



Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Martin A. Prince
Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns
District Manager

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING

April 16, 2015

P.S. 175

200 City Island Avenue

Bronx, NY 10464

PRESENT: H. Acampora, R. Baez, R. Barbarelli, R. Bieder, A. Boller, P. Cantillo, Col. W. Chin, A. Chirico, M. Davila, P. Devine, L. Goldstein, I. Guanill-Elukowich, D. Hunt, D. Lock, J. Marano, M.J. Musano, J. Onwu, C. Papastefanou, M. Pricoli, E. Primavera, M. Prince, J. Roberts, T. Salimbene, R. Sawyer, N. Semaj, P. Sullivan, R. Talarico, M. Velazquez (total # present = 28)

ABSENT: L. Blascovich, L. Burrowes, V.M. Gallagher, M. Johnson, R. Kurz, R. Lifrieri, K. Lynch, J. McQuade, J. Misiurski, K. Neddermeyer, B. Pitt, L. Popovic, M. Prohaska, R. Rodriguez, N. Rosario, J. Russo, A. Santiago (total # absent = 17)

Community Liaisons: Daniel Hogel - Office of State Senator Jeffrey Klein
Leon Tulton - Office of Assemblyman Michael Benedetto
Michael Rivandeyra – Office of City Council Member James Vacca
Arial Alvarez - Office of City Council Member James Vacca
Tania Ochoteco - Office of Council Member Annabel Palma
Jaime Williams - Bronx Times Reporter

Board #10 Staff: Kenneth Kearns - District Manager
Susan Duffy

Chairman Martin Prince began the meeting at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The above Community Liaison representatives were introduced and thanked for coming.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SECTION:

1 - C. Moran, NYC DOT Bronx Commissioner: talked about traffic calming plans for E. Tremont Avenue from Westchester Square to Bruckner Boulevard.

A discussion among board members began as to the different items in the proposal and the pros/cons of each was brought up. This topic will be discussed as part of the Municipal Services Committee minutes below.

- 2 - Bob Bieder: 45th Precinct Community Council Breakfast, May 15, 2015, Villa Barone Manor honoring Rev. D. Jenkins, Mr. J. McQuade, Ms. L.Sorin, Mr. J. Provetto, Mr. P. Nani, and Mrs. M.J. Musano. Tickets available at meeting or contact the individuals on the flyer.
- 3 - Laura Leich - TNVAC: fundraisers – tee shirts for sale, first aide kits, Applebee's donation dining-to-donate, Jimmy Ryan's Bar May 8 fundraiser.
- 4 - Holly Malone Hut River Greenway is filthy but it needs to be cleaned, May 17 volunteer
Email: maloneh@hotmail.com
- 5 - Leslie Davis, Bronx Outreach Contractor, Solar One: New York State has funding for the emergency projects; will be doing outreach to homeowners, another project is community solar where two or more homes can share resources. leslie@solar1.org
- 6 - Tania Ochoteco, Council Member Palma's Office: Soundview Park cleanup beautification on 4/18/15; Bike Bonanza 5/9/15 helmet fitting for adults and children from 11AM-2PM at the Story Avenue Playground; Naturalization Exam Prep scheduled for 5/19 & 5/26, 1041 Castle Hill Avenue, Job Fair 5/16/15 St. Raymond's HS for Boys 10AM-2PM
- 7 - Evelyn Randolph, 3132 Middletown Road, 10461, 347-366-4800, promoted her program – Grandparents Around the World, info@gatw.org.
- 8 - Enrique Gamez, property owner 530 TN Expressway: want speed bumps installed from Veterans Memorial Park to Schley Avenue
- 9 - Louis Rocco – WSCA, thanked DOT for assistance with signage requests, problems with taxi parking and trash; installation of muni-meters on Commerce; wants an area designated for taxi vehicles.
- 10 - Egidio Sementilli: read a letter from the Pelham Bay Safety Committee which covers Pelham Bay traffic issues.

Note: Mr. Sementilli's letter is on the next page.

Pelham Bay Community Improvement and Safety Organization, Inc. (Revised)
- A nonprofit Community Corporation -
To:

April 16, 2015

Mr. Martin A. Prince, Chairman
Mr. Kenneth Kearns, District Manager
Mr. Joseph Russo, Chairman, Municipal Services
Members of Bronx Community Planning Board No. 10.

Re: Community Board Municipal Service Meeting of April 14, 2015,

Dear Gentlemen:

This letter is to emphasize the already stated opposition submitted to the Municipal Service Meeting of Community Board No. 10 for a "separate traffic study" proposed for Pelham Bay, which did not include the Metro Hutchison Center, the origin of many traffic issues in Pelham Bay.

Obviously, I and many of my neighbors support any solution for Pelham Bay to remedy the serious traffic situation; however, the submitted request to Community Board #10 for the issuance of a letter of support directed to the Department of Transportation will not be productive to Pelham Bay and its surrounding communities. Specifically, the letter requested, which limits the traffic study to an area of 3 to 4 blocks could never resolve issues of traffic in Pelham Bay. Presently, there is an ongoing traffic study being conducted at Metro Hutchison Center corridor and will be published soon by the Department of City Planning. In addition, immediately to the City Planning report, the Department of Transportation will conduct its own traffic study of the Metro Hutchison Center. Therefore, there is not a need for a separate traffic study with a limited proposed scope in Pelham Bay without including the source of the problem, Metro Hutchinson Center. A traffic study detached from Metro Hutchinson Center is a "band-aid" approach to divert the root of the problem that we must deal with.

The Metro Hutchinson Center development is having a direct impact on Pelham Bay and to our quality of life in our Community. The Metro Hutchinson Center, while it has been an economic boom to the area, which we support, has caused many related traffic issues without the City of New York investing into infrastructure in Pelham Bay. The only solution of a fair balance between Metro Hutchison Center and the Pelham Bay Community is to merge one study that includes Pelham Bay as a partner. Furthermore, any new proposed development for Metro Hutchison Center and/or new traffic design will affect Pelham Bay, Country Club, Throgs Neck, Co-op City, Westchester Square, and Tremont Avenue. A clear plan that includes all the Communities stakeholders need to be instituted and overseen by Community Board # 10, to ensure inclusion of all participants of their individual community concerns.

I am not calling for a moratorium on future development at Metro Hutchison Center, however we need to plan smarter and include our Communities' interest. As of now, Pelham Bay will be further burden with close to Five-thousand (5,000) eventual employees at the Emergency Call Center, without an assessment of the impact it will have in our Communities. This is more reason for a joint study.

In conclusion, I respectfully recommend that CB # 10 not issue the requested letter and use the forthcoming Department of Transportation study to include Pelham Bay and its mentioned surrounding communities to ensure that City infrastructure is appropriately applied to the impacted Communities in future development of our communities.

Thank you. Sincerely, Egidio Sementilli, 646-271-2933 or egidiosementilli@yahoo.com
CC: All elected representatives, NYC D.O.T, NYC City Planning, and Metro Hutchison Center.

A motion to accept the minutes from the March 19, 2015 Bronx Community Board #10 meeting was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Lock, and unanimously approved by all.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Toledo

Additional information can be found about the topic noted below on the Borough President's website: bronxboropres@nyc.gov and www.ilovethebronx.com.

Bronx Week begins on Thursday May 7 through May 17; there will be outdoor performances, trolley tours, health fairs, etc.

DISTRICT MANAGERS'S REPORT: Mr. Kearns

The Board is working with the New York City Department of Homeless Services and is slowing making progress in getting concerns addressed. At the request of the Board, DHS has removed the signage identifying it as the Capri Motel. In addition, the facility, which is known as the Crystal Family residence, is now receiving DHS Police patrols inside and around the exterior perimeter. Another facility, Town & Country Residence, is also receiving DHS police patrols. The Board recognized the efforts of the electeds with respect to DHS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Mr. Prince

The Committee did not meet this month.

HOUSING/ZONING COMMITTEE: Mr. Sullivan

The minutes of April 7, 2015 will be amended to include Mr. Chirico and Mrs. Musano. Meeting minutes are self-explanatory. For the public hearing portion on the extension of the sidewalk café for the new owner of Tosca's, the representative from that establishment was late. Numerous complaints regarding Tosca's on noise, valet parking service, exterior plant decorations which impede on pedestrian traffic were discussed prior to the start of the hearing. A Resolution was offered with respect to Tosca's, which read:

“**Resolved.** . . . At the request of the Housing and Zoning Committee, that Bronx Community Board #10 approve the extension of a permit for the enclosed sidewalk café of 33 tables and 67 seats at 4042 East Tremont Avenue, and that this Resolution be reported to the full Board.”

The vote was (3) three in favor, (5) five against, and (2) two abstentions. The Resolution failed for lack of support. This information was reported to the full Board.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mr. Kearns for Mr. McQuade

The Committee met on April 1, 2015. At this meeting, new and renewal liquor licenses for the establishments below were discussed which resulted in two resolutions coming from the Committee to be presented to the full Board for approval:

“Resolved...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board’s file:

- Italia Café, 3009 Middletown Road, 10461, between Crosby & Hobart Aves, License #1261634, which expires on 03/31/15.
- Siete Ocho Siete, 3363 E Tremont Ave, 10461, between Haskin & Baisley Sts, License #1268116, which expired on 02/28/15.
- Legendary Bar, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #1248747, which expired on 12/31/14.
- Bistro SK, 273 City Island Ave, 10464, between Hawkins & Carroll Sts, License #125051, which expires on 05/31/15.

A motion to accept the above resolution for renewal licenses was made by Mrs. Lock, seconded by Mrs. Hunt and approved by a majority of Board members.

“Resolved...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained in the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board’s file:

- Villanueva Restaurant Corp, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #NEW (formerly Legendary Bar)
- Travesias Café, 3830-32-34 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Schley Ave & Lamport Pl, License #NEW (formerly Gianni’s Café).

A motion to accept the resolution for new licenses was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Papastefanou and unanimously approved by all.

A question was raised as to Legendary’s renewal in that the establishment is closed and a new license for Villanueva, at the same address was noted. It was decided that Legendary should be eliminated from the resolution for renewal licenses.

The Bronx Beer Garden requested a letter of support to be sent to the State Liquor Authority (SLA). The management and establishment have been problematic and the Committee and Board denied the request.

NOTE: The above resolutions were incorrectly added to the full Board minutes for the month of April and had already been voted on in Committee and the full Board at the March meetings.

The resolutions voted on in Committee in April will be noted in the Committee report for May 6, 2015 and will be voted on by the full Board at the May 21, 2015 meeting.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE: Mr. Kearns, Mr. Papastefano for Mr. Russo

The Committee met on April 14, 2015. The minutes will be amended to include Mr. Chirico, in attendance.

At the request of residents on LaSalle Avenue, the Municipal Services Committee at its April 14, 2015 meeting agreed to forward a letter to NYC Department of transportation, requesting a study for a speed bump on LaSalle Avenue between Puritan and Mayflower Avenues.

Mr. Kearns introduced Mr. Marcel Negret, a graduate student at Pratt Institute and an Urban Fellow was retained to conduct a resiliency study for the Community Board. Mr. Negret's study "Improving Resiliency, Protecting Vulnerable Coastal Edges Report", was distributed to all Board Members. The report notes planning strategies for the shoreline communities and measures that should be undertaken prior to another storm. Some of the steps include dredging and enhancing shore lines. Mr. Negret noted that New York City received monies under the New York Rising program for planning strategies. The following was presented to the Board for approval:

"Resolved... at the request of the Municipal Services Committee at Bronx Community Board #10 that the Resiliency Plan entitled "Improving Resiliency at Bronx Community Board #10, Protecting Vulnerable Coastal Edges" be approved, and that this information be presented to the full board."

A motion to accept this resolution was made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Lock and unanimously approved by all.

The following floor resolution was read concerning the Street Activity Permit Application for the Rose E. Scala School to close Roberts Avenue between Jarvis and Hobart Avenues and is being presented to the full Board for approval:

"Resolved... at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 for the full Board to approve a Floor Resolution, approving a Street Activity Permit for PS 71's "Red, White and Blue Day Event", celebrating Flag Day on June 12, 2015 between the hours of 9:30AM and 2:15PM."

A second resolution was read concerning the Street Activity Permit Applications voted on at the Committee meeting:

"Resolved... at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the following street activity permits be approved and forwarded to the full Board for approval:

Fairfax Avenue Block Party, on Saturday, June 20, 2015 from 11 A.M. to 8 P.M., Fairfax Avenue, between Waterbury and Baisley Avenues; Contact Eddie Malave, Celebrating July 4th Block Party, on July 3, 2015 from 6 P.M. to 9 P.M, on Co-op City Boulevard between Bellamy Loop and Peartree Avenue; contact Michelle Sajous, Riverbay Corporation., Fourth of July Block Party, on Saturday, July 4, 2015, from Noon to 9:00 PM on Randolph Place between Stadium Avenue and Kennelworth Place; contact: Anthony Grazioli, Ellsworth Avenue 5th Annual Block Party, on Saturday, July

18, 2015 from Noon to 9 P.M., on Ellsworth Avenue between Fairmount and Baisley Avenues; Contact Edward Gruber., 5th Annual Griswold Avenue Block Party, on Saturday, July 25th, 2015, Noon to 9 P.M., Griswold Avenue, between MacDonough Place and Dwight Place; Contact: Alisa Leavy, Glebe Avenue Block Party, on Saturday, August 8, 2015 from Noon to 9 P.M., Glebe Avenue, Westchester Avenue and Lyon Avenues; Contact: Bob Bieder, Throggs Neck Halloween Parade/Block Party, on Saturday, October 31, 2015, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M, Throggs Neck Boulevard between Harding and Schurz Avenues; Contact: Leon Tulton/Ben Randazzo.”

A motion to accept both resolutions was made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Lock and unanimously approved by all.

There were resolutions drafted at the Committee meeting with respect to the NYC Department of Transportation’s traffic study for East Tremont from Williamsbridge Road to Bruckner Boulevard and are noted below:

“**Resolved**...that the original decision supporting the E. Tremont Avenue, Williamsbridge Road to Bruckner Boulevard traffic study in its entirety by the Municipal Services Committee was accepted and reported to the Board.”

“**Resolved**... at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the E. Tremont Avenue, Williamsbridge Road to Bruckner Boulevard traffic study, component covering the section from Williamsbridge Road to Westchester Avenue be approved, subject to the following four conditions and that this Resolution be forwarded to the full Board for its approval:

- Allowing for a left turn on the westbound lane of East Tremont Avenue into Lane Avenue
- Reversing Benson Street between Lane Avenue and St. Raymond’s Avenue
- Replacing lost parking envisioned by the plan, with metered parking on Commerce Street and Westchester Avenue
- Shortening the planned traffic island on Westchester Avenue and East Tremont or replace it with painted lines.”

The Committee was requested to consider amendments in language to this resolution. The Chair of the Committee was apprised of the suggested amendments and allowed for their inclusion in the following revised resolution:

“**Resolved**...at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the East Tremont Avenue, Williamsbridge Road to Bruckner Boulevard traffic study component covering the section from Williamsbridge Road to Westchester Avenue be approved, subject to the following four conditions:

- Investigating the possibility of a left turn in the westbound lane of East Tremont Avenue into Lane Avenue
- Investigating the possible reversal of Benson Street between Lane Avenue and St. Raymond’s Avenue

- Examining the placement of metered parking on Commerce Street and Westchester Avenue
- Reviewing the planned traffic island at the intersection of East Tremont Avenue and Westchester Avenue.

A member of the Board at this juncture questioned the ability of a resolution to be altered when the Chair of the Municipal Services Committee was not present to authorize it. This individual Board member was apprised of the Chair's agreement to the language change. The Board member maintained his position on this matter, while the balance of the membership of the full Board allowed for the resolution to be voted upon, citing the ability of a resolution to be debated and changed at the full Board meeting.

A motion to accept this resolution was made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Ms. Semaj, and approved by a majority of Board members, with three (3) opposed and one (1) abstention.

The Board was asked to review another resolution concerning the reversal of portion of the Hutchinson River Parkway service road. This resolution read as follows:

“Resolved...at the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the component of the E. Tremont Avenue study covering Hutchinson River Parkway service road to Ericson Avenue, was approved and that this information be reported to the full Board.”

This resolution was approved at the Committee level. However, at the full Board meeting it was tabled and determined that the Board office would contact the property owners along the Hutchinson River Parkway service road from E. Tremont Avenue along Ericson Place to Roebling Avenue to apprise them of the plan's components.

The NYC Department of Transportation had initially suggested that their traffic calming effort cover the portion of E. Tremont Avenue from Westchester Avenue to Bruckner Boulevard. The following resolution was prepared:

“Resolved...At the request of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the Committee approve that the portion of the E. Tremont Avenue Williamsbridge Road to Bruckner Blvd. traffic calming study.”

The necessity of this resolution was abrogated by the Borough Commissioner of the NYC Department of Transportation informing the Board that the agency had withdrawn this section from consideration and that it would contact the Board in the future regarding plans for traffic calming.

PARKS/RECREATION COMMITTEE: Mrs. Gallagher
The Committee did not meet in April.

PLANNING/BUDGET COMMITTEE: Mr. Misiurski

The Committee did not meet in April.

HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES: Mrs. Hunt

The Committee met on Wednesday, April 18, 2015. Walks have been scheduled for May 10 and June 13. An invitation was extended to the civic associations and their membership to participate in the Healthy Lifestyle Challenges effort and to join the group's FaceBook page.

YOUTH SERVICES/EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Bieder

The Committee will meet on April 20, 2015 at which time the students who participated in the Global Youth Essay Contest will be presenting his/her essays to the Committee.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Sullivan for Mrs. Gallagher

Elections must be held every year. Officers can serve for two consecutive terms (one term is equal to two years) and the By-Laws state that officers must be re-elected every year. Nominations can be made from the floor at next month's Board meeting, or emailed to the Board Office. Mr. Cantillo, who currently holds the position of Secretary has reached the end of his second term and cannot be re-elected for 2015-2016. The following nominations were made: Chair – Mr. Prince, nominated by Mrs. Lock, Mr. Marano, nominated by Mr. Talarico; 1st Vice Chair – Mr. Talarico, nominated by Mr. Marano; 2nd Vice Chair – Mr. Salimbene, nominating himself.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

Motion to close the April 19, 2015 Community Board #10 meeting was made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Ms. Semaj and unanimously approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Duffy.