



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012 @ 6:30 PM

Held at: Our Lady of Refuge Church ◇ 290 East 196th Street ◇ Bronx, New York 10458

- I. Public Session began at 6:45pm with the following speakers:
 - A. Joseph Nieves, Community Resident
 1. Opening a restaurant "Salsa con Fuego" at 2297 Cedar Avenue in the Bronx. It will have Latin cuisine and entertainment.
 2. There will jobs for about 100 people for Part-time and Full-time positions
 3. Seating capacity will be for about 400 people
 - B. Inspector Dowling, 52nd Precinct:
 1. Reviewed the stats and reported on an important arrest in the precinct
 2. Another arrest involving burglaries using underage youngsters was reported
 3. The Inspector cautioned residents to remain aware of their surroundings to prevent thefts of purses, cell phones, I-pads, etc. as there has been a spike in this type of robberies
 4. Ins. Dowling entertained questions and discussed the prevention of theft of I-phones and I-pads
 - C. Anthony Riviuccio, Community Resident:
 1. Spoke about M.S. 80 and the projected change of its name
 2. Thanked the CB for entertaining his advocacy around this issue
 3. Spoke about a letter on the issue of M.S. 80
 4. Regretted his outburst at the Executive Committee Meeting
 - D. Jane Addison, Mosholu Branch Library:
 1. Spoke of the programs offered by the library, in particular, the "Books for Babies" program which is proving to be successful and very popular
 2. It is important that there is better attendance at the other programs, or the will be dropped
 - E. Jose Padilla, Jr.:
 1. Spoke about the "Stop and Frisk" program and he is against this practice. He is requesting that the CB send a letter to Law Enforcement agencies stating that the CB opposes the practice. Buttons and materials are available
 - F. Rafael Matos, Community Resident:
 1. Spoke Spanish, which Fernando translated: Discussed Parental involvement in schools
 2. Spoke about the struggles that parents are having with the school system and wants assistance to help parents and children cope with the system
 3. He appeals to the CB for assistance and speaks of an organization he is associated with that will be an advocate to improve the educational system through tutoring and other educational devices
 - G. Public Session ended at 7:45pm
- II. General Meeting opened at 7:50pm
 - A. Attendance was taken, quorum was present
 - B. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes
 1. Correction of the minutes – Parks
 - C. Agenda and minutes with corrections were approved unanimously
- III. Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
 - A. The Chairperson presented 5 outstanding youngsters with the "Yankee Leadership Awards". The Award is a \$750 check, awarded for their involvement in their community. Their names are as follows:
 1. Mario Liranzo



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2. Kayla Ortiz
3. Karla Ortiz
4. Jennifer Landron
5. Albert Matos

B. Mr. Foster announced that Jean Hill would assume the Chair of the Housing Committee with assistance from Andrew Laiosa

IV. Executive Committee Report by Adaline Walker:

- A. Shared the presentation on redistricting by Senator Gustavo Rivera
- B. Discussion of the M.S. 80 letter
- C. Mentioned the networking meeting for all who are interested in economic development in CB7

V. District Manager's Report by Fernando P. Tirado:

A. Announcements:

1. Attention seniors, veterans, active duty military personnel and people with disabilities: May 17th is the deadline to participate in the lien exemption process if you are a homeowner and owe back taxes and/or fees. You must apply for the exemption application and have that application at the Department of Finance before the deadline.
2. Congrats to the Yankee Community Council Awardees.
3. Annual Bronx Week Parade and Food Festival, Sunday, May 20th. Setup at 11AM, parade begins at approximately 12:30pm, event ends at 6pm. Over 150 vendors plus concert.
4. Municipal Arts Society Livable Neighborhoods Training on Saturday, May 12 9AM-5PM. Please register in advance.
5. Neighborhood Association Workshop @ Mosholu Library April 30th at 6:30PM as part of ongoing community outreach initiative to inform residents
6. Fair Housing Month by the NYC Commission on Human Rights. Cards are available in the back with information in English, Spanish, French, and Chinese (double sided)
7. Panel discussion: Safe at Home? – Putting teeth in code enforcement & holding landlords accountable. Monday, April 23 from 4-6PM at the Manhattan College Scala Auditorium on the first floor of the Leo Engineering Bldg. located at 3825 Corlear Ave. between W. 238th & W. 240th Streets. Sandra Erickson is one of the Panelists.
8. NYS DEC has week long day camps at various locations upstate for 7 weeks throughout the summer. For more information, go to www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html

B. Updates:

1. MPG job fair at CB7 office (only two Mondays left) from 1-3PM. 20 of 50+ persons interviewed from the community have been hired at locations citywide, including at the new parking garage for the NYBG located on Webster Avenue and Bedford Park Blvd.
2. Einstein College Department of Family & Social Medicine is identifying residents to participate in various paid research studies at the CB office on Mondays and Wednesdays during the month of April from 10AM to 3PM. Einstein has already paired 12 persons who volunteered to participate in various health studies which will aide in the determination of how health services are delivered throughout the borough. These individuals are also referred to other social services if needed.
3. Approximately 70 volunteers, mostly youth, participated in a cleanup effort on Mosholu Parkway at "The Gully", located between Marion Avenue and Webster Avenue on March 24th. Part of an ongoing



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community outreach initiative. The next cleanup initiative for CB7 is scheduled for this Saturday from 12PM to 4PM at East Mosholu Pkwy South and East 204th Street as a "Pre-Earth Day Event", come and give back to the community. Additionally, Friends of the Oval is having a cleanup of Williamsbridge Oval Park at the same day and time, if you prefer to volunteer there.

- C. For other information, please contact the Board Office and refer to our website. We are also on Facebook.

VI. **MOTIONS:**

A. Traffic & Transportation Committee:

1. Before the motions were presented, Ms. Green referred to a letter sent by the MTA regarding the CB's concern about the Norwood / 205th Street Station. She asked that the board members read it
2. Regarding the motions, Paul question the protocol of the presentation in that the motion was not discussed at the Executive Committee meeting, which is a procedure for presenting a motion for a vote at a full board meeting
3. It was recommended that since the motions from Traffic & Transportation Committee were not discussed or approved by the Executive Committee, the first two (2) motions would be tabled.
4. Since the third (3rd) motion involved a life or death situation, Paul waived the procedure to send the letter to DOT
 - i Motion was approved for CB7 to send a letter to DOT to do a study of the feasibility of placing a left hand turn lane at Fordham Road and Bainbridge Avenue, going south

B. Economic Development:

1. Ms. Lundeen presented a motion from the Economic Development Committee requesting to allocate funds from FY 2012 to be used to develop a press kit for the district with an emphasis on Webster Avenue.
 - i Since the motion was not discussed in the Executive Meeting it was decided to table the motion until it was presented and discussed at the Executive Committee

C. Youth Services:

1. Joseph Lee read the motion to send a letter to the mayor and ACS regarding the "Campaign for Children".
2. The letter refers to the huge cuts in child-care services across the city in the Mayor's proposed budget for 2013
3. The motion was approved with one abstention who wished to be noted. (Dilletta Pina)
4. After the motion, Joe Lee gave his committee report.
 - i He announced that the organization called "The Lamp" has free workshops on media literacy at libraries throughout NYC; next series to be held at the Grand Concourse branch (East 173rd Street) on Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm beginning on May 16, 2012
 - ii Joe Lee announced his resignation from CB7 in June to return to school. He received a hearty applause from all for his dedication to his community with best wishes from all. All agreed that he will be missed especially for the cookies he brings to meetings. God speed, Joe.

VII. Committee reports:

A. Education by Bree Brown-Rosa:

1. Reported on the Baby program at the Mosholu Library; meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month



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2. The next Committee meeting will be held on April 26th, 2012 @ 6:30pm
 3. Made a mention of the meeting at M.S. 80 on the projected school closing (she couldn't attend; therefore she asked that Adaline Walker give an update since Ms. Walker was present). Bree passed the microphone to Adaline Walker who then reported to the board members on the happenings
- B. Parks by William Francis:
1. Mr. Francis gave an update on the street naming for Ozzie Brown. The event will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at Fordham and Sedgwick Avenue
 2. A report was given on the recent meeting about the Harlem River Development project
 3. The Parks Committee will work on the project of renaming Gasoline Alley Park
- C. Sanitation & Environment by Helene Hartman:
1. Referred to the flyer for neighborhood advisory boards on the "Six steps to success" in fundraising
 2. She urged the board members to get involved and support the effort
 3. The contamination at P.S. 51 situation is still an issue, being addressed by NYSDEC
- D. Land Use / Zoning by Lisa Sills-Short:
1. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26th, 2012 where a representative from City Planning will be present
 2. The results from the MTA workshop to be shared
 3. The Committee is working on a statement about future Webster Avenue development
- E. Public Safety by Walter Bell:
1. Planning a Public Hearing on Public Safety
 2. Block event on safety planned near Monroe College
 3. Expressed concerns about the shootings and killings in and outside the community. He wishes to address the situation
- F. Health & Hospitals by Dilletta Pina:
1. The Committee expressed concerns about the privatization of Hemodialysis and is preparing to send a letter to HHC disagreeing with their decision to initiate this practice in all hospitals
 2. Ms. Pina reported on her guest, Geraldine McConnell, RN, who works in the patient and community education department at Montefiore, who shared various materials to community residents
 3. Plans for "Unity Day" are in the planning process. (See minutes from the Health & Hospitals Committee for full details)
- VIII. Elected Officials / Guests Reports:
- A. George Diaz, Councilman Oliver Koppell's Office:
1. Announced that Mr. Dinowitz is working on the budget in Albany and is working hard getting funds for programs in his district
- B. Christine Capetillo, Councilman Joel Rivera's Office:
1. Announced a seminar responding to crisis scenarios in public school settings. The seminar will be held on Monday, April 30th, 2012 at 8:30am to 12:30pm at Lincoln Hospital located at 234 East 149th Street. Breakfast will be served
- C. Andy Toledo, Bronx Borough President's Office:
1. Reappointments to the CB to be sent out by May
 2. Made an announcement regarding Bronx Week



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D. Mary Ann Rosa, Senator Rivera's Office:

1. Provided information on events that the Senator is sponsoring:
2. Public Safety Workshop to be held at 2432 Grand Concourse, 4th Floor (room 419)
3. Bullying and Cyber bullying workshop to be held on Thursday, May 3rd at 6:00pm – 7:30pm
4. Gang Violence to be held on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at 6:00pm – 7:30pm
5. Stop and Frisk, Thursday, May 17th, 2012 at 6:00pm – 7:30pm
6. Domestic Violence, Thursday, May 24th, 2012 at 6:00pm – 7:30pm
7. Bronx Housing Forum:
 - i To be held on April 21, 2012 at 11:00am 3:00pm at Lehman College – Music Hall Building; 1st Floor; East Dining Room; 250 Bedford Park Boulevard.
 - ii Some of the housing topics will include rent regulation and tenants organization, housing court; how to convert vacant properties into affordable housing, Section 8, Foreclosure prevention

IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm