

**Committee Board 12- Manhattan  
Business Development- Meeting Minutes  
April 2, 2019**

Committee Members Present

Eleazar Bueno, Chair  
Tanya Bonner  
Domingo Estevez  
Sara Fisher  
Debbie Nabavia  
Bruce Robertson  
Waldys Suero

Committee Members Absent

Francisco Lopez

**Guests:** US Census Bureau Nicole Yearwood and Sara Masaika- NY Counts 2020 Pharaun Griffith, HITLAB Counsel Alex Fotopoulos

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m. with quorum. BD Committee Chair Eleazar Bueno opened the meeting by welcoming Committee members and guests.

Bueno introduced Nicole Yearwood from the US Census Bureau. After all marketing material were presented to the public Ms. Yearwood engaged us with the Mission of the Census Bureau, "Count everybody once and only once in the right places".

To her own question of why not just get people counts from places like Hospitals and such, she stated another purpose of the Census was to count the Housing Stock and share the largest gathered data information with the President of the US.

The 2020 is a decennial census and as all Census ending with 0, they are the benchmark for all redistricting and reappropriations of congress seats, funding and Community Boards planning. The current numbers of 330 million people and 140 million households will be affected by the new numbers.

The subject of security was addressed by stating that it's kept confidential and Article I Section II mandate punishes with 250k fine and 5 years jail time if breaking the law.

Through the Census, 675 Billion are distributed to 100 programs that directly impact NYC. Medicare, Medicaid, and Pre K and the top 2 programs funded by the appropriation from the money distributed by the Census.

The Census, as explained, is done by address. All of the residential units information will start being mailed my Mid-March. The residence check up will start in August 2019 as part of Phase 1. Phase 2 is the Outreach and motivation to being counted. It was also noted that this is the first time the Census can be done online in 13 languages. Ten of thousands of people will be hired out of which more than 10,000 will be hired for Manhattan only.

The Bureau will need support in handling the more than 59 languages needed for NYC people to be counted on. January 2020 the Advertisement blitz will start and by Mid-March to August completion count. There will be 13 offices in NYC where all requests and questions will be

addressed. [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs) is the link to apply for these positions and after the question was posed regarding security by filling in the questionnaires on line, it was reassured the necessary firewalls and privacy were in place. The point of having a phone number listed on the questionnaire was addressed again for the purposes of maintaining privacy.

The next presenter from NY Counts 2020 Pharaun Griffith requested support for the rest of the 40 million first asked for the outreach, of which only 20 million was approved. She mentioned 250 CBO's are coalitioned in an effort for the outreach to be a success. 8 of those 250 CBOs composed the executive committee, where NMIC is on them.

The citizenship question added to the Census Questionnaire will be in front of the Supreme Court on April 23rd.

The next presentation came from HITLAB Counsel Alex Fotopoulos. Counsel addressed public making us aware of 3 important issues:

1. They employ 40 people.
2. They're part of the 1990 agreement where EDC, NYC and Columbia agreed to help incubators transition to legacy tenants after 5 years, and then give them the option to stay had they become financially sustainable.
3. Support Economic Diversity in the Washington Height Neighborhood.

HITLAB is currently in litigation responding a petition for non -rent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.