

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

April 14, 2015

DRAFT MINUTES

ATTENDING: G. Fernandez [Chair]; Bing, (First Vice- Chair); A. Diaz, (1st Vice Chair & Licensing); P. Palanque-North (Treasurer); B. Lehmann [Secretary]; L. Saneaux (Assistant Secretary); S. Ally [Public Safety]; M. Glenn [Parks & Cultural Affairs]; Yusef Kalinsky (Traffic & Transportation); R. Lewis (Housing & Human Services); J. Miller (Business Development); Maurice Owen-Michaane (Business Development); G. Vanterpool [Aging]; R. Allman, (By-Laws Task Force)

Excused: W. Benjamin [Land Use]; F. Florimon [Youth & Education]; S. Simon [Health & Environment]

Staff: Ebenezer Smith [District Manager]

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fernandez- at 7:19 pm. Quorum was achieved.

Secretary's Report:

Betty Lehmann indicated that Board member and former Secretary Christopher Smith provided training on a computerized system for recording Board members attendance at general and committee meetings. The training took place on April 2nd – and there will be follow-up on implementation of this system.

It was discussed that the Secretary report to the Chair the names of any individuals who are having attendance problems. Mr. Fernandez will then decide what remedy would be appropriate.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Smith reported the following:

- ~ He has to submit a **list of capital requests** for the budget for next year. He indicated that the office needs a mini laptop and a projector:
 - Richard Lewis indicated that he will take a look at the best in computers and projectors, but that projectors may be obsolete. He indicated that it may be more cost effective to upgrade rather than purchase new equipment.
 - Gloria Vanterpool suggested that there be a separate meeting to review Richard Lewis's suggestions.
 - Mitch Glen suggested that a TV might be a better alternative to a projector.
 - Ebenezer indicated that he needs to consult with DOITT and needs to order whatever equipment is needed through Dell since they have a city-wide contract.
 - George Fernandez recommended portable audio equipment.
- ~ Ebenezer reported that there are some problem with the **web site**. He outlined the new format for the web site and indicated that a new IT Assistant will assist us with the new design.
 - Mitch Glen made a recommendation that each resolution should be scanned separately and that a title be applied to each so they are easier to find.
 - There was a discussion on the need for cross training of CB 12 staff so that back-up is more easily available.
- ~ Ebenezer indicated that **HAP Construction** made a request to DOT, who then passed the request to CB 12 that they be allowed to **close 187th Street between Broadway & Wadsworth** for a period of 6 weeks between the hours of 7:00am and 6:00pm. The purpose of this request is to accommodate construction of a new building. He reported that the 34th Precinct does not

support this request and thinks the street should be open at all times unless a crane is in use. George Fernandez recommended that the Fire Department and the Hospital be notified of this request.

- ~ **Juan Rose, Community Liaison for the High School of Media and Communications** is hosting a meeting on April 13th in which community leaders have been invited. The purpose of the meeting is to focus on how attendance can be improved, educational programs can be better developed and if more internships and job opportunities can be created.

The Committee then discussed the following:

- There is a lack of meaningful interventions and job opportunities for community youth.
- Decision-making needs to be decentralized to each Education District. We need a Workforce 1 Job development training program in the District.
- Juan Rosa should present at the next Youth & Education Committee meeting.

- ~ Ebenezer indicated that the **Department of Sanitation has notified CB 12** that the cleanliness of the streets in the District has gone down and they are considering reinstating the 2-day/week street cleaning program necessitating a district wide change in parking regulations. Our rating was dropped to 86.7% and must be 90% or better to sustain the current regulations.

The Committee then discussed:

- Calling Maria Timms at the Department of Sanitation to get clarification and information.
- Composing and sending out a letter to residential and commercial constituents regarding the situation.
- Referring the matter to the Health & Environment Committee and to the Traffic and Transportation Committee for more follow-up.
- Corresponding with Politicians about the situation so they can communicate the pending change.
- Produce Public Service Announcements to the community at large and especially to business owners.
- Speak with the 33rd and 34th Precincts to interface with the Consumer Protection Agency to rein in the vendor garbage.
- Hold a Community Forum on the issue.
- Maurice Owen-Michaane agreed to create a flier to represent the potential change. It will have as part of the message "You are about to lose your privileges!"

Resolutions:

Two resolutions were introduced, discussed and voted upon. They will then be referred to the entire Board.

(1) Resolution to Approve 421 –A Partial Tax Exemption for 607 West 161st Street:

Voting:

Yes	(10)	Bing, Diaz, Palanque-North, Saneaux, Vanterpool, Glenn, Lewis, Kalinsky, Allman, Lehmann
No	(2)	Fernandez, Owen-Michaane
Abstain	(0)	
Not Voting	(0)	

(2) Resolution Supporting the New York Restoration Project's Proposed Administrative Facility at Sherman Creek

- The NYRP needs our support for their meeting on April 20th.

- The project calls for a 2100 sq. ft. building south of Sherman Creek.
- A previous September 28, 2011 resolution was secured and reviewed since it dealt with the same territory – but only referred to clearing the field.
- An amendment was made to the Resolution indicated that a concern has been raised regarding safety concerns. Added to the Resolution was language indicating that appropriate test boring for toxic chemicals be conducted and that the results of this test be reported back to CB 12.

Voting:

Yes	(11)	Bing; Diaz; Palanque-North; Saneaux; Vanterpool, Glenn, Owen-Michaane, Lewis, Kalinsky, Allman, Fernandez, Lehmann
No	(0)	
Abstain	(1)	Lewis
Not Voting	(0)	

Committee Reports:

Business Development Committee:

Maurice Owen-Michaane announced that a Job Fair is planned for mid June. It is intended to be a “One Stop Shop – Resources Based” event. More details will follow shortly.

The Washington Heights/Broadway BID presented a plan to the Business Development Committee and asked for a resolution of support from CB 12. Their request was denied based on their realization that they have more work to do to finalize the plan.

Committee for Concerns of the Aging:

Gloria Vanterpool indicated that the April meeting was held in the new office of the Manhattan District Attorney. She indicated they covered the topics of Elder Abuse and Identity scams. They also discuss the possibility of hosting a Community Forum on Elder Abuse.

Housing & Human Services Committee

Richard Lewis indicated that the Committee heard presentations from HAP showcasing floor plans, from the 421 A developer and from a community group from NYCHA called “Community Voices Heard”. In addition, there is a Building Convention to be held on April 28th at the Javits Center. There is also a Co-Op and Apartment Expo to take place at the Hilton on April 21. He also announced Rent Guidelines Board meetings to be held on the 16th and the 26th in which future rent increases will be considered.

Land Use Committee

No Report due to the absence of Wayne Benjamin (Funeral of his father)

Parks & Cultural Affairs

Mitch Glen spoke about the new sculpture that has been installed at Broadway & 157th Street. He also spoke about the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the Morris Jumel Mansion and the events that will be planned to commemorate this important anniversary.

The Highbridge will open on July 25th and there is a wide array of festive events planned including fireworks. The main entrance will be at 161st Street – and new bike lanes in the area are being added. The Highbridge renovation cost \$61 million.

There was a discussion about the possibility of coyotes in the area parks. There was also a discussion about La Marina and interest was expressed in learning more about how contracts by the Parks Department are signed and how they get monitored.

Traffic & Transportation

Yosef Kalinsky indicated that the Committee discussed (2) Street Co-namings – 161st Street for a fallen Firefighter and 215th Street for Bruce Reynolds. He also indicated that the Committee had been approached by local politicians about the possibility of co-naming a street for former Mayor David Dinkins. He noted that it is unusual to name a street for someone who is living. He said that this proposal stimulated a discussion of how the community might honor the former Mayor.

Ebenzer Smith agreed to speak with Sandra Betancourt Garcia of NOMAA to explore the possibility of commissioning a mural to celebrate the life and contributions of Mayor Dinkins.

Licensing Committee

Aldemar Diaz indicated that the Licensing Committee considered 16 Applications in the recent meeting. He indicated that 11 were approved, 4 were not approved and 1 received no support. He also announced that Mia Sushi Restaurant has been closed down.

By-Laws Task Force

Richard Allman indicated that he will have a report to the Executive Committee at next month's meeting. He reported that the Task Force was careful to develop consistency in language and terminology.

Chair's Report

George Fernandez reported that Shahbudden Ally cannot chair the Personnel Committee. He also asked the Executive Committee to complete the survey and to bring it to the next Executive Committee meeting..

He also indicated that the Zoning Text Amendment has received an extension until April 30th and that he is working with Wayne Benjamin on a response.

George brought up the subject of increases for District Managers and called for an Executive Session at 10:20 to review the matter. The Committee discussed the matter and unanimously approved the increase.

The Executive Session came to an end and the Executive Committee meeting came to an end as well. The meeting adjourned at 10:53pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann
May 12, 2015