



Chairman Nicholas Himidian Jr. - District Manager William Rivera

Public Safety & Transportation Committee Meeting Agenda

Committee Chair: Brandon Ganaishlal

Vice-Chair: Dwayne Gathers

September 7, 2017

Meeting Location: BRONX CB9 OFFICE

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Committee Chair Brandon Ganaishlal, Daniel Porro, Board Chairperson Nicholas Himidian Jr.

Board Members Absent:

Board Members Excused: Sharan Fernandez

Introduction

- A. **Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest**
- B. **Committee Description:** The public safety & transportation committee represents the community's interests with regards to sanitation, crime, fire-ems, quality of life, NYS liquor license application recommendations, street activity permit applications, street re-naming application, transportation and acts as a liaison between community members and the New York Police Department & Fire Departments, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, NYC Department of Sanitation, NYC Department of Transportation, NYC Department of Sanitation & NYS Liquor Authority.

Liquor Licenses

- A. **MOE's Turkish Delight Restaurant Inc.**

MOE's Turkish Delight Restaurant Inc. is applying for a renewal liquor license. They are located in 2166 Westchester Avenue. They have recorded music playing with a capacity of 50 people. They have cameras on site that are recording. Chairman Himidian requested that the recordings are stored for 30 days. They have agreed to allow NYPD to view the cameras whenever needed. They are requesting a liquor, wine, beer and cider license to serve all of these listed although their preference is just to serve beer and wine. They will be open on weekends, Friday and Saturday noon to 3am and weekdays, Sun-Thurs noon to 1am. Food is served for eat in, take out and deliveries. The restaurant has 17 tables with seating for 2 people, however, tables can be combined to serve bigger parties. The restaurant also serves

hookah. DM Rivera is concerned this establishment will be a problem place for drinking. Restaurant representative explained that the establishment hasn't changed but that it is adding alcohol to their menu to cater to the customers that request alcohol. DM Rivera requested this restaurant purchase an ID scanner as per his conversation with the 43rd Precinct to ensure no one under age is served alcohol. DM Rivera stressed that no one under 21 is allowed. DM Rivera is allowing liquor license application with the recommendation to stop serving liquor at 1am in the establishment. BM Daniel Porro questioned if the backyard property would be utilized by this restaurant for activities that cannot be viewed. The representative assured that the backyard will not be used. Since quorum could not be reached, the decision on this SLA will be done at a later time after a site visit is conducted.

New Business

- A. Angela Laguer, the Mr. Softie truck by her block was fined (\$1000) by DEP for being too loud. She would like to make sure that ticket wasn't given unfairly. The ticket was issued at 5pm. As per NYPD, any parked vehicle that is providing a service cannot play music for a specific amount of time. Chairman Himidian suggested using the ticket number to search the ticket violation and to ensure that the ticket is shown as paid.
- B. Angela Laguer is questioning what DOT is waiting for to fix the streets, White Plains Road, Castle Hill. As per Aurora Carrion, will DOT change the cars parked on White Plains Road by Models to create another traffic lane? As per Chairman Himidian, these requests have been worked on for a long time. As per DM Rivera, he had a local budget consultation with DOT and these issues were brought up. He is hoping these changes are coming in sooner rather than later but shared that DOT is trying two projects before making the changes requested permanent. As per Ms. Carrion, is the street on Pugsley and Quimby considered a street? She is concerned of safety issues here because cars are unable to enter this street when cars are double parked on both sides of the streets. As per DM Rivera, only part of the street is mapped and the city is responsible for a certain number of feet, past that point it is the businesses' property. DM will have a meeting with the property manager on towing in this street.
- C. As per Ms. Carrion, she is requesting updates on lighting for PS 119 and IS 125, there are no street fixtures here to illuminate these streets. DM will call 311 for tree pruning, although tree pruning takes 1-3 years to occur.
- D. As per Ms. Carrion, who do you contact for street closing? DM for a street closing you can contact the Mayor's SAPO.
- E. As per Ms. Laguer when will Bus meeting take place? DM, meeting may take place a few weeks after school start date to ensure a good attendance. DM is hoping for elected officials can help ensure turnout to meeting.
- F. On Zerega and Newbold, cars are parked and blocking view. Zerega Ave has no alternate side parking. Although this is a commercial area, this is also a residential area and parking is being taken up by trucks and trailers. As per DM, this issue can be processed via 311 and the 311 number can be shared with the office staff for follow-up. DM, DOT can possibly do a study here although this street is outside of our district.

There is a towing company in this area and they double and triple park here making it difficult for traffic going in both directions to navigate.

Old Business

DM Update

- A. We are pushing for the school renaming on PS 583 to Sgt Tuozzolo, who was killed in our district.
- B. Community Appreciation Dinner is tomorrow by invite only at the YMCA.
- C. Over the summer we have been revamping a lot in the office.
- D. Transitional Living Center meeting took place earlier today. 1732 Lafayette Avenue will be transitional living center. As per Ms. Carrion, who decided to have a meeting with this late notice? As per DM Rivera, the center was not even trying to have a meeting so we pushed for this meeting so that we could at least inform the public last minute about the opening of this center this week. As per Chairman Himidian, there was a meeting held about this over the summer, but these meetings should be done at night in a public forum, not during the day when residents are unable to attend. The public would like to suggest recommendations and should be given an opportunity to do so with meetings advertised with time in advance. As per Miriam Sanchez, what happened to the advisory committee that was supposed to be formulated for this center? As per Chairman Himidian, DM Rivera is no longer here and he does not have sufficient knowledge to answer this question. The community needs to come together and agree on a minimum requirement that all centers coming into the community are held to so that there is no confusion regarding what the expectation is. This would show that our community has a say over the changes made in our district.
- E. Ms. Lena, On Tremont Avenue, the long stretch from White Plains Road and Castle Hill they are changing the middle lanes and putting islands in the middle but haven't changed the traffic flow yet and this is becoming a concern because with the beginning of school, the school busses and the traffic as well as the fix it shops that double and triple park and the traffic with the construction and the islands here make this area unable to navigate. As per Angela Laguer, DOT was recently given traffic suggestions as per their requests that were completely overlooked. Firetrucks have a hard time passing through in this area as well.
- F. On Tremont Avenue request for one way to be turned to a two way. Going down Rosedale Avenue on Tremont Ave, you are unable to make a right because of the traffic so the right is done on the light but this is an impossible area to turn because there is a shop that double and triple parks its cars there. It is impossible to make that sharp right turn on Rosedale and Noble.
- G. As per Miriam Sanchez, on Story Avenue in the corner of the chicken place there is a sign that does not allow turns but people still make the turn because the sign is hidden. As per Chairperson Himidian, the sign is incognito and without the sign that says "new turn signal," etc no advance notification was given. As per Ms. Sanchez, will we be notified when a person buys new property in the district? As per Chairman Himidian, if this is regards to the

shelter built, because there is a need for affordable housing, land space starts off assigned for affordable housing but because shelters are more convenient, shelters are built here instead.

- H. As per BM Porro, thank you to the police department for all the work that you do. As per noise pollution, how does the decimal reading work? How much noise is too loud? Some of the new music is foul/dirty and is being played in the streets by the bus stops, schools, churches. As per NYPD, there are different regulations for different types of noises-commercial businesses, trains, air conditioners, etc. There are decimal readers that measure sound. So if there is a bar that is a chronic offender for loud noise for example, the NYPD will ask that the establishment test out the level of music acceptable. If the noise is unreasonable in regards to cars driving with music, the can get a fine, however, if the music playing is at a reasonable level, the content cannot be censored. As per Chairman Himidian, what about a collection of motorcycles making loud music? As per NYPD, it is very hard to apprehend these guys safely so the best thing to do is to call 911 when dozens of motorcyclist are spotted.
- I. No one is stopping at the stop sign on Gildersleeve and Leland. Most of the people racing by are cutting across construction here.
- J. As per BM Porro, he would really like to see MTA present. There is a bus stop at the oval that has its lights out that has poor visibility. As a result, he would like the committee to push for the MTA to attend. As per Chairman Himidian, our contact is Jacklyn Carter who has attended meetings in the past. There are many issues with BX05 in the district. It may be possible to set up a meeting with MTA and DOT. Chairman Himidian also wanted to inform the committee that all should know that if you do not swipe metro card to enter bus and get in through the back door, there is no way to track the traffic in each bus stop. Between Hunts Point and White Plains Road from 1am-5:30am, no bus runs this line. As per Ms. Laguer, maybe the 5 bus line instead of coming down Story Ave can come down Lafayette after Hunts Point. As per Chairman Himidian, with all the new developments in our community these bus line changes are necessary.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 PM

Minutes created by CB9 Office Staff

OFFICE INFO

District Manager William Rivera - wrivera@cb.nyc.gov

Phone (718) 823-3034 - Fax (718) 823-6461 - Office Email bx09@cb.nyc.gov - Website nyc.gov/bxcb9

Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM