at CUNY students is punitive and will likely force many to forego college. This ultimately will cost the city more in terms of lost revenue and jobs.

The same could be said of City Hall's misguided \$700,000 cut of Medicaid funds because the cuts will force more elderly into more expensive nursing home care, trigger thousands of layoffs--and ultimately cost the city millions more to treat patients with more serious health problems.

This lack of vision also can be attributed to the Mayor's decision to withdraw funding for a new Police Academy in The Bronx.

Despite the approved police merger giving New York City its biggest ever police force, the Mayor has turned his back on a commitment to the people of this city, especially in The Bronx, who had hoped to share in the mutual benefits of a more visible police presence as well the economic benefits of more commercial revitalization.

### 3. FERRER SEEKS TO CHALLENGE AND EMPOWER CUNY STUDENTS ON PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Calling for a higher level of civic involvement across the City University campuses in the face of proposed budget cuts, Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer met with the CUNY Student Coalition in hopes of fostering a dialogue of empowerment and change.

"I find it unconscionable that in the age of self-reliance, City Hall and Albany are practicing theoretical perspective exercises with the future of our Borough, City and Nation," said Ferrer. "Self-reliance, Mr. Mayor and Mr. Governor is not an abstract theory, but one that involves the commitment from government to our youth to equip our future leaders with the tools to be self-reliant and independent," said Ferrer.

"CUNY students comprise a big segment of the voting age population--if you register 200,000 individuals, anyone will think twice before cutting or attempting to cut your education," said Ferrer.

### 4. FERRER "WE NEED A NEW VISION OF AN ACTIVIST GOVERNMENT"

Addressing the Manhattan Chapter of the New York Urban League, Borough President Fernando Ferrer urged the forgoing of a new vision for an activist government that will generate jobs and growth opportunities for those now wounded by the budget cuts leveled by Albany and City Hall.

Ferrer noted that the City's and State's "budgetary axe syndrome has inundated the press and public debate with the issues surrounding cuts. The public debate has been dominated by cuts," Ferrer said, "cuts in health care, cuts in school budget and cuts in social services, which have diverted attention from the proper and necessary discourse concerning the vision of an activist government.

## VII. Committee Reports

### A. Economic Development - Simeon Goldstein

#### 1. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses

a. Caffè Elisa - 2008 Williamsbridge Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)

b. Watermelon Bar and Grille, Inc. - 1246 E. Gun Hill Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)

c. Patricia's Pizza & Pasta - 1080 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises wine consumption (New)

Pat Quaranta requested that Caffè Elisa be voted on separately.

A Motion was made by Simeon Goldstein, Seconded by Linda White  
- That Community Board #11 notify the Alcohol Beverage Control Board that it has no objection to the granting of this renewal license.

Passed with 26 in favor and 6 abstentions. Those abstaining were: Pat Quaranta; Silvio Mazzella; Seymour Ostroga; Priscilla Crowell; Rhoda Gogatz and Linda White.

A Motion was made by Simeon Goldstein, Seconded by Linda White  
- That Community Board #11 notify the Alcohol Beverage Control Board that it has no objection to the granting of the renewal license for the Watermelon Bar and Grille or the granting of a license for Patricia's Pizza & Pasta.

Passed unanimously.

Simeon reported that he had received a copy of a letter from Greenwich Village Block Association concerning the arbitrary decision of the State Liquor Authority and their effect on the community. He stated that he was waiting for more information from them.

Simeon reported that it seems that the owners and merchants on White Plains Road do not want to couple the area of Pelham Parkway North with their B.I.D.

#### B. Land Use - Frank Muccioli

1. BSA #643-60-BZ - Application by Poplar Street Parking for renewal of an existing parking lot on Poplar Street between Bronxdale and Paulding Avenues.

As Ken was not present Frank gave the report. He stated that a public hearing had been held on this earlier and no one spoke in opposition.

A Motion was made by Frank Muccioli, Seconded by Linda White - That Community Board #11 approve of the renewal of this parking lot.

A roll call vote was taken the vote was 27 in favor with 2 abstentions. Those voting in favor were: Dominic Castore; John Cifichiello; Mauro Fanelli; Harain Figueroa; Rhoda Gogatz; Simeon Goldstein; Ralph Lanzilli; Gerald Launer; David Leavitt; Alfred Locascio; Silvio Mazzella; Leslie McHenry; Frank Muccioli; Seymour Ostroga; Dr. Mahendra Patel; Robert Potter; Pat Quaranta; Joseph Reda; Blanche Rifkin; Mary Rogan; Madeline Saltaformaggio; Mark Shkreli; Joseph Thompson; Mordechai Twersky; Elaine Weisbrot; Linda White and Lisa Winters.

Those abstaining were: Loraine Cortes-Vazquez and Priscilla Crowell.

2. N 950384 ZRY - Application for zoning text amendment regulating adult establishments, submitted jointly by the Department of City Planning and the City Council Land Use Committee for consideration by the City Planning Commission.

Linda reported that the Executive Committee determined that a public hearing should be held on this application. She stated that the public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at Beth Abraham Hospital. Linda said that confirmation of this public hearing will be sent. Linda stated that the vote will be taken at the board meeting on June 15th as there is a 60 day clock and the last day for comment is June 19th.

### 3. Rite Aid

Frank reported that presently there is a Rite Aid store on Allerton Avenue. He stated that they hope to use store as their district office. Frank stated that the new store will be built on the site of the old Boston Lumber. It will be 13,000 square feet, have parking for 15-55 cars and be landscaped. Frank stated that the committee met with representatives of Rite Aid. He also stated that they will have a drive-in facility for photos, money orders etc. They will be upgrading their departments to sell the same merchandise as before, only in larger quantities.

Frank reported that no traffic study has been done yet, but it will be done. He spoke about changing the lights on Gunther Avenue. He read the following report on accidents from 1/94-1/95: no car accidents at intersection of Radcliffe Avenue and Boston Road; 4 car accidents at intersection of Allerton and Bronxwood Avenues and 18 car accidents at intersection of Allerton Avenue and Boston Road.

### C. Youth Services - Linda White

Linda reported that the Youth Committee will meet on Monday, May 22nd at 7:30 P.M. at Bronx House. She asked all member to attend and be prompt. Linda reported that she had received figures from the Department of Youth Services on available funding. She also reported that there will be a Borough-wide youth conference on June 10th at Hostos Community College. Linda stated that there will be guest speakers at the conference.

### D. Housing - Leslie McHenry

#### 1. Report on Housing Seminar planned for May 23, 1995

Leslie reported that all rental tenants should attend this meeting and find out what their rights are. She stated that there will be housing experts to help with mortgages, tenant organizing, building security and other things. Leslie stated that this seminar will be held at Bronx House, at 990 Pelham Parkway South.

Leslie reported that the Neighborhood Preservation Office is leaving our area. She stated that the Morris Park Local Development Corporation and NIDC will hopefully pick up the slack.

### E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection - Ralph Lanzilli

Ralph reported that he had received a letter from DEP that they are going to be putting out new water bills. Ralph reported that the installation of water meters is going on. He also reported that



Sanitation is increasing its fines for not recycling from \$25 to \$50 going up to \$500.

F. Parks and Playgrounds - John Cifichiello

John reported that there the Office of Management and Budget as approved a grant for reconstruction of ballfield throughout the city.

John reported that Bronx Day at the Botanical Garden will be on June 10th from 1 to 4 P.M. Bring a picnic lunch and they will supply beverages and dessert.

John reported that Zimmerman Playground was not in the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year '96. Frank stated that the board has been in contact with Councilwoman June Eisland, and has assured the board that we will get a portion of the renovations.

G. Health & Social Services - Blanche Comras Rifkin

Blanche reported that the board sent a letter to the People Live-In Center informing that the board was denying their request for a group home at 1815 White Plains Road.

Blanche reported that BMHC will now be called Jacobi Medical Center.

Blanche reported that the Psychiatric Ward at BMHC will be moving to North Central Hospital once the renovations are completed.

Al Locascio reported that Ruth Burko's husband had surgery and was recovering.

H. Public Safety - Joseph Reda

Joe read the following crime statistics for April:

	1994	1995	%Change
Robbery	66	45	Down 32
Burglary	117	70	Down 40
Grand Larceny Auto	180	105	Down 42
Murder	2	0	Down 200
Rape	4	0	Down 400

YEAR-TO-DATE

Robbery	266	179	Down 33
Burglary	415	296	Down 29
Grand Larceny Auto	605	491	Down 19
Murder	8	0	Down 800
Rape	13	3	Down 77

ARRESTS

Robbery	23	25	Up 9
Burglary	12	10	Down 17
Grand Larceny Auto	14	8	Down 43
Murder	1	0	Down 100
Rape	1	0	Down 100

Total Felonies	507	326	Down 36
Total Complaints	1460	1043	Down 4.0

I. Nominations - Leslie McHenry

Leslie read the slate of officers as proposed by a majority of the committee: Dominic Castore, Chairman; Alfred Locascio, First Vice Chairman; Gerald Launer, Second Vice Chairman and Ruth Burko, Secretary. As Gerald Launer had not been present last month Leslie Asked him if he accepted the nomination and replied that he did.

Leslie reported that Frank Muccioli had been nominated from the floor for Chairman. She also reported that Ralph Lanzilli and Linda White had been nominated for Treasurer.

Leslie asked if there were any nominations for Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Second by Bob Potter - That nominations for Chairman be closed.

Unanimously passed.

Leslie asked if there were any nominations for First Vice Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Linda White and Silvio Mazzella - That nominations for First Vice Chairman be closed.

Unanimously passed.

Leslie asked if there were any nominations for Second Vice Chairman. There were none.

A Motion was made by John Cifichiello, Seconded by Lisa Winters - That nominations for Second Vice Chairman be closed.

Unanimously passed.

Leslie asked if there were nominations for Secretary. There were none.

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Alfred Locascio - That nominations for Secretary be closed.

Unanimously passed.

Leslie asked if there were nominations for Treasurer. There were none.

A Motion was made by Al Locascio, Seconded by Bob Potter - That nominations for Treasurer be closed.

Unanimously passed.

Rhoda asked that the Minutes reflect that the slate of officers was chosen by a majority and not unanimously.

VIII. Old Business

Al reported that on Saturday, June 24th at 10:00 A.M. the ceremony for adding the name of Raymond Locascio Square will be installed. He stated that the ceremony will take place at Allerton Avenue and Gun Hill Road.

Al thanked the Planning Board, Thomas Lucania, the staff, Councilman Michael DeMarco and Borough President Fernando Ferrer for their help.

Frank said that the staff would send letter to the board members reminding them of this ceremony one week prior.

IX. New Business

Leslie asked about the possibility of naming a street for Tony Rizzo. Frank stated that the board would look into this.

Lisa Winters asked about Intro 535. Frank asked her to speak with Joe Reda.

Al asked that attendance of board members be reviewed, and that letters be sent to those you have had excessive absences.

Rhoda reported that the Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway will be having their Installation of Officers Breakfast on Sunday June 18th at 10:00. Anyone interested in attending should see her.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Frank Muccioli* (HL)

Frank Muccioli,  
Chairman

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF MAY 18, 1995

PRESENT

Dominic Castore	(6)(4)	Frank Muccioli	(0)(0)
John Cifichiello	(0)(1)	Seymour Ostroga	(0)(4)
Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez	(7)(1)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)(0)
Patricia Crowell	(4)(3)	Robert Potter	(5)(4)
Mauro Fanelli	(4)(1)	Pat Quaranta	(4)(6)
Harain Figueroa	(2)(1)	Joseph Reda	(6)(2)
Kenneth Gelnick	(3)(4)	William Ricevuto	(5)(2)
Rhoda Gogatz	(0)(5)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(3)(5)
Simeon Goldstein	(0)(1)	Mary Rogan	(6)(0)
Dexter Hendon	(2)(1)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(1)(0)
Ralph Lanzilli	(7)(4)	Mark Shkreli	(3)(0)
Gerald Launer	(7)(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)(0)
David Leavitt	(3)(4)	Mordechai Twersky	(3)(0)
Alfred Locascio	(7)(4)	Elaine Weisbrot	(0)(0)
Silvio Mazzella	(0)(0)	Linda White	(5)(4)
Leslie McHenry	(1)(2)	Lisa Winters	(5)(5)

ABSENT

Dr. Mary Acker	(12)(8)	Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(6)(2)
Ruth Burko	(4)(4)	Joseph Milone	(8)(2)
Anthony DelGaudio	(3)(4)	Lori Motta	(6)(2)
Patrick Dolan	(5)(4)	Hazel Miura	(1)(0)
Emilian Eisdorfer	(8)(3)	Patrick Torney	(6)(0)
Laura Fischman	(5)(1)	Robert Torres	(10)(6)

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Helen Korman - Representing Councilman Michael DeMarco

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Danny Cestaro - Representing Senator Joseph Galiber

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

Linda Loeb, Acting District Manager

Harriet Lasky, Secretary

Terri Blank, Borough President Fernando Ferrer's Office

P.O. Nick Stanich - 49th Precinct Community Affairs

GUESTS

Rosemary DeLuca - Botanical Garden

\*Numbers in parenthesis denotes absences from September 1994  
Numbers in **BOLD** denotes absences from September 1993-June 1994