COMMUNITY BOARD 12
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
June 27, 2000

Members Present

Anita Barberis	Beatrice Hall	Marcos Navarro	Maria Sierra
Rafael Beaumont	Herbert Harwitt	William C. Ortega	Barbara Smith Ramos
Abby Belkin	Soledad Hiciano	Julio Peguero	Ricardo Ureña
Ronald J. Botelho	Joyce F. Holland	Dr. Pamela Palanque North	Sandra Wachspress
Emilia G. Cardona	Robert C. Liebeskind	Martha Pepín	Msgr. Gerald Walsh
A. Fredericka Cuenca	Miguel Martinez	Zead Ramadan	Elouise Whitehurst
Walther G. Delgado	Luis H. Minier	Bertie Ray, III	
Sybil R. Dodson	Helen Morik	Julissa Reynoso	
Leslie Foster	Victor Morisete-Romero	Steven Rizick	
William A. García	Norma Nadien	George Sánchez	

Members Absent

James Berlin (excused)	Elizabeth Lorris Ritter (excused)	Laura Sterling
Laurie T. Cohen (excused)	Isidoro Martinez (excused)	Cheryl Tidwell
Jack Fogle	Manuel J. Mendez	Juan Villar
Maria Luna (excused)	Nelson Rojas	

Public Officials, Ex-officio Members and Guests

Council Member Guillermo Linares	Frank Hess, for Assemblyman Farrell
Miosotis Muñoz, for Borough President Fields	District Manager Gregoria Feliciano

The General Meeting of June 2000 was held at the Mount Sinai Jewish Center.

Chair's Report – William A. Garcia
Welcomed members and the public, and thanked the Mt. Sinai Jewish Center for hosting tonight's meeting. Noted community concerns over Con Ed's electrical supply and West Nile virus. Held discussions with Con Ed officials who assured him that the utility is prepared to provide power to all customers, but to expect sharp increases in rates. Reported on settlement that will lead to increase in compensation for losses. It is not clear whether the order is retroactive. Noted the service of Ms. Isabel Evangelista, who resigned form the board. Member James Berlin is recovering well from recent surgery. New art exhibits at the gallery at CB12 this summer. There will be a presentation this evening on the proposed expansion by NY-Presbyterian Hospital.

Community Board 12 was called to order at 7:25 p.m. to begin its Regular Session. The agenda was approved. The minutes of May 2000 were approved as presented.

District Manager's Report – Gregoria Feliciano
Summarized the written report to the board. Noted the numerous meetings attended during the report period, including a meeting with Harlem CDC regarding their plans to develop an economic

development for CB12 up to W. 178 St.; HCDC is conducting a survey. Alerted the problem sale of potent vermin pesticides in community streets. Raoul Wallenberg Park ceremony held today and the start of paint removal from the Broadway Bridge. Began district consultations meetings with city agencies. A recommendation was made for the District Manager to add to written report a synopsis of discussions and outcomes held on city budget matters.

Public Session

Steven Barshov
Represents NY Presbyterian Hospital. Explained the purpose of the hospital's application for a special permit to expand garage spaces at the hospital's W. 165 St. garage. Hopes to bring the matter for resolution at the upcoming Transportation Committee and CB 12's committee of the whole meetings. In response to questions, clarified that the required action of the board will be the approval of a special permit to expand to two more floors the garage at this location.

Norma Dunkelberg
Explained the advantages of the Electricity Buyers Group and distributed literature on local contacts.

Charles Lawrence
Discussed the problems and danger of drag racing along the HH Parkway and made suggestions for solutions. Local precincts will be alerted.

Marianna De Paola
Complained of noise around Isabella Geriatric Center and other conditions in the neighborhood. Opposed to festivals in the area.

Victor Morisete-Romero
Discussed details of the new State-Chartered Amber Public School established by the organization that he heads, the Community Association of Progressive Dominicans. Distributed flyer to encourage enrollment. Answered several questions regarding the educational content, student qualifications, grades and ages of the new school. Space problems resulted in the school being located on Lenox Avenue; however, this is a temporary location.

Jessica Morris
Represents the Dept. of Health (DOH). Discussed efforts of DOH to combat and prevent the West Nile virus.

Public Officials Report

Council Member Guillermo Linares
Reported on items in city's recently adopted budget. Cuts were restored and program enhancements were made. Tax cuts were targeted to middle and low-income persons and seniors. Full funding was restored to summer jobs program. Budget has $25 million for libraries and another $30 million for health services and additional services to seniors. A new Beacon Youth Program is in the budget for Inwood. Raoul Wallenberg has additional dollars for facility renovations and swimming pool repairs at GW High School. New computers for area schools and senior centers are also in the new

budget. Noted, in response to questions, that parents, the community and government have responsibility for addressing the needs of area youth. Will look into the adequacy of subsidies for the rent exemption program for seniors.

Miosotis Muñoz, for Borough President Fields
Highlighted several budget related items of the Borough President. Noted that CB12 is one of the few Manhattan districts without a Charter 197-A Plan.

The second roll call of board members confirmed that 32 members were present for the subsequent part of the agenda, which was amended to include a resolution from the Economic Development Committee.

Committee Reports

All committee reports were referred to the minutes except for the following:

Transportation and Public Safety – George Sanchez, Chair
A resolution regarding the re-routing of the M-2 Bus was approved by a vote of 30 members in favor and 2 abstentions. A discussion followed regarding the notification process of the MTA's plans to expand bus parking operations on W. 215 St. Several board members reiterated their concerns over the poor notification process and urged the committee to return with a resolution on this matter at the next meeting.

Economic Development Committee – Maria Sierra, Chair
Presented a resolution for a one-year license for an unenclosed sidewalk café at W. 166 St. and Broadway. The resolution was approved by a vote of 27 in favor, 1 opposed and 3 abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Walther G. Delgado
Secretary