

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2015
AT RIVERDALE YM/YWHA, 5625 ARLINGTON AVENUE**

- PRESENT:** S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young
- ABSENT:** L. Baez, P. Ellis, R. Fanuzzi, M. Felix, N. Friedman, D. Fuchs, A. Guzman, S. Marquez, C. G. Moerdler, A. Moore, O. Murray, L. Parker, J. M. Pilsner, J. Rather, D. Toledo, M. Yamagata
- STAFF:** P. Manning – District Manager
D. Bay – Community Associate
L. Hernandez – Community Associate
- GUESTS:** A. Castano – Office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
H. Martinez – Office of Assemblyman Guillermo Linares
D. Quintuna - Office of Assemblyman Guillermo Linares
A. Sandler – Office of Councilman Andrew Cohen
J. Stephenson – Office of Councilman Andrew Cohen
A. Toledo – rep. Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
T. Shelton - KRVC
R. Barbieri – Riverdale Library
E. Bell
T. Mullen – Riverdale Neighborhood House
C. Rivera
P. Rivera
R. Padilla – International Leadership Charter School
T. Brown - International Leadership Charter School
M. Phillips
U. Estevez – Barcelona Bites
N. Bodinger
M. Smith
B. McCullough – Civilian Complaint Board

Chairman Padernacht convened the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

1. Gallery Session -

- T. Brown from International Leadership Charter School introduced herself and colleague Mr. R. Padilla. This is a High School for 9 to 12 graders. The school is moving from Exterior Street into a new school at the corner of 231 and Riverdale Avenue. For the past 3 years the school won the bronze award for excellence. They have a 95% graduation rate. Students are chosen by a lottery.
- T. Shelton announced the Marble Hill Holiday Trolley of Fun Event scheduled on Saturday, December 12 from 1-4PM at 225th Street and Broadway. Visit Santa and other Holiday Characters. All attractions are free.

2. Introduction of Special Guests

Chairman announced A. Castano of Assemblyman Dinowitz office, Andrew Sandler of Councilman Cohen's office, J. Stephenson, Office of Councilman Andrew Cohen, H. Martinez, Office of Assemblyman Guillermo Linares, D. Quintana of Assemblyman Guillermo Linares, A. Sandler of Councilman Andrew Cohen, A. Toledo of the Office of the Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.

3. Report from the 50th Police Precinct – No representative at the meeting

- The Chair announced that there was no report from the 50th Precinct since they were busy handling a shooting that occurred earlier in the day.

4. Report from the Bronx Borough President's Office – A. Toledo

- Reminder - Board members who are due to renew their application to the board must do so by February 5, 2016.

5. Chairman's Report – Daniel Padernacht

- D. Padernacht attended the Borough Board meeting. All Bronx Community Board Chairs, six Council members and the Borough President voted against the MIH and the ZQA. Two Council members did not appear and one abstained. The board will submit all documents and testimony from the public on the MIH and ZQA to City Planning for their December 16 hearing. City Council has the final vote on these zoning amendments. The Chair thanked board members for all their time dedicated to working on this matter.
- D. Padernacht chaired the Public Safety meeting in November due to the Public Safety Chair's absence. There was no quorum. Applicants will be asked to return to the December 3, 2015 meeting.
- The Chair announced that P. Ellis's father passed away and he expressed his condolences.
- A. Feldmeier and M. Galvin resigned from the board.
- Chair Padernacht reminded the board members to attend their committee meetings and board meetings.

6. Treasurer's Report – P. Friedman

- No report

7. City Planning – No representative from City Planning present

- No Report

8. District Manager's Report – P. Manning

- The District Manager's Report is contained in the Executive Committee minutes.
- A greenstreet/bioswell is being developed at Riverdale Avenue and West 236 Street. Parking will be restored when complete.

9. Committee Reports

A. Education – S. Alexander

- Refer to minutes.
- S. Alexander received an email from a community resident who saw a group of children birdwatching. S. Alexander attributes this to the bioblitz held last year since the resident

mentioned this in the email.

- S. Alexander thanked R. Ginty for informing her that a City Council bill approved legislation which will allow the city to use tax-payer dollars to pay for at least one security guard at private schools and parochial schools.
- P.S. 24 will be at the Whitehall annex until the end of the school year. It has been rented to an Early Childhood School.

B. Environment & Sanitation – D. McCord

- There is no December meeting.
- Demetrius McCord distributed an online survey to collect information on stormwater impact in CB8 and the results are being tallied by Bronx Council on Environmental Quality (BCEQ). L. Spalter reported that we are getting a good response and urged all to participate.

C. Health, Hospitals & Social Services – S. Froot

- There is no December meeting.
- The next meeting will be held on the first Monday of the month, January 4, 2016 at Park Gardens Rehab & Nursing Care Center, 6585 Broadway.

D. Housing – A.J. Robateau reported for P. Ellis

- P. Ellis apologizes for not being present at the board meeting due to a death in his family.
- The Affordable Housing forum will be held December 9, 2015. Will provide information to better understand developing and financing affordable housing. Speakers include representatives from Housing Preservation and Development, Community Federation Corporation and Developers in the area.
- D. Gellman reported that Senator Klein is holding a summit on coops and condominiums at the Riverdale Y next week to discuss tax and financial issues.
- Amy Joy wished all Happy Holidays.

E. Land Use – M. Wolpoff reported for C. Moerdler

- M. Wolpoff commended C. Moerdler for putting together the three sessions on affordable housing and MIH and ZQA resolutions.
- C. Moerdler was listed as one of the best lawyers in New York City.
- R. Press requested that 640 West 238 Street be put on the Land Use agenda and the Chair confirmed that it is.
- The Land Use meeting will be held on December 21st at a location to be determined.

F. Law, Rules and Ethics – M. Wolpoff

- The committee will meet in January. The last two meetings were cancelled due to the holidays.

G. Libraries & Cultural Affairs – M. Goodman

- The Committee was given a presentation at the Derfner Judaic Museum located in the Hebrew Home. They were shown the works of nine contemporary artists, photos of the New York Yankee players, a large fish tank filled with unusual fish and a large bird cage filled with a variety of exotic birds. M. Goodman encouraged all to visit the museum.
- The December meeting will be held on December 10 at the Riverdale Library at 6:30PM.

H. Parks & Recreation – B. Bender

- There was no November meeting.
- December 23rd is the next meeting at the Riverdale Mental Health Association, 5676 Riverdale Avenue, 2nd floor. The Parks Department will give a presentation on the Parks Without Borders Initiative. It is the Parks Commissioner’s initiative to make parks more accessible, open, welcoming, and beautiful by focusing on improving entrances. One way to achieve this is by removing the tall 10-12 ft. fences. The Parks Department has a \$40 million fund. They will select and fund the best eight parks to showcase the program.

I. Public Safety – J. O’Brien

J. O’Brien presented the following resolutions approved by the Public Safety Committee on December 3, 2015:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Public Safety Committee approves the following **New** applications for New York State liquor licenses:

WHEREAS: Home, the Bronx Steakhouse, 222-24 W. 238th Street, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a new full liquor license and; whereas there being no adverse information presented and; whereas the committee unanimously approved the application with the condition that the applicant agrees to a 2 a.m. closing time for the first year of operation; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves this application with the condition of a 2 a.m. closing.

Vote – In favor: 29 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O’Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

WHEREAS: El Pollocon, 216 W. 242nd Street, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a new full liquor license and; whereas there being no adverse information presented and; whereas the committee unanimously approved the application with the condition that the applicant agrees to a 2 p.m. closing time for the first year of operation; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves this application with the condition of a 2 a.m. closing.

Vote – In favor: 28 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O’Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Abstention: S. Villaverde

WHEREAS: Café Buon Gusto, 4574-4576 Manhattan College Parkway, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a new full liquor license and; whereas there being no adverse information presented and; whereas the committee unanimously approved the application with the condition that the applicant agrees to a 2 p.m. closing time for the first year of operation; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves this application with the condition of a 2 a.m. closing.

Vote – In favor: 28 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Abstention: S. Villaverde

WHEREAS: 5523 Broadway, the new ownership of the current Parrilla Latina, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a new full liquor license and; whereas the applicant refused to agree to a 2 a.m. closing and; whereas the committee unanimously disapproved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 disapproves this application.

Vote – In favor: 26 Opposed: 1 Abstention: 1 Abstention for cause: 1

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, K. Pesce, R. Press, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Opposed: S. Villaverde

Abstention: J. Reyes

Abstention for cause: D. Padernacht

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Public Safety Committee approves the following **Renewal** applications for New York State liquor licenses:

WHEREAS: Yokohama Japanese Restaurant, 438 W. 238th Street, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a renew of a beer/wine license, and; and whereas no adverse information being presented and; whereas the committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote – In favor: 29 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

WHEREAS: Fenwick's Bar and Grill, 432 W. 238th Street, appeared at the Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety Committee meeting of December 3, 2015 for a renewal of a full liquor license after being closed for serving minors, and; whereas the owners assured the committee of procedures now in place to adequately and fully check id's through updated technology, and; whereas the police of the 50th Precinct said these steps appeared adequate and; whereas the Committee unanimously approved the application; be it resolved that Community Board 8 approves this application.

Vote – In favor: 24 Opposed: 5 Abstention: 0

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

Opposed - P. Friedman, L. Spalter, R. Pochter Lowe, K. Pesce, M. Goodman

J. Traffic & Transportation – M. Heller

The following resolutions were presented and were unanimously approved.

Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled "Johnson Avenue Block Festival," September 18, 2016, 10 am – 7pm (including set up and break down). This event has been held previously. The event sponsor will maintain an unobstructed 15 foot lane to permit the passage of emergency vehicles as required by the SAPO regulations.

Community Board 8 approves the SAPO application for a full street closure for an event entitled "South Riverdale Merchant Fair," May 1, 2016, 10 am – 7pm (including set up and break down). This event has been held previously. The event sponsor will maintain an unobstructed 15 foot lane to permit the passage of emergency vehicles as required by the SAPO regulations.

Vote – In favor: 29 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

- The Traffic & Transportation is meeting on December 15 at the Kingsbridge Center of Israel, 3115Corlear Avenue. This will be a Public Hearing on a proposed relocation/modification of bus stops serving the BX1, BX7, BX10, BX20 routes in the vicinity of Riverdale Avenue and West 231 Street. M. Heller thanked I. Ladimer for assisting the board office in securing the location for the meeting.
- M. Heller was happy with the attendance of members at the last committee meeting. M. Heller wished all Happy Holidays.

K. Aging – L. Daub

- All senior centers attended the November meeting. Refer to November minutes.
- The Senior Resource guide will be printed for distribution.
- There will be a presentation on a Homesharing program run by the NY Foundation for Senior Citizens at the December 15 Aging Committee meeting.

L. Budget – R. Press

- No report

M. Economic Development – S. Villaverde

- The committee will continue to focus on the Broadway corridor and working with the merchants.
- The next committee meeting will be in February.

10. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2015

- The minutes were approved by a vote of 29 in favor, 0 abstentions, and 0 opposed

Vote – In favor: 29 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

In favor – S. Alexander, R. Bender, A. P. Creaney, Lenora Croft, L. Daub, M. Donato, P. Friedman, S. Froot, D. Gellman, R. Ginty, M. Goodman, M. Heller, D. Kornbluh, I. Ladimer, R. Pochter Lowe, D. McCord, J. O'Brien, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, R. Press, J. Reyes, Amy Joy Robateau, G. Santiago, S. Sarao, L. Spalter, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff, H. Young

11. Discussion of December 2, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

1. No comments

12. Miscellaneous Business

- I. Ladimer suggested that Chairs inform the public about the board and urge them to join the community board.

Submitted by,

Diane Bay
Community Associate