

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, MANHATTAN
Executive Committee Meeting
530 West 166th Street, New York, New York

March 20, 2017
Executive Committee
DRAFT MINUTES

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

Absent: A. Schulman (2nd Vice Chair & Chair, Public Safety); ; Ayisha Ogilvie (Chair, Housing & Human Services)

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Chair, Shah Ally

- ~ Item # 5 on the Agenda – Resolution that has already passed in the Traffic & Transportation Committee and will be put before the full board at the next General Meeting
- ~ Proceed with # 4 on the Agenda in the interest of time.

Presentation by Paola Ruiz, Mayor's Office of Community Affairs (used to work for NMIC)
"Neighborhood Support Team"

- ~ Passed by City Council in 2016
- ~ Purpose - empower community boards to be able to access community resources on a more coordinated level to resolve problems requiring the help of 2 or more agencies.
- ~ Each Community Board is supposed to identify issues in the community that require the help of at least 2 to 3 city agencies.
- ~ The Neighborhood Support Team will assist the community board in coordinating these efforts to bring about a satisfactory solution more quickly.
- ~ The Neighborhood Support Team will meet with each community board on a quarterly basis.
- ~ Based on the input of all 12 Manhattan Community Boards, 3 – 5 issues will be presented for resolution by the Neighborhood Support Team
- ~ An extensive discussion ensued in which this program was discussed in relation to the work of the District Service Cabinet which meets on a monthly basis.
- ~ Consult the web site: www.neighborhoodsupport@cityhall.nyc.gov

Chair's Report: Shah Ally reported the following:

- ~ Attendance and Roll Call at 7:35
- ~ Richard Lewis will chair meeting as of 8:45 due to his need to attend to another matter.
- ~ Work continues with DOITT on improvements to the CB 12 web site. Ebenezer Smith and Richard Lewis are working on this.
- ~ All approved Resolutions should be forwarded by the Committee Chairs to Richard Lewis for his review. They will then go to Shah Ally for his signature.

- ~ Isidro Medina, Chair, Licensing Committee announced that he would like his Committee's agenda items at least 5 days in advance of his committee's meeting so there is sufficient time for review.
- ~ There was a discussion about whether or not it makes sense for the Board Office to book and confirm guest speakers.
- ~ Dr. Norbert Sander of the Fort Washington Armory passed away on March 17th and there was a motion made as to create a Resolution in support of naming the Armory after him. This was based on a letter from MBPO Gale Brewer to the Mayor in support of this naming. There was extensive discussion with varying opinions based on the experience of the local community and the motion was withdrawn.

District Manager's Report: Ebenezer Smith reported the following:

- ~ The Job Posting to replace the position vacated by Debra Blow remained in place until March 31st.
- ~ 17 Resumes have been received so far. Goal is to have 2 – 3 candidates for the April General Meeting.
- ~ The salary for the position has increased but there is still some funding left to support the possibility of funding extra help as needed.
- ~ He and Richard Lewis are working with DOITT on the web site and he noted that the staff at DOITT is new.

Secretary's Report: Elizabeth Lorris-Ritter reported the following:

- ~ She recommended that each Committee Chair take a picture of each attendance sheet and send it to her so she can record attendance on a timely basis.
- ~ She reviewed committee attendance requirements and reported that the following CB 12 members attendance is of concern: Rud Morales; Wanda Garcia; Esteban Nemrhad; Angela Sanchez. Each will receive a letter regarding their respective attendance issues.

Richard Lewis presided in place of Shah Ally who left at 8:45 pm.

- ~ Review of Calendars
Due to Passover and Easter holidays, the next Executive Committee will take place on Monday April 17th.

Committee Reports:

Health & Environment Committee: Steve Simon, Chair announced:

- ~ At the March 2nd meeting, there was a presentation by the Manhattan Solid Waste Committee.
- ~ There was also a presentation on the prospect of a Single Payer Health Plan based on Proposals now before the Assembly and Senate in Albany. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.
- ~ There was an announcement that CLOTH has received funding from the NYC Council to conduct a clean-up campaign.
- ~ The District's ratings by the Sanitation Department show a cleanliness rating of 100%.
- ~ He reviewed a letter from Shah Ally that the Daily News had published regarding the need of the Port Authority to address the need to construct interventions to prevent suicides at the George Washington Bridge.

- ~ At the April meeting, it is planned to have a presentation by Dr. Madeline Gould on CUMC Psych Institute on the matter of suicides and a presentation by CUMC/NYP on the implementation of a Mobile Stroke Unit.
- ~ There will be a Health Forum on April 21st at Isabella Geriatric Center.

Traffic & Transportation - Yadira Alonzo, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ There was a presentation by DDC regarding the Jumel Terrace Historic District construction. There was a lot of concern regarding the lack of notice to the community. Mitch Glenn was very effective in presenting the concerns of the community. The operating hours of the Jumel Mansion will not be affected during construction. Some parking spaces will be lost.
- ~ The NYC DOT presented on “traffic calming techniques” on Amsterdam Avenue from 155th to 162nd Streets in compliance with Vision Zero. This involves the installation of bike lanes and the prohibition of certain turns. This proposal by the City was not well received.
- ~ There was a motion made by Liz Ritter and seconded by Fe Florimon to discuss a possible Resolution at the Executive Committee level in opposition to S 5170 A 6724. These bills would overturn the 25mph speed limit and revert to 30 mph. After realizing that the proposals refer to Brooklyn only, the Resolution was withdrawn.

Land Use – Chair, Wayne Benjamin, Chair, reported the following:

- ~ The Committee met on March 8th – an alternate date.
- ~ There was one Agenda item – a BSA application by the Inwood Academy regarding a waiver that will permit them to operate in a C8-3 zoned area. A Resolution was created and approved by unanimous vote. It will go to the full Board in March. There are no contamination issues on this site.

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

- ~ Meetings now begin at 6:30 pm
- ~ SBS came and made a presentation at the most recent meeting. There are plans to bring other city agencies in for future meetings.
- ~ 15 Applications were submitted for review:
 - 12 – Approved; 1 – Rejected due to “no show”; 1 – Rejected – due to SLA and health violations; 1 – Tabled – due to overriding questions on capacity.
- ~ The Committee passed a Resolution to support a bill that would require the SLA to use a standard from for all Community Board offices. The Resolution will be presented at the next General Meeting.
- ~ The Heights Tavern has had a dba name change to “Crazy Annie’s”. CB 12 was not notified and Ebenezer has notified the SLA about the name change. This name change was made at a time when they closed for a few days for minor renovations. They are scheduled for a license renewal in this summer.

Parks and Cultural Affairs: Chair, Elizabeth Lorris Ritter reported the following:

- ~ The Committee passed a Resolution in support of a Highbridge Anchor Park.
- ~ The Inwood Film Festival was a big success.
- ~ Liz Ritter will work with CUMC to see if there can be a plan to lower the rental price.

Business Development. Chair, Jonathan Reyes reported the following:

- ~ SBS presented about their services and wants CB 12 and local businesses to help them with their outreach to local merchants who may not know about them.
- ~ Heidi Hernandez is the new Executive Director of the Washington Heights and Inwood Chamber of Commerce. She said that the Chamber wants to co-sponsor a job fair with CB 12, Work Force 1 and the BID for merchants due to open this summer.
- ~ The Moran Group, representing the Young Woo Group which is building the new Hotel/Commercial Building on 181st and Amsterdam, had a discussion about pre and post construction employment of local residents. CB 12's Business Development Committee will continue to follow up on this. Construction will take 2 years to complete.

Public Safety – Richard Lewis presented on behalf of Chair, Arlene Schulman, who was absent. He reported that 2 Officers from NJ PBA who spoke about the actions they had taken to thwart suicide events. Two officers patrol the Bridge at all times.

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

- ~ At the most recent meeting, there was a presentation by Arch Care and by Riverstone Senior Services.
- ~ The Committee succeeded in getting assistance from Councilmen Rodriguez & Levine and from the NYS Assemblywoman and Senator to secure funding for 2 new computers in each Senior Center.
- ~ On March 10th, the Committee co-sponsored with WHICOA a Legislative Breakfast including NYS Senator Alcantara, NYS Assemblywoman De La Rosa, NYS Assemblyman Farrell's Assistant, Frank Hess and NYC Councilman Rodriguez

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

- ~ There was a 3rd meeting to plan for the Police/Youth Walk.
- ~ On March 23, there was a meeting with the police commissioner about the possibility for the police to enter schools to educate students about their work.
- ~ The Committee plans to support the initiative to move the Castle Bridge School (PS 513) to move to MS 328 at 169th & St. Nicholas which is on 164th & Edgecombe.
- ~ The homeless student population is a crisis and needs to be discussed in a future forum. We plan to work with Housing and Human Services to see what can be scheduled.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann – Assistant Secretary
April 17, 2017