



**COMMUNITY BOARD 11**  
**1741 COLDEN AVENUE**  
**BRONX, NY 10462**  
**(718) 892-6262**  
**www.nyc.gov/bxcb11**

*Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.*  
*Chairman Anthony Vitaliano*  
*District Manager Jeremy O. Warneke*

## COMMITTEES

*Leadership*

*Community  
Development &  
Budget Priorities*

*Economic  
Development*

*Education, Culture &  
Youth Services*

*Health & Social  
Services*

*Housing*

*Land Use*

*Parks & Recreation*

*Public Safety*

*Sanitation &  
Environmental  
Protection*

*Transportation*

## September 22, 2016 Full Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
2. Gallery Session:
  - i. David Nochimson of the Pelham Parkway-Van Nest Branch of the New York Public Library spoke about a special 10/1 presentation about Medicare, a new family literacy program and new e-reader supported by the NYPL.
  - ii. Grace Lovaglio, vice-chair of the DYCD neighborhood advisory board spoke about a 10/20 public hearing about community assessments.
  - iii. Debby Kawalick, Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association, asked about status of the unnamed street near the New York Institute for Special Education.
  - iv. Hugh Hawthorne, owner of Ethics Bar and Lounge, spoke about his pending request to extend hours of operation.
  - v. Bernadette Ferrara, Community Board 11 member, spoke about inundation of “programs” in Van Nest, DOB inspections and failure of inspectors to bring warrants and a “program” at 1804 Victor Street.
3. Elected Officials:
  - a. Thomas Lucania, Borough President’s Office; three additional training sessions available to new and current members (parliamentary procedure, land use and ULURP process and conflict of interest rules); report submitted. [Request Annex 1 from the Board Office to view distributed report]
  - b. Luisa Benedetto, Councilman Torres’s Office spoke about FED CAP allocated funds to clean up local streets, participatory budgeting and additional NYPD cameras.
  - c. Elijah Nwaokocha, Councilman King’s Office, introduced himself.
  - d. Jessica Reynoso, Public Advocate Office, spoke about new legislation to protect veterans under NYC human rights law, preventing employers from asking about salary history and a court ruling allowing the Public Advocate to sue city agencies.
  - e. Thomas Messina, Congressman Crowley Office, congratulated new members of the Community Board and about a joint effort with Congressman Rangel to reclassify Calvary Hospital, efforts to obtain

- additional Zika funding and an Italian Heritage gathering in October that will honor Community Board 11 First Vice Chair Al D'Angelo.
- f. Gina Klein, Senator Klein's Office, thanked the Community Board and the Morris Park Community Association for sponsoring Senator Klein's Heroin Town Hall and said that on 9/24 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. there will be the "Taste of Morris Park" event in cooperation with the Morris Park Community Association and Assemblyman's Gjonaj's office.
  - g. Liliana Pekic, Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj's Office, congratulated the new Community Board members, spoke about the "Taste of Morris Park" event and the 10/22 Halloween party at P.S. 105
  - h. Joshua Adams, Assemblyman Benedetto's Office, congratulated the new Community Board members.
4. Chairman's Report
- a. **Motion by Anthony Vitaliano (seconded by Edith Blitzer) to APPROVE the June and July 2016 Full Board Meeting Minutes, as distributed (PASSED UNANIMOUSLY).**
  - b. **Motion by Anthony Vitaliano (seconded by Dominick Schiano) to send the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) a letter requesting their assistance in opening Bassett Avenue from McDonald Street and Pelham Parkway (Passed with 24 in favor, 8 against (Joe Bacote, Sal Conforto, Marcy Gross, Diane Norris, Vinnie Prezioso, Maria Provenzano, Matthew Raso, and Daisy Rodriguez) and 2 abstentions (Rabbi Moshe Fuchs and Eli Rodriguez)**
  - c. Anthony Vitaliano congratulated Andrea Siegel on her recent election as District Leader and Community Board 11 Second Vice Chair Joanne Rubino on being named honorary Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade.
5. Treasurer's Report: report distributed.
6. District Manager's Report: report distributed for June, July, August and September.
- a. The group home at 1663 Wallace Ave withdrew their application.
  - b. Meeting with Bronx Borough Commissioner Constance Moran on June 16 about White Plains Road Corridor Study; Ms. Moran is attempting to set up a meeting with Con Ed.
  - c. Jeremy thanked everyone at the Leadership Committee meeting in assisting Dr. Patel with the budget priority process.
  - d. July 11 visited Stillwell Ave regarding as issue of taking parking near Ely Ave; NYC DOT Borough Commissioner Constance Moran was also consulted along with Senator Klein's office.
  - e. July 12 complaint regarding 740 Morris Park Ave.
  - f. Jeremy thanked Councilman Vacca for bringing Mayor to Throggs Neck Town Hall; issues addressed include unnamed street near NY Institute for Special Education and Pelham Parkway Malls

- g. Jeremy spoke about a school at 2213 East Tremont Ave requesting a DOT Loading Zone and suggested that Community Board Member Bernadette Ferrara speak to Assemblyman Sepulveda's office about the Mattress Factory issue (complaint number 2016-0777); 3210 Hering (HRA-owned lot) about a sanitation issue; Health Department notice about a scam (fake pest control letter).

7. Committee Reports

a. Leadership

- i. **Motion by David Leavitt (seconded by Diane Norris) to send DCAS an email of NO OBJECTION regarding their proposed Energy Storage Demonstration at Jacobi Medical Center (Passed with 31 in favor, 4 against and no abstentions).**

b. Economic Development

- i. **Motion by Dominick Schiano (seconded by Shradhanand Pirtam) to send the New York State Liquor Authority an email of NO OBJECTION regarding an extension of hours for Ethics Bar & Lounge, Inc., 1246 E. Gun Hill Road so that the new closing time will be 4:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Passed with 24 in favor, 6 against and 1 abstention).**

c. Transportation

- i. **Motion by Vinnie Prezioso (seconded by Tony Signorile) to send the NYC Department of Transportation an email of NO OBJECTION regarding their proposed safety improvements on Tremont Avenue from Unionport Road to Morris Park Avenue (Passed with 27 in favor, 0 against and 3 abstentions (Patricia Charles, Marcy Gross and Joe Thompson)).**
- ii. **Vinnie Prezioso spoke about Dr. Patel's request for a left turn signal on Pelham Parkway South at Stillwell Ave.**

d. Community Development & Budget Priorities

1. Dr. Patel thanked Chairperson Anthony Vitaliano and District Manager Jeremy Warneke for their work on budget priorities
2. Dr. Patel thanked the following committees for their work on budget priorities: Economic Development, Education, Leadership, Public Safety, and the Transportation Committee.
3. Dr. Patel asked any other committees and any individual members who did not respond to make their opinions known to the District Manager as soon as possible.
4. Jeremy said we have a deadline of 10/31 to submit our recommendations to the City.

e. Education, Culture & Youth Services

1. Diane Norris referred the board members to the committee minutes of 9/20.
2. Nominations for Yankee Leadership Awards are now being accepted.
- f. Health & Social Services
  1. Joe Bacote said that at their last meeting the committee discussed their priorities for the coming board year and that the committee will gather and distribute a list of all the urgent care centers in the community board.
  2. Sandra Unger asked for a list of urgent care centers operated by Montefiore Medical Center.
  3. Jeremy introduced the new Board's contact with Montefiore Medical Center Mariela Salazar.
  4. Joe Bacote said the Health Committee will not meet on 10/20.
- g. Housing
  1. Shradhanand Pirtam (in Janice Walcott's absence) reported that the committee discussed an abandoned house at 1641 Garfield Street and that there are many stray cats that are being fed on a regular basis.
- h. Land Use
  1. In Joe McManus' absence Jeremy reported that the Land Use Committee will meet during the Week of 9/26 and that Jeremy is waiting to hear back from 500-508 Van Nest and that the BSA application is pending and that no hearing is scheduled.
- i. Parks & Recreation
  1. Arlene Drayton reported that the committee met on 9/6 and heard a presentation about the proposed renovation to Pelham Parkway and the Greenway project. There were some construction delays related to work permits. The Parks Department will present at the next Parks Committee meeting about the Van Nest flag pole.
- j. Public Safety
  1. Martin Morris referred the community board members to the last committee meeting minutes and the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct request for bicycles for use on regular patrol.
- k. Sanitation & Environmental Protection
  1. Tony Signorile referred the community board members to the last committee meeting minutes.
8. Old Business
  - i. Bernadette Ferrara asked about letter of objection sent about a program operating at 1824 Victor Street.
  - ii. David Leavitt asked the District Manager about a Con Ed walkthrough of the Morris Park community.
9. New Business

- i. Edith Blitzler asked about the lack of buses from Westchester Square to where Board of Education DMV and many small businesses are located.
- ii. Andrea Siegel asked about the status of the wall broken last June by a car at Haight Ave and Pelham Parkway South.
- iii. Bernadette Ferrara reported that Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance will meet on the first Monday of each month and that on 10/1 from noon to 4:00 p.m. the Parks Department and the Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance will host a puppet show at Van Nest Park.
- iv. Tony Signorile reported that the Columbus Day Parade will be October 9 and that any organization that wants to participate should contact the Morris Park Community Association. The Dinner/Dance is 9/30 and tickets are available at \$90/each.
- v. Veronica Castro asked about paving near Allerton Ave.

#### 10. Adjournment

- i. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Attendance

*Number indicates total excused and unexcused absences at Full Board Meetings since July 1, 2016*

|                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bacote, Joseph (0)      | Patel, Dr. Mahendra (0)  |
| Blitzer, Edith (1)      | Pirtam, Shradhanand (0)  |
| Burko, Ruth (2)         | Prezioso, Vincent (1)    |
| Campbell, Junior (1)    | Provenzano, Maria (0)    |
| Castro, Veronica (0)    | Ramsey, Keith (1)        |
| Charles, Patricia (0)   | Raso, Matthew (0)        |
| Conforto, Sal (1)       | Rodriguez, Daisy (0)     |
| D'Angelo, Albert (0)    | Rodriguez, Eliezer (1)   |
| Diaz, Edwin (1)         | Rodriguez, Marnie (2)    |
| Dolan, Patrick (2)      | Russo-Rubino, Joanne (1) |
| Drayton, Arlene (1)     | Sacewicz, Martin (1)     |
| Ferrara, Bernadette (1) | Schiano, Dominick (0)    |
| Figueroa, Harain (1)    | Selkridge, Oral (1)      |
| Francis, Avril (1)      | Siegel, Andrea (1)       |
| Fuchs, Rabbi Moshe (1)  | Signorile, Tony (0)      |
| Gelnick, Kenneth (1)    | Squitieri, John (0)      |
| Gross, Marcy (1)        | Terrelonge, Joann (2)    |
| Leavitt, David (0)      | Thompson, Joseph (0)     |
| Mazzella, Silvio (1)    | Thurston, Joseph (1)     |
| McManus, Joseph (1)     | Unger, Sandra (1)        |
| Monti, Danny (1)        | Vitaliano, Anthony (0)   |
| Morris, Martin (1)      | Walcott, Janice (1)      |
| Musto, Gabriella (0)    | White, Linda (1)         |
| Norris, Diane (0)       | Zagreda, Frano (1)       |
| Obeid, Yahay (0)        |                          |