

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

**February 14, 2017**  
**Executive Committee**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** S. Ally [Chair R. Lewis (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair); E. Lorris Ritter (Secretary & Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); B. Lehmann (Asst. Secretary); J. Reyes (Treasurer & Business Development); Y Alonzo, (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); M Anderson, (Asst. Chair, Concerns of the Aging); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education); Ayisha Ogilvie (Chair, Housing & Human Services); L. Saneaux, (Chair, Concerns of the Aging); Isidro Medina (Chair, Licensing); Steve Simon, (Chair, Health & Environment); J. Berlin (Parliamentarian); R. Allman, (Chair, LGBT and By-Laws Task Forces); Osi Kaminer (Asst. Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs)

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

**Staff:** Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

**Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Chair, Shah Ally**

**January Minutes – Reviewed and approved – One Correction** – R. Lewis is listed as attending and absent. He should be listed as attended only.

**Chair's Report:**

- ~ The next General Meeting will take place at Riverstone Senior Life Services, 99 Fort Washington Avenue. This is the first time the meeting will take place there. CB 12 is looking for other locations in the community as well.
- ~ The Licensing Committee has announced that they plan to start their meetings at 6:30 pm beginning in April.
- ~ The Town Hall meeting concerning the George Washington Bridge scheduled for February 9th was cancelled and will be rescheduled in March.
- ~ Budget meetings at City Council are now underway.
- ~ The elevators at the 168th Street subway station are still malfunctioning. A discussion ensued as to whether it makes sense to hold a Town Hall meeting or whether the matter should be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee. A motion was made and seconded on taking a vote on the possibility of a Town Hall meeting and the result was:
  - 8 – Yes
  - 2 – Abstain
  - 4 – No
- ~ The vote passed and a Town Hall meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- ~ The lead levels at Amistad School in Inwood are higher than those found in Flint, Michigan. Shah plans to attend a meeting on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and will report back.
- ~ There was a discussion as to whether CB 12 should pass Resolutions on issues of national importance. Shah indicated that he will bring the matter up at the Borough Board meeting and get back to the committee.
- ~ There was a discussion as to a unified position the Board might take on the matter of upcoming development in Inwood. Ayisha Ogilvie pointed out the HPD had not come to the Housing & Human Services Committee, although they did to Land Use

and Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee. It was agreed that Ebenezer Smith would send a letter to HPD to attend the next Housing & Human Services Committee and then to plan a presentation at the General Meeting in April. There is a need for CB 12 to speak with one voice.

***Shah Ally had to leave at 8:15pm – and Richard Lewis, Assistant Chair, presided)***  
***Jonathan Reyes had to leave due to a prior commitment.***

***District Manager's Report:***

- ~ Debra Blow retired as of December 31, 2016. The Borough Board has been notified. Ebenezer distributed a draft job posting of an replacement level position - Community Assistant. The plan is to provide a higher level of responsibility to Paola. The Committee reviewed the job description and a change was suggested – Baccalaureate Degree or (2) years administrative experience. There was substantial discussion about the starting salary and the hours in which the staff should work. During the recruitment phase, a temporary worker will be hired. CB 12 will follow the City regulations with regard to the hiring process and the probationary period.

**Committee Reports:**

***Health & Environment Committee:*** Steve Simon, Chair announced:

- We had a workshop by the Irving Cancer Center on Cancer and Genetics
- Andrea Reyes is coordinating presentations to other community groups.
- Had a presentation about a collaboration between New York Presbyterian & the Dominican Women's Development Center on HIV and Hepatitis C
- The New York State Nurse's Association and the New York Progressive Action Network made a presentation on a single payer health system. The topic will be further discussed at a future meeting.
- The latest street cleaning statistics are in and the community has an overall rating of 100% for November – street and sidewalks both.

***Business Development*** – Liz Ritter spoke on behalf of Jonathan Reyes (who had left)

- ~ Small Business Recognition Awards will be given based on hiring practices, etc.
- More to follow in a future e-mail and at the next General Meeting.

***Land Use*** – Wayne Benjamin, Chair, reported that the Committee has done some brainstorming about how future workshops should be run. They also spoke with the Reverend Pastor of Holy Trinity Church and how they can maximize their real estate holdings consistent with the mission of the church and the needs of the community.

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

- ~ The Committee's meetings will begin at 6:30 pm as of April.
- ~ All applications will be emailed to Board members in advance of each meeting.
- ~ The Committee is revising some of the forms to make them simpler.
- ~ Board members are encouraged to visit local businesses with licensing applications
- ~ The SBS(Small Business Solutions) is coming to present at the next meeting.
- ~ There are 10 Agenda items presented at the recent meeting:
  - 5 – Tabled to next meeting – or did not show up
  - 1 – Beer license

- 2 – Wine licenses
- 1 – Change of Class
- 1 - OPL

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

- ~ Osi Kaminer chaired the most recent meeting. Richard Lewis took the minutes.
- ~ There were presentations made by the United Palace Theater and by the upcoming Art Stroll committee.
- ~ The next meeting will be on March 7<sup>th</sup> will be about the plans for Highbridge Park.
- ~ The Anchor Parks Committee is coming back to the March meeting to present concepts and a master plan. There is an on-line portal to provide feedback that closes at midnight tonight. Following this, there will be a master plan which will be discussed. A Resolution will be expected thereafter.

**Public Safety** – Richard Lewis presented on behalf of Chair, Arlene Schulman, who was absent:

- ~ The 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct made a presentation about crime prevention efforts in the community.
- ~ The NY District Attorney's office is looking for high school interns for its High School Internship Program.

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

- ~ RoseMary Cortez of WHICOA came and spoke to the committee.  
It was decided that WHICOA and the CB 12 Aging Committee would jointly hold a legislative breakfast to discuss issues related to the community's aging population.
- ~ Maureen Volusia of NY Lawyers for the Public Interest made a presentation about a clinic which will be set up at Riverstone Senior Services.

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

- ~ She was not at the most recent meeting but read from the minutes.
- ~ The Public Garden at Dyckman & Broadway will be discussed at the March meeting.
- ~ The DOT is planning a series of workshops on the possibility of setting up Select Bus Service.
- ~ The Dyckman Bike Project was discussed.
- ~ A community workshop is to be held on work that DOT planning on the area west of Nagle Avenue.
- ~ The renovations in the area surrounding Jumel Mansion were discussed.  
The MOVE NY Fare Plan will be brought up at the next meeting. This is the plan to establish tolls on the East River Bridges.

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

- ~ There was an orientation for community youth who may be interested in joining the Community Board. An extension has been created for any interested students.
- ~ A second meeting was held to plan the Student/NYPD Walk. Either May 20<sup>th</sup> or June 10<sup>th</sup> will be the planned date.
- ~ The NYPD Community Affairs office plans to visit each of the schools in the community. The first meeting will take place this week at G W High School.
- ~ There is a special meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> for NYPD officers to review circumstances they may encounter in dealing with students with mental health issues.

- ~ There will be Town Hall Meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the lead issues at the Muscota School. A Resolution will probably be forthcoming on this issue.

***Housing & Human Services:*** Aysha Ogilvie, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ She attended a “Stand for Tenant Safety” meeting which covered the topic of revamping procedures. She is awaiting their report.
- ~ The issue of HDFC came up at the meeting and there was a discussion on the value of mimicking the CB 9 Resolution. It will be discussed at the next meeting.
- ~ There was a discussion about the extensive number of evictions in the community (over 1,000 in the past several years).
- ~ Richard Lewis commented on the passage of legislation providing free legal counsel to low income community residents to assist them with eviction threats.
- ~ HPD and Councilmen Levine and Rodriguez will be invited to the next Committee meeting.

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

***The meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm***

***Respectfully Submitted:*** Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann – Assistant Secretary  
March 20, 2017