

PUCELLA MICHAEL
Form 4
March 20, 2006

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
PUCELLA MICHAEL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
DIME COMMUNITY
BANCSHARES INC [DCOM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
209 HAVEMEYER STREET
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
03/16/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

BROOKLYN, NY 11211

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	38,661	D	
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	45,076	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	41,376	I	BMP
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	43,812	I	ESOP
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	2,025	I	Other

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Common Stock	03/16/2006	03/16/2006	A	8,000 <u>(1)</u>	A	\$ 14.48	9,677	I	Restricted Stock Awards
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 10.91					11/21/2002	11/21/2011	Common Stock	18,000
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 13.16					02/01/2004	02/01/2013	Common Stock	20,250
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 15.1					05/31/2006	05/31/2015	Common Stock	16,344
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 19.9					01/27/2005	01/27/2014	Common Stock	20,250

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

PUCELLA MICHAEL
209 HAVEMEYER STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11211

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Signatures

MICHAEL
PUCELLA

03/20/2006

**Signature of
Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Grant of Restricted Stock Award that will vest fully upon Mr. Pucella reaching retirement age.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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