

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING**

**Held on September 15, 2011**

**Riverbay Corporation**

**2049 Bartow Avenue (Room 31)**

**Bronx, New York 10475**

**PRESENT:** H. Acampora; R. Baez; R. Bieder; L. Burrowes; A. Chirico; V. Gallagher;  
L. Goldstein; B. Heaney; C. Hughes; S. Lask; R. Lifrieri; D. Lock;  
S.P. Lynch; J. Marano; J. Misiurski; C. Papastefanou; B. Pitt; L. Popovic;  
M. Pricoli; J. Regina; M. Romano; A. Santiago; R. Sawyer; P. Sullivan;  
F. Ventola (25)

**ABSENT:** L. Blascovich; P. Cantillo; Col. W. Chin; P. Devine; R. Dominquez; R. Foley;  
D. Hunt; A. Jack; R. Kurz; P. LaScala; K. Lynch; J. McQuade; J. Miller;  
M.J. Musano; K. Neddermeyer; Rev. C. Owens; E. N. Pellot; D. Pouchie;  
M. Prince; M. Prohaska; Rev. A. Rosario; A. Ribustello; J. Russo; R. Talarico (24)

**Community Liasons:** Andy Toledo – representing Bronx Borough President’s Office  
John Doyle - representing State Senator Jeffrey Klein  
Pat Rocchio - Bronx Times Reporter  
Darrelle Davis – representing State Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera  
Ben Randazzo - representing State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto  
Michael Benedetto – State Assemblyman

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

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Chairman John Marano convened the meeting at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. District Manager Ken Kearns introduced Joe Boiko and Michelle Sajous of the Riverbay Corporation and thanked them for the use of their facility this evening.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SECTION:**

1. Louis Rocco –Organizer – The Square Homeowners – resident of Overing Street, spoke of a variety of problems in the Westchester Square area.- i.e. oversaturation of yellow taxis; deterioration of neighborhood; residents replacing sidewalks without permits; dumping garbage; making car repairs on cars with Pennsylvania license plates; street lights out and residents having trouble getting them repaired. He specifically mentioned

the low income housing near St. Peter's Church. This was supposed to be for local low-income families, but it is now occupied by homeless persons. He also discussed how monies are collected by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles via Registration fees and through car insurance premiums, to set up a fund to combat auto crime. He expressed concern over the expenditure of these monies and the anti-crime programs.

2. Evelyn M. Turner – ‘She Cares – Consulting’ – resident of Co-op City  
Ms. Turner is organizing a Community Service Project called “Share Our Shoes.org.” She needs help to get this project off the ground and asked for all to donate any shoes that they no longer use. There is a need for volunteers to assist in this effort. Her phone number is 1-718-320-8088. Board member Bob Bieder asked her to give us her information.

Motion to close Public Participation Section made by Mrs. Lask, seconded by Mr. Misiurski.  
Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

Motion to accept minutes of Community Board #10 meeting of June 16, 2011 made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mr. Heaney. Vote: Unanimous in favor (25)

**BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Andy Toledo

1. Bronx residents will be asked to fill out a comprehensive survey which is available at all local community board and elected officials’ offices. The survey can be sent back to the Borough President’s office where results will be surveyed and an outcome issued at a later date.
2. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. will be holding The Bronx Education Summit on October 15, 2011 from 8:30AM to 4:00PM. The location is Lehman College at 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, New York. Dr. Diane Ravitch, preeminent education expert in the United States will offer the keynote address at this event.  
For registration and information, please visit [www.bronxeducationsummit.org](http://www.bronxeducationsummit.org) or call 1-718-590-6116.
3. Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and the Bronx Clergy Task Force are holding a “PEACE IN OUR STREETS’ initiative on Saturday, September 17, 2011 at 12:30PM – There will be Community Outreach from 1:00PM -4:00PM at the Monroe Houses Community Center – 1780 Story Avenue (between Rosedale & Taylor Avenues)

**DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT** - Kenneth Kearns

1. The Chairman and I attended the Group Budget meeting with several agencies. Community groups gave us information regarding their requests from the City’s Capital ad Expense budgets, and these needs were presented to the agencies. The Board is still accepting information for both the Capital and Expense budgets from the community.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** John Marano

1. At the behest of the Board, and through the assistance of State Senator Klein, air quality monitors have been installed on the Whitestone and Throggs Neck Bridges. The purpose of the installation is to measure and identify the particulate matter in our air. It is our Board's contention that the air quality in our neighborhoods is poor, due to the fact that that our Board sits on the confluence of three major highways. Once the particulate matter is identified, it is hoped that our Board can convince government administrators of the need for stricter emission controls on motor freight vehicle, such as diesel trucks, and perhaps, shift much of the traffic, as the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has recommended, to the less polluting rail and waterborne modes of transportation.
2. The Chairman and District Manager met with Chief Administrative Judge for the Criminal Part in Bronx County, Efrain Alvarado, regarding quality of life issues, i.e. auto theft; grand larceny; graffiti. The Judge stressed the fact that he is looking into all of these issues as well as the way bail is set and summonses are issued.
3. The Chairman and District Manager also met with District Attorney Robert Johnson to discuss his office's reaction to repeat offenders who have been arrested and the need for heightened awareness on the part of the Assistant District Attorney's on the negative affect that quality of life crimes are having upon the Board's residents. The Chairman announced that he will be addressing the class of incoming Assistant District Attorneys.
4. State Senator Jeffrey Klein is sponsoring a 'PROTECT YOUR CAR' VIN ETCHING event on Thursday, September 22, 2011 from 6:00PM to 8:00PM. This event will be held at the Super Food Town (Parking Lot) at 2945 Bruckner Blvd., Bronx. NY 10461.  
\*\*Weather permitting
5. PELHAM BAY PARK – the bathrooms have now been renovated and are finished. This was done through continuous dialogue between the Parks Department and our Board. At this point, there was a discussion between John Doyle of Senator Klein's office and Community Board members regarding vin etching program; and air monitors program.

### **PARKS/RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Virginia Gallagher

Mrs. Gallagher spoke of the letter sent to Commissioner Benepe asking why construction of a comfort station at Ferry Point Park West was dropped. We have not received a reply, and will have more information next month.

Mrs. Gallagher went on to speak about the progress of the pumping station at Orchard Beach, the pre-scoping program for the pavilion at Orchard Beach; the portable commodes for the

softball team at Edgewater Park, and the fence at Bicentennial Veteran's Memorial Park. All of these items were outlined in her Committee minutes. Additionally, she spoke of Councilman Vacca's proposed plans for the greening of Amendola Plaza and Pelham Bay Station, i.e. "Welcome Sign" all across Pelham Bay Station.

**HOUSING/ZONING COMMITTEE:** Peter Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan read the minutes and explained that Planet Fitness did not have a permit to operate, or a valid Certificate of Occupancy. We contacted the Department of Buildings regarding the Certificate of Occupancy (c/o) for 3060 Westchester Avenue and requested an inspection. Mr. Sullivan then proceeded to make two resolutions from the floor, as follows:

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Housing/Zoning Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 accept the renewal for ULURP #N 110319 ECX, DCA #1257387, IN THE MATTER OF an application from George's SCC, Inc. doing business at George's Restaurant, for review, pursuant to Section 20-225 of the Administrative Code of the New York City Charter, of a grant to renew the permit to operate an enclosed sidewalk café of 11 tables and 44 seats at 3000 Buhre Avenue in the Borough of the Bronx.” Motion to accept made by Mrs. Gallagher, seconded by Mrs. Lock. Vote: All in favor (25)

A second Resolution was introduced, as well:

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Housing/Zoning Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 accept ULURP #n 100400 ECZ, DCA # 1204822, IN THE MATTER OF an Application from Clirkat Donuts, doing business as Quality Restaurant, for review pursuant to Sections 220-225 and 366-a(c) of the New York City Charter, of a grant of a renewal of a revocable consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 27 seats at 2944 Westchester Avenue on the southeast corner of Crosby Avenue, in the Borough of the Bronx.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Chirico, seconded by Mr. Regina. Vote: All in favor (25)

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Joe Regina (for Joseph Russo)

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

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the Committee accepts the recommended improvements to the Bartow and Baychester Avenue intersections offered by the New York City Department of Transportation and that these recommendations be forwarded to the full Board for its consideration at its next public meeting.” Motion to accept made by Mr. Bieder, seconded by Mrs. Lask. Vote: 24 in favor; 1 abstention (Mr. Pricoli).

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Municipal Services Committee, that the Board approve the Street Activity Permit for the Bronx Bangladesh Society of September 18, 2011 for a block party on Waterbury Avenue between Zerega Avenue and Seabury Avenue between

the hours of 10:00AM and 7:00PM, and that this information is transmitted to the Mayor's CAU Street Activity Permit Office" Motion to accept made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Lask. Vote 23 in favor; 1 opposed (Mrs. Acampora); 1 abstention (Mr. Pricoli)

Representatives from the Departments of Transportation and Design and Construction introduced the Safe Corridors to Public Transit Program, which will provide enhanced pedestrian safety by creating bus pads through the extension of sidewalks into the street, under the elevated structure stations at Buhre Avenue and Westchester Avenue, Middletown Road and Westchester Avenue, Zerega Avenue and Westchester Avenue and Castle Hill Avenue and Westchester Avenue. There was concern expressed over the lost parking, some 40 spaces throughout each of the above section, traffic flow and the maintenance of the bus pads. DOT, for its part indicated that any parking space take up by a bus pad, would be replaced removing previously designated No Parking regulations from the above areas. The agency further indicated that the entire Borough was to receive muni-meters, replacing the single space meters, thus creating more parking. Board action on this matter was reserved, until the agencies develop a response to the Board's inquiries. There will be another meeting scheduled for the merchants of the above areas.

**PLANNING/BUDGET COMMITTEE:** - Julian Misiurski

Mr. Misiurski went over the entire budget analysis as presented in his minutes. He explained accruals and the expenses. All Board members had this information prior to this meeting. Mr. Misiurski then proceeded to read the following Resolution:

**“Resolved...**at the recommendation of the Planning and Budget Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the final budget report for the 2010-2011 Budget year be forwarded to the Planning Board for their final approval at their September meeting, thereby closing out the 2010-2011 Budget Year.”.Motion to accept made by Mr. Santiago, seconded by Mr. Hughes. Vote: All in favor (25)

**YOUTH/EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Robert Bieder

Mr. Bieder read from the minutes regarding the renovation of the Yellow School House and if this is done, this property will be used for senior programs and after-school programs for the student population. Their guest at the last meeting was Barbara Greene of AllCare Provider Services, Inc. She is in discussion with Riverbay Corp. at the present time and should they come to an agreement on the contract, work will begin on the Yellow Schoolhouse.

Mr. Bieder then spoke of VIM's recently opened store on Tremont and Castle Hill Avenues. Applications for employment were given out at the Community Board #10 District Office. VIM administration had agreed to employ local residents, and they have complied in doing so. Many of our own local residents are now employed at this store.

The fact that there is no one person to handle the Education part of this committee was brought

to light. Mr. Bieder asked for any volunteer who wished to take over this part of the Committee would be very welcome. They need the help.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:** This committee did not meet this month, but their meeting is scheduled to be held in the Community Board office on September 19, 2011.

**HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:** This committee did not meet this month, but their meeting is scheduled to be held in the Community Board office on September 21, 2011.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Community Benefit Package for Target was discussed. The two houses adjacent to the Msgr. Scanlon school may be torn down and the property will then be able to be made into a parking lot.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Pricoli thanked Ken Kearns and Patrick for the information they sent him. He is trying to get better services for the homeless and disabled. In our last transportation crisis, it irked him that Mayor Bloomberg did not use the buses to help people get to their shelters. He feels that the Mayor did not do all he could to help those that really needed help.

Capt. Green of the 45<sup>th</sup> Pct. has been very helpful in cleaning up various undesirable situations within Community Board #10, i.e. gaming tables, drugs, beer bottles in the parks, making arrests; etc.. Community Board #10 and Capt. Green have a very good relationship. It is also felt that the relationship between the 45<sup>th</sup> Pct. and Co-op City is a good one. Mr. Kearns has asked residents to call 311, get a confirmation number and report it to our board office when there is a complaint that needs to be taken care of. 911 is for emergency only.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Regina, seconded by Mr Sullivan. Vote: All in favor (25). Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mrs. Marra, Clerical Associate.