



COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
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Dominic Castore
Chairman

Adolfo Carrion,
Borough President

John A. Fratta
District Manager

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2003
AT 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 7:10 PM by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. A Tribute to Dominick DeProspero

Dom Castore reported on the death of Dominick DeProspero. He spoke about the hard work he did for the community. Dom reported that he will be missed. He asked for 2 minutes of silence in memory of Dominick. Dom reported that the Parade will go on. A committee will be set up to handle it. Several people told interesting stories about Dominick.

a. Renaming of Morris Park Avenue for Dominick DeProspero
 John Dennehy reported that the Highways Committee had a meeting and would like to name a street for Dominick DeProspero.

A Motion was made by John Dennehy, Seconded by Linda White -
 That Community Board 11 send a letter to Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano requesting that the name Dominick DeProspero Way be added to the signs on Morris Park Avenue from Haight and Tomlinson Avenues.
UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

II. Gallery Session

b. Elsa Mitchell

Ms. Mitchell spoke about the proposed skateboard park at Bronx Park East. She stated that she was against it.

Joe Thompson spoke about Parks Committee and the Parks Department looking into Skateboard Park. He invited her to the next Parks Committee meeting on December 9th at 7 PM at 1741 Colden Avenue.

c. Janice Walcott

Ms. Walcott spoke against the skateboard park and Joe invited her and anyone else in the community who wants to attend to come.

d. Gesille James – Allerton Branch Library

Ms. James thanked the Board for its ongoing support of the libraries. She also reported that the Morris Park branch is coming, but we do not have a date. Ms. James also reported that more money has been allocated through Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein for the Allerton Library. She stated that the library will be closed for 6 months instead of the 6 weeks so that renovations can be done to the Children's Room. She stated that this branch should be open by March. Ms. James spoke about the campaign whose slogan is "Take out give back". She stated that they are asking patrons to donate as little as \$17 which can buy one book and you can designate the library you want it to go to.

Ms. James spoke about upgrading your library card. She stated that it can go on your key chain and not be forgotten. Ms. James reported that the roof and ventilation have been completed at the Van Nest library, but they ran into some problems and will not be open until December.

III. Minutes

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That the Minutes be accepted as received. **UNIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

IV. Chairman's Report – Dominic Castore

Dom stated that he had some sad news to report. John took over and stated that the Board would like to express our condolences to Joe Thompson and his family as Joe's daughter gave birth to a baby girl at 27 weeks who lived long enough to be baptized and died.

Dom happily reported that Joe McManus is being honored by S.W.A.N. Anyone who wants to attend should see Joe.

V. District Manger's Report – John Fratta

John spoke about 311 and stated that he felt that it was not going to take the place of community boards. He stated that 311 can't do U.L.U.R.P.S, the budget and other things. John spoke about how Mayor Bloomberg supports community boards. He stated that he felt we should not write letters against 311 as some boards plan on doing. John reported that we still call our agency people.

John reported that there was a meeting in the office on the Pelham Parkway Project. John reported there was a meeting in the office on Monday, November 17th concerning Columbus High School with 3 Board Committees: Youth, Education and Public Safety. He stated that the report will be given by the Education Committee.

John reported that there was a shooting at Eastchester Garden where 4 people were shot. He stated that we are going to start paying special attention to that area. John stated that we are putting together a meeting with all the Community Board members who live in that area and the Chairs of the committees that should be there along with the police and religious leaders of the community and take back that block. He stated that every enforcement agency will be brought in and tickets will be given to violators of any law that is broken.

He then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

VI. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Board's Treasurer's Report and the Friends of Community Board #11 report had been distributed. He thanked Harriet for the wonderful job she did in getting this done for this meeting. Silvio stated that anyone with questions could see him or call Harriet.

VII. Borough President's Report - Chris Kirka

Chris stated that he wanted Dominick DeProspero to be remembered as the gentlemen who never needed a microphone.

Chris announced the following:

1. The Community Board Application Process will begin this month.
2. Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Jr., and Neighborhood Housing Services are sponsoring Home First Assistance Program on Thursday November 20th. For more information call 718-992-5979.
3. Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Jr., Convoy of Hope and the Bronx Clergy Task Force will be serving free Thanksgiving groceries to needy families on Saturday, November 22nd. For more information call 718-590-2650.
4. Borough President Adolfo Carrion, jr., invites community Board members to a special ceremony to acknowledge their contributions on Monday, November 24th from 6 to 8 PM at the Bronx Zoo's Dancing Crane café.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Health and Social Services – Marilyn Jamieson

Marilyn reported that a meeting was held on Monday, but unfortunately the Minutes were not done.

Sandra Unger reported that she had taken some notes. She reported that they talked about World AIDS Day on December 1st at 12 Noon at North Central Hospital. Blanche also mentioned that there would be no beds for the psychiatric area at the new Jacobi Hospital. Blanche also spoke about the food and clothing drive at the 49th Precinct. Call 718-231-9800 Ext 11 and ask for Kathy if you need a pick up, or bring it to the Board office.

B. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson

Joe reported that the Committee had not met but he had called each of them and they agreed on the following:

- a. J & Z Restaurant Corp. d/b/a Caridad El Rey Del Bistec – 2070 White Plains Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)
- b. Helenic Efforts Corp. – d/b/a Park Billiards – 2-2- White Plains Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)
- c. A & A Restaurant Inc. d/b/a Pines Two – 1634 Eastchester Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella and Dorrie Castro – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objections to the granting of these renewal licenses. **PASSED with 1 abstention by Debra Jaffee.**

- d. KJK Deli Corp. – 1226 East Gun Hill Road for off-premises consumption of beer and Wine (NEW)

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Robert Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objection to the granting of this license. **PASSED.**

- e. La Onda Café Corp. – 1980 Unionport Road for on-premises consumption (NEW)

Joe went into a lengthy report on the problems with this location an there have been several arrests and it is a heavy drug area as well as being in a residential building.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Linda White – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA denying this application based on the police arrests and the fact that it is a know drug area. **PASSED.**

C. Housing Eugene Tutora

Gene reported that the Minutes had been distributed.

D. Public Safety –Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Minutes had been distributed.

E. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth reported that the Minutes of the joint Education, Youth and Public Safety had been distributed. She reported that the Agenda consisted of the changes made at Columbus which were split sessions. Ruth stated that the Board was not aware of this at the time it was arranged. She stated that they discussed the safety of kids coming and leaving school and gangs in and around the school. Ruth reported that there were

problems at Pelham Parkway Houses, problems at P.S. 89 and P.S. 135 as well as reintroducing the school safety meeting. She stated that this was a very well attended meeting of 28 people consisting of school principals and representatives from P.S. 89. It was decided that the problem exists because there is too much over crowding at Columbus. She reported that there are 4 additional smaller high schools that are being run at Columbus, each with its own principal and smaller classes.

Ruth reported that this afternoon John, Bob Potter and she met with some of the principals to hear what they had to say. Ruth stated that the Board feels very strongly that we should have been apprised of what is going on at Columbus. She then stated that the Committee feels very strongly that we should present a proposal to Borough President Adolfo Carrion to vehemently try to get more funding for another high school in the Bronx. She stated that no construction of a high school has been done in the Bronx since the 1970's. Ruth stated that once the Committee has the proposal prepared we will bring it before the Board for a vote.

Ruth thanked Hazel for doing the Minutes.

John reported that there has been no new high school built in the Bronx since 1973. Every one of our surrounding high schools are overcrowded. He stated that when they looked at the next 5 year capital plan the Bronx is the only borough that does not have a school as part of its budget. John stated that he would be meeting with the Borough President to bring this issue to his attention.

F. Parks and Playgrounds – Joe Thompson

Joe reported that the Parks Committee met yesterday and members of the Parks Department came and we discussed Matthews/Muliner Park and Loretto Park. He stated that representatives of the Parks Department will be at our next meeting to give a presentation on Matthews/Muliner Park.

Joe reported that Loretto Park will not have a softball field as half of it is needed for the roller rink. He stated that they are talking about putting in a preteen basketball court and he explained what it entailed.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson That there be a smaller basketball court and that the open area be kept with games painted on the floor.

Before it could be seconded John Fratta reported that this Park is being renovated by Councilwoman Provenzano. He stated that during his last conversation with her office he learned that she is not in favor of a basketball area. He asked Joe to table this until next month so that we can hear from the Councilwoman and Morris Park. Joe said it was okay with him.

Questions were asked by Joe McManus as to how much the roller rink would be used. Joe said it would be for 6-8 months.

John said that Councilwoman Provenzano is building a softball field at IS 144.

A great deal of discussion took place on the roller rink and seasonal sports.

F. Highways, Traffic and Transportation – Rabbi Moshe Fuchs/John Dennehy
John reported that the Committee met with the Bronx River Alliance. He stated that they would like to increase the amount of bike paths in and around the streets of Morris Park and the Bronx.

John stated that we need to hold a public hearing on this as it is a very controversial subject.

John Dennehy asked that they come before the board in January.

Rabbi Fuchs reported the following:

1. Additional traffic control on Pierce and Lurting Avenues was denied by DOT.
2. Installation of speed bumps on Woodhull between Arnow and Allerton Avenue was approved.
3. Request for authorized parking by NYPD on 180th street between Morris Park and Van Nest Avenues was denied.
4. #2 & #5 trains Manhattan bound skipping Fun Hill Road and Allerton Avenue until Monday November 24th at 5 AM.

Joe McManus asked why there was so much committee reporting when there was suppose to be written reports to avoid this.

John stated that some issues like the Parks and #Education had controversial issues that needed to be discussed.

G. Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that the Minutes had been distributed. She also reported that funding from DYDS was discussed. Linda stated that we have no listing of the funding as yet.

H. Housing

Mary Paliotta reported that last week when we had storms and high winds an Incident occurred with a new development company in Far Rockaway Queens where a house collapsed. She stated that she believed that this was the same company that built Beechwood Houses. John said that this should be referred to the Housing Committee to look into.

IX. New Business

Irene reported on the Explorer's Dinner and invited everyone to attend. She stated that flyers were distributed. She thanked Linda, Hazel and the 49th Precinct Council for their help.

A roll call attendance was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2003

PRESENT

Joseph Bacote	(0)	Annette Marchitello	(1)
Ruth Burko	(0)	Evelyne Martinez	(0)
Junior Campbell	(0)	Silvio Mazzella	(0)
Dominic Castore	(0)	Joseph McManus	(0)
Dorinda Castro	(0)	Diane Norris	(1)(1)
Diane Cerino	(0)	Mary Paliotta	(0)
Priscilla Crowell	(2)	Robert Potter	(0)
John Dennehy	(0)	Vincent Prezioso	(0)
Pat Dolan	(1)	Pat Quaranta	(0)(1)
Rosemary Durso	(0)	Carole Ricci	(0)(1)
Harain Figueroa	(0)	Irene Rukaj	(0)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(0)	Martin Sacewicz	(1)
Kenneth Gelnick	(0)(2)	Vincent Taddeo	(0)(2)
Debra Ann Jaffee	(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Marilyne Jamieson	(1)	Sandra Unger	(0)
Gerald Launer	(1)	Elaine Weisbrot	(0)(1)
David Launer	(1)	Linda White	(0)(1)
Lilith Lozano	(0)		

ABSENT

Kenneth Agosta	(1)	Rev. Leslie McHenry	(3)
Eiron Diaz	(3)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(2)
Rev. Jay Gooding Sr.	(3)	Hector Zorilla	(2)

EXCUSED

Joseph Carfora	(0)(1)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(0)(1)
Hazel Miura	(1)(1)	Madeline Saltaformaggio	(1)(2)

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Libbi Locascio – Representing Senator Guy J. Velella
Jeff Lynch – Representing Congressman Joseph Crowley
Tom Messina – Representing Congressman Joe Crowley

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS:

Chris Kirka – Representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

GUESTS

Gesille James – The New York Public Library
Marina King – Representing Senator Diaz
Grey Kisloff

*Number in parenthesis indicate absences from September, 2003. **Numbers in Bold indicate Excused absences since September, 2003.**

Community Board #11
Housing Committee Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2003 (7-8:30pm)

I. Attendance

Present: Rev. Leslie McHenry
Joseph Bacote
David Leavitt
Mary Paliotta
Janice Walcott
Laverne Underdue

Excused: Eugene Tutore

Absent: Ronald Kunik
Vincent Taddeo
Kenneth Agosto

II. Issues

- A. Rev. McHenry discussed the different legal protections between rent-stabilized tenants and those living in a private house. She provided a copy of the "*Rent Stabilization Lease Rider for Apartment House Tenants Residing in New York City*" for rent-stabilized tenants. Whereas renters in private homes—less than 6 rental units—are regulated under the "*Warranty of Habitability*" guidelines.
- B. Joseph Bacote discussed the status of the Beachwood Manors development. There are no outstanding issues at the moment. However, home owners have noticed that the ground surrounding their property, where the sewer pipes are located, has been sinking noticeably, and continue to watch it closely.

The larger problem continues to be that the development of homes at Beachwood Manors was substandard, construction work was authorized by the city which does not meet code, and homeowners have no choice at this point except to deal with the consequences of poorly-built housing. In addition, the same company continues to build new housing development all over the Bronx. Members discussed possibly using the media to stop this senseless cycle, and possibly prevent future homeowners from facing a similar fate.

- C. Janice Walcott and Laverne Underdue discussed the status of the Coops Apartment Complex. The basic problems are that, in spite of the rental complex being designated an historic landmark, the owner has regularly failed to repair damaged systems, maintain the building infrastructure, or address tenants' safety concerns for at least the past 10 years. It was also realized that different tenant complaints (possibly grouped by individual units vs. building-wide problems, etc.) were filed with a variety of city agencies/politicians over that time period. And it's unclear whether any single agency/person has maintained control (or records) of this complaint process over the years. Members will follow-up to find out if anyone is serving this role.