

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

May 15, 2017
Executive Committee
DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members Present: R. Lewis (1st Vice Chair, Lehmann (Asst. Secretary); E. Lorris Ritter (Secretary& Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); Y Alonzo, (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); Gerard Dengel (Assistant Chair, Licensing); Osi Kaminer, (Asst. Chair Parks & Cultural Affairs); Isidro Medina (Chair, Licensing); R. Allman, (Chair, LGBT and By-Laws Task Forces); Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education; Osi Kaminer (Asst. Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); Ayisha Ogilvie (Chair, Housing & Human Services); J. Berlin (Parliamentarian)

Excused: S. Ally [Chair)

Absent: J. Reyes (Treasurer & Chair, Business Development); L. Saneaux, (Chair, Concerns of the Aging); Steve Simon, (Chair, Health & Environment)

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Meeting was called to order shortly after 7:00 pm by 1st Vice Chair, Richard Lewis. No quorum was present – although one is expected.

First Vice Chair's Report: Richard Lewis

- He attended a meeting regarding Universal Access to Housing Court.
- Chief Judge Fern Fisher is retiring and will be replaced by Jane Schneider.
- There are 350k cases per year in housing court.
- The aim to level the playing field.
- Access to free attorney representation is determined by income level.
- There was a discussion about some of the housing problems that exist in our community.

He is working on the **new web site** which will be more user-friendly than the current site.

The Washington Heights BID held a walk through on the streets between 179th and 182nd street to assess the number of street vendors.

- The area is getting too crowded – and most of the vendors do not live in the area.
- There is some consideration being given to consolidating the space they can use – and/or establishing a licensing procedure.
- He attended the most recent Joint Committee meeting on the Inwood Library situation. It was attended by about 120 people.

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

- We received an e-mail at 3:30 today for an Open House for the new bus station today from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.
- This committee needs to approve the hiring of the new Community Board Coordinator.
- We need to order an HP computer for the office by 7/1/2017.

- There was a discussion about the status of the sidewalk repair at 158th and 159th Streets where Fort Washington & Broadway come together. The matter will be brought up again at the District Service Cabinet meeting.

Executive Session – 8:20 pm – Quorum was achieved.

Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session regarding the candidacy of the candidate, Ely Silvestre. Her application for the position was approved.

A Traffic & Transportation – A Resolution was presented at the Executive Committee level concerning the changes in the parking regulations on 219th and 220th Streets.

- Both 219th and 220th streets will become one-way streets.
- Parking will be restricted on one side – with faculty parking permitted on the other side during school hours.
- There was a discussion as to why this matter is being discussed in Executive Committee.
- The Resolution as amended was presented for a vote to the Executive Committee.
Motion made – Richard Lewis; Seconded – Isidro Medina.
Hand vote results – 12 in favor; none opposed.
- The Resolution will be presented to the full Board at the May meeting.

June Calendar was presented for discussion:

- The Land Use Committee and Economic Development Committees will be hosting a joint meeting at Allen Hospital on June 14th. The meeting will offer the opportunity for a design charrette. The meeting is intended to be an intensive planning session providing a forum for ideas and visioning.)
- The Committee for the Whole will meet on Tuesday, July 25th.

Committee Reports:

Business Development – No report at this time.

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

- DOT made a presentation at the last meeting about planned changes on Broadway between 155th and 170th Streets. They want to expand the size of the island and to designate certain turning lanes.
- There was a discussion about the need to reduce the bike lanes on Amsterdam Avenue between 155th and 162nd Streets. A Resolution was passed opposing the proposed expansion of lanes proposed by DOT.
- There was a discussion about why the Resolution was before the Executive Committee.

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

- There were three presentations at the recent meeting
 - (1) Presentation by Pat Courtney about update on request of evaluation of Inwood Historic Districts
 - (2) Presentation on the status of the 158th Street row houses landmarks designation request
 - (3) EDC presented about the resumption of the Inwood Rezoning efforts.
The framework for the zone has changed and includes the entire residential section of Inwood
- The next meeting will take place at Allen Hospital and will involve a Charrette opportunity for residents to envision how rezoning will look.

Licensing – Isidro Medina, Chair, reported the following:

- At the meeting on May 10th, there were 21 Resolutions for consideration. 2 were rejected due to their use of music. Of the 6 new applications for wine and liquor licenses, 2 were rejected and 2 were approved with stipulations.
- A new SLA Resolution Information Form is being developed which is planned to be used by all CB's. It is part of a bill in the NYS Assembly that is sponsored by Assemblywoman De La Rosa. The purpose is to provide consistency and transparency to all SLA applications. The Committee is considering a Resolution in support of this new evaluation system.

Parks and Cultural Affairs: Liz Ritter, Chair, reported the following:

- See the April 4th minutes for many details about updates.
- The next meeting will contain a discussion of the plans for the Audubon Playground renovation, Phase 2 of the Highbridge Park renovation and the planned renovation of Sherman Creek.
- The Art Stroll is an important cultural event here in Washington Heights.

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

- There was a presentation at the meeting regarding the affordable housing plan and the Inwood Library.
- The proposal as outlined is not supported by anyone.
- There is a fear the NYPL and HPD will not follow through on what they have promised.
- There is also a concern about whether the affordable housing is “in perpetuity”.
- There is also an interest in making the Inwood Library a larger facility.

Housing & Human Services, Ayisha Ogilvie, Chair, reported the following:

- At the May 4th meeting, they discussed protection for the community against adverse actions against residents regarding housing.
- There was a discussion regarding rent guidelines and board recommendations.
- There was no quorum at the meeting so a Resolution concerning a rent freeze could not be considered.

Health & Environment: No Report at this time.

Public Safety – No Report at this time.

Committee for the Concerns of the Aging – No report at this time.

Motion to Adjourn – Yahaira Alonzo; **Seconded:** Liz Ritter

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann – June 20, 2017