

**COMMUNITY BOARD 12, MANHATTAN**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**530 West 166<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York**

**January 12, 2017**  
**Executive Committee**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** R. Lewis (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair); E. Lorris Ritter (Secretary & Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); B. Lehmann (Asst. Secretary); Y Alonzo, (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); J. Compton, ( Asst. Chair, Business Development); N. Espino (Asst. Chair, Public Safety); Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education); L. Saneaux, (Chair, Concerns of the Aging); Isidro Medina (Chair, Licensing) J. Berlin (Parliamentarian); R. Allman, (Chair, LGBT and By-Laws Task Forces)

**Absent:** Ayisha Ogilvie (Chair, Housing & Human Services); J. Reyes (Treasurer); Steve Simon, (Chair, Health & Environment); R. Allman, (Chair, LGBT and By-Laws Task Forces)

**Excused:** S. Ally [Chair]; A. Schulman (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair & Chair, Public Safety)

**Staff:** Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

**Meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Richard Lewis**

**December Minutes – Reviewed and approved**

**R. Lewis: Announced**

- ~ A Town Hall meeting to be held on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> to report on the progress of the G. W Bridge Renovation – Holy Rood Church – 6:30 pm. Fliers will be distributed.
- ~ Four CB 12 Committees are working together on the subject of Affordable Housing
- ~ HPD, Robin Hood NY Public Library – All want to build affordable housing with the renovation of the Inwood Library. There will be Open Houses on the following dates to gain community input - January 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Fliers are being distributed. The goal is to build 100% affordable housing as well as to renovate the heavily used library. No architect or developer has been chosen for the project. An RFP needs to be done following community input. \$5 Million will come from the Robin Hood Foundation; \$5 million will come from NYC for the library. Their goal is make a presentation at the March General Meeting, enter reviews with each committee and hopefully secure a joint Resolution that approves their efforts to go forward and to put the Resolution before full Board in April.  
( A full discussion as to what this project involves ensued).
- ~ Columbia University Medical Center offers an Outreach Program in Neuroscience once a month. All are encouraged to attend.

**District Manager's Report:**

- ~ **Review of Calendars:**
  - ~ The Aging Committee will meet the first Thursday of the month at 10:30 am.
  - ~ The Executive Committee will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month beginning in March.
- ~ **Alianza Dominicana and CUMC met** in December regarding the overtime matter. Richard Lewis

and Ebenezer Smith attended. All was resolved. CUMC will pay the arrears through Dec 31, 2016. Future bills will come to Ebenezer Smith who will then forward them to the City. (There was a discussion regarding fiduciary responsibilities, the history of payment/nonpayment and the fact that CB 12 should not be inheriting any bills for overtime).

- ~ The first week of January Shah Ally and Ebenezer went on a tour of the new **GWB Bus Station**. April 30<sup>th</sup> is the new date for completion of the construction.
- ~ **Debra Blow of CB 12** retired as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. CB 12 is working with the Manhattan Borough President's office regarding a replacement. There was a discussion of some extra dollars that CB 12 that could be used to cover a temporary worker until a permanent hire can be found. R. Lewis and E. Lorris Ritter suggested that it would be good to review the job description for accuracy and any updates.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Business Development** – Jason Compton, Assistant Chair, reported the following:

- ~ The Committee is revisiting the matter of their mission statement.
- ~ The Committee is creating a list of the certified MWBE's in the community.
- ~ The Committee would like to highlight the businesses in the community that are doing well.
- ~ They intend to invite Small Business Services to future Committee meetings.
- ~ The Committee indicated that they intend to take advantage of the many programs offered by SBS.

**Public Safety** – Natalie Espino, Assistant Chair, reported the following:

- ~ The Committee had perfect attendance despite many emergencies in the community.
- ~ A Resolution supporting the wearing of body cams by the NYPD passed with a vote of 6 – 1. The Resolution will be presented at the next General Meeting.
- ~ Crime Prevention will be the topic for the next meeting.

**Committee for the Concerns for the Aging** – Liliana Saneaux, Chair reported the following:

- ~ The Committee met on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Fern Hertzberg is working on an update of community senior centers.
- ~ Circle of Care Caregiver Program is now being offered by Riverstone Senior Services
- ~ One of the Aging Committee meetings will take place at Riverstone.
- ~ There was a discussion as to the need to gain input from seniors with regard to future development of the community.

**Health and Environment Committee** – No report

**Traffic & Transportation** - Yahira Alonzo, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ All committee members were present except for Wanda Garcia and Anita Barberis.
- ~ Deirdre Parker, Director of NYC Transit, presented information about the repairs that are needed on the #1 train
- ~ The MTA will be working in the months of February and July. From Wednesday to Friday, there will not be any service. No service will exist on the weekends during these months. Bus shuttle services will be provided – to 96<sup>th</sup> street and to 168<sup>th</sup> street. Fliers announcing these changes will be distributed. Some streets will be closed as well.

**Land Use** – Wayne Benjamin, Chair, reported that there were 3 agenda items in the Committee:

- ~ Inwood Library (already discussed).

- ~ The Landmarks Preservation Committee voted to designate the Palace Theater (Loews 175 Street) as a landmark. The next step is with the NYC Council and how they vote will depend on whether Councilman Rodriguez supports it. If he does not, the Council will not approve and the matter dies. The Land Use Committee voted that Rodriguez should support the landmark designation.
- ~ A Resolution passed concerning the BSA Application of 2420 Amsterdam Avenue and will be presented at the next General Meeting.
- ~ Isidro Medina spoke about the fact that the 181<sup>st</sup> Street BID supports this development in the expectation of job training and creation for community residents.
- ~ There will be “community facility use” of about 7,500 square feet in this 22 story building.

**Youth & Education** – Fe Florimon, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ No committee members showed up for the meeting. Maria Luna was excused because she was attending a funeral.
- ~ Fe engaged in a discussion with the audience about the following:
  - There will be a Youth & Police Walk Planning Committee meeting
  - They plan a forum with the Housing Committee to discuss the current housing crisis.
  - They are planning a forum on ways to assist the NYPD in their encounter with youth with mental illness issues.
- ~ Fe reported about a negative communication matter that arose concerning a recent holiday event that was scheduled to recognize the good standing of the district schools and to thank the principals.

**Licensing** – Isidro Medina, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ The meeting ended by 9:00pm – the first time ever.
- ~ They considered the following
  - 3 Renewals of Liquor Licenses
  - 2 Corporate Changes
  - 3 OPL's
  - 2 Sidewalk Licenses
  - 1 Full liquor licenses
- ~ Those that were not approved were due to lack of approval by the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct
- ~ La Casa Mofongo will be meeting with the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct regarding a capacity matter and will be back to the Licensing Committee next month.
- ~ Isidro is working on creating a master list of the liquor licenses that are applied for in the district – including the history of the applications.

**Parks & Cultural Affairs** – Elizabeth Lorris Ritter reported the following:

- ~ She raised the question as to whether the matter of libraries should be moved from the Youth & Education Committee to the Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee. Following a discussion, the matter will be referred to the Chair.
- ~ There will be a Dominican Film Festival this weekend – and fliers are available.
- ~ Partnership for Parks made a presentation about the moneys they are making available for local parks in CB 12. The deadline for the next round of grants is March 1,
- ~ New York Restoration Project is applying for a grant from EDC and wanted support from CB 12. The Committee agreed. The Executive Committee decided to do

an Emergency Resolution in the interest of time. This Resolution will be affirmed in the next General Meeting. The Resolution was unanimously passed by the Committee.

***Housing & Human Services:*** Wayne Benjamin reported the following:

- ~ There was a discussion about the status of HDFC's in the community and the fact that CB 9 has done a lot of work in this area. He indicated that CB 9 forwarded the Resolution to us with the idea of mimicking the language in a similar Resolution. The matter will be addressed in the next Committee meeting.

**A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.**

***The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm***

***Respectfully Submitted:*** Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann – Assistant Secretary  
February 14, 2017