



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

SOCRATES A. CABA, DISTRICT MANAGER

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 18, 2013 @ 6:30 PM

- I) Public Session opened with the following speakers:
- A) Inspector Joseph Dowling, 52nd Precinct:
 - 1) Discussed the stats and spoke of the downgrade of crimes in the Precinct
 - B) Dilletta Pina, Community Board Member:
 - 1) Recognized Lowell Green for all her work in the community and presented her with an award
 - C) Alan Gary, Community Resident:
 - 1) Spoke about Adaline Walker and her involvement with P.S.51
 - D) Michael Rivadeneyra, Botanical Garden:
 - 1) Spoke about the help of the Community Board and getting out letter of support for the garden
 - E) Walter Bell, Board Member:
 - 1) Acknowledged Mohammed Ali regarding his work in the Bangladesh community
 - F) Norma Lopez, Community Resident:
 - 1) Talked about Adaline Walker and her work in the community
 - G) Zellnor Myrie, Neighborhood Advisory Board:
 - 1) Explained the grant surveys and the purpose of the survey he distributed
 - H) Cecilia Donovan, Community Resident:
 - 1) Spoke of CB Support for P.S.80 and Adaline Walker personal support of young people
 - I) Walter Bell, Board Member:
 - 1) Presented an award to Mohammed Ali in recognition of his work
 - J) Michael Mazzetti, Science School Initiative:
 - 1) Reported on the testing and lessons of the youngsters in his program
 - K) Nora Feury & Barbara Stronczer, Board Members:
 - 1) Barbara spoke about Paul Foster resigning as Chair, and presented him with a bag of popcorn to enjoy at his leisure. And, as a token of appreciation, Nora presented Mr. Foster with an analgesic for his wounds serving as Chair
 - L) Ellen Bardekoff, Music Director for children and Seniors:
 - 1) Spoke about the program and the upcoming event to be held at Poe Center on June 28th.
 - M) Adaline Walker, Board Member:
 - 1) Thanked Paul Foster for his leadership abilities and remembered Ozzie Brown



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- 2) Acknowledged and recognized Ms. Saeed as a candidate for 3rd Vice-Chair
- N) Nikolas Roman, Community Resident:
 - 1) Did not provide a statement at this time
- O) Khadijaha Saeed, Board Member:
 - 1) Spoke in support of Jean Hill and Adaline Walker for Board positions
- P) Jermaine Walton, Community Resident:
 - 1) Spoke in support of Khadijaha Saeed
- Q) George Diaz, Councilman Koppell's Office:
 - 1) "Summer Superstars" is scheduled for 6/22/13 @ 10:00am – 4:00pm at Riverbank State Park, located at 679 Riverside Drive (West 145th Street)
 - 2) The Backpacker Magazine and NYC Parks is presenting "Outdoor Adventure in your Own Backyard", which will be held on 6/22/13 at 11:00am – 4:00pm at Central Park Bandshell at 72nd Street
 - 3) The Kingsbridge Road Merchants Association will have its 2nd Annual "Unity in the Community Festival" on 6/22/13 from 12:00pm – 6:00pm at Reservoir Avenue between Kingsbridge Road and West 195th Street
 - 4) Public Advocate Forum will be held on 6/24/13 at the Convent Avenue Baptist Church, located at 420 West 145th Street
 - 5) NYC Parks Department is sponsoring the "Kids in Motion & Adult Festival" on 6/29/13 at 11:00am – 4:00pm at the Williamsbridge Oval Park, located at 3225 Reservoir Oval East
 - 6) NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM) CERT is offering a FREE 10-Week training program where you will learn how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies (fire, floods, blackouts, severe weather, etc.
 - 7) ConEdison is offering a \$25.00 rebate to residential customers who buy an "Energy Star" Air Conditioner between May 20th & August 30th
 - 8) Bronx River Festival was rescheduled due to weather conditions. The new date is 7/13/13 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm at Bronx River Forest & Burke Avenue Bridge
 - 9) The City Council voted to approve the street co-naming of Villa Avenue from the Grand Concourse to East 204th Street in honor of St. Philip Neri School
 - 10) Councilman Koppell Intervenes to help restore a building that was damaged by Fire. After a major fire on June 3rd at 66 West Gun Hill Road resulted in severe damage to the building and the relocation of many tenants, Council Member Oliver Koppell reached out to the Human Resources Administration's (HPD's) Proactive Preservation Initiative (PPI) to assist the landlord in restoring the building to habitable condition



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- 11) The City Council passes Koppell-sponsored bill making muni-meters more user-friendly
- R) Timothy Tapia, Councilman Cabrera's Office:
 - 1) Councilman Cabrera thanked Paul for all his work
 - 2) The Councilman handed out over 300 bike helmets
 - 3) Working to expand food program
 - 4) Livery Cabs are more available by law
 - 5) Budget is almost ready to pass, which will benefit the Bronx
- S) Tom Lucania, Borough President's Office:
 - 1) The NYC Economic Development Corporation and Borough President Diaz announce Groundbreaking for 133,000 Square Foot Retail Development at Broadway Plaza in the Bronx
 - 2) Bronx LGBTQ Center launches Outreach Initiatives
 - 3) Food Network and Cablevision partner to provide access to food, nutritional education through "Good Food Gardens"
 - 4) Lawsuit on FreshDirect dismissed
 - 5) The Borough President provided a statement regarding the City Settlement of the PCB Light Lawsuit
 - 6) Caribbean Heritage Month Celebrating will be held on 6/27/13 at 6:00pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in the Bronx County Building
- II) Public Session ended at 7:10pm and the Board Meeting opened
 - A) Attendance taken, quorum present
 - B) Agenda & Minutes approved with change of Executive Committee Minutes. Under G #3, Omit "William Francis will send correct wording"
- III) Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
 - A) Paul thanked his Executive Board, especially Andrew Laiosa for his tireless attention to Board matters
- IV) **MOTIONS:**
 - A) Traffic & Transportation:
 - 1) **MOTION 1:** CB7 supports the DOT Safe Route to Transit: Bus Stops under the EL. This project would improve pedestrian safety while waiting for/or leaving a bus at the Kingsbridge Road/Jerome Avenue Bus stops, as well as the Woodlawn Bus Stop (Jerome Avenue and Bainbridge Avenue)
 - a) **Motion approved with 1 opposition by Jean Hill**
 - 2) **MOTION 2:** CB7 is in support of the replacement of the retaining wall along Jerome Ave and Parkview Terrace between East 196th Street and Morris Avenue. The wall is likely 75 years old, and is in need of replacement



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a) Motion approved unanimously

- 3) **MOTION 3:** CB7 supports the National Guards Army Day to be held on Saturday August 17, 2013, on East 195th Street between Jerome Avenue and Reservoir Avenue

- a) Questions about recruitment were raised
- b) Paul spoke against the Army Day outside the Kingsbridge Armory
- c) William Francis supported Army Day and spoke in support of the motion
- d) Adaline Walker spoke against the motion
- e) Helene Hartman spoke in favor of the motion
- f) Hector Lopez asked further questions regarding the event

g) Motion was passed with 2 No's and 1 Abstention

B) Housing:

- 1) Jean read the motion
- 2) Paul allowed the motion to be introduced even though it was not on the website
- 3) Since the Committee did not support a letter of support, the **motion was withdrawn**. The Housing Committee, after careful consideration and several meetings with the developer, has voted not to provide a Letter of Support for the "Norwood Terrace" located at 3349 Webster Avenue just south of Gun Hill Road. This proposed development does not include resident parking or ground floor retail or other "active uses" and does not satisfy the vision for the Webster Avenue Corridor that CB7 adopted to benefit our community

V) District Manager's Report by Tom Lucania:

- A) Reported on the work of the Board members and the office staff
- B) Bill Francis thanked Tom for his dedication in keeping things together for so long

VI) Election Committee:

- A) The Election Monitoring Committee gave instructions on how to fill out the voting ballot, and the election proceeded

VII) Announcements:

- A) An announcement of a meeting around Health Issues was made. Topics will include the P.S.51 contamination. The meeting will be held on July 1st at 6:00pm at St. Philip Neri

VIII) Election Results:

A) Chairperson, Adaline Walker

- 1) Adaline Walker - 14 Votes:

- a) 1) John Franco, 2) Adaline Walker, 3) Barbara Stronczer, 4) Khadijaha Saeed, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Sandra Erickson, 7) Margaret Mack, 8) Jean Hill, 9) Cynthia O'Neal, 10) Eleanor Lundeen, 11) Charlesetta Rhett, 12) Mohammed Ali, 13) Helene Hartman, 14) Nilsa Cintron



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- 2) William Francis - 11 Votes:
 - a) 1) Hector Lopez, 2) Andrew Laiosa, 3) Paul Foster, 4) Nelson Cruz, 5) Dilletta Pina, 6) William Francis, 7) Bruce Kaufman, 8) Lowell Green, 9) Lisa Sills-Short, 10) Walter Bell, 11) Chris Singh
- B) 1st Vice-Chairperson, Barbara Stronczer:
 - 1) Barbara Stronczer – 13 Votes:
 - a) 1) John Franco, 2) Adaline Walker, 3) Barbara Stronczer 4) Khadijaha Saeed, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Sandra Erickson, 7) Margaret Mack, 8) Jean Hill, 9) Cynthia O’Neal, 10) Eleanor Lundeen, 11) Charlesetta Rhett, 12) Helene Hartman, 13) Nilsa Cintron
 - 2) Hector Lopez – 12 Votes:
 - a) 1) Hector Lopez, 2) Andrew Laiosa, 3) Paul Foster, 4) Nelson Cruz, 5) Dilletta Pina, 6) Mohammed Ali, 7) William Francis, 8) Bruce Kaufman, 9) Lowell Green, 10) Lisa Sills-Short, 11) Walter Bell, 12) Chris Singh
- C) 2nd Vice-Chairperson, Nora Feury:
 - 1) Nora Feury – 14 Votes:
 - a) 1) John Franco, 2) Adaline Walker, 3) Barbara Stronczer, 4) Khadijaha Saeed, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Sandra Erickson, 7) Margaret Mack, 8) Jean Hill, 9) Cynthia O’Neal, 10) Eleanor Lundeen, 11) Charlesetta Rhett, 12) Mohammed Ali, 13) Bruce Kaufman, 14) Helene Hartman
 - 2) Dilletta Pina – 11 Votes:
 - a) 1) Hector Lopez, 2) Andrew Laiosa, 3) Paul Foster, 4) Nelson Cruz, 5) Dilletta Pina, 6) William Francis, 7) Lowell Green, 8) Lisa Sills-Short, 9) Walter Bell, 10) Chris Singh, 11) Nilsa Cintron
- D) 3rd Vice-Chair, Andrew Laiosa:
 - 1) Andrew Laiosa – 15 Votes:
 - a) 1) Hector Lopez, 2) Andrew Laiosa, 3) Paul Foster, 4) Barbara Stronczer, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Sandra Erickson, 7) Nelson Cruz, 8) Dilletta Pina, 9) Charlesetta Rhett, 10) William Francis, 11) Bruce Kaufman, 12) Lowell Green, 13) Lisa Sills-Short, 14) Walter Bell, 15) Chris Singh
 - 2) Khadijaha Saeed – 10 Votes:
 - a) 1) John Franco, 2) Adaline Walker, 3) Khadijaha Saeed, 4) Margaret Mack, 5) Jean Hill, 6) Cynthia O’Neal, 7) Eleanor Lundeen, 8) Mohammed Ali, 9) Helene Hartman, 10) Nilsa Cintron



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E) Secretary, Lowell Green – 24 Votes:

1) Ms. Lowell Green did not have a running opponent, making her the Secretary by default. The votes are as follows:

- a) 1) John Franco, 2) Hector Lopez, 3) Andrew Laiosa, 4) Paul Foster, 5) Barbara Stronczer, 6) Khadijaha Saeed, 7) Nora Feury, 8) Sandra Erickson, 9) Nelson Cruz, 10) Margaret Mack, 11) Jean Hill, 12) Cynthia O'Neal, 13) Dilletta Pina, 14) Eleanor Lundeen, 15) Charlesetta Rhett, 16) Mohammed Ali, 17) William Francis, 18) Bruce Kaufman, 19) Lowell Green, 20) Lisa Sills-Short, 21) Walter Bell, 22) Helene Hartman, 23) Chris Singh, 24) Nilsa Cintron

F) Treasurer, Jean Hill:

1) Jean Hill – 14 Votes:

- a) 1) John Franco, 2) Jean Hill, 3) Barbara Stronczer, 4) Khadijaha Saeed, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Sandra Erickson, 7) Margaret Mack, 8) Jean Hill, 9) Cynthia O'Neal, 10) Eleanor Lundeen, 11) Charlesetta Rhett, 12) Bruce Kaufman, 13) Helene Hartman, 14) Nilsa Cintron

2) Walter Bell – 10 Votes:

- a) 1) Hector Lopez, 2) Andrew Laiosa, 3) Paul Foster, 4) Nelson Cruz, 5) Dilletta Pina, 6) Mohammed Ali, 7) William Francis, 8) Lowell green, 9) Lisa Sills-Short, 10) Walter Bell

IX) Executive Session:

A) After the election results were read, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss and approve the selection of the District Manager

B) Paul thanked the Search Committee for their dedication to the job at hand

C) Paul also thanked the Board Members who applied for the position

D) Paul named the candidate, Mr. Socrates Caba, and read his resume and accomplishments

E) Questions about the candidate were raised by Board Members and answered by Paul, who was representing the Search Committee

F) The public was admitted after the discussion

G) The vote to hire Socrates Caba as the District Manager was taken. The vote is as follows:

1) 13 voted "Yes" to select Candidate, Mr. Caba:

- a) 1) Mohammed Ali, 2) Walter Bell, 3) Nilsa Cintron, 4) Sandra Erickson, 5) Nora Feury, 6) Paul Foster, 7) William Francis, 8) Helene Hartman, 9) Bruce Kaufman, 10) Andrew Laiosa, 11) Hector Lopez, 12) Dilletta Pina, 13) Barbara Stronczer



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- 2) 3 voted "No" against the selection:
 - a) 1) John Franco, 2) Eleanor Lundeen, 3) Cynthia O'Neal
- 3) 4 "Abstained":
 - a) 1) Jean Hill, 2) Margaret Mack, 3) Charlesetta Rhett, 4) Adaline Walker
- 4) The following individuals did NOT submit a vote:
 - a) Nelson Cruz (Applied for DM position, Conflict of Interest)
 - b) Lisa Sills-Short (Applied for DM position, Conflict of Interest)
 - c) Chris Singh (Applied for DM Position, Conflict of Interest)
 - d) Lowell Green (Applicant's Parent, Conflict of Interest)
 - e) Ms. Khadijaha Saeed (Was not present at the time of the vote)
- H) The DM was approved
- I) Paul then announced the members who would serve on the Armory Monitoring Committee:
 - 1) Lowell Green
 - 2) William Francis
 - 3) Paul Foster
- X) Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM