



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 19th, 2011 @ 6:30PM

St. James Recreation Center ♦ 2530 Jerome Avenue ♦ Bronx, NY 10468

- I. Ozzie Brown opened the public session at 6:40pm
- A. Ozzie Brown: Began the meeting by introducing City Councilman Fernando Cabrera and his Chief of Staff Greg Faulkner
 1. Councilman Fernando Cabrera:
 - i. Thanked the Board Members for their service
 - ii. Some of his initiatives are to place cameras throughout the community using Capital monies with St. James Park and Bronx Science both mentioned as possible sites for cameras. He is asking for suggestions for camera placements
 - iii. Councilman Cabrera spoke about monies that have been approved for youth programs, i.e. Summer youth activities and basketball sessions
 - iv. The Councilman mentioned that in his district, a universal after-school program for adult youth would receive discretionary funds through his office.
 - a. State of the art equipment would be introduced.
 - b. Libraries, dance studio and other activities will be made available to the youth in the community
 - v. During Women's History month, Mr. Cabrera recognized Lisa Sills-Short who was recognized for her work in the community and received an award from his office
 - vi. Councilman Cabrera responded to questions from the Board Members and the audience
 - B. He then introduced members of the Police Department who reviewed recent incidents in the 52nd Precinct. Deputy Inspector Joe Dowling went over the stats and arrests from recent shootings and hold-ups.
 1. Inspector Dowling noted the PD's outreach to the neighborhood bodegas in an on-going assistance to help control robberies and to support owners
 2. Capt. McGowan and Capt. Rubin were introduced
 3. Auxiliary Inspector D. Wong was recognized
 4. Questions from the Board Members and the audience were responded to by D.I. Joe Dowling
 - C. Patrice Johns from the US Census Bureau:
 1. She is encouraging people to participate in the Census as many residents have not done so
 2. She stressed the importance of responding to the Census and be counted
 - D. Mirang Cho, Board of Elections Representative:
 1. Discussed the need for poll workers and the process for recruitment
 - E. Benjamin Diamond:
 1. Spoke about public transportation and overcrowding problems
 2. He wants the MTA to make an effort to correct the over-crowding for better service
 - F. Nelson Beltran: Expressed concerns regarding the poor service of the trains and the condition of many of the train stations in the Bronx. He wants better rush hour service and general all-over improvement in the service
 - G. Jean Harripersaud, NY Public Library:
 1. She outlined the available FREE programs provided by the library
 2. Performance and readings are available for children
 - H. Ricardo Martinez:



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1. Thanked the community for recent participation in the clothing drive for Japan and Haiti
2. He reviewed his activities with gang members
- I. Victor Campbell: Talked about the sports program at the St. James Recreation Center that is available to the youth of the community
- J. Fermine Prevost, NYC Parks Department: Introduced herself, did not give a report
- K. Kristin Kelleher, "Education Reform Now": Spoke about the lay-offs of public school teachers. She has a petition that would keep quality teachers rather than "last hired, first fired"
- L. Jonathan Lopez-Polo: Expressed concerns regarding the lack of speed limits signage for motorists throughout the city
- M. Mary Fitzgerald, Registered Nurse: Discussed the over-crowding in operating rooms in NYC hospitals
- N. Public Session ended at 7:50 PM
- II. General Meeting opened with Paul Foster making these announcements:
 - A. Frank Benitez resigned from the Board due to conflict of schedules. He will be greatly missed
 - B. John Harris will no longer be the Chair of the Community Relations Committee due to conflict in schedules. Adaline Walker was appointed Chair of the Community Relations Committee
 1. A vote was taken to approve Ms. Walker's position; approval was unanimous
 - C. Ozzie Brown spoke about the Webster Avenue Corridor
 - D. Paul Foster asked the Board to approve the April Agenda and Minutes
 - E. After correction and changes to the minutes, the Board approved the Agenda and Minutes
- III. District Manager's Report:
 - A. Announcements
 1. Start of the FY'13 Budget process for Capital & Expense requests
 2. FY'12 budget requests have been sent out to all elected officials
 3. Reminder of website and submitting complaints
 4. Changes in agency heads: DOH, NYPD, DSNY
 - B. Website reminder to all Board Members
- IV. Committee Reports:
 - A. Land Use / Zoning:
 1. There are 2 motions from the Committee
 2. Motion to send letter with one change was unanimously approved
 3. Trolley Tour has been scheduled for May 7th
 - B. Parks & Recreation:
 1. Mr. Francis discussed the expenditures of the \$15,000 that was assigned to CB7 by Councilman Cabrera
 2. Motion to spend the \$15,000 awarded by Councilman Cabrera on beautification and lighting to any area that is deem as a part of the Regatta Park Plan
 3. After much discussion about the contents of the proposal, a vote on the motion was taken
 4. Vote to change the motion; There was 1 "NO" and 2 "Abstain"
 5. Second vote to approve motion; There was 1 "NO" and 1 "Abstain"
 - C. Youth Services: Concerns about the cuts for youth programs
 - D. Traffic & Transportation:
 1. Read the documents about transportation services in neighborhood
 2. Summer walk / Weekend project has been approved
 - E. Housing: Mentioned the housing training that occurred last month and the possibility of a second training
 - F. Health & Hospitals:
 1. The Committee needs members



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2. Joyce Hernandez was recommended to the Advisory Board of North Central Bronx Hospital. Paul Foster approved the recommendation and appointed Joyce to serve as a rep of CB7 on the North Central Bronx Hospital
 3. The next meeting will be held on April 26th
 4. Smoke-free program at Monte to be discussed
- G. Education:
1. Motion to send a letter of opposition to the Capital Budget Plan for Fiscal Years 2011-2014. A discussion ensued
 2. Suggestions and changes were recommended
 3. A change to eliminate points #2 and #3 in the original letter was made
 4. There were 3 "NO" votes
 5. A second vote was made with the changes; vote was unanimously approved
- V. Elected officials gave brief reports due to time restrictions
- VI. Election Monitoring Committee
- A. Rules and procedures in place
 - B. Election is to be held on June 21st
- VII. Meeting went into Executive Session at 9:03 PM
- A. Board resumed in Executive Privilege for a discussion
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 PM