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July/August 2023 Full Board Minutes

Meeting Date / Location	<p>The Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Full Board met at 6:30 pm on Wednesday July 26, 2023, in a hybrid format, with the majority of Board members meeting in person (with members of the public present) at the High Line (W. 14th Street and 10th Ave.), and remote participation via Zoom by other members of the Board and the public.</p> <p>The meeting was accessible in person, via Zoom webinar and live streamed on YouTube. It can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVcA8dx3GEw</p> <p>A third-party draft transcript of the meeting can be found by selecting the MCB4 July Full Board Meeting at: https://blockparty.studio/Archive</p>
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Opening Comments	
Friends of the Highline	Friends of the Highline opened and announced upcoming programming.
Dep Inspector, Midtown South Precinct Aaron C. Edwards	Speaker introduced himself, thanked the board for having the precinct, and shared crime statistics indicating that crime was down percent overall in the past four weeks. Arrests, however, are up. 30-45 Streets, Lex to 9th Ave.

First Vice Chair opened the hearing on the City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality Text Amendment. There were no speakers for this session.

Public Session	
Tom Lunke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaker spoke in favor of the DOT's W22nd St Open Street plan.
Jamie Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaker spoke in favor of the W52nd St Pocket Bar's proposed opening hours.
Melodie Bryant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaker spoke in favor of the DOT's W22nd Open St plan without amendments.

Susan Kenney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker advocated in favor of W25 St Recreation Center improvements and public safety in the Elliott-Chelsea Houses.
Louis Bertot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against the demolition and rebuild of the Elliott-Chelsea Houses, against ebikes on the sidewalks, and the difficulty of use of crosswalks in Chelsea.

Mary Kane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker advocated in favor of limiting the hours of W52 St Pocket Bar and soundproofing the area before sending the application to the SLA.
Molly Harris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker raised concerns about DOT recommendations for W22 St Open Street
Andrea Adleman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of the DOT's W22nd Open St plan without amendments.
Lisa Wager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness of upcoming FIT updates and programming.
Barak Friedman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of the DOT's W22nd Open St plan without amendments.
Bradly Mossholder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker advocated in favor of limiting the hours of W52 St Pocket Bar and soundproofing the area before sending the application to the SLA.
Bobby Vangelatos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker raised upcoming NYC Parks programming
Suzy Darling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner of Pocket Bar spoke to state that the bar will perform all recommended soundproofing updates.
Matisse Frazier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of the W52nd St Pocket Bar and to provide information to address noise complaints.
Ellen Delgado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise concerns about the Ainsworth on West 26th.
Tim Terramin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker advocated in favor of limiting the hours of Pocket Bar and soundproofing the area before sending the application to the SLA.
Amy Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker raised concerns about the opening of Pocket Bar leading to an increase in crime.
Alan Rice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of the W52nd St Pocket Bar and to provide information to address concerns.
Liam Jeffries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of the DOT's W22nd Open St plan without amendments.
Tito Delgado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Norman Siegel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Selinas Miranda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Alexa Cruz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Jacqueline Lara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Luis Colon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Daniel Ramirez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Lauren Wolf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Lizette Colon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Roberto Rodriguez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.
Marni Halasa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke against Chelsea NYCHA demolition and rebuild plan.

Pamela Wolfe

- Speaker raised concerns about the Community Board's recommendations for the W22nd St Open Street

Remarks from Elected Officials and Representatives	
State Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues to be very concerned about the illegal sale of cannabis, especially near schools; committed to rooting out illegal smoke shops in our community • Introduced a bill to ban the distribution of blueprints to create 3-D guns • Also introduced a bill that would ban a person from buying more than one gun in any 30-day period • Insurance companies routinely refuse to insure buildings where tenants use housing vouchers (Sec. 8) to pay their rent; this is so wrong. I have introduced a bill to put an end to this. • Vornado and EDC must be held accountable for the promises made years ago about improvements to Piers 92 and 94.
City Council Member Gale Brewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an E-Bike Stakeholders Task Force to address all of the concerns and injuries that have resulted from the proliferation of e-bikes. • Continuing to work on getting rid of the downtown heliport; keeping an eye on the 60-day right-to-shelter change; the special use permit for MSG; and the planting of more trees for a tree canopy.
Eric Strazza, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In June, we held one of our gun buybacks, during which we were able to recover over 50 firearms (including some ghost guns and semi-automatic weapons). • Co-sponsored another Art of Healing Festival: East Harlem in June, which is designed to heal gun violence trauma through creative arts (e.g. art, dance, poetry); it was super fun and we look forward to doing more. • Convened our next series of Small Business Alliance meetings • Awarded \$6 million to Harlem-based non-profit The Bridge to provide mental health support and peer services to needy people in 4 focus neighborhoods, including Hell's Kitchen/Midtown West. Designed to "meet people where they are and to build trust."
Dana Schmerzler, State Senator Liz Krueger's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your family receives health insurance through Medicaid, Child Health Plus or Essential Plan, then you may have to recertify your eligibility before July 31. If you're not sure if it's your time to recertify, you can call our office and we can put you in touch with community health advocates. • We have been offering a series of Healthy Homes Workshops since the winter, and shortly we will launch a series of workshops about financial planning. Be sure to look on our web site for the details.
Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FDNY deserves tremendous credit for the way they handled the crane fire this morning on a high-rise at the corner of 10th Ave. and 44th street. The FDNY and EMS deserve a big round of applause for their extraordinary handling of this emergency, which could have been so much worse. • It is time for us to introduce standards for indoor air quality in NYC. We've introduced a package of bills that will require air quality monitoring in public schools and other City-owned and managed buildings, and even in certain cases, in private, residential and office buildings. Data needs to be tracked and made publicly available. I hope MCB4 will support this multi-year effort.

Board Reports & Business	
Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Agenda Item 25 was tabled. The Agenda was adopted unanimously. The June Full Board Minutes were adopted unanimously.
District Manager Report	<p>MCB4 family has grown with District Office Associate Janine Pretente-Yusuf and her husband Muhammed giving birth to a little baby girl, Camila Mellie Yusuf yesterday.</p> <p>MCB4 Committee and Full Board Meeting Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members need to attend in-person otherwise contact the Chair of the Board and myself with an explanation of either a disability or an extraordinary circumstance. • When attending virtually, all members must have their cameras on. <p>MCB4 August Committee Schedule:</p> <p>Except for the BLP Committee all other committees will not be meeting in the month of August.</p>
Chair's Report	<p>Presentations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gabriella Malavé: Programs Manager, Administration & Special Projects 2. Deputy Inspector Aaron C. Edwards, Midtown South Precinct <p>Public Hearing</p> <p>Public Hearing: Proposed City of Yes Carbon Neutrality Text Amendment</p> <p>Task Forces\Working Groups\Small Meetings\Other Points of Interest</p> <p>Task Forces\Working Groups</p> <hr/> <p>Pier 76 Task Force By Laws Task Force - Completed 12 FAR Working Group PABT Working Group</p> <p>Small Meetings</p> <p>Briefing on the proposed casino at the site on West 41 Street and 11th Avenue owned by Silverstein Briefing by the MTA on the construction of the Central Business District Tolling Program for all Community Boards.</p> <p>Points of Interest</p> <hr/> <p>Chelsea NYCHA Information Event – Tuesday, June 20th at 6pm. Garment District NY Forward Capital Improvement Program - Jesse Bodine, District Manager</p>

Meeting Agenda

Business License & Permits Committee (BLP)

Item 01: BLP Letter to SLA re 134 9th Avenue - Susi Villa TPlayground Inc. - Serial# 1343253 - **RATIFIED**

Item 02: BLP Letter to SLA re 654 9th Avenue – 9Ave Fever Holding LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 03: BLP Letter to SLA re 600 11th Avenue - Urban Dairy LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 04: BLP Letter to SLA re 200 9th Avenue - 200 Frank Corp. - **APPROVED**

Item 05: BLP Letter to SLA re 373 W 46th Street - Palermo46 Inc. - **APPROVED**

Item 06: BLP Letter to SLA re 420 W 49th Street – Ponche Taqueria Corp. Serial# 1327581 - **APPROVED**

Item 07: BLP Letter to SLA re 501 W 34th Street – 509 W 34 TRS LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 08: BLP Letter to SLA re 502 West 34th Street - Loxline LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 09: BLP Letter to SLA re 50 Hudson Yards, Ground floor - 50 HY Restaurant Owner LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 10: BLP Letter to SLA re 50 Hudson Yards, Mezzanine - 50 HYMC Owner LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 11: BLP Letter to SLA re 50 Hudson Yards, 32nd Floor - 50 HMYC Owner LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 12: BLP Letter to SLA re 158 9th Avenue - Mongkol 88 LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 13: BLP Letter to SLA re 265 8th Avenue - 23 Pier Inc. - **APPROVED**

Item 14: BLP Letter to SLA re 348 W 57th Street – Sushi Yolo NYC Inc. - **APPROVED**

Item 15: BLP Letter to SLA re 601 8th Avenue - Pollo Campero of New York LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 16: BLP Letter to SLA re 191 7th Avenue – Haku Group LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 17: BLP Letter to SLA re 469 W 57th Street - 57 Pocket Bar Corp. - **APPROVED**

Item 18: BLP Letter to SLA re 122 W 26th Street – 122-26 ST OPS LLC - **APPROVED**

Housing, Health & Human Services Committee (HHHS)

Item 19: Letter to HPD re 517-525 W 45th Street CURE for Harassment Applications and Plans - **APPROVED**

Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee (WPE)

Item 20: Letter to PANYNJ re Astro's Dog Run - **APPROVED**

Item 21: Letter to ConEd re Title V Permit Renewal - **APPROVED**

Item 22: Letter to Electeds in support of the Birds and Bees Protection Act - **APPROVED**

Item 23: Letter to NYC Parks re Mathews-Palmer Park Construction - **APPROVED**

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

Item 24: Letter to DSNY re Proposed Rule Changes for Food-Related Businesses placing receptacle bins on sidewalks – **RATIFIED**

Item 25: Letter to DOT & Electeds re Pedestrian and Bike Rider safety Initiatives - **TABLED**

Item 26: Letter to DOT re Improvements to 22nd Street Open Street - **APPROVED**

Item 27: Letter to DOT re Neighborhood Loading Zone for World Wide Plaza - **APPROVED**

Item 28: Letter to DOT re Intercity Bus Permit Application for Motor Coach Tours Corp. at 11th Avenue (36/37) - **APPROVED**

Item 29: Letter to City Council re Street Co-Naming Application for Rosie's Theater Kids at 45th Street (9/10) - **APPROVED**

Item 30: Letter to DOT re Installation of Stencils for Sidewalk Extensions - **APPROVED**

Item 31: Letter to DOT re Improvements to 31st Street & 8th Avenue - **APPROVED**

Executive Committee (EXEC)

Item 32: Joint CHKLU/CLU Letter to DCP and City Council re Proposed City of Yes Carbon Neutrality Text Amendment - **APPROVED**

Item 33: Approval of the Revised By Laws - **APPROVED**

New Business

Item 34: Letter to LPC re 115 West 18th Street Front Door - **APPROVED**

Nothing to Report

Arts, Culture, Education, and Street Life Committee (ACES)

Chelsea Land Use Committee (CLU)

See appended vote sheet for complete details for each item's vote

Meeting Resolution	
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM
Next Meeting Date and Location	6:30pm on Wednesday September 6, 2023 Hybrid Meeting

As recorded by Roberta Barnett and Katy Stokes

