

HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES
October 11, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cheryl Pahaham
Kotie Cannon
Glenda Swanson-Massa

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Edith Prentiss (Excused)
Rolando Rodriguez (Excused)
Eduardo Hoepelman
Rolando Cespedes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Pamela Palanque-North

Guests: Ricco Cox-Resident, John Spratley-Resident, Anthony Parson-Resident

Though there was no quorum, the meeting began shortly at 7 PM, and was attended by Anthony Parson, community resident, and two staff members of the Fort Washington Men's Shelter.

The draft resolution regarding the shelter was discussed. The shelter representatives had no objections to the text of the draft resolution and appreciated that the resolution requested expanding services at the shelter. Committee members agreed to revise the resolution and resume consideration of at the December 2007 Committee meeting or at a caucus prior to the October 2007 general meeting if quorum could be achieved.

Cheryl Pahaham proposed that the Committee hold a community forum on housing to which tenants associations, nonprofit housing-related organizations and other interested community members would be invited, possibly in January 2008. At the forum, community members could speak about the kinds of housing they would like to see developed in the community, and what kinds of community benefits they might want to obtain from potential housing developers. Glenda Swanson-Massa and Kotie Cannon agreed that this was a good idea.

Committee members discussed and proposed the following ideas on the Borough President's "Go Green" initiative: promoting the weatherization of buildings; a clean streets campaign; and promoting "green" construction standards.

Cheryl Pahaham provided a very brief summary of the budget consultation with the New York City Department of Housing and Preservation (HPD). At the budget consultation, Manny Velazquez emphasized the need for more resources to assist CD 12 residents with landlord and tenant disputes and building repairs. Cheryl Pahaham and Manny Velazquez also discussed the need for new housing that is affordable to residents of CD 12 and that reflects the district's median income. On the Sherman Creek proposal, HPD staff had no updates and indicated that a rezoning proposal was still being developed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Cheryl Pahaham, 10/19/07