



## THE CITY OF NEW YORK THE BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### Community Board #12 (The Bronx)

4101 White Plains Road  
The Bronx, New York 10466  
Telephone: 718 - 881 - 4455/56  
Facsimile: 718 - 231 - 0635

FATHER RICHARD F. GORMAN, ESQ.  
Chairman

### Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Community Board #12 (The Bronx) April 23, 2015, 7:30 P.M. Town Hall

**4101 White Plains Road, The Bronx, New York 10466**

#### I Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Stated Meeting of Community Board #12 (The Bronx) for April 23, 2015 was called to order at 7: 40 P.M. at Town Hall located at 4101 White Plains Road, The Bronx by the Chairman, Father Richard Gorman.

The Chairman invited those wishing to participate to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. He then asked for the Board Members and those neighborhood residents present to join him, if they wished, in a moment of silent remembrance and reflection for:

- our longtime District Manager Carmen Rosa, who returned home to God a month ago, and her children, Alfredo and Linda, who survive her;
- Community Activist Michael Hinton, who recently underwent foot surgery;
- Deputy Inspector Brian Mullen, former Commanding Officer of the Forty-seventh Precinct, who recently lost his Mother;
- Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene, who also recently lost her Mother;
- improved relations and understanding between Police Officers and those whom they serve;
- the members of our Armed Forces and our Veterans; and
- our first responders – the NYPD, FDNY, and EMT's -- who keep us safe in the homeland.

## **II Approval of the Minutes of February 26, 2015**

A motion was made by Second Vice-Chairman Karl Stricker and seconded by Mr. Robert Hall to approve the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of February 26, 2015, as printed, with any necessary corrections, and to waive the reading of them.

The motion carried with twenty-three (23) in favor, four (4) abstaining, and no one ("0") opposed or being recused.

## **III Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of February 26, 2015.

## **IV Good and Welfare / The Community Speaks**

### **Mr. Hector Cortez / Resident**

Mr. Cortez stated that he is a resident of Nereid Avenue and Carpenter Avenue. He raised a number of concerns that he believes is affecting the quality of life in our neighborhood: the lack of Police foot patrols in the area of Gun Hill Road, the increased incidence of graffiti, the long-abandoned newsstand at the intersection of East 233<sup>RD</sup> Street and White Plains Road, the presence of residents of the PROJECT RENEWAL facility on Bronx Boulevard being in the area of Montefiore Hospital's Wakefield Campus. He has likewise raised these serious issues with our New York City Council Member, The Honorable Andy L. King.

### **Mr. Michael Felter / President, East 233 Street & White Plains Road Merchants Association**

Mr. Felter is working to develop a Business Improvement District ("B.I.D.") on White Plain Road from East Gun Hill Road to East 233<sup>RD</sup> Street, a distance of two and two-tenths (2.2) miles. The next meeting is of the Association is April 30, 2015 from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M. It will address prospective projects such as strategic planning for the area and preparation for additional sidewalk sales. Mr. Felter distributed an informational flyer.

### **John Perkins / Resident**

Mr. Perkins spoke about the danger posed by the difficult traffic conditions at the intersection of Connor Street and Boston Post Road. He queried how many accidents will occur due to the treacherous left hand turn from Connor Street on to Boston Post Road in the absence of a left-hand turning signal. The Chairman, Father Gorman, agreed with Mr. Perkins. The Chairman is extremely well-acquainted with this situation. The Community Board has requested several times that such a signal be installed. This request has been continuously denied by the New York City Department of Transportation (N.Y.C.D.O.T.).

### **Mattie Dickerson / Resident of Palmer Avenue**

Ms. Dickerson expressed her strong opposition and that of her neighbors to the group home slated to open at 3641 Palmer Avenue. Area residents plan to protest the establishment of said facility. She has lived in the neighborhood and has helped to maintain it for over forty (40) years.

### **Alonzo DeCastro / East of Laconia Community Association**

Mr. DeCastro reminded all those present that the East of Laconia Association is celebrating its

Fortieth Anniversary this year. He reported on a recent meeting that he and other concerned local residents had with the our Assembly Member and Speaker of the New York State Assembly, The Honorable Carl E. Heastie, relative to the longstanding need for a youth and community center. He stated that this center was closer to becoming a reality as a REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ("R.F.P.") was soon to be issued. He mentioned the strong support of Speaker Heastie, The Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr., the Borough President of The Bronx, and other local elected officials for the project. He further recalled the great efforts on behalf of the center made by our late District Manager, Carmen L. Rosa, over the years. Mr. DeCastro thanked the Chairman and the Community Board for their continued advocacy in this regard. He stated that the Y.M.C.A. has expressed an interest in this matter and that seventeen million dollars (\$17,000,000.00) has been pledged towards its establishment.

**Madaha Kinsey-Lamb / Founder and Executive Director, Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center**

Ms. Kinsey-Lamb serves approximately six hundred (600) students each week in her programs at Mind-Builders. These programs include classes in music, dancing, theater, and neighborhood folk culture research. She announced that Mind-Builders was establishing a Pre-Kindergarten ("Pre-K") program for four-year olds in September. Registration ends on Friday, April 26, 2015. Later registrations will be permitted if seats remain open. Ms. Kinsey-Lamb likewise announced that young people ages fourteen (14) through eighteen (18) can participate in a free neighborhood folk culture project this forthcoming Summer. Applications for said program are on the Mind-Builders website. She encouraged all to refer to Mind-Builders literature describing the Center's Summer Programs.

**Renee Peralta / MetroPlus Health Plan**

Ms. Peralta announced a special enrollment period for MetroPlus, a health plan under auspices of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (N.Y.C.H.H.C.), which ends on April 30, 2015. She encouraged all to avoid penalties by enrolling for a health plan as required. She encouraged groups sponsoring neighborhood events to call MetroPlus and request that it attend.

**LaCrown Oloruntoba / Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)**

Mr. Oloruntoba announced some forthcoming events being sponsored by C.E.R.T. There will be C.P.R. training offered on May 7, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in Town Hall at 4101 White Plains Road. On June 13, 2015, there will be a Community Emergency Awareness Day from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. on East 229<sup>TH</sup> Street between White Plains Road and Lowerre Place. On May 23, 2015, there will a Veterans Family Day from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. in Co-op City.

**Ms. Linda Scott / East 217<sup>TH</sup> Street Block Association**

Ms. Scott asked for the help of the Community Board with an automobile on East 217<sup>TH</sup> Street and Laconia Avenue that has been illegally parked since March of this year. It is a Cadillac Seville with a black top and a silver bottom. It has no license plates and its Vehicle Identification Number ("V.I.N.") is obscured. She also called for solar energy installation for homes with a flat roof, more neighborhood gardens, and action to counter the ever-increasing number of group homes and shelters being located in the area.

**V      Report of the Chairman / District Manager**

Father Gorman began by congratulating Inspector Ruel Stephenson, Jr. upon the completion of his first year as Commanding Officer of our Forty-seventh Precinct. The Inspector was just recently promoted to that rank in a ceremony conducted at Police Headquarters in Manhattan. He also

mentioned a recent news piece on NY1 concerning the Inspector's efforts in the Precinct that have reduced crime and improved relations between our Police Officers and neighborhood residents.

Father Gorman began a discourse on a host of problems confronting Bronx Community District #12 as a consequence of the increased establishment of shelters and group homes in the area. He initially addressed the Project Renewal facility on Bronx Boulevard. This facility was supposedly opened for the populations that Project Renewal traditionally has served -- *viz*, homeless individuals with substance abuse and mental health issues. Without consultation either from the agency or the New York City Department of Homeless Services (N.Y.C.D.H.S.), this facility has become the home of those convicted of sex offenses. The Chairman reiterated his position that all those in need deserve another chance, including sex offenders. He went on to say, though, that the presence of said individuals requires a different approach in terms of security, supervision, and services. He also questioned the wisdom of mixing this population with those experiencing substance abuse and mental health difficulties. Father Gorman has attempted with our elected officials to meet with N.Y.C.D.H.S. officials about this situation. The Department has not been cooperative in this regard. He encouraged neighborhood residents to call the Community Board if they witness any incidents relative to the Project Renewal facility or its residents. He informed all present that since it opened, the Police have been called over a thousand (1,000) times to this facility.

Father Gorman turned his attention to the Muller Center across the street from Project Renewal. New York City Council Member Andy Cohen has met on more than a single occasion with N.Y.C.D.H.S. officials relative to this facility. He was led to believe that no immediate action was forthcoming with respect to this site. The Chairman announced that he was recently informed by Board Member Anthony Reid that renovations and construction were underway at it. He once again criticized the Municipal Administration for its lack of transparency and communication relative to the location of homeless facilities. He also shared his opinion that the Doe Fund, the agency that will operate the Muller Center facility, has been quite responsible in supervising and providing services to those entrusted to its care.

Father Gorman next addressed the issue of a facility to be established at 3030 Bruner Avenue by the New York City Administration for Children's Services (N.Y.C.A.C.S.). The Administration had a prior facility at this location but closed it. The facility now being established is to house youth who have had contact with the criminal justice system. The Chairman questioned the authentic nature of this facility. He is uncertain as to whether it is a group home or a prison. There is a real concern that it is not residential in nature, but a secured facility. Secured facilities would not be permitted in a residential zone, such as Bruner Avenue. The Community Board will be working with New York City Council Member Andy L. King, who has already inquired as to the matter, on this problem. Father Gorman raised the prospect of neighborhood demonstrations if this project proceeds. He has enlisted the support of our Assembly Member, The Honorable Carl E. Heastie, Speaker of the New York State Assembly, on this issue.

Unique Peoples Services is seeking to establish group homes in two (2) side-by-side houses at 1458 and 1460 Oakley Avenue. Local residents are opposed to this development. He reminded all present that the extremely large number of vacant homes in the District made our Community Board an attractive site for those seeking to open group homes. The Government and not-for-profit (N-F-P) organizations have the money to do this. Moreover, to the extent that more of our housing stock is taken over for group homes, a lesser proportion of it is available in order to attract new homeowners and families. Such a circumstance inhibits economic development and the future well-being of our area.

Services for the Underserved, another not-for-profit (N-F-P) group, is seeking to continue to operate a group home at 1451 Knapp Street and to establish a second one at 3646 Palmer Avenue. The Chairman again mentioned the disadvantages incurred by having more and more of our local housing stock utilized for group homes. He likewise mentioned that, if neighborhood residents are similarly concerned, they need to start showing up for hearings.

Father Gorman has been in contact with the children of our late District Manager Carmen Rosa, Alfredo and Linda Angueira, since her death. He has discussed how Carmen might be appropriately memorialized in this neighborhood, which she so faithfully and lovingly served. He will suggest to the Community Board that Town Hall be christened "THE SAMUEL D. BEA, JR. / CARMEN L. ROSA TOWN HALL COMPLEX." He thanked Board Member Johnnie Goff for her letter of support on this topic.

Father Gorman next turned attention to some impending Land Use issues. The Land Use Committee chaired by Second Vice-Chairman Karl Stricker will soon be convening a Town Hall public hearing on a re-zoning request for a portion of Webster Avenue in Woodlawn Heights in addition to the proposal put forth by the DeBlasio Administration concerning affordable and quality housing. He urged all Board members and neighborhood residents to attend. The Woodlawn Heights proposal is still being developed in the Bronx Office of the New York City Department of City Planning (N.Y.C.D.C.P.). It will take care of an issue not considered in the most recent re-zoning of Woodlawn Heights. It will prevent the sort of situation that has arisen on East 236<sup>TH</sup> Street and Vireo Avenue in which a developer is constructing a multi-unit residential building with apartments measuring slightly over four hundred square feet (400 sp. ft.). Many are leery that these apartments will never rent at the asking price of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) *per* month and wind up being another social services site. The Honorable Andrew Cohen, our New York City Council Member, put forth this idea and is solidly in support of it. Relative to the suggested affordable housing rezoning, Father Gorman expressed great skepticism. He is apprehensive that this idea will undo much of the good accomplished when the neighborhoods of Bronx Community District #12 were "down-zoned." He is alarmed that this idea will impact the character and the quality of life in our District. He further criticized the proposal's provision for doing away with requisite parking requirements with respect to affordable and senior housing.

Likewise relative to Woodlawn Heights, Father Gorman announced that the long-overdue renovation and expansion of the Woodlawn Heights Branch of the New York Public Library (N.Y.P.L.) was finally going to get underway. This project had been funded by our former New York City Councilwoman, The Honorable June M. Eisland, many years ago. The library will be gutted in May of 2016 and will be enlarged by fifteen thousand (15,000) square feet. The anticipated completion date for the project is 2018.

The Chairman presented an update on the search for a new District Manager. Twenty (20) résumés were received in an appropriate and timely manner. One (1) was received subsequent to the deadline and another was e-mailed rather than mailed. These résumés will not be considered. The District Manager Search Committee, consisting of the five (5) Officers of the Community Board, will soon meet to carefully examine each résumé and to select applicants to be interviewed. The Chairman reminded the Board Members that, if any of them who applies for this position or has close relationship with an applicant, (s)he must recuse him/herself from the selection process. The Chairman then addressed any questions and comments raised relative to this process.

Father Gorman then proceeded to make the following statements:

- he congratulated Mr. Michael Felter, President of the East 233<sup>RD</sup> Street and White Plains Road Merchants Association, for the publication of its Business Directory;
- he congratulated Board Member Johnnie Goff on the award given to her Granddaughter, Olivia Guilford, by the New York Yankees;
- he reminded the Board Members of the ruling by the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board (N.Y.C.C.O.I.B.) relative to the distribution of Yankee tickets -- *viz.*, that only the Chairman, District Manager, or Board Member participating in the on-field award ceremony can accept tickets;
- he informed all present that there were ten (10) free tickets to an upcoming concert at the Lehman College Center for the Performing Arts;
- he related that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (N.Y.C.D.E.P.) will be raising water rates by 3.24% this year and that public comment on this increase was scheduled in the Borough of The Bronx for Wednesday, April 29, 2105 in Hostos Community College's Savoy Building -- 120 East 149<sup>TH</sup> Street -- on the second floor at 7:00 P.M.; and
- he informed those present that the New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority (N.Y.S.M.T.A.) would henceforth be disseminating all information relative to all of its public hearings *via* its website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info).

The Chairman concluded his report by enumerating the date, time, and location of many upcoming events of importance and interest. He likewise introduced our honored guests and the representatives of our elected officials who were in attendance. Mr. Dana Driscoll, our liaison from the Bronx Office of the New York City Department of City Planning (N.Y.C.D.C.P.), briefly spoke of the wished-for Quality and Affordable Housing Text Changes and informed all that a public information session on this subject to be conducted by the N.Y.C.D.C.P. Bronx Office was scheduled for May 4, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Walsh Library on Fordham University's Bronx Campus.

## **VI Report of the Borough President of The Bronx**

Father Gorman introduced Mr. Thomas Lucania, the Director of Community Boards and Legislative Affairs for the Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr., the Borough President of The Bronx. Said report is appended to these Minutes. Mr. Lucania repeated the Conflict-of-Interest ruling regarding Yankee tickets mentioned by Father Gorman. He also reminded all about the annual upcoming Bronx Week, which runs from May 7, 2015 until May 17, 2015 this year.

## **VII Reports of the Standing Committees**

All reports submitted by the Standing Committees are appended to these Minutes.

### **Standing Committee on Economic Development and Business Services**

Chairman Felix Roldan reported that his Standing Committee had met with the proprietors of the following establishments and was recommending to the Community Board that it support the approval of the following applications to the New York State Liquor Authority (N.Y.S.L.A.):

- Numero Uno Sabor Latino Restaurant @ 4120 White Plains Road -- New Application
- Cullen Tavern @ 4340 White Plains Road -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal
- Gun Hill Post #271, V.F.W. @ 720 Nereid Avenue -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal

- 23 East Bar Corporation @ 23 East 233<sup>RD</sup> Street -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal
- Mingles Café @ 4012 Boston Road -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal
- Lovette's Restaurant & Grill @ 4609 White Plains Road -- Wine and Beer License Renewal
- Infinity Bar & Lounge @ 3848 White Plains Road -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal
- Joal restaurant @ v4139 Boston Post Road -- On-Premise Liquor License Renewal

Chairman Roldan informed all present that his Standing Committee had scheduled a meeting with eleven (11) establishments since the prior Stated Meeting. Only nine (9) of them responded and attended the meeting. Joal Restaurant, a gentlemen's club, took one and a half (1 & ½) months to resolve issues raised by the Standing Committee relative to its application. The two (2) applicants who failed to show up -- *viz.*, Aqueduct North at 4277 Katonah Avenue and The Rambling House at 4292 Katonah Avenue -- were not approved by the Standing Committee pending an appearance. The Rambling House will have to come before the Standing Committee in any event as it is seeking to renew its permit for an outdoor café, an issue which could be affected by the location of a tree adjacent to it.

A motion on behalf of the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Business Services to recommend the approval of the above-mentioned applicants to the New York State Liquor Authority (N.Y.S.L.A.) was made by Chairman Roldan. It did not require a second. The motion was approved with twenty-two (22) in favor, One (1) against, four (4) abstentions, and no ("0") recusals.

#### **Standing Committee on Transportation and Capital Projects**

Chairman John Isaac reported that the Standing Committee on Transportation and Capital Projects had examined the applications for a license renewal from two (2) car services -- *viz.*, Integrite Car Service and Cutting Edge Car Service. A discussion followed relative to the application of Cutting Edge Car Service. Second Vice-Chairman Karl Stricker expressed concerns that the location of this enterprise in the vicinity of Dyre Avenue and East 233<sup>RD</sup> Street would increase vehicular congestion in that area. He averred that the large number of livery vehicles in this locale was making it difficult to travel and to park along Dyre Avenue and Light Street. Individuals wanting to shop and the operation of the bus into Westchester County were seriously impaired by this circumstance.

Chairman Isaac motioned to recommend to the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (N.Y.C.T.L.C.) that the applications of the Integrite Car Service and of the Cutting Edge Car Service be approved. Motions from a Standing Committee do not require a second. Board Member Sadie Campbell recused herself because of her personal relationship with the proprietor of the Cutting Edge Car Service. The motion was approved with twenty-seven (27) in favor, no one ("0") opposed or abstaining, and one (1) recusal.

#### **Standing Committee on Housing**

The Standing Committee on Housing met with representatives of Habitat for Humanity, who were seeking Community Board support for the construction of Sydney House. Habitat for Humanity is the not-for-profit (N-F-P) organization recognized for the erection of single-family homes with volunteer help. It has selected the Williamsbridge section of the Borough of The Bronx in Bronx Community District #12 as the location of its biggest project in the United States to date -- *viz.*, a sixty-unit apartment building. It is doing so as part of the Municipal Administration's program of erecting more affordable housing. The eighteen million dollar (\$18,000,000.00) development will be located at 839-843 Tilden Street and its seven (7) stories will offer one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and three-bedroom co-op apartments. The New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (N.Y.C.H.P.D.) is helping to subsidize the project by providing seventy thousand

dollars (\$70,000.00) per unit. There will be twenty-six (26) parking spaces free-of-charge provided for residents. Those seeking to purchase a co-op must participate in Habitat for Humanity's "sweat-equity fund" -- *viz.*, two hundred fifty (250) hours of volunteer work with Habitat *per* adult, *per* household. It typically takes a household one (1) year in order to complete this volunteer work. In exchange, Habitat arranges a thirty-year mortgage with a fixed, two-percent (2%) interest rate along with a one-percent (1%) down payment. Sydney House will be constructed with the help of volunteers, who will pitch in with the finishing touches such as painting, kitchen work and landscaping.

Chairman Hall motioned on behalf of the Standing Committee that Community Board #12 (The Bronx) support this project. The motion, which did not require a second, passed unanimously with twenty-nine (29) votes in the affirmative.

Mr. Hall also reminded all present to contact the Community Board with the address of any vacant housing, a list of which is being compiled by Community Board #12 and the Forty-seventh Precinct Chairman John Isaac of the Standing Committee on Transportation and Capital Projects is lending his expertise to this undertaking..

#### **Standing Committee on Health and Human Services**

Chairman Carl Lanzano held a meeting of his Standing Committee to review the application of Unique Peoples Services to open two (2) new group homes at 1458-60 Oakley Avenue and of Services for the Underserved to enlarge the population of an extant facility by the addition of two (2) individuals at 1451 Knapp Street while establishing an entirely new one for six (6) individuals at 3646 Palmer Avenue. The Standing Committee also examined the matter of the facility at 3030 Bruner Avenue proposed by the New York City Administration for Children's Services (N.Y.C.A.C.S.). A discussion about said facilities accompanied Mr. Lanzano's report. Board Member Dr. Dena Robbins complained that some of the structures in question were not built well and that some developers erected them with the intention of eventually seeking out the Municipal Government as a preferred purchaser or as a renter of last resort. Board Member Walter Burgin pointed out that many abandoned homes proposed as facilities are in high-crime and gang-infested areas, inappropriate for the placement of at-risk children.

Chairman Carl Lanzano motioned that Community Board #12 (The Bronx) oppose the facilities wished-for at 3030 Bruner Avenue, 1458-60 Oakley Avenue, and 3646 Palmer Avenue, but support the addition of two (2) third-floor residents to the existing facility at 1451 Knapp Street. The motion was passed unanimously with all twenty-nine (29) Board Members present voting in favor of it.

#### **VIII Old Business**

There was no outstanding Old Business to be considered.

#### **IX New Business**

At Father Gorman's suggestion, a motion made by Board Member Victor Brown and seconded by Treasurer Hilary Bloomfield to authorize the Chairman to pursue the matter of Project Renewal homeless facility and the homeless facility under development in the Muller Center with the New

York City Department of Homeless Services (N.Y.C.D.H.S.), the leadership of Project Renewal, and Mr. George McDonald's DOE Fund. The motion was passed unanimously with all twenty-eight (28) Board Members present voting in favor of it.

Father Gorman requested the consent of his colleagues to forward correspondence to Inspector Ruel Stephenson, Jr. congratulating him on his first year of service as the Commanding Officer of the Forty-seventh Precinct and upon his promotion to Inspector in the New York City Police Department (N.Y.P.D.). All twenty-eight (28) Board Members present agreed that this should be done.

Father Gorman also requested that a motion be made proposing to the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services (N.Y.C.D.C.A.S.) that Town Hall be re-named "THE SAMUEL D. BEA, Jr. / CARMEN I. ROSA TOWN HALL COMPLEX. The motion was passed unanimously with all twenty-eight (28) Board Members present voting in favor of it.

### **Selection of the Nominating Committee**

Father Gorman requested nominations from the floor for the five (5) positions on the Nominating Committee. The following nominations were proposed:

- Board Member Carla Borsotti nominated Board Member Anthony Reid, who accepted.
- Board Member Deacon Brown nominated Board Member Robert Hall, who accepted.
- Board Member John Isaac nominated Board Member Claudia Powell, who accepted.
- Board Member Frank Porter nominated Board Member Carl Lanzano, who accepted.
- Board Member Walter Burgin nominated Board Member Gideon Dunkley, Jr., who declined
- Board Member Gideon Dunkley, Jr. nominated Board Member Deacon Edward Brown, who accepted.

The Nominating Committee will meet prior to the next Stated Meeting in May in order to select a list of candidates to serve as the five (5) Officers of Community Board #12 (The Bronx) for the upcoming year. Health and Human Services Chairman Carl Lanzano was selected by his fellow Committee Members serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

The Woodlawn Height Branch of the New York Public Library (N.Y.P.L.) invites all local residents to stop in and to view a display on how The Bronx appeared in the 1950's and 1960's on May 9, 2015 from 2:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M.

Second Vice-Chairman Karl Stricker informed all present that the Community Advisory Board of Montefiore Hospital's Wakefield Campus would be sponsoring symposia on uterine cancer from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. as well as at 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Father Gorman invited Board Member Walter Burgin to announce that he is being honored by the N.A.A.C.P. Williamsbridge Branch on May 15, 2015 at the Eastwood Manor. Tickets are eighty dollars (\$80.00) each.

Board Member Barbara Gibson LeGrant complained about the tree guards along White Plains Road and East Gun Hill Road. Father Gorman directed Parks and Recreation Chairman ShaKing Alston will investigate this matter.

Board Member Pamela Johnson, Chairwoman of Community Education Council #11 (C.E.C. #11), spoke briefly about the loss of financial resources for the New York City Department of Education (N.Y.C.D.O.E.) from the State of New York. She reported that District #11 is sought after highly

Board Member D. Dena Robbins encouraged her colleagues to attend the upcoming free concert at Lehman Center in which she will once more be participating by singing a solo in Spanish. She stated that the Center is under-utilized as a cultural and artistic resource in the Borough of The Bronx.

**X Adjournment**

There being no further business to which to attend, the Chairman, Father Gorman, adjourned the meeting at 10:20 P.M. and announced Thursday evening, May 28, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. as the time of date of the next Stated Meeting of Community Board #12 (The Bronx).

Respectfully submitted,

*Carla Borsotti*

**CARLA BORSOTTI**  
Assistant Secretary

**Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**  
**April 2015**  
**Community Board Report**

**2015 Community Board Reappointments**

Community Board members who have submitted a reappointment application should continue to serve until they receive a letter from the Borough President regarding their reappointment. The terms of community board members who have chosen not to reapply for a new term ended on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**DiNapoli and Diaz Help Bronx Residents Claim \$245 Million in Lost Money**

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. today encouraged Bronx residents to search for forgotten money belonging to them at Bronx Borough Hall. More than 444,000 accounts valued at nearly \$245 million are owed to Bronx residents.

“There are about 245 million reasons why Bronx residents should be at Bronx Borough Hall today,” said DiNapoli. “When an individual forgets about an old bank account or a utility deposit, that money can eventually be turned over to the State Comptroller’s office. Today’s event with Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. will help raise awareness about unclaimed funds across the borough. It’s your money, come and get it. My thanks to Borough President Diaz for inviting my team and me to provide this service to his Bronx constituents.”

“With this found money, poor and low income families can stretch their budget and have more to spend on essential needs, like rent, transportation, child care and utilities,” said Diaz Jr. “I encourage Bronx residents to make the effort to track down their unclaimed money from the more than \$244 million in unclaimed funds currently being held by the state. I thank Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli and the Office of the New York State Comptroller for expanding their efforts to track down the owners of these unclaimed funds in The Bronx.”

Unclaimed funds is money owed to New Yorkers dating back to the 1940s. The accounts are overseen by DiNapoli’s office until the funds can be reconnected with their rightful owners. The money comes from old bank accounts, utility deposits, uncashed checks, insurance claims, stocks and other sources that have been dormant for a number of years.

DiNapoli’s office oversees 444,181 unclaimed funds accounts valued at \$244,783,169.60 belonging to Bronx residents.

New Yorkers can search for and claim money by using the Comptroller's easy-to-use [online claiming system](#) or by calling the toll-free call center at 1-800-221-9311 to speak with English or Spanish-speaking representatives from 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.

A total of \$1.6 million in unclaimed funds has been returned to Bronx residents since January.

[Visit the Comptroller's website](#) for additional information about unclaimed funds

## **Health Outcomes in The Bronx Improving**

*The Bronx has improved since last year in a number of health categories in spite of ranking last in New York State in terms of health outcomes and health factors*

In a report issued this week, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute ranked the nation's counties on various measures of health, and the Bronx ranked 62nd out of all 62 counties in New York State. Despite this ranking, Bronx County performed better in 2015 than in 2014 for a number of health outcomes and health factors, including fewer premature deaths, improved food environment, fewer sexually transmitted infections, a lower teen birth rate, more mental health providers, fewer preventable hospital stays, and a lower unemployment rate.

The Health Department, Montefiore Health System, the Bronx Borough President's office and other partners have joined together to highlight the various programs that have helped lead to these improvements, and they have created a new social media hashtag **#Not62** to encourage community partners and residents to join the discussion about creating a healthier Bronx.

"I am encouraged by the tremendous borough wide partnerships working together to address our borough's health rankings," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. "We are fortunate to have the commitment of partners like the Bronx Health Reach and the CUNY Institute for Health Equity, in addition to the partners named here, to launch #Not62. This campaign aims to engage major stakeholders across multiple sectors to address the determinants of health, improve the health outcomes of Bronx residents, and have the Bronx move up in the county health ranking in 3-5 years. In order to reach every person who lives, works, plays and prays in our borough, #Not62 employs social media encouraging all Bronxites to use Twitter, or Facebook, or Instagram to post pictures of healthy habits on a daily basis. I am confident that we will continue to make progress and get ourselves out of last place!"

## **The Bronx Tourism Council Launches a New Comprehensive Visitors Guide**

*Borough enjoying substantial increase in tourism*

*Bronx Visitors Guide will help to further redefine The Bronx as a destination*

The Bronx Tourism Council and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. announced the launch of the first annual Bronx Visitors Guide.

The launch took place at Port Morris Distillery, one of the borough's newest tourist destinations, and featured remarks from Borough President Diaz, Olga Luz Tirado, executive director of The Bronx Tourism Council; and Marlene Cintron, President of the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (BOEDC). The Bronx Tourism Council is a subsidiary of BOEDC.

The publication, printed in part with the support of NYC & Company, the City's official destination marketing organization, is available as a 44-page booklet to be distributed through Manhattan and Bronx-based visitor's centers, institutions, and top-tier hotels.

In addition to the book, a digital mobile-enabled version is also available online on [www.ilovethebronx.com](http://www.ilovethebronx.com), as most tourists prefer to access information on the go using hand-held devices. The digital version is equipped with finger-swipe technology and all links are active for easy access to specific attractions.

"Tourism is up 14 percent in the borough, and this year we will push that number even higher," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. "People visiting New York City are starting to realize that this town is enormous and that there are many great sights to see right here in The Bronx. The Bronx Visitors Guide is a great way to highlight the amazing tourist destinations, eateries and other attractions our great borough that we have to offer those visiting New York City."

The borough has over 100 tourist-ready destinations and has come a long way in reinvigorating its image.

## **Statement from Borough President Diaz Regarding Metro North Funding in New State Budget**

"I am thrilled that Governor Andrew Cuomo and the State Legislature have continued to show their commitment to The Bronx by providing \$250 million in funding in the new budget for the East Bronx Metro North expansion plan.

"Governor Cuomo has long understood that new Metro North options in Co-op City, Parkchester, Morris Park and Hunts Point will not only make our region's transportation system stronger, it will also open up new economic opportunities for almost 95,000 residents living near the proposed stations. This new budget shows that the State Legislature agrees.

"The East Bronx Metro North Expansion is a transformative plan, and I commend Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature for moving this plan forward as part of the newly passed budget," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr

## **Senator Jeff Klein, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation Announce Nearly \$500,000 in Small Business Loans Now Available to Bronx Businesses & Entrepreneurs**

*New BOEDC Lending Program Will Grow Small Business, Create Local Jobs & Strengthen Bronx Economy*

Bronx-based small businesses and local entrepreneurs will receive a boost of nearly a half million dollars, State Senator Jeff Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester), Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. and Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (BOEDC) President Marlene Cintron announced today. The Bronx Revolving Loan Fund, a new small business lending program administered by BOEDC, has nearly \$500,000 in loans available to local small businesses -- of all sizes and sectors -- across The Bronx. The loans, ranging from \$2,000 to \$50,000, can be used as working capital, for the purchase of machinery or equipment, inventory and accounts receivable.

"We are working hard to support businesses of all types in The Bronx, and that includes, making sure that our small businesses have the resources and funding they need to succeed. We want to be sure our local businesses know that The Bronx Revolving Loan Fund is a source of capital that they can and should tap as they continue to plan for the future. I want to thank State Senator Jeff Klein for making these funds available to the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation, and I look forward to utilizing these resources to help small businesses all over the Bronx expand and thrive," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

### **Statement from Borough President Diaz Regarding the Passing of Carmen Rosa**

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of longtime Community Board #12 District Manager Carmen Rosa this weekend. Carmen was an invaluable advocate to the community board and neighborhoods which she served. On behalf of all 1.4 million residents of the Bronx, I mourn her passing. My thoughts and prayers are with her children Linda and Alfredo along with the entire family," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Bronx Week 2015**

**Thursday, May 7th through Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Throughout Bronx Week, residents of the Bronx and visitors from the tri-state region come together to celebrate the people, places, history and businesses of the Bronx. Outdoor performances, trolley tours, health fairs, a salute to volunteers and business workshops are just some of the events in store. The grand finale is on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, when famous sons and daughters of the borough will return home for induction to the Bronx Walk of Fame on the Grand Concourse, followed by our annual Parade, Food & Art Festival and Concert on Mosholu Parkway.

For more information on fun Bronx Week events happening in our borough, check back with us using our Bronx Week Calendar page at [ilovethebronx.com](http://ilovethebronx.com) or call 718.590.BRONX



# The CITY OF NEW YORK      Borough Of The Bronx

FATHER RICHARD F. GORMAN, CHAIRMAN  
CARMEN ROSA, DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD #12

4101 WHITE PLAINS ROAD  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10467  
TELEPHONE: (718)881-4455/6  
FAX: (718)231-0635

## COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

### Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Health & Human Services

DATE OF MEETING: April 1, 2015

LOCATION: 4101 White Plains Rd,

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: attached

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

BAYCHESTER, EDENWALD, FISHBAY, OLINVILLE, WAKEFIELD, WILLIAMSBRIDGE, WOODLAWN



GUEST: SUS and AGS.

AGENDA: attached

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: Received presentations from  
AGS and SUS on proposed  
use of facilities. Details  
enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted: Carl Langam, Chairman  
Date: April 6, 2015

AGS for 3030 Brainerd Av.  
SUS for 3846 Palmer Av. 10466  
and 1451 Knapp Av. 10469



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## COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

### Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Health & Human Services

DATE OF MEETING: April 8, 2015

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Enclosed

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

BAYCHESTER, EDENWALD, FISHBAY, OLINVILLE, WAKEFIELD, WILLIAMSBRIDGE, WOODLAWN



GUEST: Unique People Services / Office of Developmental Disabilities

AGENDA: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully Submitted: Car Lanzano

Date: April 8, 2015



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## COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

### Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Housing

DATE OF MEETING: April 8, 2015

LOCATION: 4101 White Plains Road

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Walter McNeill Deacon Brown  
Robert Hall

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: Victor Brown

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

BAYCHESTER, EDENWALD, FISHBAY, OLINVILLE, WAKEFIELD, WILLIAMSBRIDGE, WOODLAWN



GUEST: Elizabeth Vega (NIDC) Mark Morgan Perez (Habitat for humanity)

AGENDA: Sydney House Condominium Project

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

The Housing Committee is recommending the Board to support the Affordable condominium Project called the Sydney House, created by the Almat Group and Habitat for Humanity.

OTHER: NYCHA Developments in the Northeast Bronx will host constituent Nite for Residents to discuss issues with Councilman Andy King's Office.

Respectfully Submitted: Robert Hall

Date: 4/10/15



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## COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

### Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: TRANSPORTATION & Capital Improvements

DATE OF MEETING: April 14, 2015

LOCATION: 4101 White Plains Road Bronx NY

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Norbert Bryson  
Claudia Powell  
John Isaac

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: Hillary Bloomfield

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

BAYCHESTER, EDENWALD, FISHBAY, OLINVILLE, WAKEFIELD, WILLIAMSBRIDGE, WOODLAWN



GUEST: Cutting Edge Car Service  
2330 Light Street

AGENDA: Review of Base License

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED: Cutting Edge Car Service  
will share a space with Jamaican Pressure  
League. The Open lot at the corner of  
Dyre and Light street will serve as a  
space for cars. All services will be  
done by phone call request.

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully Submitted: John Isaac

Date: 3/14/2015



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## COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

### Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC + BUSINESS SVC

DATE OF MEETING: APRIL 20, 2015

LOCATION: CB 12 4101 WHITE PLAIN ROAD

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: FELIX M ROLDAN

MICHAEL FELTER

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: MICHAEL MORGAN

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: NORMA WILES

BAYCHESTER, EDENWALD, FISHBAY, OLINVILLE, WAKEFIELD, WILLIAMSBRIDGE, WOODLAWN



GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED: APPROVED NEW LICENSE FOR  
NUMERO UNO SABOR LATINO REST. INC.

EMERALD LIQUOR, INC. = NO SHOW NOT APPROVED

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully Submitted: Luis M. Pabón

Date: 4/20/15