

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, MANHATTAN
Executive Committee Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

January 18, 2022
MINUTES

Executive Committee Members Present: K. Diaz (1st Vice Chair); S. Fisher (Treasurer); E. Lorris Ritter (Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); Curtis Young (Secretary); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); D. Nabavian (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); R. Allman (LGBTQ Task Force); J. Berlin (Parliamentarian); M. Anderson (Chair, Aging Committee); F. Lopez (Chair, Business Development); S. Simon (Chair, Health & Environment); D. Estevez (Chair, Public Safety); F. Florimon (Chair, Youth & Education); D. Cochran (Housing & Human Services); I. Medina (Chair, Licensing)

Absent: E. Bueno (Board Chair)

Other Board Members Present: B. Robertson; M. Ali; J. Alcober

Government Officials Present: Marielle de La Cruz (no presentation delivered)

Member of the Public Present: Bernard Grobman; Nina Berstein; Josh Goodman; Adam Fran,

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by K. Diaz, 1st vice Chair)

Chairs Report: Eleazar Bueno:

- Extension of Open Meeting law has been approved by the Governor
- During the month of February FDNY will be presenting at several committees on fire safety and prevention matters. Dates to be confirmed.
- CB12 is awaiting announcement from the new MBP Levine on our community liaison.

District Manager Report, Ebenezer Smith:

- Our office was notified by the NYPD 33rd Precinct of a homicide on 176th Street.
- Open meeting laws were approved and the governor has signed as of January 18, 2022. It was approved and extended until the emergency is lifted. Once the Governor lifts the emergency it will be lifted.
- FDNY has accepted our invitation to conduct fire presentations at the upcoming General Body meeting. They will also attend several committee meetings next month (February). They will attempt to merge the presentation for the Housing and Health/ Environment Committee because they meet on the same day (to be confirmed).
 - Discussion on DM Report
 - Include Spanish Language in the FDNY Presentation

- Request for an update on the Land Use resolutions pertaining to historic markers in the Jumel Terrace District. DM will follow up with DOT and include Chair, D. Navabian.

Secretary's Report: Curtis Young:

- Nothing to report in January (first meeting in the position).

Treasurer's Report: S. Fisher:

- CB 12 has funding to determine use in the coming meetings, which includes (see *attached Treasure report for itemizations*):
 - Environmental Services funding
 - Urban Planner and Tech Services
 - Translation Services

Calendars:

February:

- No changes

March:

- Executive Committee to meet on March 15

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Land Use: Chair, Wayne Benjamin;

- Consider two items at the January meeting.
 - Historic marker at the Jumel Terrace District. Recapped that CB12 previously passed a resolution in support that came through Parks and Cultural Affairs. This initiative was led by "While We Are Still Here" which focuses on documenting places and people associated with the Harlem Renaissance in upper Manhattan. LPC was holding a public meeting which prompted CB12 to weigh-in. (We are waiting on LPC to let us know if the matter was deferred to February)
 - Additionally: topics included projects in the southern portion of the district i.e. 875 Riverside Drive and a project at 158th Street.

Parks & Cultural Affair: Chair, Liz Ritter:

- Robust conversation with Corner Project. Many of the items were discussed by Steven Simon
- Resolution on a capital project on the completion of a road way to connect a path at the river's edge from Dyckman Street down to the Little Red Lighthouse. It's a single resolution because of the Build Back Better Bill and could be funded by the Federal government.
- D10 Councilmember will attend next meetings and will invite DY Councilmember also in February

Business Development: Chair, Francisco Lopez:

- Focused on the business of cannabis and ways the community can engage with the new industry of cannabis through the various licenses. Tremaie WRight, Chair of Cannabis Control Board attended and the meeting was chaired by Domingo Estevez. This topic will continue in February to include legacy owners.
- Maria Perez attended to share how to acquire Child Care Licenses
- Discussed Small Business Resilience Grants in hopes to increase the number of businesses in our community on getting assistance.
- Over 200 people attended the meeting.

Youth and Education: Chair, Fe Florimon:

- Two presentations on Inwood Academy and Jumel Mansion Education Program

Licensing: Chair Isidro Medina (by Kathy Diaz):

- 18 Licenses at the next meeting

The Aging Committee: Chair, Mary Anderson:

- Presenters on the Zip Code Memory project had a personal emergency and were unable to attend. They will attend in February.
- Updated the community on Senior Centers enlight of COVID re: programs at centers, closures) but they are following guidelines and continuing services overall re: meals either grab and go or sit downs.

Health & Environment Committee: Chair Steve Simon

- COVID numbers are trending downward but for the last 7 days we've seen a high transmissions rate
- 1 out 100 in our community has contracted COVID. 17,000 more since our December meeting;; 41 additional deaths. Shared rates of Vaccines which all hovers around 70% in all zip codes.
- Discussed overdose prevention service being conducted by the Corner Project: 437 registrants; 3500 visits; 78 ODs prevented (49 at the WAHI site as of January 5). They have a close relationship with drug rehabs centers to offer these services and they have requested data on this for the next report.
- Requested that the board share information on CoVID rapid home kits. K. Diaz will be sent to the office.

Traffic and Transportation: Chair Debby Nabavian

- Discussion on the resolutions presented at the December general meeting with focus on community engagement and process of moving items forward. Suggestions were made (by D. Estevez) to include: provide DOT with guidelines on how they should engage with the local community when proposing new projects that are complex and potentially controversial. Chair D. Navabian, shared that there was broad and intentions outreach and it was believed to be in line with standards for projects of this nature. L.

Ritter emphasized the importance of reading committee minutes and attending meetings when board members want to comment on these matters.

- It was suggested that we could also improve our outreach by hiring a part-time staff member to assist with flyering community to announce meetings when specific projects are being proposed (ex: constructions, street closing etc)

Public Safety: Chair, Domingo Estevez:

- Would like to host Fire Safety / prevention workshops at schools in District 6.
- Will also discuss “Re-imagining public safety with the Public Advocate in the coming months

Housing & Human Services: Presented by Daryl Cochran:

- Would like to put together a resource guide on services on housing, food and other needs after seeing an increase
- Discussed the Armory Issue and looking to host a forum in the Spring. Determining questions, logistics and guests. More information is forthcoming after speaking with the chair of board.
- Discussion on resolutions on tabling resolutions. These were passed at the committee level and wanted guidance on what happens next on these resolutions. Suggestions on making the resolutions more specific were shared (S. Simon).

Old Business:

- Request (S. Fisher - Restart Bylaws review committee)

Announcements: None

Motion to Adjourn – called by E. Ritter, 2nd by D. Navabian

Adjournment: 8:24 PM

Minutes prepared by: Curtis D. Young, Secretary, January 2022