# MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD # 1 FEBRUARY 23, 2010 SOUTHBRIDGE TOWERS 90 BEEKMAN STREET, COMMUNITY ROOM

### Public Hearing on Mayor's Preliminary Budget for fiscal year 2011

No speakers

### **Public Session**

- *John Ricker* Representative from the **Office of Comptroller John Liu**The Comptroller plans to oppose the Mayor's plan to close 19 schools as well as the proposed closing of St. Vincent's Hospital. Expects to collect \$8 million due to audits. Spoke about the importance of tax credits for small businesses.
- Paul Goldstein Representative from the Office of Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver

9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. The Speaker is continuing to advocate relocation of terror trials from Lower Manhattan.

BATTERY PARK CITY AUTHORITY. William C. Thompson will chair the Battery Park Authority, replacing James Gill, the former Chair who recently resigned. Assemblyman Silver is also working to get one or more residents appointed to the Battery Park City Authority Board so that they have the representation they deserve and a real voice in the decision-making process for their community.

MTA BUDGET CUTS. Bus service cuts have been proposed to help close the MTA budget gap and some would have a direct impact on Lower Manhattan residents. The M6 is to be discontinued; M9 will be rerouted to operate between City Hall and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave/23<sup>rd</sup> St.; the M22 weekend service will be eliminated and all service west of City Hall on weekdays and weekends will be discontinued. Speaker Sheldon Silver is requesting that the MTA reconsider these cuts.

SCHOOL OVERCROWDING. New schools are in the pipeline, but more needs to be done. Speaker Silver is proud of the work he and CB1 have done to get PS 276 and the Spruce St. School (PS 397) for Lower Manhattan. School closings on the Lower East Side are being considered. Additionally, there will be a lottery for kindergarten registration at PS 234 for non-sibling applicants. Speaker Silver has also urged the Archdiocese not to close St. James School.

- *Theresa Myrhol* Representative from the New York Public Library Announced the upcoming opening of the new Battery Park City Library.
- *Molly Bidol* Representative from the **Office of Assembly Member Deborah Glick** 9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. Assemblymember Glick is working towards not having trials in Lower Manhattan.

STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY. Assemblymember attended a hearing with the SLA, business owners, and residents.

INDEPENDENCE PLAZA. Assemblymember Glick not only was outraged, but wrote a letter telling Steven Meister, Stellar Management's attorney, that his threat to "screw" tenants if they win rent stabilization was shocking, out of line, and unprofessional. She also wrote a letter to the Downtown Express regarding Meister's written threat to Independence Plaza North's tenants because of a legal case brought against Laurence Gluck and Stellar Management.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL. Working diligently with fellow elected representatives, the Governor and the New York State Department of Health to prevent the closing of St. Vincent's Hospital.

UNCLAIMED FUNDS. There are \$9.9 billion dollars in unclaimed funds in New York State. Check website to see whether or not you have unclaimed funds: www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/index.htm

• *Nikolas Shell* – Representative from New York City Small Business Services Businesses that need help can call (212) 531-6472.

## • Greg Kirschenbaum – Representative from the Office of Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer

There will be a Food Summit to improve New York City's health and environment, including an appeal for New Yorkers to voluntarily adopt "meatless Mondays."

SCHOOL ROUTE SAFETY. The MBP sent a letter to DOT regarding the need to make routes to schools safer. He has asked for a study of the safety of routes to schools.

Hosted a productive meeting for all CB's with the SLA to discuss issues of importance to communities.

Gave an update about 'Kill the Drill' Campaign to keep Toxins Out of City Drinking Water.

2010 Census workshop to be hosted at Pace on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6PM.

### • *David Kupferberg* – Committee for Better Transit

Spoke against proposed MTA service cuts, and asked people to show up at the MTA hearing on March 6 at F.I.T., the only opportunity to speak out against service cuts to the M6 and the M1 bus routes.

### • *Marc Ameruso* – Community Board 1 Member

9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. Noted that the community still needs to keep the pressure on the Obama administration until there is an official announcement that the 9/11 terrorist trials proposed for Lower Manhattan are off the table. Noted that when asked if New York would not host the trials, Attorney General Holder said he would not rule it out.

### • Jake Itzkowitz – Representative from the Office of Council Member Margaret Chin

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SCHOOL ROUTE SAFETY. Council Member has sent a letter to DOT requesting expansion of safe schools routes. Particularly concerned with improved pedestrian safety across Route 9A.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL. Council Member Chin has been working to prevent the closing of St. Vincent's Medical Center.

9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. Thanked all who attended the City Council hearing she chaired on 9/11 Trial Relocation last week. There is an effort underway in the U.S. Senate to withhold funding for the trials if they are held in a federal court.

Next week, Councilmember Chin will preside over a City Council hearing regarding 130 Liberty Street. LMDC will be testifying.

PAID SICK LEAVE LEGISLATION. Councilmember Chin has signed onto the bill to require sick leave.

MTA BUDGET CUTS. Fighting to stop the proposed MTA service cuts.

• *Mary Cooley* – Representative from the **Office of State Senator Daniel Squadron**STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY. The Senator is working to strengthen community input for SLA applications for establishments that fall under the 500' rule. He recently held a lengthy Nightlife Town Hall meeting, in which several Downtown boards participated.

STATE ETHICS REFORM. The Governor vetoed the ethics bill supported by the Senator, but signed the "Bruno Gap" bill written by Senator Squadron and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver into law. The law makes it illegal for a public officer to use government resources for outside, for-profit business.

The Senator has introduced mandatory legislation regarding sports health and safety, which would require coaches to be more vigilant about concussions.

MTA BUDGET CUTS. Fighting to stop the proposed MTA service cuts.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL. Continuing to work to prevent the closing of St. Vincent's Medical Center.

9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. Continuing to advocate for change in trial venue.

• Isabelle Silverman - Environmental Defense Fund

Proposes switching over from dirty sludge (#4 and #6 oil) to diesel fuel to reduce the health and environmental dangers associated with dirty heating oil. The EDF has a list of all buildings using dirty heating oil at www.edf.org/dirtybuildings. They hope to encourage the phasing out of dirty heating oil by 2020. To get more information on what is required for the conversion to cleaner fuel, go to the website: www2.nationalgridus.com/myngrid/ or call1-877-MyNFeis (696-4743).

• Celine Mizrahi - Representative from U.S. Congressman Jerrold Nadler's Office ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL. St. Vincent's Hospital has essential HIV, pediatric, psychiatric and emergency care, and needs to remain open. The state is looking to get private hospital partners to enable St. Vincent's to remain viable. They are also working with HUD to see whether or not that agency will be able to assist the hospital with its financial woes.

### **Business Session**

### **Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on January 26, 2010 were adopted as presented.

### **Chairperson's Report**

J. Menin

9/11 TRIAL LOCATION. Chairperson Julie Menin has worked hard to get a definitive confirmation that the 9/11 trials will not be held in Lower Manhattan. Attorney General Eric Holder has failed to respond to our letter requesting a feasibility study for various alternate sites that we proposed. She will write another letter to Eric Holder reiterating our request. She also does not believe that City Council legislation in favor of relocating the trial should include a contingency clause requesting that the federal government pay for the security costs associated with the trial should it be held downtown.

Several CB1 members discussed whether the 9/11 trial ought to be held in a military tribunal or civilian setting. The discussion was inconclusive.

INTERNAL ELECTIONS. Announced that the nominating process will begin in March, and all CB1 members are eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Committee consists of five members and if more than five people are nominated there will be an election for committee membership.

Summarized the discussions at a recent Executive Committee meeting regarding the future of LMDC and the battle between Larry Silverstein and the Port Authority over financial issues associated with the WTC redevelopment.

CHARTER REVISION. The Mayor will appoint a Charter Revision Commission. He has already selected the Chair, CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein. Community Board 1 should request a revision of the ULURP process to enhance community review and

make it more meaningful. The Planning and Infrastructure Committee will oversee this effort for CB1 and all interested board members should attend.

- *John Fratta* Community Board 1 Member
  - Discussed the possibility that community board offices might be eliminated and that input into planning issues by boards could be eliminated.
- *Mark Ameruso* Community Board 1 Member Suggested drafting reasons why community boards should be strengthened to assist the effort to support them.

### **District Manager's Report**

N. Pfefferblit

We've not yet heard a decision regarding budget cuts that have been proposed. Extended thanks to all committee chairs for submissions to be used in CB1 Annual Report to be submitted to B.P. Stringer's Office.

Attended a meeting at Mayor's Office of Film, Theater and Broadcasting regarding community concerns. Asked that they compensate communities for inconveniences the communities endure during film shoots.

• *Michael Levine* –Director of Land Use and Planning, and *Yume Kitasei* –Community Liaison

Reported on a meeting they and **Marc Ameruso** attended at the **Office of the Manhattan Borough President's Office** with the State Liquor Authority.

The SLA discussed five major ideas which will happen within 18 months:

- 1) An initiative to allow for electronic submission of resolutions by community boards;
- 2) Publishing applications online;
- 3) Introduction of a Downstate Enforcement Office to serve the 5 boroughs;
- 4) Standardization of language for negative resolutions so that they are more clear; and
- 5) Reforming the renewals process (currently, we only have 30 days to make recommendations on applications for license renewals, and they are approved unless there's been criminal activity).

The State Legislature Authority is currently working on a package of legislative reforms, which will allow them to improve their rules and regulations.

*Marc Ameruso* further added that the SLA has confirmed that a liquor license is a privilege not a right.

- Matt Viggiano Community Board 1's Urban Planning Fellow Reports that he is in the office three days a week and has been working on five projects in total, including three main projects:
  - 1) community infrastructure;
  - 2) planning for our growing population; and
  - 3) a survey of resources and services for senior citizens.

# NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE A COPY OF A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZED IN THE MINUTES, PLEASE SEARCH OUR WEBSITE AT NYC.GOV/HTML/MANCB1

### **Executive Committee**

J. Menin

- 1. 9/11 Commission Recommendations

  Discussion of 9/11 Commission recommendations that have not been adopted.
- 2. The Future of St. Vincent's Hospital Discussion *CB1* will write a letter in support of St. Vincent's Hospital.
- 3. Earned Employee Paid Sick Time Act
  This issue will be discussed at a special Quality of Life Meeting, since Julie Menin
  must vote on this issue at the March Borough Board meeting.
- 4. Maggie Boepple's Resignation as President of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Resolution
- **Bruce Ehrmann** Explained that Ms. Boepple was a very strong supporter of CB1 but has had a recent family tragedy that prompted her to resign her position as President of the LMCC.

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. Hydrofrack – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 35 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

### **WTC Redevelopment Committee**

C. McVay Hughes

1. Comprehensive 9/11 Health Legislation including the Community Program – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Left-Turn on Albany Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Cost-Cutting Proposal to Consolidate and Reduce Anti-Terror Coast Guard Patrols – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

### **Quality of Life Committee**

P. Moore

1. Update on Construction Projects in Lower Manhattan – Report

	Towers Run from 9/25/2010 until 9/26/2010, Vesey Street between North End Avenue and West Street – Resolution					
ВС	OARD VOTE:	37 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused	
2.	Route 9A and West Thames Park - Report The Park is projected to reopen on May 31 <sup>st</sup> regardless of delays. They're now working 6-7 days a week from 7PM-4 PM in order to make up lost time. The dog run was closed for a while, but it is now open again.					
3.	Dirty Heating Oil in Battery Park City – Resolution  Proposal was made to also draft a resolution regarding the use of dirty heating oil in the rest of Community Board 1. The two resolutions were passed together.					
В	OARD VOTE:	37 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused	
4.	Proposal for façade renovation of Pier A, Battery Park City Authority – Report The Committee received a presentation on the Pier A plans and was supportive. But because the issues pertain to Landmark restoration, they will leave it to the Landmarks Committee to approve or deny the proposal.					
Y	Youth & Education Committee A. DeFalco					
1.	Legislation by Pla Office" grassroots			_	o the Principal's	
				n	o the Principal's  0 Recused	
	Office" grassroots	advocacy campa  36 In Favor	nign – Resolution  1 Opposed	n 0 Abstained	0 Recused	

2. Presentation on proposed MTA service changes – Resolution

3. Discussion on sanitation issues with Department of Sanitation – Report

37 In Favor

**BOARD VOTE:** 

or iterranova@dsny.nyc.gov.

**Battery Park City Committee** 

0 Opposed

Reported that sanitation issues can be referred to Iggy Terranova at (646) 885-5021

1. Street activity permit application for a street festival/block party by the Tunnel to

0 Abstained

0 Recused

J. Galloway

4. Meeting with Senator Squadron regarding response to our letter and resolution on DEP Governance – Report

DEP noted there was a problem with the exhaust system at Millennium High School, but the issue has been rectified and a summons was issued.

5. Discussion of East Side youth programs - Report

Landmarks Committee				B. Ehrmann			
1.	26 Broadway, appl Resolution	noval of window -					
ВС	OARD VOTE:	37 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
	Pier A, application OARD VOTE:	•		tion 0 Abstained	0 Recused		
	390 Broadway, app OARD VOTE:				0 Recused		
4.	130 Beekman Stre	et, application for	r replacement of	windows and d	oor - Resolution		
ВС	OARD VOTE:	37 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
Combined Financial District, Tribeca and M. Skidmore Seaport/Civic Center Committees							
Financial District Committee							
1.	. Street permit application by the Council on the Environment Inc. on Tuesdays and						
	Thursdays starting	-					
	N/S Cedar Street for		•				
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		

Water Street and South Street – Resolution BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Street permit application by the Downtown Independent Democrats (Clearview Festival Productions; promoter) on Friday, April 23, 2010, Maiden Lane between

3. Street permit application by the Ziua USA (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Saturday, May 1, 2010, Broadway between Fulton Street and Battery Place – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 0 Opposed 36 In Favor 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. Street permit application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, May 14, 2010, Maiden Lane between Water Street and South Street Place – Resolution

BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
5.	Street permit application by the NYC Police Museum (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, September 24, 2010, Old Slip between Water Street and South Street – Resolution						
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
6.	Street permit applica Productions; promote Street between Cedar Street – Resolution	er) on Monday,	October 11, 201	10, Broadway an	d on Whitehall		
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
7.	Street permit applica 2010, on Thames Str Resolution	• •	_				
Fir	nancial District and	Fribeca Commi	ittees				
1.							
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
2.	Street permit application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, May 21, 2010, Greenwich Street between Barclay Street and Chambers Street – Resolution						
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
3.	Street permit application by the Independence Plaza Tenants Association (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, June 4, 2010, West Broadway between Barclay Street and Chambers Street – Resolution						
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
4.	Street permit applica Festivals Productions Barclay Street and C	s; promoter) on	Friday, July 30,	•			
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor		0 Abstained	0 Recused		
5.	Street permit applica promoter) on Friday, and Chambers Street	September 3, 2					
BC	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused		
6.	Street permit applica Productions; promote Broadway and Churc	er) on Friday, So	eptember 24, 20				

ВС	OARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0	Opposed	0 Abstained	0 R	Recused
7.	Street permit applica Productions; promot Church Street – Reso	er) on Friday, (					
BC	DARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0	Opposed	0 Abstained	0 R	Recused
	nancial District and Street permit applica Festivals Production Fulton Street and Br	tion by the Seas; promoter) on	port Sati	Communit arday, Aug	y Coalition Inc. (		
BC	DARD VOTE:	36 In Favor			0 Abstained	0 R	Recused
2.	Street Activity permit application by the Association of Indians in American Inc. on Sunday, October 3, 2010, John Street between Front Street and Water Street –						
ВС	Resolution DARD VOTE:	36 In Favor	0	Opposed	0 Abstained	0 R	Recused
Tr	ibeca Committee				P. B	raus	
1.	Revision of Zoning 7 Report	Гехt Amendme	nt to	Area A4 o	f the Tribeca Mi	xed U	se District –
ВC	The Department of C correct a technical e Department asked C DARD VOTE:	rror that was n B1 to co-spons	iade or th	in the origi e required	inal text languag	e. The	e t.
2.	Hudson Street Water Construction – Repo		New	York City	Department of I	Design	and
	Shane Ojar, Departa level but left many quin-depth presentation greater detail about	uestions unansv n, with clear plo	vere	d, Julie Me	nin will therefore	e requ	est a more
	85 West Broadway, DARD VOTE:	SLA applicatio 33 In Fa			cense for Englols ed 0 Abstaine		
	50 Lispenard Street, to be formed – Resol	lution		•			-
BC	DARD VOTE:	33 In Fa	vor	0 Oppose	ed 0 Abstaine	d 0 1	Recused
5. BO	16 N. Moore Street, DARD VOTE:				of liquor license ed 0 Abstained		

6. 20 Warren Street, renewal of liquor license for Polonka 20/20 Restaurant – Report

The proprietor of the establishment appeared at the committee meeting and described steps he is taking to eliminate disturbances to neighbors.

7. 190a Duane Street, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk cafe for Roc Restaurant – Resolution

**BOARD VOTE:** 

33 In Favor

0 Opposed

0 Abstained 0 Recused

8. Street Activity permit application by the Tribeca Film Festival on Friday, April 30 to Saturday, May 1, 2010, Greenwich Street between Hubert Street and Duane Street – Resolution

**BOARD VOTE:** 

33 In Favor

0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9. Street permit application by the Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, June 11, 2010, West Broadway between Beach Street and Leonard Street – Resolution

**BOARD VOTE:** 

33 In Favor

0 Opposed

0 Abstained 0 Recused

### **Planning and Community** Infrastructure Committee

J. Galloway

1. Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities – Report

N.O.R.C.s are Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities that are set up to give needed services to seniors who reside in them. C.B. member Tom Goodkind has recently joined this committee and is spearheading this initiative to learn more about this service.

2. Continuation of Loft Laws – Resolution

The Loft Law is scheduled to expire soon. May, 2010. Many of the lofts in Tribeca were settled over the past 2 decades, allowing people to stay in their homes while landlords upgraded their lofts to make them habitable. There are about 71 buildings in our district with interim status that have not been converted. We are running out of time though to ensure that these tenants have the same protection as rent stabilized tenants. Those not protected by the loft law may therefore lose their homes.

**BOARD VOTE:** 

33 In Favor

0 Opposed

0 Abstained

0 Recused

### **Seaport/Civic Center Committee**

J. Fratta

1. Discussion with Forest City Ratner Regarding Beekman Tower Incident – Report

Representatives from Forest City Ratner attended and discussed new measures that are in place to prevent a reoccurrence of the problems experienced at the construction site during a day recently when there were extremely high winds. DOB reported that they had found no violations.

2. 36 Peck Slip, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk cafe for Goat Fifty LLC – Resolution

**BOARD VOTE:** 

32 In Favor

0 Opposed

0 Abstained

0 Recused

3. Street permit application by the Southbridge Adult Senior Center Inc. (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, September 10, 2010, Fulton Street between Gold Street and Water Street – Resolution

**BOARD VOTE:** 

32 In Favor

0 Opposed

0 Abstained

0 Recused

4. Discussion on Pub Crawl with Janell Vaughan, South Street Seaport General Manager – Report

Seaport residents are very concerned about an organized pub crawl that wreaked havoc on the community last year. Some businesses have said they plan to close on St. Patrick's Day this year. Janell Vaughan stressed that the Seaport is not involved with the Pub Crawl. Plans were made to reach out to the organization that promotes the event.

5. 85 South Street, FetchNYC – Discussion of zoning regulations regarding animal care and boarding facility – Report

DOB discussed whether a proposed dog kennel would be barred by the zoning for this location. Some residents of the building are opposed to the planned kennel. According to DOB, the new dog kennel would have to apply to the DOB for permission to change the use.

6. Designation of Restricted Use Street for Duane Street between Broadway and Lafayette Street, Elk Street between Duane and Reade Streets and Pearl Street between Centre Street and Park Row – Report

The Restricted Use designation in effect on the street is intended now to be permanent. An environmental report suggested that the designation has had no impact on the quality of life or businesses on the street.

### Task Force to Commemorate Albert Capsouto

B. Ehrmann

1. A Commemoration For Albert Capsouto - Report

Ways to commemorate Albert Capsouto were discussed. Jacques Capsouto, his brother, was present. Ideas included: 1) scholarship for a Stuyvesant High School student; 2) donations to Downtown Hospital; 3) a bicycle rack; and 4) renaming the CaVaLa Park as Capsouto Park.

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

M. Connolly

1. Request for consideration by lawmakers of a real estate tax credit to benefit small to mid-sized non-profit theaters and performing arts organizations – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 20 In Favor 2 Opposed 9 Abstained 0 Recused

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by: Noel E. Jefferson, Secretary and Marc Ameruso, Assistant Secretary