

**Community Board 12, Manhattan General Meeting  
February 23, 2021 / Online via Zoom**

**Board Members Present:** Marielle Ali, Richard Allman, Mary Anderson, Glennis Aquino-Gil, Wayne Benjamin, James Berlin, Tanya Bonner, Eleazar Bueno, Daryl Cochrane, Nobles Crawford, Robin Cruz, Waldys Cruz (not present f/voting on reso H&HS), Gerard Dengel, Katherine Diaz, Domingo Estevez, Gabriela Estrella, Ashley Fernandez, Sally Fisher, Fe Florimón (left early), Barbara Frazier, Mariela Graham, Leopoldo Jimenez, Yosef Kaminsky, Osi Kaminer, Betty Lehmann (not present f/voting on reso H&HS), Francisco Lopez, Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Maria Luna, Isidro Medina, Ariel Miranda, Debby Nabavian, Jonathan Nunez Frometa, Ayisha Oglivie, Rosy Perez, Bruce Robertson, Edda Santiago, Steve Simon, Omar Tejada, Angel Vasquez, Christopher Ventura (came in late), Curtis Young.

**Board members Excused:** None

**Board members Absent:** Francisco Alvarez (resigned), Naysha Diaz, Juan Guzman (resigned), Mariam James, Danielle Jettoo, Cindy Matos, Jay Mazur, Paradise Phoenix, Christina Richiez (resigned),

**Staff Present:** Ebenezer Smith; Paola Garcia, Shinelle Paniagua

**Elected Officials Present:** Gale Brower (MBP), Natalie Espino (MBPO), Chris Nickell (NYS Senator RJ Office), Laurie Tabias-Cohen (US Congressman Adriano Espillat Office), Mariel De La Cruz (NYC Comptroller Office), Erika Rodriguez (NYS AM Alfred Taylor Office), Orlando Ovalles (AM Carmen De La Rosa Office), CM Mark Levine, Manuel Belliard (CM ML Office), Tomas Grita (CM Rodriguez office), Adle Barlett (MBPO), CM Ydanis Rodrigues, Kiana Diaz (CM YR office)

**Public Present:** 1347\*\*\*\*487, 1718\*\*\*\*130, Alan Gardner, Anthony Echevers, Boo Boafó, Brian Philips, Chelsea Wynn, Coach Dave Crenshaw, Diane Lane-Hymans, Diego Quintuna, Dr Gary Altheim, Elizabeth DeMayo, Gayle Mandaro, Jennifer Bristol, Jermy Larson, Laura Daigen-Ayala, Lorial Crowder, Louis Cabrera, Luther D. Isler, Nathan Wakhloo, Philip Zablocki, Roman Gadzhylv, Senior Administrator, Steven Harrison, Steven Tuozzolo, Theo Chino, Tracey Lawrence, Constantina Well, Victor Santos, Wade Trefethen, Yolanda Rodriguez, Zadie Adams, Joyce Holland, Bassabi Tabe M., Adam Fran, Alexis Marnel, Stephanie Edwards, Marsha Samuel, Nancy Preston, Jason Cowan, Stephanie Rivera, Karen Taylor, Nicole Couturiaux, Bernard Grobman, Michael Mirisola, Cheryl Miller, Erika Rodriguez, Katherine O'Sullivan, Debrah Cardona, Rafael Alardo, Martin Collins, Allen Goldberg, Dayanna Torres, Rita Finkel, Jonathan Schindel, Stacey Cameron, Constantina Weil, Yajaira Gonzalez, Jeremy Larsen, Michael Cona, Ely Silvestre, Maceo Raysor, Josue Perez, Marsha Samuels, Zandra Graham, Tony Mendez, Dr. Gary Altheim, Allan Goldberg, Deborah Cardona, Sandi Galawanji.

**6:35pm Call to Order:** The Zoom meeting began at 6:35pm; the meeting was called to order with quorum.

**6:35pm Agenda & Minutes:** I. Medina move to adopt the February Agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. James. A. Oglivie and T. Bonner object, the Agenda was adopted with objections (no roll call took place). I. Medina move to adopt the January GM Minutes as submitted, D. Cochrane 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**6:39pm Chair's Report, Eleazar Bueno:**

I'm calling on to bring funding to the restaurants in our district to get the PPP to our district. The U.S. Census is calling CB12 an invaluable member of the 2020 community partnership program and a partner of community engagement. Thank you all for making this Census successful. On Monday February 15<sup>th</sup> we took part in an event attended by C. Young, L. Ritter, and elected officials where we acknowledged the mental health issues in our community. We need to push mental health to be integrated in health related resolutions very seriously. The public library and CLOTH presentations were well attended.

L. Ritter announcement: the vaccination facility at the Armory is now giving vaccines for people under 65 years old with underline comorbidities. They do take walks in for making appointments.

**6:44pm Ebenezer Smith, District Manager:**

- The Comptroller office conducting an audit on our website to verify that we have all Minutes and comply with the standards. Several committee Minutes are missing and will need to be upload once they are located
- The Josephine Heritage Project is asking for help connecting them with local CBOs for a free program in which they teach photography for free for seniors, veterans, and youth
- The March 2021 calendar was sent out to committee chairs, please review and advise of any changes before we send it out

**6:45pm Government Officials Report**

**Erika Rodriguez (AM Alfred Taylor office):** Last Friday we had the Black History Month event and the Dominican Heritage event last Tuesday. Our office is working with NHPH to schedule appointments for people 65 or older that cannot do that on their own. We have weekly COVID19 meeting with NYC Health and Hospital Trace Core. S. Simon is part of these meetings. FEMA was present at the last meeting and we asked for other vaccination sites

**Marisel De La Cruz (Comptroller Scott Stringer Office):** the Comptroller office host a summer paid internship program for undergrad and grad students. The due date for applications is March 5<sup>th</sup>. The Comptroller released a public safety blueprint with recommendations such as public health approach to public safety and NYPD investing in alternative responses and services to address some of the issues with mental health approach. Address the spike in crime with partnership with organizations that can address the issues from the source of the problems. And improve NYPD transparency

S. Fisher: we should have vaccination sites in NYCHA locations.

**Chris Nickell (NYS Senator Jackson office):** (answered S. Fisher question) There is a vaccination program specifically for NYCHA residents and every development will receive a vaccination site. Wellness Check program continues, we make phone calls to senior residents and check how they are doing. We have phone numbers for 22,000 seniors and called 4,000 of them so far. If you would like to volunteer help the senior community please contact [wellnesscalls.senatorjackson.com](http://wellnesscalls.senatorjackson.com) for more details. We also have 60 students and 60 tutors helping kids in our community please sign up any kids who could benefit from having a tutor [tutoring.senatorjackson.com](http://tutoring.senatorjackson.com) or you can sign up to be a tutor here [beatutor.senatorjackson.com](http://beatutor.senatorjackson.com). We work with NYPH to help people register to get vaccinated and were not able to do so on their own. We continue to fight for budget justice and we work on raising the personal income tax that will bring \$12B to \$18B a year. We also passed a bill to help out with under represented educators by forming conversations where they can network and jumpstart the curriculum on child slavery in NYS. We passed a nursing homes related bill that will revoke the Governor' special power for handling nursing home data

**Manuel Belliard (CM Mark Levine office):** we will have our monthly food pantry this Thursday 10am to 12pm, if you know anyone that is suffering food insecurity please send them to our office on 500 west 140 street. We will have COVID testing on March 11<sup>th</sup> and on the 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 5:30pm at the district office

**Debby Nabavian (Congressman AE rep):** the beginning of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress Speaker Pelosi appointed CC Espaillat to the Appropriations Committee. He received a waiver to be on Education and Labor Committee. Espaillat continues to be active on the small business assistance and he is concern that the loan package will reach the true small businesses. He also pushes on a number of priorities such as abolition of the death penalty. We are finding great difficulties to secure vaccine appointments over the phone

**Orlando Ovalles (AM Carmen De La Rosa office):** the AM had a panel with Mark Levine to talk about inequality in the COVID vaccination pull out. She went to correctional facility with other gov officials to look at the conditions of the facilities and speak to people that are incarcerated. There are a lot of opportunities for legislation in this area. There are some environmental legislation the Assembly is working on such as clean water and clear air human rights. De La Rosa is also working on safe election initiative that will reduce the signatures requirements for petition. She participated in the vigil for the life lost in the 207<sup>th</sup> street train station.

## 7:09pm Public Session

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair K. Diaz, clarified that speakers have two minutes each, and the Chair will keep time. Please use the raise hand to speak and you will be mute speak, if you have tech issues, we will go back to you at the end of the public session. If I couldn't get back to you and you are back, just raise your hand. I will share my screen with a digital timer.*

Miriam James, Dyckman Houses Residents Association rep: as a resident of the Dyckman Houses, we always felt that we are not included in a lot of things on the CB. Eli reached out and help us with getting vaccinations and other special events. I also want to thank Fe about her involvement.

Zadi Adames the growth and development program coordinator at GDS: Suicide rate is going up across the country and for these who do not have access to mental health services its even a greater problem. Nothing has been done to secure GDS programs at the Armory so far and we have holistic approach to these problems. We know that these that are high at risk are the least vaccinated, have no access to mental health, healthy food and other. I ask CB12 to please approve the resolution to reinstate GDS into the Armory so we can help these that are most in need

Stephanie youth advocate at GDS: sophomore in college majoring in human service. The program connects me with peers and I was able to share my journey and help me understand who I'm as a person. The program at the Armory prevents youth for just being on the street doing nothing. I'm asking that you vote to re-instate GDS back into the Armory. Many people are not aware that this building needs to be a community center and we need the space back

Dr Gery Altheim, GDS: Steve presentation from February 2019; GDS offers needed programs for youth of WH and help guide them to develop their self image and to find direction and reach their potential. 100% of the excel program participants reported stronger peer supports; increase self-confidence, and communication skills. If there were more programs like the ones offered by GDS there will be less crime and drug use in our community. CB12 and government official should be supporting these programs not dismantling them. GDS support WH and the Bronx since 1996. We ask the CB12 will re-instate GDS in the Armory

Boo Boaf holistic health and wellness advocate at GDS; the killing on the train happened due to mental health issues. GDS provides with mental health support for the youth in underserved areas. I urge you to vote yes for the resolution that reinstates GDS at the Armory

Victor Santos, MamaSushi: I want to clarify that the article posted at a local paper recently includes a lot of misinformation about the restaurant. Our license is not suspended! We had an inspection by the SLA on February 4<sup>th</sup> we were under the impression that everything was fine based on the conversation we had with the inspector. On Friday February 5<sup>th</sup>, we were advised that our license was suspended. Since it was Friday afternoon we couldn't verify this until Monday morning. After numerous conversations between our attorneys and the SLA, it was deemed that the suspension was not warranted due to the violation at hand and the venue was opened. I did indicate that at the LC meeting that the issue was resolved and the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct had no objection to the application as it was presented.

Philip Zablocki of Advocate of Equality and Integrity: in 2014, I was called by several CB12 members to investigate allegation preventing community use with the Forth Washington Armory. A team of several dedicated committee members was formed. Over the past 6 years we filed over 30 FOILs and obtained legal documents regarding policies and protocols and found who owned the Armory. We research its history and obtained and attempt to obtain feedback on the parties involved. Tonight, this body was supposed to vote on a greater oversight of the Armory. I strongly object to this important resolution being removed from the agenda.

Steven Harrison: GDS was wrongfully removed from the Armory and they must be reinstated in what was their home for 19 years. Two years ago I spoke about the Armory but no one responded to my questions and it is not clear why such vital organization was thrown out of the Armory. GDS do a vital work with youth and senior and they deserve to be reinstated in the same place they once had. Please pass the resolution

Constantina Weill: NYC Community Response Team is dedicated volunteer teams that go through training and learn how to provide with basic response skills such as search and rescue. The training is 10 sessions run by NYPD and FDNY, EMS, etc.

Theo Chino: I represent Show The Books, and organization that fight corruption. GDS was taken off the agenda, please put it back on the agenda

Elizabeth De Mayo: I'm walking down Dyckman and I wonder how is it different than indoor dining if large groups of people in front of MamaSushi and it seems that the KC very easily approve licenses. I don't know if you can do much of background research but the outdoor enclosure outside the restaurants looks like indoor enclosures. Dyckman is already a hot spot and I'm not sure what you can do or what can be done.

Michael Mirisola: pursuant to section 1731 of the NYC construction code, notice have been file for site selection of block # 2198 for the purpose of building a primary and intermediate school for 860 seats on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and 201 street. The site contains approximately 27,710 sq ft . the site is within a special zoning district. Comments on this construction will be accepted until March 29<sup>th</sup>. To submit comments, write to Gail Mander [sitesnyc@fca.org](mailto:sitesnyc@fca.org) we would like to have a resolution from the Board in regards to the construction.

Lora Daigen Ayala: re MamaSushi; On February 4<sup>th</sup> investigators with the SLA multi agency taskforce observed 15 patrons eating and drinking inside of a fully enclosed structure outside the premises despite regulations in place over 6 months requiring openings on at least 2 sides any outdoor structure to prevent the spread of COVID19. Mr Santos had mentioned there was opening in one side. The owner was previously warned and charged for serving patrons inside the same enclosure on January 16<sup>th</sup>. There are many complaints from neighbors about this and patrons without masks, loud parties. The owner seen welcoming friends and patrons unmasked

Cheryl Miller: re Feb EC meeting; I was appalled and discussed to see the treatment of two CB members T. Bonner and C. Young. The discrimination and racism of CB12 need to stop. I was referred to as a gentrified, CB12 is not representing this community and does not reflect diversity as there are only a few black members and a few white members on this board

Anthony Echevers: this morning community member saw a knife warped in a napkin place in a hole in the ceiling on the 207 Street A train stop on a little ledge. I'm concern that this knife was found and what is being done in terms of the PS committee

Yolanda Rodriguez: outreach coordinator for the Josephine Inherit Project. We teach photography, we offer free classes for students with social physical mental and economic disadvantage included for veterans and immigrants, children and adults with disabilities. Their work is available for the public to see. We thought photography for over 500 students and exhibit over 10,000-art work. We run on a small budget and work with 20 teachers. WE hope to increase the number of students in the future

Liz Ritter on behalf of Martin Collins NOOMA: an online Women History Month exhibit will open up on March 18. The deadline to submit artwork is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Info is available here [www.nomaanyc.org](http://www.nomaanyc.org) the poster contest deadline is March 30<sup>th</sup>. There is a \$1,250 grant prize, 19<sup>th</sup> annual art stroll info is available on their website [www.nomaanyc.org](http://www.nomaanyc.org)

Sara Fisher Friends of Inwood Hill Park: on March 6 from 10AM to 4PM the LESEC will have E-waste event on Isham and Seaman.

**7:55PM Government Officials Reports (cont'd)**

**Wendy Lorenzetti Olivo Environmental Justice**: membership meeting will be on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am, we will be hosting MBP. We are conducting a survey to understand how girls and women identify people of color in northern Manhattan and the use of certain type of cosmetic products.

**Ydanis Rodriguez (NYC CC)**: I work on a few bills, one of which is to create an agency for spot and recreation to support sports in the competitive level. That will address the lack of opportunity especially in this district. Another bill is to allow Green Card holders and undocumented immigrants to vote in local elections. About one million New Yorkers holds Green Cards and pay taxes and they should be able to vote. Lastly, I support MamaSushi because I believe that it is important to support any local small business. Most people who died in NYC are Black and Latinos; most people who got vaccinated are white. I don't want anyone to die but minorities die more than whites. I think that the CB12 Chair is the only Dominican chair we had. I worked with previous CB12 Chairs who none if them are Dominicans. I will defend any Dominican business and I understand that there are concerns but if it comes to race attack I will not tolerate it

W. Benjamin: there are some concerns about the top down planning approach the inequality that does not allow for community planning to have an impact. What's your opinion about that? Y. Rodriguez: the rezoning is a complicated process and it's not perfect but we need to come up with a plan to implement the many pieces of this plan at the same time incorporate new ideas

T. Bonner: I want to understand how your words carry a lot of weight and influence. We need to support small businesses but my concern is that you come today to support a particular business. There are many businesses that came before this board that had problems, and I don't know that they got this advocacy. I'm uncomfortable that one particular business gets your support but other do not. It sends a message to other businesses that they are not as important. Perhaps it is best to stay neutral and let the board handle this situation with the evidence that comes from the Licensing Committee based on their recommendations. I don't know that this is appropriate for you, CC Rodriguez to come in and weigh in about one business. In terms of diversity of this community, please ask us. Y. Rodriguez: I only asked to close two businesses in my current position as the CC and I support all the other businesses

S. Fisher: I'm looking at 393 businesses some with temporary suspension during the public health emergency. I would like to see if you have evidence that our businesses are being unfairly discriminates against? The answer is yes, most business that were shutdown during this time are from Black and Latino communities

L. Ritter: I just wanted to say that:

Our immediate prior Chair was a Black man (Richard Lewis)

Prior to that was a Guyanese/South Asian man (Shahabuddeen Ally)

Prior to that was a Puerto Rican man (George Fernandez)

Prior to that was a Puerto Rican/Afro-Cuban woman (Pamela Palanque North)

Prior to that was a Dominican man (Manny Velasquez)

Prior to that was a white man (Martin Collins)

Prior to that was a Palestinian man (Zead Ramadan)

Prior to that was a Dominican man (Walther Delgado)

Prior to that was a Dominican man (William Garcia)

Prior to that was a Jewish man (Sander Dulitz)

Prior to that was a Black man (Marvin Higgins)

Prior to that was a Black woman (Sybil Dodson)

Prior to that was a Dominican woman (Maria Luna)

Prior to that was a Jewish man (James Berlin)

Prior to that was a man whose ethnicity I do not know (Michael Rosas)

Prior to that was a white man (Msgr. Thomas Leonard)

All of which is to say that our community board is incredibly diverse and the chairmanship / chairwomanship of the board reflects that I'm very sorry that your institutional memory does not predate your council membership but the leadership of this board has been diverse. Y. Rodriguez: I'm talking about the 12 years that I am a Councilmember.

L. Ritter: I respectful request that we evaluate our current chair based on what he accomplish as a chair and his qualifications and actions not whether he is Dominican. Y. Rodriguez: I agree

G. Dengel: the Inwood pantry that used to operate on Cooper Street and closed down during COVID is now open on Seaman at the Green Market. I encourage everybody to donate blood and plasma

D. Estevez: suggestion to the CC; our recommendation about diversity, it start to the work and how you contribute to that and you can demonstrate this through actions. Y. Rodriguez: sure we should talk about that.

**8:22pm Public Session (cont'd):**

Nathan Wakhloo: I volunteer as a social justice advocate at GDS. Due to the fact that the Armory is owned by NYC DHS that funded by taxes, GDS was evicted from the building unfairly. The space was to be utilized as a public space to be use by the community. The Armory is becoming increasingly privatized some of the events are for corporate galas for example. GDS is providing with free wellness and services who address trauma that people experienced on a daily basis. I hope that CB12 will assist us to get the space back to the community.

**8:24pm Government Officials Reports (cont'd)**

**Gale Brower (MBP)**: We are running a talk about the vaccine every Tuesday at 3PM all are welcome. Vaccines are available at the Armory and I hope that we are making progress in terms of making appointments for residents. We are also very concern about seniors that are still home while other places are open up the senior centers are still shut down and we are working on opening them up. We are trying to get 22,000 Meals On Wheels for the seniors that are home. I did testify for the comprehensive plan for the 2019 Charter revision and the Mayor's office is not going to look into it. Your input on this matter will be very helpful. On April 1<sup>st</sup> the City need to report back to the Governor about our vision on the police and community relations. Thank you Tanya Bonner for running noise task force, the quality of life issue is a hard one and she got the agencies to work on this issue. In terms of the schools, I want to thank Domingo for leading the discussion about sports in schools., we are the only city in NYS that doesn't have outdoor sports in schools. I also want to thank these who work on urban garden near GWH I'm trying to get teachers and principles there to get CTE for horticulture. We received 700 applications for the Federal Gov for small businesses loan. We interviewed 1,000 seniors for the Academy of Medicine report. On Thursday at stand up against street harassment, we need to be very vigilant and continue to talk about harassment

W. Benjamin: a few initiatives released by the city in December did not make it to the Land Use committee in a timely manner at all. Today was the public hearing and another one is coming in 72 hours. How do you suggest that we get to comment on these matters? G. Brower: send us a copy and we will advocate to have it included. This is a very complicated topic

D. Estevez: it's not just about youth playing sports, it's the access that playing sports gives to you when it comes to providing scholarships to high quality higher education institutions

F. Lopez: about Liz comments, Majority of our community are Latinos and black but I don't want white people feel that they have to defend themselves. I don't want anything that is pro Latinos or Black become something that is against Whites. I want our white residents to never feel that are being attacked.

L. Ritter: I did not feel at all attacked or uncomfortable to talk about these issues I merely wanted to state that the leadership of this Board over the last 25 years has been incredibly diverse including not only Latinos, not only Latinos who is Dominicans, but also Porto Ricans, Cubans, Afro Latinos, Black Americans, White people, Jews, Palestinians and others. Before you make assertions about the ethnicity of the leadership, it's important to look at who are the people who have chaired this CB

I. Medina: we don't have to be obstructed about how we feel, we are a united community and I hoe that we can work together. However somewhat reversed discrimination that is taking place has to be addressed. The issue of people not being recognized or respected because of their background that includes ethnic background include language deficiency has to be respected. Often times we see CB members speak because they feel oppressed because they do have an accent and they don't get the respect they deserve

D. Estevez: lets not act as if diversity will solve this problem. Racism has different layers language is one of them.

**Mark Levine (City Council Member)**: the public health crisis revealed deep inequality. We are in a race between vaccinations and the variance. We cannot stop fighting vaccinations and groups that left behind and we cannot stop working to slow the variance or we would lose this race. After a week of delay due to the storm in the mid west, shipment of vaccines starts to arrive. This week, the Armory will start vaccination of all adults with underline conditions but we don't have enough vaccination capacity in our district especially for essential workers who are not eligible at the Armory. I'm fighting to get micro sights like NYCHA, community centers, religious institutions, and other places in the neighborhood and places that are trusted by people. Unless we get a mass vaccination site in NYC we will not reach our vaccination goal. I would like to get CB12 input on mass vaccination site and also micro sites locations. There are thousands of people that are home bond and cannot get to vaccination sites and there are no solutions for them at this point. We are working to improve the vaccination website but we must reach people that do

not use computers. We are going door to door trying to reach people. NYC just released the most prominent variant for the first time B117 it is already here in NYC, 6% of all cases in NYC are from that variant. In a few weeks, it will be 30%. About the comprehensive plan; it's a big and complicated proposal the big and important goal that I support is in the area of rezoning that was done in piecemeal way so far that has led to a lot of inequality with the kind of neighborhoods that are getting rezoned and the kind of people that are being rezoned. There is also provisions in this proposal that would provide racial equity land in the City. One of them is a prevision that will elevate the importance of the function of CB in the Statement of needs. CBs have not been given opportunities to weigh in and I'll do as much as I can as a CC to give you as much time as you need to weigh in

W. Benjamin: it is rushed and complicated and we have not given the time to respond intelligently.

### **Committee reports (resolution items)**

8:53pm

**Housing & Human Services Committee, Ariel Miranda, Chair:** the reason we have specifically been looking to hold this resolution is because this morning, for the first time, we got a reply from DHS. This is not appropriate that the day we have the resolution on the floor that we get a reply from the agency after months and years that we are trying to have a dialog with them. The resolution will not be off the table but we will listen to DHS because there is a lot of misinformation about the Armory. There have been claims that the building is operating within its own capacity is not owned by the City which is false. I take it very seriously that my community that is not being informed about the resources and the space available to them. We are going to give DHS the opportunity after two years that we did not hear from them and total of seven years that this issue is on and off the table

L. Ritter: I appreciate the idea of holding accountability and I think that it is disgusting that DHS took this long to get their act together to respond to us. I think that we will have a stronger resolution if we include the participation of DHS

A. Oglivie: I object to the removal of the Armory resolution off the agenda, this resolution meant to finally address the mismanagement of the Armory. I authored the 1<sup>st</sup> resolution in 2014 and it was the genesis of this resolution seven years later. The Mayor's office liaison at the time admitted the Armory is grossly under utilized and has difficulty getting answers from the Mayor's office. The additional delay of this agenda item and removing it before it get to the GM not for the first time is a continuous of the conversations behind the seen. Intentionally not showing up throughout the years or showing up without answers to our questions is all about covering up their own negligence

T. Bonner: it is very convenient that DHS decided to reach out the day this resolution is going up for a vote. There was work that was put out on this resolution and pulling it out of the agenda after the committee voted on it is questionable. A. Miranda: the concern is that some of the data was put out is false but you can see who owned the building on the DOB for example

M. Ali: very much convenient time for DHS to suddenly chime in, and it could set a precedent. On the flip side there is a lot of misinformation and I invite everyone to the Committee meeting since DHS said that they will be there. We are giving DHS the opportunity to answer questions and we will move from there

S. Simon: I would ask that the Armory Foundation also be given the opportunity to give their side of the story. The fact that the building is owned by NYC the ultimate responsibility is with DHS. We don't need to create a board that is comprised of other City agencies and create another layer of bureaucracy to oversee the Armory

N. Crawford: I agree with Ayisha, I spoke to Gary and his team many times and this is a community space and should be used as such. Ariel, you may feel that DHS maybe preform in good faith but if they do not, you need to go in with them if they do not come in good faith and perhaps consider making a resolution of no confidence with the Armory Foundation and make sure this is going to the highest level of our local go

A. Oglivie Point of Order: I want to remind this Board that we passed a resolution in the past due to DHS not would not cooperate in showing up at the HHS meetings when I was chairing these meetings

J. Berlin Point of Order: generally we don't see resolutions pulled off by committee chairs. And resolutions always pulled for the right reasons. IN this case, we will have a better resolution that capture DHS replies after we hear from them

B. Frazier: I believe that in 2018 we passed a resolution in support of GDS to remain in the Armory building and not be evicted. The issue here seems to try and create an oversight committee because the Armory Foundation and DHG continue to violate the spirit of the existing lease. I'm not sure that is the way to go

G. Estrella: I want to know why DHS took so long to answer the request not only from the community but also from elected officials? Why now they are willing to discuss this issue and why this was removed before the full board actually voted weather to keep it at all or dismiss it?

O. Kaminer: it seems to me that the Committee is surprised about pulling the resolution and that they were not notified about this action when you received the information from GHS this morning? I think that committee chairs should get into the habit of sharing info as they get it, Committee members have the right to know the information just

as it is being received and not be surprised at the last minute. In terms of DHS, they got numerous opportunities and they used that as a game. By not voting on this resolution today we giving DHG the veto power that they do not deserve. We should vote on this resolution tonight and we can always revise it if there is new information just as we did with the Contextual Zoning at the LU committee three or four times in the past 10 to 15 years

D. Cochrane Point of Order: How we are recoding the chat or Q&A? There is a lot of inappropriate comments. O. Kaminer: the Q&A is not being recorded because it is not spoken. J. Berlin: we are only allowed to have one meeting, Q&A is like another meeting taking place on another medium.

K. Diaz: to second what Barbara said before, we have spoken about the Armory numerous time before and even if was solely the question about GDS eviction we made sure that there was language highlighted and emphasizes the need to be an investigation to the matter. Is the spirit of the current resolution the same as the previous ones we voted one or?

G. Aquino-Gil, Armory Foundation: The Armory was not invited to HHS committee to give it's side of the story. The last time the Armory was invited to submit an opinion was in January 2019. I want to ask that the Armory will be given the same opportunity that GDS was given

A. Vasquez: how was the decision made to pull the resolution out today? A. Miranda: new wanted to make sure that people are informed rather than told lies that it is a private building and that is the very issue. The letter that was sent by the Armory does not address all the questions we asked specifically the demographic information we asked two years ago. I made the decision to pull the resolution off the agenda for tonight

D. Estevez: I'm very confused about the entire process and nothing happened after a resolution is voted on and ratified. We need to talk about the follow up process every time a resolution is passed

J. Berlin: when we pass a resolution it is being sent to the respective parties and that is it. They may do something or maybe not

A. Oglivie: resolutions don't always go where the respective party they suppose to go to specifically in the HHS. There was one resolution that took a year to go to the respective party. In response to what G. Aquino-Gil has said, she wrote an email to Ariel admonishing him for not inviting her to the meeting and he had informed her that it was on the agenda and she should look at future meetings posted on the agendas. To say that she was not informed or aware is not what happened

M. Ali: what happened in committees is public information and I encourage you all to please attend the next meeting

T. Bonner: we are setting a precedent that is a slippery slope. If there are any amendments or concern the public need to know. I don't like agencies to tell us when and where we should present resolutions they don't get to do that especially when they ignored us for years

L. Ritter: I don't like the fact that this is off the agenda. There was a motion to adopt the agenda while there were objections, but the agenda was adopted (no role call took place on the objection). Ariel has another resolution that speaks for tracking mechanism. I respectfully request that we move the agenda

**A. Miranda cont'd:** the second resolution to amend the by-laws to implement a tracking system for resolutions and credit sponsors for their contributions. Tracking protocol, naming resolutions by authors, and members who introduce the resolution

A. Oglivie: I'm the author of this resolution the move from HHS to EC. I took comments from Marielle, Edda and simple grammatical changes. A. Miranda accept the changes

J. Berlin Point of Order: this resolution is calling for change in the By-Laws but it technically doesn't. It creates an independent structure if we change the by-laws we cannot do it tonight we have to wait another month.

D. Nabavian: I don't like the idea of putting people's names on resolutions. We are a community board act on resolutions and it's not about us individuals

S. Simon: I support this resolution, I'm talking about tracking mechanism for a number of years and I'm glad we are creating this structure making clear what we expect from staff to follow up if we don't get an answer from city agency or anyone about resolutions we have sent to them, I believe that standard practice is if the office don't hear anything in 3 weeks they should call them up. The final Whereas on all resolutions should say that we are looking for a positive response, or, we are looking forward to hearing from you. I suggest a friendly amendment to add a 6<sup>th</sup> Whereas saying: all resolutions should be made available to the community prior to the Board meetings. I agree with Debby, we don't need to keep track of people names

S. Fisher: I agree with what Steve just said

T. Bonner: I agree with what Steve said. It is important to track what members are contributing to resolutions. When is the looking going to start? A. Oglivie: going forward

J. Berlin: I agree with Debby. Friendly amendment to remove CB member individual credits. A. Miranda: I do not accept the amendment

A. Oglivie: giving credit where credit is due is important and may incentivize members to actively participate in resolutions writing

W. Benjamin: I echo Steve and Debby, the focus really need to be on the work that is done by the Board, not an individual members. A lot of the discussion we got into in the last few years has been focus on personality instead of the business of the Board. We absolutely should track the resolutions and what happened to them. The committee should be copied on all updates

K. Diaz: friendly amendment: in the Resolve adding in collaboration with community board staff

A. Oglivie: the attention was on the process and credit people for their work

S. Simon: where would the names appear? A. Oglivie: on the resolutions

L. Ritter Point of Order: if there was a motion for amend and someone second it we must vote to accept the amendment or not before we can move on

J. Berlin: move to table the resolution and send back to HHS committee, C. Nobles second

#### 10:08pm Roll Call

#### Housing & Human Services Committee

#A	Table Resolution to amend by-laws to implement a tracking system for resolutions and credit sponsors/co-sponsors for their contributions	28-6-4-0*	PASSED
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\*38 members were in attendance when resolution H&HS was called for a vote

10:17pm **Land Use Committee, Wayne Benjamin, Chair:** we asked CB staff to follow up with LPC in regards to measuring the success of the equity framework, how it is promoting inclusion. Also the resolution pertains to the DCP initiative that build on something CB12 voted on back in 2018 that required special permit for a hotels that are built on manufacturing districts, the new initiative expands to commercial and mixed use districts as well. The intention is to require ULURP review to make sure that the proposed hotel development is consistent with other businesses and developments activity that do not interfere with other developments already on the table. We supported the initiative but also gave recommendation to have financial feasibility require as part of the application and an independent review of that analysis and socioeconomic impacts be studied. After the special permit granted, if there are any changes of use a subsequent review is required. DCP should publish a list of all the comments they received in response to the document they sent out in December and advise how they incorporated these comments into that. ULURP applications should not be certified without within 60 days of CB going on hiatus and they should definitely not certified or that ULURP clock get started while we are on hiatus that happened a few times in the past. In terms of the library development, the majority of unites are small and not family size apartments that needed and it does nto address the need for larger apartments in our district

10:22pm **Parks and Cultural Affairs, Liz Ritter, Chair:** there are two very important meetings tomorrow: one panel discussion I will be attending honoring Black History and parks renaming. There is a community-scoping meeting on Dyckman. At the next meeting we will continue our discussion on parks renaming. At our next meeting we will be cannabis legislation and the impact to the committee. We will also have a presentation from Eliza. The committee has two resolutions: one is regarding the exonerated five and supporting the incredible work that CB10 has done around figuring out how to have a public installation. The second resolution is in support of the Harlem History Heritage Markers Project

10:26pm **Health & Environment Committee, Steve Simon, Chair:** Zip code 10040 has the highest positivity rate in Manhattan and the 27<sup>th</sup> highest in NYC with 122 new cases last week. Zip code 10034 there are 9.63% with 108 new cases, these two zip codes are above the weekly average for NYC. Zip code 10032 is at 9.4% with 48 new cases and zip code 10033 at 5.9% with 101 new cases. In all we had 479 new cases in one week. In total since the start if the pandemic, we had 14,431cases and 568 deaths. The Armory set up bilingual call line with the NMIC which operating it in response to many of our requests to do further outreach in our community to make it easier to get appointments to be vaccinated. The phone # is 646-838-0319 seniors are still given priority although people with underline conditions are getting prioritized as well. 60% of these who get vaccinated in the Armory should be from our community. 28 zip codes eligible to get vaccinated at the Armory, 12 in Manhattan, 16 in the Bronx all are included in the 60% that are eligible to get vaccinated in the Armory, the remaining 40% are from elsewhere and NYPH patients. Five pharmacies are not authorized to provide with vaccination through the federal government. Erika Rodriguez fro the AM Al Tyler called FEMA and asked for suggestions to set additional vaccination sites as zip code 10040 is in distress right now. And I suggest vaccination sites in this zip code. There has been a big controversy about how NYS DOH is handing nursing homes, 34 additional residents at Isabella who apparently died in hospitals during the pandemic bringing the total number of COVID related death from Isabella to 102 residents. At the Ft Tryon home there had been 20 deaths. The CORNER project is having a community forum Thursday night to discuss the

new site. The resolution calls for a support of the application submitted by the Emma Bowen Upper Manhattan Community Health Center for federal grants to expand mental health services to youth and seniors in WH and Inwood

E. Bueno: the only two testing sites in our district are in 10040, if I get tested positive and they don't know my address how would they register the results, by the physical address of the patient or the address of the testing site?

S. Simon: the address of the patient

**10:24pm Licensing Committee, Isidro Medina, Chair:** we received all the required documentations from the applicants that had stipulations. Items # 8 and #10 had been withdrawn. Item#2, MamaSushi, was approved because the Precinct knew very well that there was an issue with the license after it was taken away by the SLA, it was reactivated and we think that it speaks about the operator of the license. And passed resolutions were concluded in favor of the applicant. The food service is great and they received grade A. since the SLA had no issues, then CB12 should follow through

L. Jimenez: the committee reviews every application thoroughly with no personal tie to the applicant. We offer each applicant the opportunity to address any issue before making a decision

S. Fisher: Governor Cuomo announced that 23 licenses have been suspended for violating coronavirus regulations. In this case of MamaSushi, the license was suspended twice, once in January for violating the outdoor structure regulations, and on February 4<sup>th</sup>, multi agency taskforce observed 15 patrons eating and drinking inside of a fully enclosed structure outside the premises despite regulations in place over 6 months require openings on at least two sides of any outdoor area in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The license was previously warned and charged for serving patrons inside. On January 16, the licensee was warned about the same violation it was charged on February 4. I was surprised that there were no issues by the NYPD. And, there were few complaints about social distancing at the establishment. I understand that this is a good business but until I see the corrections I cannot vote in favor of this license

M. Ali: at the time of reviewing the application I was not aware of the situation. After the meeting, when I learned about the SLA revoke the license, I will be voting against this application. The Licensing Committee is asking a lot of questions and doing its due diligence

T. Bonner: it is important that the business owner tells the Licensing Committee of any issues upfront and that this license was revoked. We should get that information about the violations as a Board, not just the Licensing Committee. I. Medina: I was not aware of this at the meeting and the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct or the merchant did not bring it up. Any time that we have issues in the community we have the time to rectify it especially with a business owner that is operating for so long. I agree with Sally that we need to follow up with issues that affecting our community. If the SLA returned the license, I myself know that it will not be a problem to vote for this application

S. Simon: does it make sense to vote on MamaSushi right now if their license has been suspended? I. Medina: if the license has been suspended then we will take it back to the committee, but that license is no longer suspended

B. Frazier: I'm on the SLA website and the license shown as suspended. Governor Cuomo press release was released on February 17, 10 days after the suspension so the website would have been updated by now

O. Kaminer: whoever is doing the Minutes should look at the LAMP map on the SLA website and see all the information needed including suspensions and 500 ft hearings. So it maybe best to check the information and note them in the Minutes and save time with all the back and forth going on. I. Medina: not everyone have the time to look it up and as far as I'm concern this license is active

G. Dengel: often we are holding the Licensing Committee vote to a standard that that we don't hold votes in the General Meeting. All parties get to speak at the Licensing Committee meetings and members vote the way the vote and should not be judged how they vote

R. Cruz: I'm looking at the SLA website and the license is active

L. Ritter: it seems that there is conflicting information on the SLA website depending on which section one look in one section the license is inactive so it would be helpful we could have full access to the information prior to the meeting.

I. Medina: there is inactive license for this premises but then it was reactivated.

**10:55pm Concern of the Aging Committee, Mary Anderson, Chair:** refer to the Minutes. Rank Choice Voting will be presenting at the March 4 meeting

**10:56pm Public Safety Committee, Curtis Young, Chair:** in regards to the knife found on the subway platform, it is best to call 9-1-1 and try to call the Precinct too. We talked about burglary that is a continuous issue in our community and so do burglary with knives. In our next meeting we will have a panel discussion about reimagining public safety. Panelists: Germany Williams, Jackie Adams, and hopefully a few others. The Governor gave the Mayor De Blasio until April 1<sup>th</sup> to provide feedback on the police department reform and we may have something to share with the Governor office before the deadline. For Black History Month: we will be tracking the new evidence that was released

recently in regards to the assassination of Malcolm X that happened only one block from the CB office. If the DA office is not going to reopen the case for investigation we should encourage them to do so. We had a FDNY discussion that was a separate meeting this month

D. Estevez: the culprits that were named by the DA office in his deathbed were the NYPD and FBI they had responsibility in the assassination of Malcolm X

G. Dengel: just a few weeks ago there were double shootings right down the block from me so I would like to start with imagining public safety, like, having public safety. C. Young: we will have a forum about that

11:01pm **Business Development Committee, Domingo Estevez, Chair:** we encourage member participation and every month a member chair the meeting. F. Lopez presenting; the Committee focus on cannabis legalization and its affects on our community. The meeting was focus on information about possible opening a business in this sector. There are currently 2 bills and the committee discussed these bills. We had reps from Al Taylor, Carmen De La Rosa, and Robert Jackson offices at our meeting.

S. Simon: I would like to invite someone from the Health Department to speak about the health impacts resulting from the legislation of marijuana. Have you come up with anybody that will be specialist in this topic?

11:06pm **Traffic And Transportation Committee, Debby Nabavian, Chair:** refer to the Minutes. At the last meeting we had 2 presentations; the upcoming rehabilitation of the 190<sup>th</sup> #1 train tunnel, that is not ADA compliant so this is the first of many updates. The 181<sup>st</sup> busway construction is now in its starting stage. Next month the Committee will have a discussion about bike infrastructure

11:09pm **M. Luna:** April Taylor passed away; she was low-income housing advocate and community leader for 17 years. We saved so many buildings thanks to her. She came to our community board so many times and we owe it to her to continue to fight for low-income housing

11:11pm **A. Oglivie:** April Taylor has done tremendous work in the housing arena. I want to say that we need to stop the personal attack on the comment section. Some member of the audience only have that as a way to communicate with us board members and I would not for the comment section to go away, it's a way for people to communicate which we normally do face to face at the meetings

11:12pm **N. Crawford:** I agree about the public section but even in a in-person meeting, the public would be stop of speak not in the public session

11:13pm **Roll Call**

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Resolutions</u>	<u>Vote Tally: Y/N/Abs/NV</u>	<u>Result</u>
#B	<b>Land Use Committee:</b> Resolution calling upon the Landmarks Preservation Commission to ensure Greater Equity, Diversity, and inclusion in its Designation of Buildings, Structures, and Historic Districts	39-0-0-0	PASSED
#C	<b>Parks &amp; Cultural Affairs Committee:</b> Resolution In Support of CB10M Installation Commemorating the Exonerated Five	38-0-1-0	PASSED
#D	<b>Parks &amp; Cultural Affairs Committee:</b> Resolution In Support of Harlem Heritage Markers Project	39-0-0-0	PASSED
#E	<b>Health &amp; Environment Committee:</b> Resolution in Support of The Emma Bowen Community Service Center's Applications for Federal Grants to Expand Substance and Mental Health Services in Upper Manhattan	39-0-0-0	PASSED
#1	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its On-Premise Liquor License to: Eskina 214 Corp. dba Café Tabaco y Ron – 501 W 214 <sup>th</sup> Street (corner of W 214 Street)	33-5-1-0	PASSED
#2	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its On-Premise Liquor License to: Sushi Vida Inc. dba MamaSushi – 237 Dyckman Street (corner of Seaman Ave)	21-10-8-0	PASSED
#3	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its On-Premise Liquor License to: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Bon Appetit Management Company dba Trie Café – 99 Margret Corbin Drive (Fort Tryon Park Cloister)	39-0-0-0	PASSED
#4	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its On-Premise Liquor License to: Locksmith Wine Bar Inc. dba The Locksmith Wine Bar – 4465 Broadway (btw W 190 <sup>th</sup> & W 192 <sup>nd</sup> Streets)	37-2-0-0	PASSED

#5	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: El Jobito Seafood Restaurant Inc. – 1579 Saint Nicholas Ave (corner of W 189 <sup>th</sup> Street)	37-1-1-0	PASSED
#6	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: El Gran Valle IV Restaurant Inc. – 1944 Amsterdam Ave (btw W 156 <sup>th</sup> & W 157 <sup>th</sup> Streets)	37-1-1-0	PASSED
#7	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Renewal of Eating Place Beer License to: La Lomita Mexican Deli Corp. – 3866-2868 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave (corner of W 207 <sup>th</sup> Street)	37-1-1-0	PASSED
#8	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> <del>Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA Method of Operation Change of its License to: Crack N Peel LLC – 126 Nagle Ave (corner of Arden Street)</del>	WITHDRWAN	WITHDRWAN
#9	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA New On-Premise Liquor License to: Blue Corn Restaurant Corp. – 1969 Amsterdam Ave (btw W 157 <sup>th</sup> & 158 <sup>th</sup> Streets)	36-2-1-0	PASSED
#10	<b>Licensing Committee:</b> <del>Resolution of <b>No Objection</b> to the SLA New On-Premise Liquor License to: Triple J Restaurant Corp. – 4927 Broadway Store 3 (corner of W 207<sup>th</sup> Street)</del>	WITHDRWAN	WITHDRWAN

39 members were in attendance when resolutions were voted on

11:22pm **Motion to adjourn:** moved by D. Cochrane, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Estevez.

**Respectfully submitted:** Osi Kaminer, Secretary