



COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
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Dominic Castore
Chairman

Adolfo Carrion,
Borough President

John A. Fratta
District Manager

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY APRIL 29, 2004
AT KINGS HARBOR MULTICARE CENTER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Vincent Prezioso,
First Vice Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

a. Barbara McBride – Allerton Coops Tenants Association

Ms. McBride stated that the tenants of the Allerton Coops have not been able to use the community center at the Coops. Ms. McBride reported that they had to have the last meeting in the street because the manager took the key home with him and refused to let them use it.

John stated that he had spoken to the manager after this incident, and that the manager had gotten sick. He stated that the manager would not let the center be used when he was not there as there have been problems there. .

Barbara reported that management has only been to one meeting at which Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein was present.

b. Herbert Locks – Emmaus Bible Chapel – 1250 E. Gun Hill Road

Mr. Locke spoke about the street closing application which was submitted. He stated that this would be an outdoor community get together to discuss community and family values. Mr. Locke asked that they be allowed to run until 9:30 PM.

c. Greg Kisloff – Pelham Parkway South Neighborhood Association

Greg stated that his group was delighted to participate in the Team Up to Clean Up this weekend.

Greg asked when Brady Avenue would be repaved. John explained that a private contractor does the milling and that once that is done the City comes in and paves it. He explained that it takes 3 weeks to a month.

Greg spoke about the corner of Lydig and Matthews Avenues which is acting as a make shift garage. He stated that there is no ramp, and it is adjacent to a fire hydrant.

Greg spoke about the stairwell leading to the #5 train at the corner of Woodmansten and Paulding Avenues.

Greg thanked the Board for the action it has taken on graffiti.

d. Claire Bukzin – Judith Lynn Assisted Living

Ms. Bukzin spoke about the Judith Lynn Assisted Living Home. She stated that it is affordable housing for seniors who cannot live on their own. She asked everyone to come and visit the home. Ms. Bukzin spoke about a program that is going on in partnership with JASA on the last Tuesday of every month for caregivers of the elderly. It begins at 6 PM.

II. Minutes

A Motion was made by Debra Ann Jaffee, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That the Minutes be accepted as received. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

III. Borough President's Report – Robert Nolan

Bob reported that as Kathy Rodriguez was not able to attend tonight due to a family emergency he was filling in. Bob thanked everyone for participating in the cleanup this Saturday. He stated that he heard that 25 groups had signed up to do the clean up. Bob stated that this is the largest group event in the borough. Bob stated that Debbie Jaffee us the head person. Bob reported that all 12 boards are involved in the clean up. He stated that Borough President Adolfo Carrion would be personally visiting Board 11 to thank them for all the work they are doing.

Bob reported that Bronx Week is the 3rd week in June. He stated that the parade will only be 4 blocks on Moshula Parkway from the Botanical Garden to Van Courtlandt Park East.

Bob reported that last week the Mayor issued his final Executive budget. He stated that libraries was cut 5 ¼%. He stated that if funds are not restored by the City Council 11 out of 34 Bronx branches will have to be reduced to 4 days a week. Bob also reported that youth funds were not restored. He stated that pressure needs to be put on the Mayor by the elected officials and the boards.

IV. Chairman's Report – Vincent Prezioso, First Vice Chair

Vinny reported that Dom Castore is recovering in Florida and will be back for the May meeting.

Vinny introduced the new Board member: Cecilia Haas; Michael Carrierre; Eliezer Rodriguez, Janice Walcott; and Albert D'Angelo. He reported that Al became a grandfather of a baby boy.

Vinny congratulated Silvio Mazzella on being sworn in as President of the Morris Park Association last night.

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

John spoke about the proposed high school on Antin Place. He stated that there was a City Council hearing on Tuesday morning. He stated that Councilwoman Provenzano worked overtime in getting the Department of Education to do the right thing. John explained why we were not going to

win in asking for an elementary school. He stated that we were able to get commitments from the Department of Education that:

1. The Antin Place school would be capped at 500 students
2. The students would not be allowed out for lunch
3. Only 9th graders who were not left back would come into this school
4. Columbus High School would go back to regular sessions
5. A community advisory board would be set up for the Antin Place site with community people involved.

John reported that both he and Debbie Jaffee along with Todd from Assemblyman Klein's office testified against a high school on Antin Place because we need elementary schools. He stated that our elementary schools are all overcrowded. John stated that we need to get the kids in lower grades before they are ready for high school and into the wrong things. John reported that the Department of Education was chastised for not addressing this problem. He said that the school will open in September. John stated that we are waiting for the Chancellor to respond to our request to cap Columbus High School. John also reported that the Department of Education cannot increase the size of the school by building on the lot, going upwards or sideways.

John reported that D.O.E. is working with the Bronx Borough Command so that at dismissal time there would be a task force to supplement the 49th Precinct officers. He also reported that there will be a lot of security at the school.

Street Closing Applications

1. Application by Joseph Reda of the 1900 Block of Tenbroeck Avenue to close Tenbroeck Avenue between Rhinelander and Neill Avenues on August 7th with a Rain Date of August 8th from 11 AM to 8 PM for a Block Party.

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Kenneth Agosto – That Community Board 11 recommends approval of this street closing request. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION WITH CAUSE BY JOSEPH REDA.**

2. Application by Herbert Locke of the Emmaus Bible Chapel to close Throop Avenue between East Gun Hill Road and Burke Avenue from July 25th to August 1st with the exception of July 31st for a Gospel Revival for 7 days from 6:30 PM to 10 PM. **PASSED WITH 30 IN FAVOR AND 2 ABSTENTIONS BY JOHN DENNEHY AND JUNIOR CAMPBELL.**

3. Application by Herma Williams of the Pelham Parkway Houses Resident Council to close Waring Avenue between Bronxwood and Colden Avenues on June 27th from Noon to 8 PM for a Block Party.

4. Application by Dominick Lasorsa of the 2400 Block of Kingsland Avenue to close Kingsland Avenue between Waring and Mace Avenues on August 15th with a Rain Date of August 16th for a Rain Date.

5. Application by Rev. Nigel Cole of the Bronx Grace Church of the Nazarene to close Unionport Road between Mead Avenue and White Plains Road on June 19th with a Rain Date of June 26th for a Street Festival.

6. Application by Larry Prospect of the White Plains Road BID for a Sidewalk Sale Fair on White Plains Road between Pelham Parkway South and Brady Avenue on July 15th to 17th from 10 AM to 7 PM.

7. Application by Dwayne Williams of the 2900 Block of O'Neill Place to close O'Neill Place between Eastchester Road and Fenton Avenue on July 24th from 11 AM to 8 PM for a Block Party.

8. Application by Helen Roman of the 2400 Block of Bronxwood Avenue to close Bronxwood Avenue between Pelham Parkway South and Astor Avenue on May 28th with a Rain Date of June 4th from 10 AM to 3 PM for a Health Fair.

9. Application by Vivian Bellantese of the 1900 Block of Narragansett Avenue to close Narragansett Avenue between Rhineland and Neill Avenues on August 28th with a Rain Date of August 24th from 11 AM to 8 PM for a Block Party.

A Motion was made by Debbie Jaffee, Seconded by Joseph Reda – That Community Board 11 recommend the approval of these street closing applications. **PASSED.**

10. Application by Rev. Richard Guarnieri of St. Clare's Church to close Rhineland Avenue between Hone and Paulding Avenues on June 13th from 9 AM to 6 PM for a 75th Anniversary celebration.

A Motion was made by Rev. Leslie McHenry, Seconded by Silvio Mazzella – That Community Board 11 recommend the approval of this street closing application. **PASSED.**

John thanked Debbie Jaffee for the tremendous job she did in coordinating the clean up for Saturday. He reported that 25 groups have signed up to do cleaning.

John welcomed the new Board members and told them that they would be receiving a Committee Request form to be filled out. He stated that when Dom Castore comes back he will put them on committees. John informed the rest of the Board members that if they wished to change the committee/s they are on to let him know and it would be taken care of. John also informed the new Board members that when Dom returns there will be an orientation for the new Board members in the office.

VI. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Community Board and Friend's of Community Board 11 Treasurer's Reports had been distributed. He stated that anyone with questions could see Harriet.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson

1. Alcohol Beverage Control Licenses

a. PPS Lounge Inc. – 1600 Pelham Parkway South

Joe reported that they want to change the name of the corporation so that the property is owned by one corporation and the business is owned by another corporation. He stated that this is for liability purposes. Joe reported that they also want to alter their liquor license to include their outdoor patio. He stated that they are only open on weekends for parties.

A great deal of discussion took place on this, especially the effect the outdoor patio noise could have on the neighbors.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Marilyne Jamieson – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the SLA stating that it has no objection to the changing of the corporation name so that the property is owned by one corporation and the business is owned by another corporation. **PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION BY PRISCILLA CROWELL.**

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin and Diane Norris - That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA that we object to the altering of this liquor license to include the outdoor patio. **PASSED.**

b. Captain's Pizza – 1056 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises consumption
(RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Joseph Reda – That Community Board 11 has no objection to the granting of this license renewal. **PASSED.**

c. Rainbow Restaurant – 2197 White Plains Road for on-premises consumption
(RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board 11 has no objection to the granting of this license renewal. **PASSED WITH 2 OPPOSED BY ELAINE WEISBROT AND DEBBIE JAFFEE, AND 1 ABSTENTION BY KENNETH AGOSTO.**

d. Café Portofino II – 980 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises consumption.(NEW)

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Joseph Reda – That Community Board has no objections to the granting of this new license. **PASSED**

e. 760 Allerton Avenue Grocery Store to sell beer for off-premises consumption
(NEW)

Discussion took place on the fact that the owner has another grocery store at 717 Allerton Avenue. Joe said he would check it out. He also stated that the owner will not apply for a license until he gets the ok from us.

A Motion was made by Joseph Thompson, Seconded by Kenneth Agosto – That Community Board 11 has no objections to the granting of this new license **contingent** upon finding out if there have been any problems at the other store. **PASSED**

Vinny introduced Tom Messina of Congressman Joseph Crowley's office. Tom spoke about "Senior Wellness Day" which would be held on Friday May 7th at Aging in America from 10 AM to 2 PM. He stated that as well as free health services DMV services including non-driver ID's would be available. He stated that anyone interested in the non-driver ID should call Annette at 931-1400.

Vinny introduced Marina King of Senator Ruben Diaz's office. Marina announced that the Meals on Wheels Program is only allowing \$5 to be spent on each meal. She stated that the meals will not be fresh food, but rather frozen. Marina stated that they are not really saving money.

Marina reported that there will be a Housing Forum on June 5th at Stevenson High School. She stated that tenants and landlords can learn about their rights.

B. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

Blanche reported that the Minutes had been submitted. She also reported that flyers were on the table on HIV, the Judith Lynn Home and the Blood Drive on May 10th and 21st.

C. Public Safety – Joseph Reda

Joe reported that the Compstats had been distributed. He also reported that there have been problems at M.S. 144, P.S. 83 and M.S. 135. Joe reported that several girls were arrested.

D. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Debra Ann Jaffee

Debbie reported that the Minutes had been submitted. She stated that the Board office would be open on Saturday from 8 – 11 AM for registered groups to pick up supplies, and they are to be returned between 4 and 6 PM.

Vinny introduced Walter Nelson from Councilwoman Provenzano's office.

E. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth reported that Bob Potter was getting off a bus last week and was accosted by 3 youths who hit him with Yale locks. He required 12 stitches to his face. She stated that no one came to his help.

F. Land Use – Joseph McManus

1. Zoning Text Amendment for Community Facilities – N040202ZRY

Jose Lopez gave a background on this Amendment.

A great deal of discussion took place on this Amendment.

A Motion was made by Joseph McManus, Seconded by Ken Agosto – That Community Board 11 send a letter to City Planning that we object to medical facilities coming into our neighborhood as right of way, and that Houses of Worship parking be based on persons rated capacity. **PASSED**

G. Parks and Playgrounds – Dr. Mahendra Patel

Dr. Patel reported that the Minutes had been distributed.

A Motion was made by Dr. Mahendra Patel, Seconded by Kenneth Agosto – That the Board send a letter to the Parks Department to see if we can get the Charles M. Lee triangle into the Green Streets Program. **PASSED**

A Motion was made by Dr. Mahendra Patel, Seconded by Joseph Reda – That a letter be sent to the Parks Department on the need to improve 5 Corners Playground. **PASSED**

John said that he was looking to have a major rehabilitation done.

H. Youth – John A. Fratta

John reported that the Youth Minutes had been submitted.

A Motion was made by Linda White, Seconded by John Dennehy – That Community Board 11 send a letter to Jeanne Mulgrave, Commissioner of DYCS, requesting that the Community Boards and the Youth Chairs be kept in the RFP process, whereas, the Community Boards and their Chairs are the representatives of their communities and as such, know what the needs and demographics of their communities are. These communities include the school regions and schools assigned to them. **PASSED**

I. Other Business

Discussion took place on a request from Develop-Don't Destroy (Brooklyn) to endorse their resolution concerning plans to build a sports arena and 17 housing and commercial high-rises in an area which 1/2 of is occupied by private homes, businesses and property not owned by the developer.

A Motion was made by Joseph Reda, Seconded by John Dennehy – That this item be tabled and brought before the Executive Committee. **PASSED.**

VIII. New Business

Silvio reported that the Morris Park Community Association is having a dance on Friday, April 30th.

Vinny reported that Borough President Adolfo Carrion will be at the Northeast Bronx Association's May 18th meeting at Kings Harbor Nursing Home.

John reported that Mexican Heritage is being held on Tuesday May 4th at the Santa Fe Grill. You must RSVP. John reported that Irene Rukaj is being honored by the Borough President.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting ended at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Burko". To the right of the signature is a small circle containing the initials "HL".

Ruth Burko,
Secretary

RB/hl