



**COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10462
(718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861**



**Dominic Castore
Chairman**

**Fernando Ferrer
Borough President**

**John A. Fratta
District Manager**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

IN THE PATIENT ACTIVITY CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM 1 OF

CALVARY HOSPITAL

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M. by Dominic Castore,
Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

a. Mildred Marrero – 1516 Paulding Avenue

Ms. Marrero stated that she was here tonight with her landlord about a possible illegal cab service at 2924 E. Tremont Avenue. She stated that the cars are parked at Paulding and Popular Avenues on weekends from 7 P.M. to 5 P.M. Ms. Marrero stated that there are 10 cars and at least 20 people gathering there making noise. She stated that she called the police. Ms. Marrero stated that the place is called Dream Cars. She said that cars are also parking on the sidewalk Ms. Marrero said that the "No Parking" sign was taken down and now cars park there. Ms. Marrero said that the streets are very dirty since Dream Streets came there.

John asked Ms. Marrero to call him with the address. He stated that Dream Cars has been hit by DEP and the Police.

b. John Cummings – Seminole Avenue Association

Mr. Cummings stated that at last months meeting he had requested speed bumps at Narragansett and Seminole Avenues as well as a Stop sign. He stated that he has a petition signed by the residents requesting speed bumps in both directions on Seminole Avenue where it meets Narragansett Avenue.

John explained that a Stop sign request was put in. He stated that speed reducers are easier to get. John said that he would submit this

tomorrow. John stated that he could not give Mr. Cummings a time frame for the speed reducers. He also stated that he was afraid that there might be a problem from Jacobi on the speed reducers. He stated that he would keep Mr. Cummings informed of what is happening.

Dom Castore said that Mr. Cummings should bring this to Senator Velella and Councilwoman Provenzano.

Rhoda suggested that he sent it to the Bronx Times and the Bronx Press Review.

c. Joseph Mazzuca – 2055 Colden Avenue

Mr. Mazzuca stated that he has been living at the same address for 25 years. He stated that it is near the Morris Park train trestle. Mr. Mazzuca stated that it is full of papers, bottles, mattresses, black bags full of garbage and dog feces. Mr. Mazzuca stated that muggings take place there. He also spoke about a lady that fell there due to the poor lighting.

John explained that Sanitation is not responsible for cleaning under the trestles. He stated that Channel 1 is doing a story on this. John stated that Sanitation goes out there when he asks them. John said that he thought that the Borough President had money for lighting. He told Mr. Mazzuca to call his office and he would check and see if that area is in the budget, or if it can be put in. Mr. Mazzuca also asked for a higher fence so that the kids cannot throw rocks.

Hazel Miura stated that the Pelham Parkway South Tenants Association is working with Assemblyman Klein to put lights in. She stated that she believed that lights were supposed to be up there.

Donald Ranshte from Assemblyman Klein's office reported that \$1,000,000 for lighting was proposed. He stated that since there was no Commissioner for DOT the job could be done. Donald stated that there is new Commissioner now, and that there is hope that it will be done before the end of the year. Donald also reported that negotiations are going on with the DA's office to get offenders to clean up as part of their community service. He suggested that Mr. Mazzuca contact Assemblyman Klein and Community Board #11. Donald thanked Captain Stewart for the arrest made across from the office.

d. Mabel Ostroga

Mrs. Ostroga stated that the streets are filthy due to little sewers and catch basins are overflowing with wastes. She stated that the catch basins stink. Mrs. Ostroga asked why people playing loud radios don't get tickets.

Dom introduced Captain Hazel Stewart of the 49th Precinct.

Captain Stewart stated that she was very happy being here. She stated that she had met of the people here tonight and thanked everyone for their overwhelming support. Captain Stewart stated that Captain Sino; her predecessor had done a great job. Captain Stewart stated that she had been the Executive Officer at the 49th Precinct and then the 45th, 41st and 43rd before come back to the 49th Precinct. Captain Stewart stated that keeping crime down and Quality of Life are some of her goals. She stated that the police need information, complaints and conditions to do their job.

Captain Stewart introduced her Executive Officer Philip Archdeacon.

Rhoda Gogatz spoke about an accident that occurred on Astor and Wallace Avenues. She stated that 2 fire trucks and an ambulance were there. The police did not get there for a while. Rhoda stated that Astor Avenue is used as a raceway. She stated that she would like attention given to Astor Avenue.

Captain Stewart reported that she has officers with radar guns, and will tell them about this area.

Hazel Miura asked when the next 49th Precinct Council meeting will be held, and will we have regular monthly meetings. She stated that Joe Reda heads these meetings.

Dorinda Castro welcomed Captain Stewart. She stated that she hoped the Captain stays. Dorinda stated that the Board has seen a few Captains come and go. Dorinda also stated that we need more regular Precinct Council meetings.

Rabbi Moshe Fuchs thanked the Captain for the coverage during the High Holy Days.

II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That the Minutes be accepted as received.

Unanimously accepted.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – DOMINIC CASTORE

Dom welcomed the Board members back and stated that he hoped they had a nice summer. Dom stated that in the packets handed out Board members would find a list of Committee assignments. Check to see that you are on a committee. Dom also told the Board members to read their calendar and make note of when their committees meet. He stated that the Board would keep records of committee attendance and remove those members who fail to attend meetings.

Dom stated that all Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs or designated persons must pick up the keys to the office prior to the committee meeting. All board members must be aware that they cannot call City agencies with complaints stating that they are a Board member. This is the job of the staff and is necessary to keep records of complaints. Board members can call as community members or call the Board office with their complaints. Board members are instructed that the Board telephones are not for personal use. Board Chairs are instructed that any reports that need to be typed must be submitted at least a few days before the Community Board meeting. All Committee Chairpersons must attend the Executive meeting and review the monthly calendar of committee meetings. Any Chair who will not be meeting or will need to change the date of their meeting must notify the District Manger.

Rabbi Fuchs asked about alternating the Board meeting sites between the north and south sides of the Parkway. Dom said that this would be done whenever possible.

Leslie thanked the members who came to her meeting last month. She asked any Chair who could not attend the Executive meeting to contact his or her Chair to attend.

IV. District Manager's Report – John A. Fratta

John asked any Board member who has an interest in an Agenda item but is not on that Committee to come to that meeting.

John reported that we are getting into the budget process. He stated that it is an important role of the Board. John stated that Board #11 had the most attendance at the Budget Consultations last year. He stated that the Budget Consultation begin at 4:00 P.M. on October 7th at Fordham University. John stated that this year, because of Joe Thompson and the Economic Development Committee we would be meeting with Economic Development rather than the Department of Aging. John stated that the Boards are only allowed to meet with 10 agencies.

John spoke about the Boards request for more personnel in many agencies and why we do not get it. He discussed the Agendas. John stated that Community Board #11 has the lowest or least amount of services for youth. John stated that the Board would hold a public hearing on the budget on October 13th. He stated that this is a mandated meeting. John also stated that the October Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21st at Calvary Hospital.

John reported that the Board is taking a strong stand on double parking around schools. He stated that there would be zero tolerance around all schools.

John reported that GrapeVine, the fruit and vegetable market on Eastchester Road was abandoned and food was left rotting inside. He stated that the Department of Health took care of the situation.

John spoke about kids hanging out at P.S. 108 and Williamsbridge Road and Neill Avenue. He stated that the police have been summoning those kids. John stated that he asked the 49th Precinct to come with a bus and take these kids to the precinct. He stated that part of the problem is that we have no services for kids 16-19.

Pat Dolan spoke about a problem at Our Lady of Solace. John told Pat to have Father Knapp call him.

V. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Treasurer's Report was in the Board member's packets. He thanked Harriet for the job she did on the Treasurer's Report.

VI. Borough President's Report – Linda Loeb

As the report was long, Linda submitted it to Harriet.

1. Grand Concourse meeting on the Vision for the Grand Concourse will be held on September 28th at 7:00 P.M. The meeting is to discuss the planned rebuilding of the Grand Concourse.

2. Ferrer and City leaders announce relief efforts for Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. A list of places and numbers are included. Jacobi is the closest site.

3. Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer invites you to a Public Hearing & Educational Forum on Managed Care on October 14th from 2-6 P.M.

4. Copy of letter to Chairman of the MTA regarding the problems with station on the Dyre Avenue line.

5. Ferrer: Disband Charter Revision Commission

6. Opportunities in the Bronx Lure Banks Back

7. Ferrer moves to Ban "Hot Sheet" Motels

VI. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson

1. Syneeda Bar & Restaurant Inc. – 1320 E. Gun Hill Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)
2. Liapis Bros. Restaurant Corp. – 2159 White Plains Road for on-premises consumption (Renewal)

Joe stated that the police had no problems with these sites . He stated that visited both sites, and that when he visited Syneeda Bar they already had their license.

3. Bella Bleu Restaurant Inc. – 2712 White plains Road for on-premises consumption (New)

Joe reported that he had looked into this site and spoken with the police. He stated that the Precinct has a problem with this location. Joe stated that Astor Avenue and White Plains Road is a problem with narcotics. Also thee is inadequate parking. Joe stated that they are asking to upgrade their license from a beer license to a full alcohol license. Joe stated that there is a noise problem as well as the fact that there was a homicide there. Joe reported that the Board had sent a letter to the SLA asking that they not issue this license. Joe reported that the Board had received a letter from the SLA stating that they would look into it.

3. Café Elissa - 2008 Williamsbridge Road

Joe reported that the Café Elissa had been issued a padlock order due to their unlicensed sidewalk café. He stated that it would take a month or so for them to be closed.

b. Report on Allerton/Pelham Parkway Patrol

Joe reported that the Allerton Patrol is on its way. He stated that Hazel Miura is a big part of it. He asked anyone living near there to attend their meetings and volunteer. Joe stated that they are being assisted by the Chester Civic Patrol and Vinny Prezioso. Joe said there are presently 30

members and they go out three days a week. Joe said that they would like to have at least 50 members by Christmas. He stated that the Patrol is composed of people of different ages, sexes and ethnic groups. Joe said that the Patrol needs people during school hours. Joe asked anyone interested in joining to call John Fratta. He stated that the Patrol meets the first Wednesday of the month. Joe stated that they have not asked the public officials for anything yet.

Rhoda asked about the Pelham Parkway North BID. Joe stated that he is involved with Ann Lindsey, but they have not met yet.

B. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Rabbi Moshe Fuchs

Vinny reported that Commissioner Patterson was invited to the last Committee meeting. He was on vacation and sent a representative. Vinny stated that they discussed the request by University Diagnostic for two-hour parking meters. Vinny stated this was approved but not installed. Vinny stated that Mr. Varzanareisky stated that he was going to put it in for a survey. Vinny said that the Committee told him that we don't want it put in a packet in which we have to take all of it or it is not done.

A Motion was made by Vinny Prezioso, Seconded by Rhoda Gogatz – that Community Board #11 send a letter to Commissioner Patterson telling him that we want the meters installed.

Unanimously approved.

Rabbi Fuchs stated that he was disappointed that Commissioner Kilkenny did not attend and did not send a representative. He stated that the meter person was unqualified. Rabbi Fuchs stated that there would be no problem changing the signs in front of Jacobi Hospital. Rabbi Fuchs stated that we invite important people to meetings and they do not attend.

Rabbi Fuchs read from the copies of letters he received from DOT.

Rabbi Fuchs reported that he received notice that the Metro Card Bus will be at several sites on October 30th.

Dom said that we should hit them at the Budget Consultations.

Leslie reported that the red light at Boston Road and Waring Avenue near the car wash is too short. She also asked about a speed bump at P.S. 96.

John said that DOT is looking into it.

C. Land Use – Kenneth Gelnick

1. BSA #156-73-BZ –Application by Albert Einstein College of Medicine for an extension of the term of a variance to use surplus parking spaces at its staff housing garage for transient parking.

Ken stated that this will help get cars off the street.

A Motion was made by Kenneth Gelnick, Seconded by Robert Potter – That Community Board send a letter to the Board of Standards and Appeals stating that we have no objection to the granting of this variance extension.

Unanimously approved.

D. Health and Social Services – Blanche Comras Rifkin

Blanche reported that October is Breast Cancer Month. She stated that free mammography would be available on the first Saturday in October at Montefiore at 3400 Bainbridge Avenue. the phone # is 888-295-5377.

Blanche reported that flu shots are available for senior citizens. Call 516-326-7767.

Blanche reported that she had attended the opening of the Einstein/Weiler Emergency Room, which opened last month.

Blanche reported that the WIC program at Westchester Square passed inspection. Pat Quaranta spoke about the back entrance.

John stated that he and Hazel would look into it, and ask the Fire department to make another inspection.

Hazel wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed Dom back

Hazel spoke about 2440 Boston Road. Hazel reported that the Department of Health would have a Health Education Life van at E. Fordham Avenue on October 30th.

Hazel reported that there is no affordable day care available in our area. She stated that feel that this is needed here. She stated that she would make a presentation to the Youth and Economic Development Committees. Hazel stated that a survey is being done to see how much of a need there is.

Dr. Patel stated that there is another trailer, which is overgrown with weeds at Jacobi. He stated that we need to find out who is using it.

Leslie stated that the Housing Committee is working on it.

Someone said to send a letter to Jacobi thanking them for removing the trailers.

E. Housing – Rev. Leslie McHenry

Leslie thanked Linda White and Dr. Patel for mentioning that there was another trailer at Jacobi. She stated that we are looking into it. Leslie spoke about the lack of police presence on Pelham Parkway. She reported that bus shelters are being destroyed. She thanked the Allerton Patrol for their help. She stated that after they leave there has been a series of problems with bottles being broken in the parks. Leslie stated that signs have been destroyed and loud music is coming from the street. She stated that the Committee would address this at the next meeting.

Leslie reported that Housing would meet next month. Leslie reported that the Committee has been working on the trailer issue for 6 months. She stated that it was through the efforts of Linda White that they were removed.

F. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Dominick DeProspero

Dom reported that people are throwing garbage at Colden and Bogart Avenues and Matthews and Brady Avenues. He also reported that there are rats at Bronxdale Avenue by Janel Towers. Dom said that the sewers need to be cleaned.

Dom reported that the Columbus Day Parade will be held on October 11th at High Noon.

G. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth stated that her report was included in the packet.

Ruth reported that P.S. 89 has two gyms and one is being used for classrooms. This means that if the other gym and cafeteria are in use the lower grades must either go outside or have no gym.

Morris Park Library

Ruth reported that the Committee had met with the library representatives and bank. She stated that the library said that they need money for staffing of at least 1/2 million per year. Ruth stated that Senator Velella was at this meeting. Ruth stated that everyone said that they will try and help. Another meeting will be held in two weeks. Ruth stated that there was a representative from Borough President Ferrer's Office present as well as a representative from Assemblyman Klein's Office and Councilwoman Provenzano's office.

John reported that the Morris Park Association is trying to get public support for this library. He stated that EAB is willing to do whatever it takes to get this accomplished for the community.

H. Parks and Recreation – John Cifichiello

John told the Board member how important it was for them to come to the budget consultation meetings. John reported that \$3,922,00 has been put in the FY99 budget for the Cargo Gorilla Forrest.

John reported that trees are being marked up every week by people putting up garage sale notices with tacks.

Rhoda reported that at the Shalom Festival people were throwing garbage all around the park because there were not enough garbage cans around the perimeter of the park. She stated that there were not enough garbage cans around during the concerts in the parks.

Blanche reported that the Band shell did not have a cover due to it being destroyed.

Hazel reported that Zimmerman Park was not being closed at night last month. She stated that it was full all weekend. Hazel said that she called the 1 800 number and no one ever came. Hazel said that Rick Garcia is not doing his job.

Pat Quaranta stated that the same problem is happening at Loretto Park where the sprinklers were left on.

I. Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that the law says that it is illegal to pass a school bus when it is stopped. She stated that this occurs between 7-8 A.M. Linda stated that the parents should send letters to the bus company asking them to inform their drivers that they need to move near the curb, not the middle of the street to take on or let out riders. She stated that this was especially dangerous with the handicapped buses. Linda stated that cars are flying through Eastchester Road to beat the light.

Linda thanked the Committee for meeting during the summer. She stated that she received a letter from the Department of Youth/Community Development about training meetings. She stated that they want the Board members to come to Manhattan for training.

Linda stated that Commissioner Osterrich will not come to the budget consultations as he feels he can be reached by other means.

Vinny stated that he would like to see an accountability of youth funds. Linda said that it is at the Board office. She stated that the majority of funding is not in our community board. Linda stated that if one child in our board is listed as participating it is listed as serving our board.

Dom stated that the Board needs to get the Council people involved.

J. Community Development and Budget Priorities – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that last year Community Board #11 was #1 at the budget consultations. We had more people from our board than every other board. Silvio stated that he would like to get recommendations from each committee for their budget needs. He also stated that he would like to see each committee represented at the consultations on October 7th.

K. Other

Dom expressed his condolences to Silvio on the death of his mother.

Dom reported that five youth were chosen to receive the Yankee award. He stated that they showed up at Yankee Stadium. Dom stated that their names were put on the screen at the Stadium.

Salary Increase for District Manager

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:50 P.M. and returned to business at 9:55 P.M.

A Motion was made by Dom Castore, Seconded by Leslie McHenry – That Community Board #11 authorize an increase of \$5,200 to the District Manager.

Unanimously passed.

Rhoda spoke about the need for money for garbage cans.

Hazel thanked John for getting the problem with the crossing guard resolved.

Dom told the Board members that the meeting is not the place to bring up problems. He stated that they should be called into the office.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko (12)

Ruth Burko,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

PRESENT

Kwasi Afrifa
Randal Allen
Ruth Burko
Joseph Carozza
Dominic Castore
Dorinda Castro
James Cenera
John Cifichiello
Priscilla Crowell
Dominick DeProspero
Patrick Dolan
Emilian Eisdorfer
Harain Figueroa
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs
Kenneth Gelnick
Rhoda Gogatz

Marilyne Jamieson
Gerald Launer
Silvio Mazzella
Rev. Leslie McHenry
Hazel Miura
Seymour Ostroga
Dr. Mahendra Patel
Robert Potter
Vincent Prezioso
Pat Quaranta
Blanche Comras Rifkin
Madeline Saltaformaggio
Mark Shkreli
Joseph Thompson
Elaine Weisbrot
Linda White

ABSENT

Maura Fanelli
James Gisondi
Dexter Hendon

David Leavitt
Joseph Milone

EXCUSED

Anthony DelGaudio
Annette Marchitello

Joseph Reda

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Marilyn Klein – Representing Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Donald Ranshte – Representing Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein
Libbi Locascio – Representing Senator Guy Vellella

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John A. Fratta, District Manager
Harriet Lasky, Secretary
Linda Loeb – Representing Borough President Fernando Ferrer
Xiomara Chang – City Planning Commission – Bronx
Captain Hazel Stewart – 49th Precinct
Captain Philip A – 49th Precinct
P.O. Nick Stanich – 49th Precinct

GUESTS

Tim Tureski – Van Nest Library