

Committee for the Concerns of the Aging

Thursday, March 1, 2018

CB12M Minutes

The attendees were: Mary Anderson, Chair; Fern Hertzberg, Assistant Chair; Norma De Candido, Public Member; Ann McCosh; and 35 additional seniors and community members on sign in list.

The meeting was called to order at 10:40AM.

Today's meeting was held at Dyckman Houses Senior Center, where this committee solidified the concepts that we would like to have included in the Inwood Rezoning Proposals. The entire meeting was presented in Spanish and English with Fern Hertzberg translating, with the assistance of Dyckman Senior Center staff, throughout the meeting.

Mary Anderson and Fern Hertzberg presented on "What is a Community Board?" A lively discussion ensued about the meetings and the issues that can and do come up before the Community Board.

Mary Anderson gave examples of other issues that have been raised and how they were addressed or resolved. She also invited the seniors of this senior center to join our monthly meetings, as we travel throughout the community.

The bulk of the meeting was a discussion of the Inwood Rezoning Project. Many seniors present were unfamiliar with the Inwood rezoning proposal. EDC presented on the highlights of the Inwood Rezoning proposal. This was followed by community member's questions, community member's opinions, EDC weighing in on various questions, and overall concern that the housing built will be affordable for community members, seniors and non-seniors alike. There was also concern expressed about the local shopping opportunities that might change, as well as the heights of the buildings that might be built surrounding Dyckman Houses. A unanimous vote concluded that the rezoning as presented is not in the best interests of the seniors of the community, and that building heights should be reduced and that developers should address the need for accessible housing.

Next meeting will take place at Community Board 12, where this committee will review the effect of having these meetings "on the road" and making plans for future speakers and future locations.

Adjourned meeting (Norma DeCandido/Ann McCosh) at 12:10pm.

Submitted by Fern Hertzberg.