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Dominic Castore
Chairman

Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Borough President

John A. Fratta
District Manager

COMMITTEES

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2010
IN LUBIN HALL

Bronx Park
 East/Ollinville

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Vincent Prezioso, First Vice Chair.

Community
 Development and Budget
 Priorities

I. Elected Officials

Education/Youth

a. Charesse Suarez – Representing Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera
 Charesse reported that Assemblywoman Rivera is working on passing the budget. She is also working on preserving programs in the community including a Woman’s Wellness program. Charesse also reported that Assemblywoman Rivera is on Face Book.

Indian
 Village/Westchester Hgts

b. Mike Frittola – Representing Senator Jeffrey Klein
 Mike reported that Senator Klein is having a Bunny Breakfast on April 11th. Call the office for details. Mike reported that Senator Klein has negotiated legislation so that the community can be notified when sex offenders move into the area. He stated that you just have to put in your address and you will be notified when a sex offender moves into or lives in your area. It is called Care Watchers Program. He also reported that Senator Klein has started a program whereby if someone is caught doing graffiti a letter is put in their file so that if it happens again the judge is aware of this.

Land Use

Morris Park/Van Nest/
 Pelham Parkway

Pelham Gardens

II. Gallery Session

a. Helen Brandt

Ms. Brandt reported that Lydig Avenue between Bogart and Muliner Avenues is in terrible condition and needs to be repaved.

John reported that each year the community boards get x amount of yards to be resurfaced. He stated that the streets are rated and the streets with the highest rating get paved first. John stated that he would look into this.

b. Brian Adams

Mr. Adams asked about the possibility of the Community Board meeting at St. Catherine Academy or Holy Rosary School.

John stated that St. Catherine’s Academy is not handicapped accessible. He stated that we have met at Holy Rosary School.

c. Monica Major – Community Education Council District 11

Ms. Major reported that they are working on the naming of the Van Nest School. She stated that they are thinking about naming it after the two fire fighters who died. Ms. Major stated that she had spoken to the principal of the school and was informed that they are still taking applications for kindergarten and first grade. She stated that the application process for the sixth grade ended on March 23rd. Ms. Major reported that she had spoken to the superintendent of the charter school and the application period ends on April 9th. She stated that the lottery will be done on April 16th at the Icon Charter School which is located in Community Board 9. Ms. Major stated that we are trying to have it done in our district.

John asked if the community was getting applications for the lottery process.

Monica stated that she would send the application to him.

John stated that we were supposed to have a say in the pupils going into the school.

Monica stated that the school naming will be done by CEC. She stated that the cost of the sign which is \$7,000 to \$8,000 must be done by the community.

Al D'Angelo reported that the charter school is moving from its present location in Community Board 9.

John stated that we urged the parents in our district to submit applications.

III. Minutes

A Motion was made by Bob Potter, Seconded by junior Campbell –
That the Minutes be accepted as received. **PASSED**

IV. Chairman's Report – Vincent Prezioso

Vinny reported that there will be elections this year. The Nominations Committee consists of Gene Tutora, Chairman, Rosemary Durso and Joseph Thurston. He reported that letters would go to all Board members asking if they are interested in running for any of the positions. The Nomination Committee will submit a slate and nominations will be taken at the April and May meetings. Anyone nominated at the May meeting must be present or have indicated in writing their willingness to run. Elections will be held in June.

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

John reported that the community board is taking another cut effective July 1st. He stated that our budget will go from \$207,000 to \$144,000. He stated that the Mayor claims that the cuts are necessary because the State is cutting the City's budget. John reported that the Deputy Mayor is making more money than the community board's budget.

John reported that letters were distributed to the Board members opposing these cuts. He asked that the Board members sign this letter. John reported that another will be sent to the public asking that they also sign a letter opposing these cuts. John reported that in good times other agencies received an increase but the boards did not. He stated that the boards have not received an increase in their operating budget for 20 years, with the exception of union increased. John stated that if this cut goes through he would have to lay off one staff member and reduce the hours of the other member. John reported that there will be a press conference on April 5th on the steps of the Bronx Country Courthouse regarding the board's budget. He asked the Board members to attend.

John stated that the community boards are the local form of government. He stated that we went to the City Council to ask that our budget be restored fully. John stated that he did not think that the board's budget will be restored fully. John stated that we need the community to inundate the Mayor to restore the board's budget.

John reported that with this last storm we had trees down and houses with power outage. He stated that it was totally unacceptable for Community Board 11 to be the last areas to have their power restored. John reported that he was told by Con Ed people that he encountered that they were not repair people but were just sent out by Con Ed. He stated that he was also told that the majority of people were sent to Westchester county. He stated that he filed a complaint with the Borough President's office. John stated that in some cases homeowners did not have any service for 4 days. He stated that in some cases the only thing that had to be done was that a wire be hooked up.

John reported that the Parks Department was no better. He stated that on Tieman Avenue a tree was blocking the entrance and was not removed for 3 days. John also reported that 911 was inundated with calls.

Tony asked about getting someone from the Parks Department to come to the Executive Committee meeting. He stated that it was 2 days before some trees were removed.

John stated that the Mayor wants to plant 1,000,000 trees with no increase in forestry personnel. He stated that the commissioner of Parks will not come to this meeting, he will send someone.

Tony asked about getting a representative of Con Ed to come to a meeting.

Al reported that Amanda is leaving the Bronx Times Reporter. He thanked her for the help she has given the community. He asked her to do a story on Parks and Con Ed.

Silvio asked what the status was on the Community Board's carnival.

John reported that the Mayor's office has rejected our application as did the Parks Department. He stated that we are trying to get the Mayor's rejection reversed. John stated that the Mayor has a moratorium on multi day and multi block events. He stated that most of these events take place in Manhattan and we should not be penalized for this.

Joe Reda reported that Chief Purltel was transferred to Manhattan South and Carlos Gomez is the new Chief.

VI. Treasurer's Report – Silvio Mazzella

Silvio reported that the Community Board and Friends of Treasurer's reports had been distributed. He stated that there have been no changes. Silvio stated that we need a source of income for the Friends of account. He stated that anyone with questions can see Harriet or me.

VII. Borough President's Report – Andy Toledo

Andy reported that the Borough President gave his first state of the borough address a few weeks ago. He reported that the Kingsbridge Armory Task Force has been set up. He stated that we are working on a Living Wage bill. Andy reported that the Borough President is working with the New York Hotel Council in getting a major hotel in the Bronx. He also reported on the development of the Green Jobs Program. Andy also reported on the need to continue the Gun Buy Back Program. Andy reported on waterfront development and the need for more home ownership in the Bronx. Andy reported that the Green Jobs summit will be held on April 7th at Bronx Community College. He also reported on a Summit on Food to be held at Hostos College on May 1st to teach people how to eat well.

1. Marlene Cintron selected as new president of the Bronx Overall Economic Development

2. Bronx Borough President's office launches new website – bronxboropres.nyc.gov

3. Borough President Diaz appointed to Mayor's Charter Revision Commission

4. Borough President Diaz reports on Bronx's County Health Ranking Report

5. Borough President Salutes Black History Month on February 18th

6. Borough President Diaz celebrates Lunar New Year 2010 on February 20th

Joe Thompson asked about housing for the homeless.

Andy reported that the Borough President held a forum with the 12 community boards. He stated that we need better communication with DHS. Andy reported that we are federally mandated to house the homeless. He stated that it needs be fair share.

John reported that at this meeting Councilwoman Arroyo stated that when a person or family becomes homeless they are uprooted to a new area. She stated that this takes them away from their communities and their schools. Councilwoman Arroyo stated that we need to keep these people in their own communities.

John reported that we have no programs for youth. He stated that New York City is the only city under court order to house the homeless or else the commissioner goes to jail. John stated that there are no mechanics to oversee the shelters and they are without the resources for the police and social services.

Andy reported that families are coming from other boroughs to be housed in the Bronx. He spoke about the case where a developer built luxury housing and could not rent them in this market. He stated that he contracted with DHS to house the homeless.

John reported that the city is paying \$2700 a month per apartment to house the homeless.

Joe Thompson stated that we have a disproportion amount of facilities for the mentally disabled.

Al stated that the city owns a lot of buildings that could be used to house the homeless.

Mary stated that people who are addicted to methadone get apartments.

Andy stated that the city says that we do not have enough of a particle kind of facility in our area. He stated that different facilities are categorized separately.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Bronx Park East/Olinville – Joseph Thompson

1. Application by Jose Castillo of 767 Restaurant Corp at 767 Astor Avenue for an on-premises wine and beer license.

Joe reported that we tabled this last month. He stated that the owner did not show up to the Committee meeting.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Bob Potter – That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA to deny this application based on the fact that they did not show up to the meeting. **PASSED**

2. Traffic Control devices around P.S. 97

Joe reported that we are asking to DOT to install traffic control devices around the school.

A Motion was made by Joe Thompson, Seconded by Sandy Unger – That Community Board 11 support to have these traffic control devices installed around P.S. 97. **PASSED**

John stated that we have put this request in numerous times and it has been rejected. He stated that if it is more than 18 months form the last submission he will submit it again.

Joe McManus stated that we are working with the principal from P.S. 97 to get these traffic controls. He spoke about Senator Klein's letter asking for several things.

John stated that he had not gotten a copy of this letter.

John recommended that this be put on the agenda for the next Bronx Park East/Olinville Committee meeting as Commission Moran is going to attend.

Silvio recommended that the various community organizations also submit letters requesting these devices.

Joe invited anyone who wants to come to attend the meeting.

John spoke about receiving letter from Commissioner Moran on the traffic claming effect that the bike lanes provide. He stated that they block up traffic. John suggested that pictures be taken of the congestion to show to her. John stated that the placement of bike lanes on Laconia Avenue is to make traffic safer.

B. Indian Village/Westchester Heights Michael Carriere

Mike reported that the Committee did not meet last month. He stated that we will be going out to remove graffiti as the weather improves. He thanked the Committee for their help, the 49th Precinct and Captain Greeley for storing the paint.

C. Morris Park/ Van Nest – Al D'Angelo

Al reported that there was a correction to the Morris Park Minutes. Mary Gross was present at the meeting

1. Application by Yoanett Paredes of 1980 Unionport Road for renewal of an on-premises liquor license

2. Application from Charles Linn representing MAP Reality d/b/a Doyles Pub at 1024 Morris Park Avenue for renewal of their on-premises liquor license

A Motion was made by Silvio Mazzella, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin
– That Community Board 11 send a letter to the SLA stating that we have no objection to issuing of these renewal licenses. **PASSED**

3. Request by Linda Ruffino of the Haight Avenue Block Association to close Haight Avenue between Neill and Rhinelander Avenues on July 10th with a rain date of July 11th from 12 PM to 8:00 for a block party

A Motion was made by Al D'Angelo, Seconded by Joe Bombace –
That Community Board 11 send a letter to SAPO stating that we have no objection to the issuing of this street closing. **PASSED**

3. Request for a 421-A partial tax exemption for 2011 Holland Avenue

Al stated that the Committee tabled a vote on this as no one came to the meeting.

Joe Bombace asked that the Minutes reflect that it is two addresses 2011 and 2021 Holland Avenue.

D. Youth and Education - Diane Norris

1. Establishment of a Bronx-wide Community Board Athletic League

Diane reported that Abdul Johnson had come to the meeting. She stated that he produces Yo! Magazine and is the Parks and Youth Chair for Community Board 3. Diane stated that he wants reach out to the youth of the community and involve them in activities to keep them off the streets. He is reaching out to Sports/DYCD, Nike and political leaders to expand his program for funding. She stated that the age group is 14-16 year old boys and girls. Diane stated that what he is looking for from the Community Board is a letter of support.

John stated that the District Manager of Community Board 3 had called to ask for the Board's support

A great deal of discussion took place on this.

A Motion was made by Diane Norris, Seconded by Blanche Rifkin – That Community Board 11 give Abdul Johnson a letter of support for his program. **PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM MARCY GROSS.**

E. Land Use - Joe McManus

Joe reported that the Committee had not met this month. He stated that the Committee is formulating protocol for street naming. He stated that he had gotten information from the City Council, and that the Committee will meet next month and discuss this. Joe stated that they will come up with guidelines and a form.

VIII. Old Business

Joanne Rubino asked about 1464 Astor Avenue.

John reported that the applicant asked for a postponement.

Joe McManus reported that he received an e-mail that it is scheduled for April 22nd at Rector Street.

Dr. Patel asked about the status of the Pelham Parkway reconstruction project.

John reported that it is scheduled to start in August. He stated that they are setting up a task force to include DOT, EMS, police, fire, Community Board 11, DDC and the consultant. He stated that they will be meeting regularly.

Joe Bombace asked about the status of the Royal Coach Diner's liquor license.

John explained that we sent a recommendation to the SLA. He stated that he would check on it. John stated that it was an approval with conditions.

IX. New Business

Joe Thompson reported that the 49th Precinct will be holding a march at Eastchester Gardens on April 21st with the clergy. He stated that it will be at 6:30 PM. Joe stated that this march is against drugs and gangs. He stated that the next march will be in the Pelham Parkway Houses. Joe invited all the patrols to this march.

Bob Potter asked for flyers and Joe said that he would get them out.

John asked all the Board members to sign the letter opposing the cuts to the Community Boards' budget and get them back to us. He stated that letters would also be sent to the community groups asking for their support.

John reported that on April 8th he is going on a walking tour with Edith Blitzer along with Buildings and Sanitation.

Mike asked about Tomlinson and Rhinelander Avenues. John stated that they could not get funding.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Burko,
Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 25, 2010*

PRESENT

Joseph Bacote	(2)	Dr. Mahendra Patel	(1)
Joseph Bombace	(0)	Robert Potter	(1)
Junior Campbell	(3)	Vincent Prezioso	(2)
Michael Carriere	(5)	Pat Quaranta	(3)
Al D'Angelo	(3)	Joseph Reda	(6)
Jessica Dewberry	(2)	Blanche Rifkin	(4)
Patrick Dolan	(1)	Joanne Rubino	(2)
Rosemary Durso	(2)	Irene Rukaj	(4)
Harain Figueroa	(4)	Martin Sacewicz	(3)
Kenneth Gelnick	(2)	Vincent Taddeo	(3)
Denise Giocondo	(0)	Joseph Thompson	(0)
Marcy Gross	(1)	Joseph Thurston	(2)
David Leavitt	(1)	Eugene Tutora	(0)
Silvio Mazzella	(1)	Sandra Unger	(3)
Joseph McManus	(0)	Anthony Vitaliano	(3)
Diane Norris	(4)	Janice Walcott	(0)
Mary Paliotta	(1)	Frano Zagreda	(1)

ABSENT

Richard Angeletti	(6)	Annette Marchitello	(4)
Ruth Burko	(3)	Hazel Miura	(5)
Dominic Castore	(5)	Elizabeth Nazario	(7)
Sal Conforto	(4)	Eliezer Rodriguez	(6)
Bernadette Ferrara	(1)	Oral Selkridge	(3)
Rabbi Moshe Fuchs	(4)	Linda White	(8)

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jeremy Warneke – representing Councilman James Vacca

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mike Frittola – representing Senator Jeffrey Klein

Charesse Suarez – representing Councilman Naomi Rivera

STAFF, BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AGENCY OFFICIALS

John A. Fratta, District Manager – Community Board 11

Harriet Lasky, Secretary – Community Board 11

Andy Toledo – representing Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

GUESTS

Mike Heller – AECOM

Cecilia Haas – AECOM

*Absences include public hearings of 9/9 and 2/18