

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING

**Held on April 14, 2011
Villa Barone Restaurant
3289 Westchester Avenue
Bronx, New York 10461**

PRESENT: H. Acampora; R. Baez; R. Bieder; L. Blascovich; L. Burrowes; Col. W. Chin; R. Dominquez; V.M. Gallagher; L. Goldstein; C. Hughes; D. Hunt; A. Jack; R. Kurz; P. LaScala; S. Lask; J. Marano; J. Misiurski; C. Papastefanou; M. Pricoli; J. Regina; M. Romano; A. Ribustello; A. Santiago; R. Sawyer; R. Talarico; F. Ventola (26)

ABSENT: P. Cantillo; A. Chirico; P. Devine; R. Foley; B. Heaney; D. Howard; D. Lock; K. Lynch; S.P. Lynch; J. McQuade; J. Miller; M.J. Musano; K. Neddermeyer; Rev. C. Owens; B. Pitt; D. Pouchie; M. Prince; M. Prohaska; Rev. A. Rosario; J. Russo; P. Sullivan (21)

Community Liaisons:

Andy Toledo - representing Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Aurelia Greene - Bronx Deputy Borough President
Nicole Peda - representing State Senator Jeffrey Klein
Patrick Rocchio - Bronx Times Reporter

Board #10 Staff: Kenneth Kearns – District Manager – Bronx Community Board #10
Estelle Marra

John Marano, Chair of Community Board #10 convened the meeting at 8:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Marano thanked Villa Barone Restaurant for the use of their facility this evening. He introduced representatives of elected officials that were present, (as noted above).

Chairman Marano introduced Bronx Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene. The Deputy Borough President addressed the Board and praised them as being the most active and constructive Board in the Bronx. She noted the public that was in attendance and said their presence shows that they know that they can count on Board #10 for help with any local problems and that this Board is very instrumental in keeping their community safe and viable.

Ms. Greene went on to speak of the rodent problem in the Bronx. The Health Department made a presentation to the Bronx Borough President's office regarding this issue. There is now a free Rodent Management Training program being held on Tuesday, May 24th, 2011 between the

Hours of 1:00PM-4:30PM. It is being held at the Association for Energy Affordability Training Center – 105 Bruckner Blvd. You can register on line at www.aeanyc.org or www.nyc.gov/rats or for more information you may call John Ahrens at 1-718-292-6733 –ext.8238. Bronx Week is being held May 12th through May 22nd, 2011, and it is requested that we please participate in this very special week. For information on the Bronx Week Calendar Events, you may call 1-718-590-BRONX.

Recently, the Borough President conducted a Community Board Training session, and Ms. Greene asked who attended this session. It was important because it was training to Community Board members who function as spokespeople for the community.

Board member Mr. Goldstein spoke at this point regarding the garbage being shipped via the #6 train. The MTA is aware of what has happened and taking care of it.

BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Andy Toledo

- 1..Re-appointment applications have been reviewed and members who have been re-appointed to the Community Board will be notified.
2. There is legislation being reviewed called the Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act which elected officials are looking to get passed quickly because this bill will create more living wage jobs. For more information on this Act, you may go to <http://livingwagennyc.org> .

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SECTION:

1. Charlotte Codrington – President of Co-op City – Bldg. 19 Association
Spoke of “Golf Course” adjacent to I95, and the fact that it is abandoned.
District Manager Kearns explained that this property may be taken over by the MTA, and that it is located within Community Board #11. She was given Board #11’s phone number.
2. Lucia Giraldi – Throggs Neck resident/activist
Spoke of the Pelham Bay and Throggs Neck Libraries. Staff at these libraries are long-time workers, (over 10 years at these libraries). They may be sent to other libraries and replaced with younger workers. There are only 3 staff personnel in each library. Ms. Giraldi has submitted petitions this evening for all present to sign asking that this not happen. She also reiterated what she said at our March meeting regarding the MTA bus schedules, and the faulty bus routes.
3. Jose Polanco – representing the Board of Elections
Spoke of the need for Poll Workers to work the local poll sites during election time. This is a paid position, and the need is serious. He left applications for any persons interested in being a Poll Worker.
4. Esther Gutierrez – Pelham Bay resident – member of the Pelham Owners Organization

Spoke of the Congested Corridor List which refers to the safety of having St. Paul Avenue remain as is, and not be reversed. She read a statement and will send a copy of same to Community Board #10.

5. Philip Papaelias – resident of St. Paul Avenue

Spoke of pedestrian safety and read a statement on traffic study statistics. Does not want St. Paul Avenue reversed. He left his statement with us.

6. Marcia Anne Pavlica – President of Country Club Civic Association

Asked that we have a moment of silence for two former Community Board #10 members who are now deceased. They were very instrumental in having the landfill closed, as well as having many other environmental projects reviewed by the community. They were environmental activists during the years 1970-1980 – Catherine Poggi and Vita Joan Sullivan. Mrs. Pavlica also asked for a moment of silence for the husband of former Chair of Community Board #10 Diane Lock. Her husband George recently passed away, and a moment of silence was included.

7. Mr. Derrico

Spoke of the obesity problem in the Bronx, and that we should have places and programs available for people to walk and exercise.

8. Rachel Mazza and Robert Robles – Throggs Neck Girls Softball League

Mr. Robles spoke of the need for a fence to be constructed around the bathroom at the field. He has a contractor to put up this fence, but he is asking for permission to do so.

Motion to close Public Participation Section made by Mr. Blascovich, seconded by Col. Chin.
Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

Motion to accept minutes of Community Board #10 meeting of March 10th, 2011 as amended made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Gallagher. Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: Kenneth Kearns

1. Community Board #10 is in the process of composing a 197-A Plan which refers to the Administrative Code that allows the Board to develop a planning document to serve as a guide for future development in an area.
2. Community Benefit Package – This refers to a large developer making an impact on a community, i.e. traffic, the environment and land use. The Community Benefit Package refers benefits that a developer will provide a host community, for hosting a project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: John Marano

Minutes were self-explanatory. Mr. Marano expounded on the importance of members attending their Committee meetings. Without their attendance, Committees cannot conduct business. The following Committees have elected their Chair: Municipal Services: Joe Russo; Housing/Zoning: Peter Sullivan, Planning & Budget: Julian Misiurski. These other Committees

did not elect their Chairs, therefore they have been appointed: Youth Services: Bob Bieder, Health/Human Services; Deborah Hunt; Economic Development; James McQuade; Parks & Recreation; Virginia M.Gallagher.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE: Kenneth Kearns (for Joe Russo)

Minutes were self-explanatory. The following Resolution was read:

“Resolved...At the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee that the following street activity permits be approved: Bangladeshi Street Fair, May 15, 2011; Meagher Avenue Block Association party, July 1, 2011; Lyon Avenue Block Party, August 20, 2011; Independence Day Celebration, July 4, 2011; End of Summer Party, September 3, 2011; Boishakhee Mela, July 10, 2011; Rohr Place Block Party, August 20, 2011; and that this information be forwarded to full Board for its approval at its April 14, 2011 public meeting.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Gallagher – Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

HOUSING/ZONING COMMITTEE: Kenneth Kearns

Minutes were self-explanatory. The following Resolutions were read:

“Resolved...At the recommendation of the Housing and Zoning Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the application for an unenclosed sidewalk café of 16 tables and 37 seats, submitted by the Havana Café of 3151 E. Tremont Avenue be approved by the full Board at its next regularly scheduled public meeting of April 14, 2011.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mr. Misiurski – Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

“Resolved...At the recommendation of the Housing and Zoning Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the application of the Crosstown Diner, located at 2880 Bruckner Blvd. to construct an enclosed sidewalk café of 12 tables and 24 seats be approved by the full Board at its next public meeting of April 14, 2011.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Lask. – Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

The subject of the Hopeful Housing Inc. proposal for senior housing was discussed at the site of the former Plummer Pavilion, located at 1870 Pelham Parkway South. Hopeful Housing Inc. is interested in acquiring the site, so that it could provide housing services for seniors. Its representative, Mr. Marino discussed the possibility of placing a medical facility and day care center in the building, as well. He was told that

of the new lower density growth zoning regulations and how they might affect the building. Additionally, he was also told of the importance of reaching out to the Pelham Bay Taxpayers and Council member Vacca.

PLANNING/BUDGET COMMITTEE: Julian Misiurski

Minutes were self-explanatory.

Mr. Misiurski discussed the Capital and Expense Budget Priorities and the Board received an unsatisfactory response. Therefore, a detailed letter will be sent with the Board's priorities to the Mayor, City Council and Speaker of the City Council to reiterate how important it is to have these priorities granted.

Mr. Misiurski asked the Board members to look at the Community Board #10 Budget which amounted to \$198,895, and explained that we are using all of our resources. He proceeded to read the following Resolution.

“Resolved...At the recommendation of the Planning & Budget Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, to accept the Board Office Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 as offered by the Planning and Budget Committee on March 28, 2011.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Santiago, seconded by Mr. Bieder – Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE: Virginia M. Gallagher

Mrs. Gallagher read minutes which were self-explanatory. However, since they had been discussing the landfill (which she calls Mt. Garbage) she suggested that when the Department of Parks assumes responsibility for this site, that a flagpole be put at the top of the site and that Con Edison will light it. Mrs. Gallagher is reaching out to the Public for ideas for the use of this site.

Mrs. Gallagher spoke of the fact that the Spencer Estates community opposes the Pelham Park South Waterfront Project, i.e. a gate at the waterfront. The organization has asked for an opportunity to assess the agency's plans.

As regards the Co-op City Hutchinson River Greenway project, the community opposes this as does Riverbay Corp. Due to the composition of “Killer Curve”, biking along this path would be extremely dangerous.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Kenneth Kearns

Mr. Kearns advised all present that Community Board #10 will no longer issue letters requesting that the State Liquor Authority (SLA) waive the 30 day waiting period for those licensees that are delinquent in sending their renewal notices into the agency on time. There is a new procedure where applicants will have to sign an agreement sign which stipulates their responsibilities. This stipulation agreement must be signed by the applicant and becomes part of his/her liquor license. If they choose not to sign the agreement our Board will advise the State Liquor Authority of their lack of cooperation. At that point it will be up to the SLA to grant or not grant the liquor license.

Mr. Bieder asked that the following amendment be added to our minutes. Moe and Vibano's Trattoria of 3202 Ampere Avenue, Bronx, have signed the stipulation agreement and have attended the server class, therefore Community Board will send a letter to State Liquor Authority notifying them that this establishment has complied with the rules. Motion to accept this amendment made by Mr. Ribustello, seconded by Mr. LaScala – Vote: 23 in favor; 2 abstentions – Mrs. Jack and Mrs. Lask. Mr. LaScala recommended that we refine the stipulation, and Mr. Hughes motioned to send it back to Committee. Mrs. Gallagher asked

that the following Resolution be voted on tonight: **“Be It Resolved...**that Community Board #10 send a letter stating that Paddy Doherty's Ale House has not signed the stipulation by the deadline and his application for renewal of liquor license should be denied.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Blascovich, seconded by Mr. Santiago. Vote: 21 in favor; 4 abstentions; Mrs. Jack, Mrs. Lask, Mrs. Gallagher, Ms. Burrowes. Mr. Bieder then formed two more Resolutions. **“Be It Resolved...** that Community Board #10 recommend that a letter of approval be sent to State Liquor Authority for International Caterers of 3423 Ampere Avenue and Shelley's BBQ as they have signed and complied with the stipulations.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Talarico, seconded by Mr. Ribustello. Vote: 23 in favor; 2 abstentions: Mr. Santiago, Mrs. Lask.

“Be It Resolved...that Community Board send a letter asking for denial of liquor license for Paddy Doherty's Ale House as they have not signed the stipulation or attended server class.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Talarico, seconded by Mr. Pricoli; Vote: 19 in favor; 1 opposed; Mr. Goldstein; 5 abstentions: Mrs. Jack, Mrs. Lask, Mrs. Gallagher, Ms. Burrowes, Mr. Santiago.

A Public Hearing was held for the purpose of presenting the District Plan for the Westchester Square Business Improvement District (BID). Mr. Kearns read the following Resolution: **“Resolved...**At the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the full Board support the District Plan for the Westchester Square Business Improvement District in the City of New York, Borough of the Bronx, that was prepared pursuant to Section 25-405 (a) of Chapter 4 of Title 25 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York (NII0261BDX)) that was presented to the Committee at its Public Hearing on March 29, 2011 at the Hutch Metro Center, located at 1200 Waters Place in Bronx County at 7:00PM, and that this Resolution be communicated to the full Board at its April 14, 2011 Public Meeting.” Motion to accept made by Mr. LaScala, seconded by Mrs. Jack –Vote: All in favor (25).

Mr. Bonizio thanked the Board for their vote and said that this will send a message that we will not accept a decaying community.

Amendment to Public Hearing of Economic Development Committee: Rocco Talarico was not marked "present", but he was present.

There will be a Fair run by the Westchester Square Merchants Association in the Square on May 14, 2011 from 10:00AM to 7:00PM. We look forward to have volunteer Board members staff an information table thereby donating an hour or so of their time

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: Deborah Hunt
There was no meeting this month.

YOUTH SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE: Robert Bieder

There will be a presentation at the next meeting on April 28, 2011 by the Department of Youth and Development.

At this point Mrs. Lask spoke of a Conference being held at the Jacobi Hospital Rotunda on May 26, 2011 from 8:00AM to 12:00PM. This is a conference on Suicide Prevention. Mrs. Lask handed out fliers to all in attendance.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Jack – Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)
Meeting adjourned at 10:15PM Respectfully submitted by Mrs. Marra, Clerical Associate