

Bylaws Working Group

The Bylaws Working Group of Community Board 2, Manhattan held a virtual meeting via Zoom on December 2nd at 5:00 pm.

Committee Members Present: Susan Kent (Chair), Katy Bordonaro, David Gruber, and Patricia Laraia

Committee Members Absent with Notice: Matt Metzger, Kristin Shea

Other CB2 Members Participating: Carter Booth (CB2 Chair), Michael Levine

Agenda

Public Members: An initial discussion to assess their membership and role on CB2, Manhattan's committees.

The Bylaws Working Group conducted its initial discussion of the topic of Public Members, a subject currently addressed in Section 6.c.ii. of CB2 Manhattan's Bylaws. The purpose of the meeting was to familiarize the Working Group with the current state of public member participation on various committees and to develop a roadmap for future meetings, the overarching goal being to enhance the benefits realized by CB2 Manhattan's committees (and ultimately the full Board) from public member participation.

The Working Group identified the following areas for further review:

1. Factors relevant to appointment
 - Prerequisites, or a demonstrated interest in membership (e.g. a previous attendance record).
 - Development of a formal, robust application process.
 - Previous service as a Board Member
 - Public membership as a means of preserving expertise and maintaining access to institutional knowledge.

2. Standards of conduct
 - Minimum attendance requirements.
 - Willingness to abide by the Rules of NYC's Conflict of Interest Board (as set forth in title 53, Rules of the City of NY) and applicable to all public servants, including Board Members.

3. Voting

- Tallying votes: whether public members' votes count towards the determination of a committee's position, as reported to the full Board.
- Should public members be entitled to vote, or should they be merely advisory.

4. Appointment cycle

- Adjusting the date of appointment to coincide with the appointment of Board Members.

It was acknowledged that the above outline is preliminary and may be supplemented upon further consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kent, Chairperson