



**COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10462
(718) 892-6262 FAX (718) 892-1861
E-Mail: CommBd11BX @AOL.COM**



**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, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004
AT CALVARY HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Dom Castore, Chairman.

I. Gallery Session

A. Resa Dimino – Bronx River Alliance

Ms. Dimino announced that she was here tonight to talk about the Bronx River Golden Ball Festival on Saturday, October 9th with a rain date of October 16th. Ms. Dimino announced that you can take part in the cleanups along the river from 10 AM to 1 PM. For more information call 718-430-4665.

B. Cesar M. Negrón – Pelham Parkway South Neighborhood Association Anti-Graffiti Committee

Mr. Negrón stated that they are a committee of seven members as of July 1st. He stated that they are working in the community to get rid of graffiti which is increasing. Mr. Negrón stated that we need to get the storekeepers and landlords to clean up the graffiti on their properties. He also stated that the police need to make arrests. Mr. Negrón asked everyone to please support any anti-graffiti agency.

II. Minutes

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

III. Chairman’s Report – Dominic Castore

Dom reminded the Board members to check their Board calendar at the beginning of each week to see if they have a meeting to attend. He also reminded the Chairs and Co-Chairs to make arrangements to pick up the keys and not keep people waiting outside of the office. He stated that sometimes committee members have been waiting outside in inclement weather.

Dom introduced Candy Attanasio who is a patient at Calvary. Dom stated that Candy is a very hard worker for the community.

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

John reported that school is open now. He stated that the Board is taking a strong stand on double parking around schools. He reported that letters were sent to every school to distribute to the parents about not double parking their cars. John stated that we gave the schools a grace period which ends as of Monday. Anybody double parking by a school, whether they are sitting in the car or not will be getting a ticket. John stated that if this does not work we will have the cars towed. He also stated that DOT and NYPD Enforcement are dealing with the problem, and it need be we will ask the 49th Precinct to help us.

John reported that the Budget Consultations will be held on Wednesday, October 13th. He stated that Community Board #11 is the one community board that shows up with the most members to this consultation. John also stated that out of all the things that the board does, this is the most important one because it gives us and the community a chance to have a say in the budget.

John reported that what the city is trying to do, and we are fighting it is to consolidate the consultations. He stated that instead of having individual consultations where we meet with each agency by community board, the city is trying to get all the community boards in the Bronx to meet together with the agencies. John reported that the board sent a letter to OMB objecting to this, but we have gotten no response. John stated that we will continue to fight, but unfortunately the other community boards seem to like it. .

Marilyne Jamieson asked if we could file a suit against the city if they are violating our rights under the Charter. John explained that we could file a suit, but for now we are working on a meeting with all the Chairs and District Managers in the Bronx on this issue.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Board budget for last year was \$175,575. He stated that there were 2 increases through DC37. The first was as of 7/1/03 for 3% and the second is as of 7/1/04 for 2%. He stated that the city gave the boards money to cover the 3% increase, but the second increase must be self funded. Silvio stated that our new budget is \$180,537. He stated that we need \$183,595.40. This is a deficit of \$3,380.40.

Silvio reported that the Friends of Community Board #11 Treasurer's Report is not finished but will be available at the next meeting.

V. Borough President's Report – Jose Candelario

Jose reported that Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr. hopes everyone had a great vacation and welcomes everyone back.

1. Bronx Tour 2004 will be held on Sunday October 24th. Call 718-590-BRONX for information.
2. On September 30th there will be a September 11th memorial "Never to Be Forgotten" installation ceremony and plaque honoring the Bronx victims of 911. It will be held at the Bronx Courthouse at 851 Grand Concourse from 4:30-6:30 PM.
3. On Sunday, October 3rd there will be a "Cure Diabetes Walk at Van Courtland Park. He stated that it begins at 9 AM and the walk will start at 10 AM.

Dom welcomed P.O. Victor DiPierro back.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development – Joe Thompson

Joe thanked everyone on his committee for the job they did while he was preoccupied.

1. Pine Tavern – 1913 Bronxdale Avenue for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

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

2. 600 Van Nest Deli. Corp. – 600 Van Nest Avenue for a wine/beer license for on-premises consumption (NEW)

Joe stated that this is not built, and we need to find out if it is for on or off premises consumption.

3. Casa Milano Ltd. d/b/a Caffè Porofino – 2008 Williamsbridge Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

4. 674 Allerton Avenue Restaurant Corp. – 679 Allerton Avenue for on-premises beer/wine consumption (RENEWAL)

5. La Casa Del Caffè Ltd - 1036 Morris Park Avenue for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Linda White – That Community Board #11 has no objection to the granting of these new and renewal licenses. **PASSED.**

6. Whispers Lounge Inc. – 1246 Gun Hill Road for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

Joe reported that there had been problems with this location. Noise outside and complaints of people smoking pot outside. He stated that the police are against their getting a renewal license.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Linda White – That this license be denied. **PASSED.**

Presentation of Plaques by Irene Rukaj

Irene read a statement about the dedication of the 49th Precinct officers, Youth Officers, John Fratta, District Manager and Captain Martinez to the youth of our community. She presented plaques to Detective Nick Stanich, John Fratta, Police Office McDonald, Police Office Joe Turner and Police Office Perez.

B. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

1. Proposed UCP Group Home at 2749 Paulding Avenue

Blanche stated that the Committee Minutes had been distributed. At this point John took over.

John reported that in June we had a public hearing on a proposed group home at 2749 Paulding Avenue for UCP for 3 individuals. He stated that at the public hearing the community came out in droves, very angry that this new group home was coming into the community. John stated that they people were not really angry about the new home of UCP, but a group home called Pibley which is located in the same house as another UCP home at 2741 Paulding Avenue. John reported that we did not know they even existed. He stated that they never came before our board. John reported that he tried to get in touch with Pibley. He stated that they refused to speak with him. John reported that the landlord of the home where Pibley is located is the same landlord for 2749 Paulding Avenue, and he has sent us a letter that when Pibley's lease is up this year he will not renew it. John spoke about UCP's good track record. He reported that he had 2 meetings with the people who came to the public hearing. John stated that due to the death in the family of a representative of UCP there was no one to represent UCP. He stated that he held another meeting 2 weeks ago with the same people to sit down with UCP. John reported that he notified UCP of the

problems there and they corrected all but one problem. He stated that the only problem they have which we are working on is when the ambulettes come to pick up the patients they block the homeowner's driveway. John stated that we have asked DOT to give them ambulette parking in front of the home.

John reported that at the second meeting with UCP only one person showed up. He stated that this was the next door neighbor. John stated that we discussed the issue of the parking and she was satisfied with the way it was being handled. He recommended that the board approve it due to the ongoing dialogue with the community. John also reported that the developer has a relative who will be living in this new home.

A Motion was made by Blanche Rifkin, Seconded by Joe Thompson – That Community Board #11 approve of this group home. **PASSED.**

Blanche reported that the Meals on Wheels Program is going ahead with the frozen meals. She stated that a great deal of people were against this, including the Borough President. She stated that it is not only the fact that these meals are frozen rather than fresh, but that they will not be delivered every day. They will be delivered 2 times a week. Blanche stated that for many of the seniors this is their only social contact. She stated that the delivery people get a chance to see if there are any problems in the home that need to be addressed. Blanche asked everyone to write to the Department of Aging voicing your opposition of the delivery of frozen meals.

Blanche reported that the Shalom Pelham Parkway Festival will be held on Sunday, October 3rd at Bronx Park East by Comras Mall.

C. Housing – Rev. Leslie McHenry

Rev. McHenry reported that the Committee met on September 20th. She stated that there were no minutes. Rev. McHenry reported that on October 4th a conclave from HPD will attend the Committee meeting to give a 30 minute presentation on affordable housing. She stated that there is very few affordable housing in the Bronx. Rev. McHenry stated that we have to address the problem of SRO's and Section 8 only housing.

Eugene Tutora reported that the response from 311 on building complaints has been nil. He reported that in one instance the builder on Westervelt Avenue put in a foundation before getting a permit.

John reported that we have been having a major problem with buildings since Rick Chandler left. He stated that this is the first time since he became District Manger that he went over a borough commissioner's head to the commissioner downtown. John spoke about a problem at 650 Pelham Parkway which is an illegal building. He stated that this was a commercial building being built in a residential area, and nothing was done about it. John stated that the building is up now and is occupied by not-for-profit and commercial establishments. John reported that he filed a complaint to have the zoning law enforced. Rev. McHenry asked for an update on three houses on Williamsbridge Road where the builder would only rent to Section 8 people. John said that there is nothing we could do about this. He stated that this would not come under buildings, but rather under Human Rights. John reported that he filed the complaint with the Human Rights Commission and they are investigating it.

Hazel reported that they are also having problems with the buildings department.

D. Public Safety – Joseph Reda

Joe reported that there was no meeting this month. He reported that on Saturday, September 25th at 10 AM on Pelham Parkway North and Eastchester Road the Lieutenant Thomas Clesse Memorial Run will take place. Joe reported that the monies will go for the benefit of police officer's widows and orphans. He stated that the fee is \$20 per person and there will be prizes and dinner.

E. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Evelyn Martinez

Evelyn reported that the Committee met on September 7th and discussed DEP new code enforcement laws in residential areas. She stated that people will be getting tickets for unclean streets because they are not at home to take care of them.

Lilly Lozano recommended that a letter strongly opposing this new law be sent to sanitation.

John reported that this is on the Agenda that we sent to Sanitation for the Borough Consultations. He stated that the new routing system for private homes states that the street needs to be cleaned between 8-9AM and 12-1PM.

A Motion was made by Evelyn Martinez, Seconded by Linda White – That Community Board #11 send a letter to the Department of Sanitation strongly opposing the new routing laws for private homes. **PASSED.**

F. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Ruth reported that the Minutes had been distributed. She also reported that the meeting was poorly attended. Ruth stated that there will be no meeting October.

G. Youth – Linda White

Linda reported that no one attended her meeting. She reported that she is trying to get grants for the youth, but she needs help. Linda asked the members to please attend the meetings. Linda reported that there will be no meeting in October. She also asked anyone interested to join her committee.

Linda reported that the Bronx Walk for Breast Cancer Making Strives in the Bronx will be held on October 17th. She stated that they have a team called Bronx Cares which is made up of officers from the 49th Precinct, firefighters and community residents. Linda stated that registration will begin at 9 AM at Orchard Beach and the walk will start at 10AM.

VII. New Business

Al D'Angelo reported that the Bronx Columbus Day Parade will be held on Sunday, October 10th. He stated that Dexter Hendon is heading the parade and the parade is in Dom DeProsopo's honor. There will be a mass at St. Dominic's Church at 9:30 AM followed by a breakfast which is being sponsored by Assemblyman Stephen Kaufman, Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano and Assemblyman Jeffrey Klein.

John reported that the community board is going to have a carnival from October 7th to the 17th at Trojan Field in Bronx Park East.

Al reported that there will be a dinner dance for the parade on October 8th at Maestro's. He stated that it is \$75 per person.

Bob Potter reported that about a year and a 1/2 ago there was a problem with commercial vehicles parking on Yates Avenue and Gun Hill Road. He stated that the Board bought boots for the precinct to use. He stated that he is still seeing commercial vehicles parked there. John told Bob that he should call him on his cell phone when he sees these vehicles and he will call the precinct.

Junior Campbell reported on a problem with a house at 3216 Yates Avenues that has 6 cars parked there. John said that the man was arrested again, but he gets out. He also stated that Conditions has it listed as a priority condition. John told Junior to call him whenever he sees the man operating. He stated that he does not believe that he is the owner of the house and he is trying to contact the owner. John told Junior that he gave this to buildings, health and fire. He stated that buildings and health could not do anything. The only reason he was arrested is because he was using an acetylene torch.

Silvio reminded the Board members that the Borough Consultations will be held on October 13th at Fordham Prep at 4 PM.

Joe Thompson reported that the 49th Precinct Council will meet at Calvary Hospital on Tuesday, September 28th at 7 PM.

Cecilia Haas spoke about the scansions at Williamsbridge Road. John Dennehy stated that they will remain because DOT is trying to maneuver the traffic so it flows more smoothly. He stated that with the cones the cars seem to intermingle at that intersection.

John reported that soon there will be 2 right turn lanes created at that intersection. He also stated that the far left lane will be for going straight ahead.

Cecilia also announced that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new AECOM Science Building where Van Etten is on October 13th.

Gene reported that everyone should congratulate Joe Thomson on a very well run job running for Assemblyman.

Joe reported on the complaint received from Oscar Ruiz of water leaking from the ceiling of the train station and Pelham Parkway and White Plains Road. He stated that it is still leaking, and they are painting the ceiling. John said that he spoke to Jackie Carter and she said she would take care of it immediately.

Rabbi Fuchs spoke about his disappointment in the fact that the Lieutenant Clesse Memorial Run being held on Saturday, September 25th as it is Yon Kippur.

Discussion took place on that fact that this was supposed to happen the week before and it rained. John and Dom said that they would make the police aware of this so it does not happen again.

John reported that the October Board meeting will be held on October 14th due to the fact that the budget is due and the office needs time to prepare it. He stated that the meeting would be held at Maestro's.

A Motion was made by Vincent Prezioso, Seconded by John Dennehy – That the meeting be adjourned. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko,
Secretary

RB/hl

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

PRESENT

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| Joseph Bacote | (0) | Rev. Leslie McHenry | (0) |
| Ruth Burko | (0) | Hazel Miura | (0) |
| Junior Campbell | (0) | Diane Norris | (0) |
| Joseph Carfora | (0) | Mary Paliotta | (0) |
| Michael Carriere | (0) | Dr. Mahendra Patel | (0) |
| Dominic Castore | (0) | Robert Potter | (0) |
| Dorinda Castro | (0) | Vincent Prezioso | (0) |
| Diane Cerino | (0) | Pat Quaranta | (0) |
| Albert D'Angelo | (0) | Joseph Reda | (0) |
| John Dennehy | (0) | Blanche Rifkin | (0) |
| Pat Dolan | (0) | Irene Rukaj | (0) |
| Harain Figueroa | (0) | Martin Sacewicz | (0) |
| Cecilia Haas | (0) | Vincent Taddeo | (0) |
| Marilyne Jamieson | (0) | Joseph Thompson | (0) |
| David Leavitt | (0) | Eugene Tutora | (0) |
| Annette Marchitello | (0) | Sandra Unger | (0) |
| Evelyne Martinez | (0) | Elaine Weisbrot | (0) |
| Silvio Mazzella | (0) | Linda White | (0) |

ABSENT

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Kenneth Agosto | (1) | Lilith Lozano | (1) |
| Rosemary Durso | (1) | Joseph McManus | (1) |
| Rabbi Moshe Fuchs | (1) | Eliezer Rodriguez | (1) |
| Kenneth Gelnick | (1) | Madeline Saltaformaggio | (1) |
| DebraAnn Jaffee | (1) | Janice Walcott | (1) |

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Jonathan Conte - Representing Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Libbi Locascio - Representing the 34th Senatorial District

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS:

John Fratta, District Manager – Community Board #11

Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board #11

Margaret Guglielmo – Office Aide– Community Board #11

Jose Candelario - Representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

Denise Gonzalez

GUESTS

Helene Samberg – Van Nest Branch Library

Ron Kunik – Morris Park LDC

Tom Viahos – Sigma Co.

Thomas Mantziuleas – Sigma Co.

Mike Goldberg – Sigman Co.

P.O. Frank Shelton – 49th Precinct

P.O. Victor DiPierro – 49th Precinct