



Chairman Nicholas Himidian & District Manager William Rivera

## Land, Zoning, Economic Development & Planning Committee Meeting **Minutes** May 6, 2019

**Meeting Location:** BRONX CB9 OFFICE

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Mitchell Halpern, Lisa Diaz, Nicholas Himidian, Jr., DM Rivera (called-in)

**Board Members Not Present:** Mohammed Mujumder, Benigno Cuevas, Cruz Garcia

### **Introduction**

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- B. The Land, Zoning, Economic Development & Planning Committee represents the community's interests with regard to the use of land, zoning, landmark, building, etc. and acts as a liaison between community members and Department of City Planning, Department of Buildings & the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

### **Notices**

- A. DOB Construction Notices Attached to agenda distributed.

### **DM Update**

As per DM Rivera the Metro North Study Area Initiative is taking place and the East Tremont corridor and area around the Metro North proposal is being studied. CB9 should hear an update on this from City Planning next month or by the end of the Fiscal Year. City Planning should be hosting another meeting by the end of the Fiscal Year and the board will be updated on this. DM Rivera and ADM Shirley have attended these past meetings and will be attending any future meetings. As per DM Rivera, CB9 is asking City Planning to look at the entire district for re-zoning, not just the areas immediately adjacent to where the Metro-North is being planned.

As per Chairman Himidian what is taking place at 1275 Pugsley Avenue, as per notice, it is scheduled to be demolished? As per DM Rivera, CB9 only receives notices of demolition, not plans for what may be built here. As per Chairman Himidian, he would like CB9 to be proactive in ascertaining what will be coming into the district. As per DM

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Rivera, he will email DOB regarding similar projects, even if it is just to have it on record in the case that DOB does not have an answer for us at the moment.

As per Chairman Himidian, What is taking place with Crown Castle Fiber Optic Conduit work? As per DM Rivera, that is probably contracting or electrical work being done by a restaurant.

As per Angela Laguer, there is a 6 story hotel coming at 1275 Pugsley Avenue. Both Chairman Himidian and DM Rivera have received emails regarding this matter. As per Angela, DM Rivera replied that he is looking into this matter. As per Chairman Himidian, DM Rivera and he will be discussing this matter. It seems that the address listed as 1275 Pugsley Avenue also encompasses neighboring properties.

As per Chairman Himidian, CB9 is not opposed to NYC Shelters, however, we really need to think about what should be built here in regards to the proposed shelter site at Westchester Ave. In addition, the community should have been involved in the decision making. Permanent, affordable housing is needed in this community for people that are homeless. In addition, it is disingenuous to say that the Community Board was aware of this shelter 2 years in advance as stated by Assemblywoman Reyes. As per Chairman Himidian, CB9 hosted an emergency executive committee meeting earlier this month because it is unacceptable for the board to be used as a scapegoat.

As per Chairman Himidian, As of Right policies should be re-written so that Community Boards are notified of these in advance. As per Aurora Carrion, Samaritan Village attempted to open a site on Bruckner Blvd a few feet away from the library and across the over path from several schools previously but were unsuccessful. As per Chairtman Himidian, we invited all to attend the Social Service Committee. CB9 is in the process of formulating a plan and sending it out to the board.

As per Aurora Carrion the library on Bruckner Blvd. and Castle Hill is celebrating more than 40 years of being opened. There have been 2 planning meetings and there will be another meeting tomorrow. The celebratory event will be taking place on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2:30pm. 5 Parents from each local schools have been invited to participate. CB9 to send a representative to attend this event.

## **Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM**

Minutes created by CB9 Office Staff

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