



**COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD #11, THE BRONX  
 JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER  
 NURSES RESIDENCE - ROOM 11N22  
 BRONX, NEW YORK 10461  
 (718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861**



**Dominic Castore  
 Chairman**

**Fernando Ferrer  
 Borough President**

**John Fratta  
 District Manager**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1996

**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*

IN THE PATIENT ACTIVITY CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM 1 OF  
 CALVARY HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by Dominic Castore, Chairman

I. GALLERY SESSION

a. Gloria Mangual - Vice President Pelham Parkway Houses Tenants Association

Ms. Mangual spoke about the many complaints and problems in the Pelham Parkway Houses. She spoke about the lack of heat and hot water. Ms. Mangual also spoke about the homicide that occurred in the projects. Ms. Mangual stated that the residents are concerned for the senior citizens and the youth.

b. Rosemary DeLuca - New York Botanical Garden

Ms. DeLuca thanked the board for its past support of their budget requests. She stated that they were asking for the board's support in getting the City to bring their general operating support to full restorations for cuts made in the early Dinkins administration. She stated that these funds are necessary to not only help maintain the safety and cleanliness of the Garden, but to allow services and programs, especially school programs, to continue to exist at the highest level of quality that visitors have come to expect. Ms. DeLuca submitted a copy of her presentation to the board.

c. Donna Cuddeback - 1836 Narragansett Avenue

Ms. Cuddeback stated that she works at Jacobi Hospital during the day, and at Madison Square Garden at night. Ms. Cuddeback spoke about the teens playing ball in front of her house till 1 or 2 A.M. Ms. Cuddeback stated that on Friday, Saturday and Sunday there were 30 kids. She stated that cars were vandalized. Ms. Cuddeback stated that she had set up a video camera, and that when they saw there was a camera they mooned the camera and used foul language. She stated that on Friday her Halloween decorations were destroyed.

Ms. Cuddeback stated that the police were involved, and that things seemed to have gotten better until after Labor Day when it began again. Ms. Cuddeback stated that 6 of the teens live on the block. She stated that the parents say nothing.

Dom Castore stated that he had watched the 2 1/2 hour tape. He said that there was noise and cursing. Dom said that he was appalled. Dom stated that at one point on the tape the teens got into a shouting match after their ball went into someone's yard and they could not get it back.

Annette Marchitello spoke. She stated that sometimes the kids overflow into her yard. She stated that the residents are suffering. Annette stated that the 49th Precinct has been called. Annette also spoke about cars speeding through private driveways after 3:00.

P.O. Nick Stanich asked to see the tape.

d. Vincent Lombardo

Mr. Lombardo spoke about the young adults playing ball on Matthews and Van Nest Avenues. He stated that these kids do not live on the block. Mr. Lombardo stated that they have broken his gate, picked his apples, cursed at him and threatened him. He stated on Saturday and Sunday they were there until 1 A.M. in the driveway.

Dom stated that he wanted a meeting set up with John, Joe Reda, Captain Shortell and himself to look into these quality of life problems.

Joe stated that he had problems on his block last week.

Hazel Miura spoke about the problems at 2280 and 2300 Olinville Avenue. She stated that she called the 49th Precinct who sent a car. She stated that when the car parked there th kids left. Hazel stated that Det. Betsy Hernandez and P.O. Moore spoke to the parents.

Leslie McHenry stated that this was proof that we need the restoration of the Youth Coordinator. She stated that when we had activities going on for the youth these things were not going on.

P.O. Stanich stated that P.A.L. is looking for a site to run a program 2 nights a week.

Joe Thompson suggested that the kids should get tickets, and that the parents should be made aware of what their kids are doing.

P.O. Stanich stated that he will meet with the parents.

Bob Potter stated that at the last School Board #11 meeting Albert DeAngelo stated that he wants to start programs in the schools.

Dom stated that we have to get to the parents and make them responsible for the actions of their children by fines and putting

their names in the papers.

e. Judith Passero - 928 Mace Avenue

Ms. Passero spoke about hub caps being stolen. She stated that she called the 49th Precinct and was told that they have cars in the area, and hoped that they catch them. Ms. Passero stated that on Sunday nights 2 cars were vandalised.

Ms. Passero spoke about the conditions at the Pelham Parkway Houses. She stated that there was no heat or hot water. She stated that when she called the emergency number then they get heat and hot water for a while. Ms. Passero stated that she has water dripping down her walls as well as mold on the walls. She stated that she had to move her furniture to an inside wall because mold was appearing on her furniture.

Leslie spoke about a meeting held in February in which no tenants came to complain. Leslie stated that she wanted the tenants to hold a general meeting with the Housing Committee and John Fratta. Leslie stated that the Housing Authority has money and that she will see that something is done.

Ms. Passero stated that someone from NYCHA came to check the hot water, and stated that it was not hot enough.

f. Maurice Nvokoro - Sun Glo Realty

Mr. Nvokoro spoke about the parking lot and problems with the community. He stated that the parking lot is at 2967 DeWitt Place behind 1388 East Gun Hill Road. Mr. Nvokoro stated that he has been using this lot as a parking lot since 1991. Mr. Nevaro stated that rodents and odors were coming into his office from this lot. He stated that the owner of the lot gave him the authority to hire someone to take care of the lot. Mr. Navaro stated that the man he hired went back to Puerto Rico. Mr. Navaro also stated that the tenants are not paying for parking in the lot it is a privilege.

Dom spoke. He stated that he did not appreciate harassment charges being leveled against John Fratta with the Borough President's office. Dom stated that we have to come to an agreement that will make everyone happy. He spoke about the owner giving permission for parking on this lot.

g. Geoffrey Ukekweh

Mr. Ukekweh stated that we need to work together on this lot.

h. Dorinda Castro

Ms. Castro thanked John and the board for their efforts on the conditions on DeWitt Place. Ms. Castro stated that she had spoken with Captain Shortell. Ms. Castro stated that due to John's efforts the 3 signs are in place at the triangle at DeWitt and Morgan and that cars are being ticketed for parking there.

Ms. Castro spoke about the littering and loitering on DeWitt

Place as well as the drugs. She stated that the TA needs to have TA police in the TA station. She stated that there have been 25 arrests since September 18th and that 1 arrest was made last night for gun possession.

Ms. Castro spoke about the parking lot. She stated that the problem is with the owner, Lynn Kurtin. She stated that for 20 years Ms. Kurtin has abandoned this lot. Ms. Castro stated that illegal dumping is going on. She stated that if it is to be a parking lot it should be done legally and with a good fence. Ms. Castro stated that there is a man that cleans the lot without being paid. She said that he does this because he lives near the lot. Ms. Castro said that the lot is dangerous, there are no lights, there are rats and people dump there from their cars.

P.O. Stanich stated that the 49th Precinct is aware of what is going on and is working with Ms. Castro. He stated that he had called Ms. Kurtin several times and left messages on her tape for her to call him, but she never called him back. P.O. Stanich said that he would be calling the legal department to see what the police can do.

John stated that he believes that the curb cut is illegal. He stated that he had spoken with Ms. Kurtin last month, and that she said that there would be an on-site inspection. John stated that she has not returned his called since then. John stated that Sanitation is targeting the lot for summonses on a daily basis. The Department of Health is going to look at the lot. John stated that the only way Ms. Kurtin will learn is to ticket her.

Mr. Nvokoro said that he would clean the lot. John said he could not deal with Mr. Nvokoro as he is not the owner, and that the owner did not tell him that Mr. Nvokoro was in charge. Mr. Nvokoro stated that Ms. Kurtin was in the hospital.

Dom asked Mr. Nvokoro to have Ms. Kurtin call John or P.O. Stanich.

It was stated that at one time Ms. Kurtin allowed the TA to use the lot in order to rehabilitate the station.

i. Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein

Assemblyman Klein stated that he was working on the problems at the Pelham Parkway Houses with John and Leslie. Assemblyman Klein stated that he had also received a lot of complaints about Parkside Houses. He stated that he is trying to have a meetin with the tenants at Pelham Parkway Houses. Assemblyman Klein stated that he offered to sponsor a concert at Pelham Parkway Houses, but downtown had rejected his offer. He stated that they said they don't mix politics with Housing Authority. Assemblyman Klein stated that he would be sending a letter to Chairman Franco about the complaints. He stated that he hoped the board will do the same.

j. Mabel Ostroga

Mrs. Ostroga stated that she had heard that there were new

officers in the 49th Precinct. She stated that she hoped they treated people with respect. Mrs. Ostroga stated that she had had bad times with the 49th Precinct.

## II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Gerald Launer  
-That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Passed unanimously.

## III. Chairman's Report - Dominic Castore

Dom reported that Maritza Rodriguez gave birth to a healthy baby. He stated that he did not remember if it was a boy or a girl.

Dom reported that Rhoda's husband is in the hospital, and has been there for four weeks. Anyone wishing to call her can get the phone number from the office.

## IV. District Manager's Report - John A. Fratta

John reported that Bourbon Street has finally closed.

John spoke about 1616 Stillwell Avenue, the illegal transfer station. John reported that bulldozers went in there. He stated that the work was done by the owner. John stated that hopefully he takes care of his other properties. John reported that Eddies Flea Market is open again. John stated that buildings issued a violation. He stated that he would ask HPD to get rid of the shed. John said that Sgt. Zelinsky is looking into it.

John reported that repaving has started on the Boston Road project. He stated that it should take a month to complete.

John reported that he is working on getting the weeds behind Waldbaum's and Home Depot cleaned up. He stated that he sent letters to the homeowners asking them to clean it. He stated that within 2 weeks the city will notify them and then the city can go in and clean it. John reported that Home Depot is slated to open in July.

John reported that the office has received complaints of rats. He stated that it is the property owners responsibility to bait. If the owner does not comply the city will go in.

## IV. Committee Reports

### A. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses - Joseph Thompson

1. Leonard Heller Supermarkets Inc. - 1018 Morris Park Avenue for off-premises beer and wine consumption(NEW)

2. Surin Discount Liquors - 2444 Eastchester Road for off-premises consumption (NEW)

3. J and Z Restaurant Corp. - 2070 White Plains Road for on-premises consumption (NEW)

Joe reported that he had visited all of these locations and saw no problems.

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Madeline Saltaformaggio - That Community Board #11 notify the State Liquor Authority that it has no objections to the granting of these license.

Passed.

V. Borough President's Report - Linda Loeb

As the Agenda was lengthy Linda gave the report to the Secretary.

#### SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

The Office of The Bronx Borough President and the Bronx Health & Human Services Development Corp. invite you to attend the 1996 "Bronx Senior Citizen Recognition Day" celebration on Tuesday, October 29th, in the Veterans' Memorial Hall rotunda.

Bronx Senior Citizens Day is a special event held each year to recognize the achievements of senior citizens across the borough. Some of the highlights of the event include live entertainment, music, food, and the presentation of Outstanding Service Awards to exemplary seniors. Senior Citizens Day will be held from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, with the formal ceremony to commence at 2:00 PM.

#### COMMUNITY BOARD APPLICATIONS

Applications for membership to the Community Boards are available now until January 31, 1997. They are available at the local Community Boards and the Bronx Borough President's Office, room 917 or call 718-590-3933. Youth applicants are encouraged to participate in the process.

#### ITALIAN HERITAGE

On October 25, 1996 at 11:00 AM, The Borough President's office will be co-sponsoring its Italian Heritage Day Celebration at the Belmont Library and Cultural Center. For more information, please call Frances Fusco at 718-590-3565.

VII. Committee Reports Cont.

B. Parks and Playgrounds - John Cifichiello

John congratulated Joseph Thompson on his little league team's record. John reported that Forestry is down to 7 workers.

Dom announced that John is 90 years old. Everyone applauded.

C. Youth Services - Linda White

Linda reported that there were extensive meetings in Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan at the Borough Presidents offices. She stated that the board's Youth Committee has not met for several months. Linda also reported that the Department of Youth and the Community Development Agency are now one. She stated that they have moved to 110 Williams Street. Linda stated that she had spoken to Mr. Osterck, the head of Youth Services on the phone, but had not met him.

D. Housing - Leslie McHenry

Leslie reported that she and John had visited Pelham Parkway and Parkside Houses. She thanked Earl Nurse of Councilman Larry Warden's office for his involvement in the projects at the housing projects.

E. Health and Social Services - Blanche Rifkin

Blanche handed out flyers on the Groundbreaking for Maternal and Newborn Care at Jacobi Medical Center on October 22nd at 1 o'clock on the 7th floor.

Blanche reported that Visions (an organization promoting the independence of people who are blind) will be holding its Fourth Annual Pamela Schneider Memorial Luncheon on November 1st at the Eastwood Manor. She stated that they are going to honor Reverend William G. Kalaidkian, Maura Mangan and Maria Uzovich for their continued work on behalf of the blind and visually impaired people of the Bronx. Anyone wishing information can call the number on the flyer.

Blanche announced that the pediatrics department at Einstein Hospital will be closed. She stated that if a child is brought into the ER at Einstein, and if it is serious the child will be stabilized and sent to Montefiore. Blanche stated that anyone wishing to protest should call Michael Elaine at Montefiore.

Blanche reported that they are working on making Bronx Psychiatric a smoke free hospital.

F. Education and Culture - Ruth Burko

Ruth stated that she had spoken to Ceasar Passudetti of the Allerton Library about the mini-library. She stated that the only way we are going to get it is if we lobby for it. Ruth said that the old board priority number for this was 4.

G. Community Development and Budget Priorities - Silvio Mazzella

1. FY'98 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities (Attached)

Discussion took place on changing the priorities to include 1 addition to #11.

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Ruth Burko - That Community Board #11 accept the priorities as amended.

Motion passed with 1 abstention by Linda White.

John reported that the highway projects are dead projects as far as the city is concerned.

H. Highways, Traffic and Transportation - Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

Rabbi Fuchs reported that he had spoken with Parks Commissioner Castro about the cut through on Stillwell Avenue. He stated that Commissioner Castro stated that he would give his permission, but that it is up to DOT.

Rabbi Fuchs stated that the Commissioner had told John to add it to Pelham Parkway at the Borough Consultations, but now we are told it is dead.

John reported that DOT has asked us to put off Seymour - Eastchester Road signage request until the summer.

Hazel reported that the bus shelters on Pelham Parkway are all gone.

I. Public Safety - Joseph Reda

Crime Statistics for September

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>%Change</u>
Robbery	28	36	Down 22.22
Burglary	73	104	Down 29.81
G.L.A.	92	130	Down 29.23
Murder	1	2	Down 50.00
Rape	2	2	SAME
	<u>Year-To-Date</u>		
Robbery	369	418	Down 11.72
Burglary	573	801	Down 28.46
G.L.A.	906	1086	Down 16.57
Murder	6	3	Up 100.00
Rape	25	19	Up 31.59
	<u>Arrests</u>		
Robbery	21	11	Up 100.00
Burglary	8	11	Down 27.27
G.L.A.	5	10	Down 50.00
Murder	4	1	Up 300.00
Rape	0	1	Down 100.00
Total Felonies	278	413	Down 32.69
Total Complaints	876	1049	Down 16.49

J. Sanitation and Environmental Protection - John Fratta

John reported that as of October 21st tickets will be issued for failure to comply with the 18 inch law.



IX. New Business

Dom thanked Calvary Hospital for their hospitality in hosting tonight's meeting. He also thanked the Knights for all the years that the board met there.

Dr. Patel stated that when Einstein came to us for the expansion of their Emergency Room we were told that Pediatrics would not closed, now we are told that it is going to close.

X. Old Business

John Cifichiello spoke about the Budget Consultation meetings. He stated that this was the first time that women were in Administration at these meetings.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,  
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 1996

PRESENT

Ruth Burko	(0)(2)	Joseph Milone	(0)(2)
Dominic Castore	(0)(4)	Hazel Miura	(1)(4)
John Cifichiello	(2)(4)	Seymour Ostroga	(0)(0)
Priscilla Crowell	(0)(5)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)(1)
Harain Figueroa	(1)(5)	Robert Potter	(1)(2)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(1)(3)	Pat Quaranta	(2)(7)
Kenneth Gelnick	(0)(5)	Joseph Reda	(1)(4)
Gerald Launer	(3)(7)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(3)(2)
David Leavitt	(1)(3)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(0)(3)
Annette Marchitello	(2)(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)(1)
Silvio Mazzella	(0)(0)	Elaine Wesibrot	(0)(6)
Leslie McHenry	(0)(3)	Linda White	(3)(1)

ABSENT

James Cerneria	(2)(0)	Dexter Hendoni	(4)(5)
Lorraine Cortez-Vasquez	(4)(8)	Frank Muccioli	(4)(13)
Anthony DelGaudio	(2)(5)	William Ricevuto	(2)(7)
Patrick Dolan	(2)(5)	Martiza Rodriguez	(4)(0)
Emilian Eisdorfer	(4)(5)	Mark Shkreli	(2)(3)
Mauro Fanelli	(2)(2)	Mordechai Twersky	(4)(9)
Rhoda Gogatz	(4)(2)	Lisa Winters	(4)(4)

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Helen Korman - Representing Councilman Michael DeMarco  
Earl Nurse - Representing Councilman Larry Warden

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John Fratta, District Manager - Community Board #11  
Harriet Lasky, Secretary - Community Board #11  
Linda Loeb - Borough President Fernando Ferrer's Office  
Xiomara Chang - Bronx Office of City Planning  
P.O. Nick Stanich - 49th Precinct Community Affairs

GUESTS

Rosemary DeLuca - New York Botanical Garden  
Linda Richter - New York Botanical Garden Bronx Green-Up

\*Numbers in parenthesis denotes absences from September 1996 including Public Hearings

Number in **BOLD** denotes absences from August 1995-June 1996 including Public Hearings