

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

**May 20, 2019**

**Executive Committee**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Executive Committee Members Present:** R. Lewis (Chair); E. Bueno (1st Vice Chair & Chair, Business Development); I. Medina (2nd Vice Chair & Chair, Licensing); G. Dengel, Treasurer; M. Glenn (Secretary); B. Lehmann (Asst. Secretary) M. Anderson (Chair, Aging Committee); Fe Florimon (Chair, Youth & Education); E. Lorris Ritter (Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); Nick Martinez (Interim Chair, Traffic & Transportation); A. Ogilvie, (Chair, Housing & Human Services); S. Simon (Chair, (Health & Environment)); James Berlin (Parliamentarian); Richard Allman (Chair, LGBT & By-laws Task Forces)

**Absent:** W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); TBD - Chair, Public Safety

**Other Board Members Present:** T. Bonner; M James; R. Perez; S. Matos; C. Charles; N. Aria; C. Charles; N. Crawford; O. Tejada

**Others Present:** Natalie Espino, Constituent Liaison, Manhattan Borough President's Office,

**Staff:** Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

**Meeting was called to order at 7:21 pm by Chair, Richard Lewis**

**Chair's Report:** Richard Lewis reported the following:

- He introduced the new Board members and explained why they were asked to this meeting.
- The "Building Bridges" Walk from 168<sup>th</sup> Street to 193<sup>rd</sup> Street was well-attended.
- He had a follow-up meeting with the Catsimatidis organization regarding the 180-notice provided by NYP to Gristedes to close. Cosmo Pizza and the Cleaners have been provided similar notices by NYP. The vacant space is a site for future construction by NYP.
- On Broadway between 169<sup>th</sup> and 170<sup>th</sup> Streets, NYP plans to construct a 13-story building to include housing for its staff, a hotel for families of its patients, a Child Care Hub as well as commercial space for the community and a below-grade garage. The construction is "as of Right" and NYP has indicated a willingness to meet with the community and local businesses about its plans – which are still in formation. He indicated that NYP has been given a lot of questions to answer – and that a Public Hearing will be scheduled shortly.
- He attended a Borough Board meeting. Among those topics for discussion was the "Manhattan Paper Challenge" – an effort to increase awareness of paper recycling. In addition, there was a presentation about the upcoming Census and the need for outreach and communication. \$73 B has been set aside nationally for the successful implementation of this survey. CB 12 had very good results in 2010.
- The new members of CB 12 have completed the Committee interest forms and will be notified shortly as to their assignments.
- The Inwood Task Force is being assembled and various names are under consideration.
- The By-Laws Task Force came up for discussion since it has not met recently. After much discussion, it was decided that it will continue. T. Bonner expressed interest in being on the Force. Richard Allman will remain – but does not want to Chair the Task Force. Jim Berlin will remain on the Force and may be joined by one or two other CB 12 members.

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

- Next week, the DOT is holding a meeting about the problem of pot holes on 174<sup>th</sup> Street & Amsterdam Ave. He asked that anyone who has knowledge of other street maintenance problems between 171<sup>st</sup> & 181<sup>st</sup> Street let him know asap.
- There is a delay in the construction of the Haven Avenue Plaza due to structural issues. The project will get underway in early June. The Parking spaces have been removed.
- The Dominican Women's Development Corporation (DWDC) has received a grant from the City for LGBTQ education in the community.
- May 15<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for applications for the replacement of Ely Sylvestri. He has interviewed 13 candidates and selected 4 for a second round of interviews. The goal is to hire someone by mid-June.
- CB 12 has been charged \$10k more in rent by CUMC than should have been charged. The matter is under review and will be rectified.
- There was a discussion as to how to present the budget numbers for the Committee.
- There was a discussion about bringing the CB 12 web site up to date.

**Secretary's Report:** No report currently. A full report will be provided by the end of June.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gerard Dengel reported the following:

- A Report will be provided at the next meeting.

**Discussion:**

There was a discussion about the City Charter revisions and about the matter of the Committee of the Whole meetings typically held in June.

**Review of Draft Calendars for Changes:**

**June Calendar**

- The Aging Committee will meet at the Board office on June 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Business Development Committee will meet on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> instead of June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Licensing Committee will meet at 6:30 pm – not 7:00 pm – on June 12<sup>th</sup>...

**July Calendar**

- If the Committee of the Whole is to meet, it will take place on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**September Calendar**

- No changes to the calendar as presented.

**Introduction of New CB 12 Board Members**

- Richard Lewis asked each of the new Board members to introduce themselves and say a few words:
  - Miriam James – likes to work with youth and seniors
  - Rosie Perez – worked on city council for 3 yrs.
  - Caterina Charles – has an engineering & architectural background
  - Melia Aria – is a small business owner
  - Selena Matos – has worked at TB Bank in Inwood for 8 years.
  - Nobles Crawford – has a marketing & advertising background
  - Omar Tejada – works for the Dept. of Education in Finance.

**Committee Reports:** Richard Lewis asked each Chair to provide an overview for each of the new members:

***Health & Environment Committee:*** Chair Steve Simon presented:

- An overview of the scope and achievements of the Committee
- Current issues before the committee such as the psych beds at Allen Hospital.
- A review of recent resolutions that were passed in April & May.

***Traffic & Transportation:*** Interim Chair, Nick Martinez presented:

- The scope of the work of the committee
- A summary of some of the current issues before the Committee such as the bridge closing,
- the lack of accessibility at subway stops, the planned closing of the subway tunnels, etc.

***Land Use:*** Chair, Wayne Benjamin was absent, but Committee member James Berlin presented:

- An overview of the work of the committee
- Current work the committee is reviewing

***Housing & Human Services:*** Chair Ayisha Ogilvie, presented:

- An overview of the work of the committee
- There are (3) Resolutions that passed in her recent committee meeting:
  - A Resolution regarding Rent Regulations and Rent increases
  - A Resolution requesting that the Archdiocese not sell any of its property to a for profit developer
  - A Resolution opposing a proposed rule change requiring SNAP recipients to work for food stamps.

***Licensing Committee:*** Chair Isidro Medina presented:

- 20 Licenses came up for review.
- 6 Licenses were new
- 6 Applications were reviewed with stipulations
- 3 Applications were withdrawn
- 1 Applications was rejected.

***Parks & Cultural Affairs:*** Chair Liz Ritter presented:

- An overview of the work of the committee
- Two Resolutions were passed in the recent meeting:
  - Support for the construction of a mini soccer field.
  - A joint Resolution supporting the one-night closure of the 191<sup>st</sup> Street tunnel for the filming of “In the Heights”

***Committee for the Concerns of the Aging:*** Chair, Mary Anderson presented:

- An overview of the committee and when it meets.
- The fact that the Committee meetings move around the Community and why

***Business Development:*** Chair, Eleazar Bueno presented:

- An overview of the work of the committee.
- Some of the issues currently facing the committee such as business development in Inwood, the 2020 Census, the opening on new businesses, etc.

**Youth and Education:** Chair, Fe Florimon, presented:

- An overview of the work of the Committee
- The “Building Bridges” walk that takes place each Spring involving the youth and the NYPD.

**LGBTQ Task Force:** Chair, Richard Allman presented:

- The history of the Task Force.
- Suggested that there be a review over the summer about whether to keep it as a Task Force.

**Public Safety: Richard Lewis presented:**

- The function of the Public Safety Committee and its various liaisons to other agencies.
- Reviewed the statistics that are typically presented at each meeting.
- That the Public Safety regularly works with the Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee on various matters.

**Motion to Adjourn:** By acclamation

**Adjournment: 9:405pm**

**Minutes prepared by:** Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann  
June 17, 2019