



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**BOROUGH OF THE BRONX**  
**COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



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GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

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**GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 @ 6:30 PM**

Meeting held at: Dallas BBQ ◇ 281 West Fordham Road ◇ Bronx, New York 10468

- I) Welcome:
  - A) Aurelia Green, Deputy Borough President:
    - 1) Expressed greetings to the CB members and thanked Greg for his services
  - B) John D' Adamo, CO for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Precinct:
    - 1) He gave greetings to all and left early for Governor Patterson's meeting as he is coordinating the security details.
    - 2) He gave a brief report on crime conditions in the area and his plans for controlling crime.
  - C) Greg Weston, Owner of Dallas BBQ:
    - 1) Greeted the board members and welcomed all to avail themselves of his restaurant, a family atmosphere, with a safe environment.
    - 2) He introduced his executive staff who has been with the restaurant for many years
  - D) Dr. Bola Omotosho, Chairperson of Bronx Community Board # 5:
    - 1) Greeted the board and congratulated Greg on his new assignment
- II) Public Session began at 7:00pm
  - A) Mr. X, Community Resident:
    - 1) Congratulated Greg on his new assignment
  - B) Richie Martinez:
    - 1) Thanked the CB for their services and Greg's accomplishments
  - C) Anthony Riveccio:
    - 1) Wished all a happy holiday and thanked all for the progress of the board
- III) Board Meeting opened at 7:00pm
  - A) Attendance taken
    - 1) Quorum present
  - B) Motion to approve November's minutes
    - 1) Motion passed unanimously
- IV) Chairperson's Report by Gregory Faulkner:
  - A) Greg reported on the Armory's decision and progress. He had the opportunity to sit in on decisions due to his new position



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- B) He gave two recognitions to two Board Members who are resigning
  - 1) Felix Gibson, who has moved to Community Board 10
  - 2) Anthony Springer, accepting a new position with the City Councilman-elect Fernando Cabrera
- C) Recognized young community members and the Community Board's efforts to welcome and support them in future leadership roles
  - 1) Brandon Ruthishauser was recognized and was one of five who received a \$500.00 check from the Yankees Leadership Awards
- V) Executive Committee Report by Paul Foster:
  - A) Paul opened the tabled Term Limits issue from the last meeting for discussion. Community Board Members commented on the issue; some were in favor, and some opposed.
  - B) A suggestion was given to stagger the Executive Board to avoid a brand new slate taking over
    - 1) A motion was made to table the term limits for further clarification
      - a) A discussion ensued
      - b) The motion failed to pass
  - C) Further discussion ensued on the original motion for term limits
    - 1) Motion for term limits
      - a) 10 against
      - b) 11 in favor
      - c) 7 abstentions
    - 2) Motion did not pass
  - D) Leadership meeting is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 9, 2010 for new and old members to discuss issues. Lunch is going to be served
- VI) District Manager's Report by Fernando Tirado:
  - A) Thanked all for coming out
  - B) Recognized the young volunteers who were present and continue to be part of the CB process. Fernando called out the names of the youth who were present and thanked them for their service
  - C) Budget cuts were discussed, especially the Fire Department personnel
  - D) The homeless population is a condition that needs to be addressed
  - E) Emergency services have become an issue again and need to be monitored
  - F) MTA cuts in service were brought up and a call for action to prevent cuts in service is needed
  - G) H1N1 vaccine vaccinations are ongoing
  - H) Animal shelter information was presented
- VII) Parks Committee Report provided by Margaret Mack



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- A) Motion to approve the preliminary scope for Bryant Park
  - 1) Motion was approved unanimously
- B) Motion to recommend to DOT to prepare a study in coordination with the Dept. of Parks to identify short and long term improvements to make the Holt Place entrance to the Williamsbridge Oval Park more safe and convenient, and to generally improve the quality of the streetscape along Reservoir Oval East.
  - 1) motion approved unanimously
- VIII) Education Committee Report
  - A) Minutes were received and the need to have the DOE be more accountable for their actions
  - B) Suggestions to the DOE to improve their service to the students and schools in the district
  - C) The de-mapping procedure at the Amory was discussed and the need for the continuance of rezoning despite the lack of passage of the Amory Project
- IX) Traffic and Transportation Report by Lowell Green
  - A) Motion: In response to community institutions needs, CB7 would like to recommend that Dr. Theodore Kazimiroff Boulevard from Fordham Road to Bronx River Parkway become an honorary street name. This would be indicated with blue street signage. This boulevard would then be renamed as Southern Boulevard and be indicated as such with green street signage. In addition, a letter will be sent to the Kazimiroff family explaining why the name change was necessary.
  - B) A discussion ensued after the resolution was read describing the need for the change
    - 1) motion passes with 1 "NO" vote
- X) Housing Committee Report by Anthony Springer
  - A) Motion that the CB send a letter of support for a homeless facility at 245 E. Mosholu Pkwy N. for homeless veterans run by Promesa, Inc.
  - B) The board members had many questions about the property and the selection of veterans for housing and the member of housing units in the Bronx causing saturation in one area
    - 1) Pictures of the project were distributed
  - C) The question of jobs for Bronx residents in the construction phase was presented
  - D) The CB would insist that there be a Community Advisory Board to monitor services on the project if it is approved
  - E) A letter of support was recommended with the following conditions
    - 1) Community space
    - 2) Community Advisory Board
      - a) Motion approved unanimously
- XI) Land Use Committee Report by Ozzie Brown
  - A) The next Land Use Committee meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>



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- B) Ozzie referred to the minutes of the Land Use Committee of Dec 8<sup>th</sup>
- C) He spoke about the proposal for a Post Graduate Center for Mental Health at 2950 Grand Concourse at Bedford Park
  - 1) He spoke about concerns that come up with a project of this size
  - 2) The Committee was satisfied that the project would meet the needs of the community
- D) Ozzie talked of the vision for the water front properties and the work on this project to be on-going as of Jan 2010
  - 1) Public hearings will be held and the voice of the community will be heard
- XII) Public Safety Committee Report
  - A) 3 Liquor licenses and 1 cabaret license were reviewed and rejected by the committee. Reasons were due exclusively to ongoing quality of life issues
    - 1) Da Room "El Kuartico", LLC, 2650-B Briggs Avenue
    - 2) Sports Bar & Billiards, Inc, 393 East 198<sup>th</sup> Street
    - 3) Bjeshka Kafe, 400 East 198<sup>th</sup> Street
    - 4) Tequila Song, 2856 Webster Avenue (Cabaret)
  - B) A motion to reject these licenses was presented to the board
    - 1) Motion to deny was approved unanimously
  - C) Motion to enter into a contract with a non-profit organization with technical assistance to address quality of Life Issues that appear of great concern to the community
    - 1) Cost of contract is \$4,970 for a 6-month contract
    - 2) The motion was not voted on, but it was moved to the Budget Committee
- XIII) Borough president's Report by Andy Toledo
  - A) CB applications are available for new members
  - B) The Citi-Youth Program showed a short film on community boards and the work coordination and relationships between their program and the community boards involved in their program
- XIV) Closing Remarks by Gregory Faulkner
  - A) Greg closed the meeting appointing the youth members to committee. He thanked the Executive committee for their support and the other members who give up so much of their time to the community often without thanks. Greg handed the gravel to Paul Foster who closed the meeting after some remarks
- XV) Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm