



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

## GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 @ 7 PM

Meeting held at: PS 15 ♦ 2195 Andrews Avenue ♦ Bronx, New York 10453

- I) Greg Faulkner opened the Public Session at 6:35pm.
  - A) The first part of the public session was for testimony on items to be included in the Board's 2011 Capital and Expense Budget Requests for FY'11
    - i. Lowell Green requested the inclusion of the rehabilitation of the Comfort Station on Jerome Avenue and Mosholu Parkway. The station is needed for parks' maintenance workers.
    - ii. Reverend Barry of the University Heights Church requested Cedar Ave. to be made into a one-way street going north.
    - iii. Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. thanked the Board for their professionalism in their deliberations on the Kingsbridge Armory. He also discussed his initiatives for the borough and invited the Board to an Economic Development Summit at the New York Botanical Garden on Wednesday, November 18th.
  - B) The next part of the Public Session began at 7:25pm:
    - i. Sidney Flores spoke about his volunteer work to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood.
    - ii. Mr. X announced the NWBCCC's annual meeting on Sunday, October 25th at St. Nicolas of Tolentine Church.
    - iii. Reverend Barry requested the demolition of a small house located in the Playground of PS 15. The house is being used to climb onto the roof of her church. Her church has sustained damage to the roof and graffiti.
    - iv. Nick Napolitano requested assistance for an intern who is doing a study on how working with community boards can create change. He asked for volunteers from the Board to take part in the study.
    - v. Clarette Friedel from the Citizens Advice Bureau stated that she was available to attend community meetings to inform individuals about her agency's Healthy Family Program. The program will assist individuals in applying for benefits.
- II) Attendance was taken and a quorum was present.
  - A) The minutes of the September 16th meeting and the agenda for the October 20th meeting were approved.
- III) Chairperson's Report:



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- A) Greg Faulkner reported that the Quality of Life Public Hearing held on October 13th was a success. He thanked Andrew Laiosa for his work in organizing the meeting.
- B) Mr. Faulkner announced that the City Planning Commission approved Related's plan for the Kingsbridge Armory by a vote of 8-4.
- IV) Executive Committee Report: Paul Foster presented a motion regarding the use for the former Bronx Library Center building.
  - A) Motion #1: Community Board #7 supports a neuter spraying animal clinic in a part of the old Fordham Library Building while requesting that the remainder of the building be used as a full service youth facility for neighborhood youngsters.
  - B) The motion passed.
  - C) Mr. Foster next read a proposed amendment to the By-Laws regarding term limits of members of the executive committee. (See attached). Once the amendment passes, it will need 2/3 of the majority to modify it. The proposed amendment will be discussed at the next Executive Committee Meeting.
- V) District Manager's Report:
  - A) Request residents to call the Board if streets, bus shelters, or catch basins in the area need repair.
  - B) Gas line repairs will be done along Fordham Road and Bainbridge Ave. during the next few days. There will be a major impact on traffic at these locations.
  - C) Nominees for the annual Youth Awards are being sought.
- VI) Committee Reports:
  - A) Traffic and Transportation: Lowell Green reported that she had received letters from the Botanical Garden, Fordham University and the Rose Hill Senior Housing requesting that the street name Kazimiroff Blvd. be changed back to Southern Blvd. After discussion the motion was tabled.
  - B) Parks Committee: Barbara Stronczer presented a motion concerning the rehab of the landscaping outside of the Stone Mill at the New York Botanical Garden. After discussion the motion was amended to include a proviso requesting public access to the area.
    - i. Motion# 2: The Parks Committee recommends that the Board approve and send a letter to the Design Commission in favor of the proposed landscaping project at the Stone Mill with the proviso that the area be open to use by the public. The motion was approved.
  - C) Budget/Personnel: Hector Lopez presented the Capital and Expense Budget for Fiscal Year 2011. After discussion, the following amendments were adopted:
    - i. Eliminate Item #22 from the proposed Capital budget request.



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- ii. Change priority #4 of the proposed Capital budget request to the rehabilitation of the Comfort Station at Jerome Avenue and Mosholu Parkway for use by Parks' maintenance staff.
  - iii. Add \$350,000 as the budget for Community Boards to priority #25 to the proposed Expense Budget request.
  - iv. Motion#3: The Capital and Expense Budget request for Fiscal Year 2011 be approved with the above three amendments. The motion was approved. Socrates Caba, Dexter Cruzado and John Harris abstained.
- D) Land Use Committee: Ozzie Brown reported that the School of Architecture and Planning at Columbia University is interested in having their students work on a plan for the Harlem River Waterfront.
- E) Education Committee: Yvette Page described her visit to the Bronx Community Charter School. They are currently looking for a permanent location in our Board area. Ms Paige also attended a meeting on school enrollment and the application process for entrance to Middle School.
- VII) Borough President's Report: Tom Lucania reported that the Borough President had formed a Disability Advisory Council. He also stated that Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene had testified at the Postal Commission Hearings.
- VIII) City Planning Report: Richard Guether mentioned the recent city Planning Commission's vote in favor of the Armory. He also announced that the preliminary design for Fordham Plaza was available.
- IX) 52nd Precinct Report: Captain Rivera gave the crime stats and announced that he would continue to work with the Board on quality of life issues. He will remain as Acting Commanding Officer until a replacement for Deputy Inspector Alles is named.
- X) Elected Officials:
- A) Sigfredo Gonzalez from Senator Espada's office announced that the Senator would be opening a 2nd office on Bainbridge Ave and East Gun Hill Road. He urged residents to call the Senator's office with any problems. The number is 718-220-5480.
  - B) Arlene McClaren from Councilperson Oliver Koppell's Office announced that the Councilperson has had a second office at the Mosholu Montefiore Community Center. George Diaz staffs this office.
  - C) Sallie Caldwell from Assemblyperson Naomi Rivera's office thanked the Board for the successful movie on Mosholu Parkway this summer.
- XI) The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.