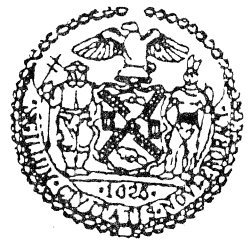




**COMMUNITY BOARD #11, BRONX
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COMMUNITY BOARD WEBSITE

www.bronxmall.com/commboards/cd11.html

**Dominic Castore
Chairman**

**Adolfo Carrion, Jr.
Borough President**

**John A. Fratta
District Manager**

COMMITTEES

- Community Development & Budget priorities
- Economic Development
- Education & Culture
- Health & Social Services
- Highways, Traffic & Transportation
- Housing
- Information & Technology
- Land Use
- Parks & Playgrounds
- Public Safety
- Sanitation & Environmental Protection
- Youth

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17,
2005 AT CALVARY HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order by Dominic Castore, Chairman.

I. Guest Speaker: Councilman Elect James Vacca

Mr. Vacca thanked the Board for having him speak. He told us of his vision for his office and how he will be a “hands-on” Councilmember. He thanked all his supporters and hoped that those that didn’t not vote for support him would find that he is a hard worker and will do so in the future.

James Vacca asked the community board to be his eyes and ears for him to let him know what is happening in the district.

II. Minutes

Debra Jaffee moved, seconded by Blanche Rifkin that the minutes for the October 20, 2005. **PASSED**

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

John Fratta informed the Board that the motel being planned for Pelham Parkway South and Stillwell Avenue is now dead. He met with the developer Mr. Mukesh Patel, the Borough President’s Office and the Department of City Planning and the owner is now going to build condos on the site. He could not give us specifics yet as to how many units will be built because after our meeting his architect will begin the drawings on the new building. All this is pending the rezoning of the site to R6, which City Planning said is in the works. Joe McManus questioned what the difference is between the 100 unit housing problem and this one regarding the parking problem? A discussion took place on the parking problem in the area and John informed the board that there will be underground parking for this development.

John Fratta gave a report of a meeting he had in his office on 11/15/2005 with Sol Arker, developer of the 100 unit low income housing, Silvio Mazella, Al D’Angelo, Danny Cestaro, Councilman Elect James Vacca and Taeyn Duffy from Senator Klein’s Office. John said that the meeting was productive but we still have many issues unresolved.

John reported that Mr. Arker has said that the community board would be able to get people to rent all the studios and one bedrooms.

Silvio reported that Mr. Arker also agreed that if we have seniors that have ‘live-in’ aids they would qualify for the two bed-room apartments.

John Fratta reported that he met with Laura Rodriguez, Region 2 Superintendent and discussed the Mercy High School Advisory Board. John stated that the meeting was very productive. John reported that the advisory board would consist of the three school principals, the three PTA Presidents, the three Student Council Presidents, the Community Board representative, a community representative and Region 2 reps. They will meet quarterly unless a there is a need for more meetings. The first meeting will be held on November 29, 2005 at Mercy High School. Sandra Unger mentioned that the advisory board was supposed to meet monthly. John said that there really have not been any problems with the school or issues to be resolved. John also discussed the fact the Sports Professionals High School needs a new space by September 2006. We still don't know if a site is available yet. I also spoke to the School Construction Authority (SCA) and they will get back to me. I will be setting up a meeting with them.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazella

Silvio announced that the treasurer's report was distributed and asked if there were any questions speak to Harriet or him.

V. Borough President's Report – Jose Candelario

Jose Candelario expressed the Borough President's warmest Thanksgiving greeting to everyone. The Borough President thanked everyone for the support that he received on his re-election. He received 85% of the vote. He also appreciates the work of the community board on behalf of their communities. He mentioned that they make the communities prosper in the Bronx. The Borough President is also grateful to the members of the community board that participated in the Katrina Relief Effort.

The Borough President with Queens Councilman John Liu scrutinized the MTA's proposal to spend their recently discovered budget surplus on a holiday weekend discount, rather than applying the surplus towards improving services and maintaining MTA infrastructure.

Borough President Carrion hosted the first People with disabilities hiring event, which took place on October 28, 2005 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Borough President Carrion will host flu shots at Bronx County Court House on November 18, 2005.

Through the efforts of Borough President Carrion and the Bronx Tourism Council the 2006 Zagat's Restaurant Guide featured twice the amount of Bronx Restaurants.

Jose Candelario announced that they are now accepting applications for the Community Board. Applications are available at the Borough President's office 851 Grand Concourse or you can get them online at www.bronxboropres.nyc.gov.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Economic Development – Joseph Thompson

1. Alcohol and Beverage Control Licenses

a) Whisper Inn Lounge Inc. -1246 East Gun Hill Road

Application for a Transfer of on-premises consumption

Harain Figueroa reported that he visited Whisper's Lounge and that the place is clean and well run. It has a small kitchen with 5 to 7 tables for patrons and 18 bar stools. The attorney assured Harain that this establishment was going to be a complete change from what they have had there originally. Harain Figueroa moved that we have no objection to this application. However, there was no second to the motion. Joe Thompson mentioned that he spoke to PO Victor DiPierro and he had no objection to the new owners. John Fratta asked if we know for sure that these new owners have no ties to the previous owners and have we seen the ownership papers. John explained that we have seen this time and time again that an establishment that has had problems just changes the owners on paper. Jose Candelario mentioned that at other boards when they had a situation like this they have asked the SLA for an extension of time to further evaluate the application. Harain then moved, seconded by Debra Jaffee that we ask for an extension of time from the SLA for this application. PASSED

b) Castuck Café Inc. d/b/a Gleason's – 2040 Eastchester Road

Application for on-premises consumption (RENEWAL)

Silvio Mazella reported that he examined this application and the 49th Police Precinct and the community had no problems with this establishment.

c) Caridad Restaurant Corp – 2070 White Plains Road

Application for on premises consumption (RENEWAL)

Silvio Mazella reported that he examined this application and the 49th Police Precinct and the community had no problems with this establishment. Silvio moved, seconded by Debra Jaffee that we have no objection to the issuing of these two applications. PASSED

2) Taxi and Limousine Licenses

a) Mo Super Cars – 1382 East Gun Hill Road

Joseph Thompson reported that we have a TLC License pending for this applicant. The owners were present at our meeting and he addressed the board. Mr. Abdulla Ali spoke to the board and explained that he spoke to the neighbor next door to the lot on DeWitt Place where he will be parking the vehicles. He reported that the neighbor has no objections to the use of the lot. He also assured us that there will be no repairs or cleaning of vehicles while on that lot. Mr. Ali also assured the board that the drivers will only park their cars there and not remain in the cars waiting for a call to come in. Joseph Thompson moved, seconded by Eliezer Rodriguez that contingent upon us reaching out to Mr. Boyd that we have no objection to the issuing of this license. Motion passed with 5 opposed (Debra Jaffee, Marilyn Jamieson, Diane Norris, Irene Rukaj and John Dennehy).

B. Education and Culture – Ruth Burko

Diane Norris reported that the minutes of their meeting were distributed and asked if there were any questions.

C. Land Use – Joseph McManus

Joe reported that there was no meeting this month.

D. Housing – Rev. McHenry

Gene reported that he spoke to Rev. McHenry and that they are going to have a meeting on December 12, 2005 and urged everyone that has a housing issue to attend. John reported that HPD will be coming to the meeting.

D. Health and Social Services – Blanche Rifkin

Blanche reported that the minutes were presented. She mentioned that there was a proposal submitted by the Post Graduate Center for Mental health. They proposed to build permanent housing for 63 studio apartments with kitchenettes, no parking required because the residents don't have cars at 2330 Bronx Park East. All residents will have leases and 40% of the residents will come from Community Board 11. This is being funded by HPD. This organization was founded since 1946. The committee was impressed with the presentation and is in support of the application. Blanche Rifkin moved, seconded by Sandra Unger to send a letter of support for this proposal. PASSED

E. Public Safety – Vincent Prezioso

The minutes were distributed and Vinny wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

F. Sanitation and Environmental Protection – Michael Carriere

The minutes were submitted Michael thanked the committee for attending the meeting. Michael did raise one issue 3216 Yates Avenue that has garbage and old vehicles in front of his house. Michael also asked John to have Sanitation look into the clean-up of leaves on Pelham Parkway north and south.

Bob Potter raised the problem of collection of garbage on his block after a holiday on Mondays. John explained to him that he spoke to Sanitation and they said that they alternate routes that miss a collection after a holiday, noting that most holidays fall on Mondays now. They also said no area should miss more than four holidays.

G. Technology and Communication – Mary Paliotta

Mary reminded everyone that their next meeting is December 1, 2005 at 7:30 PM. They are trying to establish a regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Mary asked if anyone has any ideas on the website or items the committee should be addressing let her know. Mary reported that we are the only Community Board in the City that has a technology committee.

H. Parks and Recreation – Joseph Cafora

The minutes were submitted. Joe said that he has the pamphlets on sidewalk repairs where the damage was caused by tree roots. Joe requested that we get Joel Rivera to the next committee meeting. The committee received a complaint from the Coops residents regarding the Skate Park. They would rather have an alternate use for that park.

They said a petition would be forth coming. Joseph Cafora moved, seconded by Sandra Unger to revisit the plans for Bronx Park

Joseph Thompson remembered that someone did come in from the coops and they did speak about other ideas for the park. What we did at that time was to incorporate what their ideas were with our plans. Our committee got petitions from people in the community supporting the skate park. The Committee also asked the individuals that were opposed to get petitions before we would revisit this. No petitions were ever submitted by those opposed to the skate park.

Lillian Lozano explained how she canvassed the community and has over 1000 signatures supporting the plans for the park. Joe Cafora said that he and his committee were not privy to that information and it was not forwarded to him when he was made chair. John Fratta reminded everyone that all documents pertaining to committee meetings should be left at the board offices and not in the possession of individual board members. Joe Cafora moved, seconded by Sandra Unger to table the motion. PASSED

I. Highways and Transportation – John Dennehy

The minutes were not distributed at the time of the meeting. Joseph Thompson raised an issue with a dangerous situation at White Plains Road and Boston Road. Joe said they still have the problem with cars jumping the sidewalk. John Fratta explained that we have many devices at that location to inform the drivers that they have to go to the left or the right and that there is a sidewalk coming up. Joe feels that we are still having accidents at this location and we have to find something else that we can do John will speak to Commissioner Palmieri again to see if anything else can be done at this location.

Rabbi Fuchs asked again if we can get traffic agents to direct traffic at the intersection of Pelham Parkway and Boston Road. John explained that we have requested agents in the past and were told that they don't come up to the Bronx. Rabbi Fuchs asked the Borough President's Office to use his influence with DOT to get these agents at this location for the rush hours.

J. Youth – Linda White

There was no youth meeting last month and Linda asked her Youth Committee to see her after the meeting.

John Fratta once again spoke to the Board about changing committee meetings at the last minute. John said it is not right especially if we have no way of notifying the public of the change. This is more of a problem now that committees are meeting outside the office.

K. New Business

Silvio Mazella announced the 49th Precinct's breakfast this Friday at Maestro's. Silvio also mentioned that the Office of Emergency Management, they are starting another class on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) which will be held at Morris Park Community Association.

Linda raised the issue of individuals that are going through the garbage of residents to find social security numbers and other information. Please look out for these individuals.

Silvio announced that the 49th Pct. is no longer collecting clothes due to security concerns.

David Leavitt talked about the deliveries to Rite Aid on Morris Park Avenue and Bronxdale Avenue. The drivers are parking on the sidewalk to make these deliveries.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Burko, Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005

PRESENT

Joseph Bacote	(0)	Joseph McManus	(1)
Junior Campbell	(2)	Silvio Mazzella	(1)
Joseph Carfora	(0)	Diane Norris	(0)
Michael Carriere	(2)	Mary Paliotta	(0)
Diane Cerino	(0)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(0)
Dominic Castore	(0)	Robert Potter	(0)
John Dennehy	(1)	Vincent Prezioso	(0)
Pat Dolan	(2)	Pat Quaranta	(2)
Rosemary Durso	(1)	Blanche Comras Rifkin	(0)
Harain Figueroa	(1)	Eliezer Rodriguez	(1)
Rabbi Fuchs	(3)	Joanne Rubino	(0)
Kenneth Gelnick	(2)	Irene Rukaj	(0)
DebraAnn Jaffee	(2)	Martin Sacewicz	(0)
Marilyne Jamieson	(0)	Vincent Taddeo	(0)
David Leavitt	(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Lilith Lozano	(3)	Eugene Tutora	(1)
		Sandra Unger	(0)
		Janice Walcott	(2)
		Linda White	(0)

ABSENT

Kenneth Agosto	(2)	Rev. Leslie McHenry	(4)
Ruth Burko	(2)	Hazel Miura	(5)
Alfred D'Angelo	(1)	Joseph Reda	(3)
Cecilia Haas	(1)	Elaine Weisbrot	(1)
Annette Marchitello	(1)		

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Marina King – Representing Senator Ruben Diaz
Carole Ricci – Representing Senator Jeffrey Klein
James Vacca Councilman Elect
Donna Drayton – Representing Senator Ruth Hassell Thompson

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John A. Fratta, District Manager – Community Board #11
Susan Nolan – Community Coordinator, Community Board #11
Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board #11
Jose Candelario – Representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.

GUESTS

Gesille James – New York Public Library
Ihan Isaacs – Neighborhood Youth and Family Services
Keith McHenry