



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

Chairperson's Report for April 2015

Catherine McVay Hughes

Community Board 1 has had another extremely busy month since our March monthly meeting. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger. Here are some of the important issues and milestones that we have worked through with fellow board members, the CB1 staff, elected officials and government agencies. Thank you, everyone!

Updates

- **Welcome our seven new Board Members** – Elizabeth Avila, Thomas Berton, Wendy Chapman, Fern Cunningham, Patrick Kennell, Tiffany Winbush and Susan Wu; there were 49 new member applications, the second largest number of new applicants for any Manhattan Community Board. Committee assignments are currently being worked on. There will be a New Member Training (04/30/15)
- **CB1 Mentorship Program** – successful program will continue; many thanks for mentoring: Susan Cole/Elizabeth Avila, Marco Pasanella/Thomas Berton, Mariama James/Wendy Chapman, Vera Sung/Fern Cunningham, Ro Sheffe/Patrick Kennell, Pat Moore/Tiffany Winbush and Ninfa Segarra/Susan Wu
- **Beekman and Nassau Street traffic light signal has been installed and is operational** – thank you NYC Department of Transportation and NYPD for speeding this process along to calm traffic (04/23/15)
- **Aging-Friendly Neighborhood Study Project in Lower Manhattan** – initiated by New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM), in collaboration with the Office of Council Member Margaret Chin; this project aims to survey, receive and organize feedback from seniors on how to make our District more accessible and convenient for the elderly. CB1's two representatives will be Diane Lapson and Ruth Ohman on this project. CB1 is a co-sponsor of **Council Member Chin's Town Hall meeting** at City Hall Senior Center at 100 Gold Street, Friday, 5/1/2015, 10:00AM – 11:30AM
- **Sidewalk Café Working Group** – culminated in a plan to request that the City Planning Department undertake a study in Tribeca, the Department of Consumer Affairs revise their regulations to require a consideration of factors and Sidewalk Cafe Guidelines to be posted on the CB1 website; thank you Co-Chairs Alice Blank and Jeff Ehrlich, Diana Switaj, Michael Levine and Evgeny Namsaraev, a planning fellow funded by Borough President Brewer's Office
- **Legislation to renew James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act Announced** – Bipartisan Senators and House Members from across the country led by Senators Gillibrand, Kirk, and

49-51 Chambers Street, Suite 715, New York, NY 10007-1209

Tel. (212) 442-5050 Fax (212) 442-5055

man01@cb.nyc.gov

www.nyc.gov/html/mancb1

Schumer, and Representatives Maloney, Nadler, King and Zeldin; Zadroga Bill passed in 2010 after an almost decade-long fight is set to expire this year; participants in 9/11 Health Program live in all 50 States and 429 of 435 Congressional Districts (04/13/15)

- **West Thames Street Pedestrian Bridge Project Environmental Impact Statement** – found “No Significant Impact and Determination of Non-Significance”
- **Battery Park** – portion of the fence is down to open up park and bike path near Pier A (04/17/15)
- **Brookfield Place** – opened many stores and Le District after extensive renovation in BPC (03/26/15)
- **Pier 15 windows** – fixed; thank you Lusheena Warner, NYC Economic Development Corporation (03/31/15)
- **Varick Street** bicycle segment – NYC DOT Sidewalks team completed saw cutting, excavation and laying of the concrete base for their first in-house granite strip that makes a Belgian block street segment smooth for cyclists

Press Conferences

- **Comptroller Stringer’s Audit on Express Buses** – joined with Gene Russianoff, the staff lawyer for the New York Public Interest Research Group’s Straphangers Campaign that advocates on behalf of riders of public transport, and others (04/23/15)
- **James Zadroga NYC Council Resolution** – joined NYC Council Member Chin, Mariama James and others to celebrate vote on resolution calling on Congress to reauthorize the James Zadroga 9/11 Act which provides vital health treatment and compensation to 9/11 survivors and first responders (City Hall Steps, 04/16/15)

Testimony/Comments

- **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposed regulation amendments on operation of small unmanned aircraft systems in the National Airspace System** – comments submitted (04/24/15)
- **New York City Council Committee on Civil Service and Labor Public Hearing on Proposed Res. No. 533-A** – a resolution calling upon the United States Congress to pass, and the President to sign the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act – joined by Mariama James (City Hall, 03/30/15)

Events

- **South Street Seaport Museum Annual Spring Opening** – Marco Pasanella represented CB1 and joined Executive Director Captain Jonathan Boulware, New York City Council Member Chin for ringing bell on lightship *Ambrose* to symbolically mark start of spring/summer season (04/25/15)
- **Pratt Institute Public Information Public Education and Space (PIPES) Symposium** – joined Wendy Chapman and Buxton Midyette, Co-Founder of Build Schools Now and others on panel (04/23/15)
- **Malaysian Kitchen USA Grand Opening in Battery Park City** – joined President Kirby Tan, Consulate General of Malaysia and others for ribbon cutting (21 South End Ave, Saturday, 04/18/15)

- **Downtown Little League Opening Day** – joined DLL President Andrew Zelter, Senator Squadron, Borough President Brewer, Councilmember Chin and others; thank NYPD for making sure that the parade from City Hall to BPCA Ballfields was safe for young children (Saturday, 04/18/15)
- **Week of the Young Child at Battery Park City Day Nursery** – celebration was created by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The theme for 2015 is “Celebrating Our Youngest Learners” (04/17/15)
- **New York State Senator Daniel Squadron’s Seventh Annual 26th Senate District Community Convention** – joined more than 400 constituents and community leaders including U.S. Senator Schumer, Congressman Nadler, Borough President Brewer, Comptroller Stringer, Public Advocate James and others; moderated Arts and Culture Breakout Session (Sunday, 04/12/15)
- **Manhattan Borough President Brewer Office’s Landmarks 50th Reception** (04/08/15)
- **WTC Calatrava PATH Station** – CB1 Planning Committee Tour (04/07/15)
- **Ribbon Cutting BXF Fitness Studio** – 30 Broad Street (04/1/15)

Meetings

- Meeting called by Citibank – with Tribeca Committee leadership and CB1 staff following up on previous 10/09/14 meeting; Citibank will be renovating both the interior and exterior of building and will work with community to minimize impact and will present to Tribeca Committee in May (04/27/15)
- Working Group Session with Legends at the 1 WTC Observatory – with CB1 Planning and Executive Committees, PANYNJ (04/23/15)
- 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members of the Alliance for Downtown New York, Inc. (04/21/15)
- Manhattan Borough Board Meeting – Anthony Notaro attended (04/16/15)
- Assembly Member Silver’s School Overcrowding Task Force – CB1’s Population Change Update #2 presented; thank you Jeff Sun and Diana Switaj; document should be posted shortly (04/15/15)
- Lower Manhattan Historical Society – Save the Dates for July 3 & 4 activities for all ages (04/08/15)
- WTC Calatrava PATH Station Tour – with CB1 Planning and PANYNJ (04/07/15)
- Senator Squadron about Battery Park City Authority – with CB1 BPC Committee leadership (04/06/15)
- World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee Meeting – with Bob Schneck (04/02/15)
- First Precinct Meeting – met new Commanding Officer Captain Mark A. Iocco (03/26/15)
- LMDC Board of Directors Meeting – announced a tentative agreement with Lend Lease, the construction company that was dismantling the Deutsche Bank building on the south side of Ground Zero when the structure erupted in flames in 2007, killing two firefighters (03/26/15)

Announcements

- Seaport/Civic Center Committee – Marco Pasanella is appointed Chair and Calli Lerner is Co-Chair
- Tribeca Committee – Elizabeth Lewinsohn is appointed Chair and Alice Blank is Co-Chair; thank Peter Braus for his service

- Una Perkins has become a public member of the Seaport/Civic Center Committee
- World Trade Center Health Registry – has begun its fourth major survey of enrollees; your answers to the survey will help us learn more about the long-term health effects of 9/11 and identify gaps in health care services; survey participants have provided valuable information which helped Congress establish the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund and provide additional funding for 9/11-related healthcare services; please complete survey
- NY Rising Small Business Program Deadline – program will end on May 1, 2015; For more information: www.stormrecovery.ny.gov
- Municipal Arts Society (MAS) NYC Jane's Walk:
 - The Spine of Lower Manhattan: A Walk Up the Canyon of Heroes – joining Ro Sheffe, Michael Levine and Hope Cohen of The Battery Conservancy on Saturday, May 2 at 11:00am, <http://janeswalk.org/united-states/new-york-city-ny/spine-lower-manhattan-walk-canyon-heroes/>
 - Towering Masts to Towers: A Conversation about the Past, Present, and Future of the Seaport – Jason Friedman will be joining Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's Margaret Flanagan and Roland Lewis on Sunday, May 3 at 2:00pm, <http://janeswalk.org/united-states/new-york-city-ny/towering-masts-towers-conversation-about-past-present-and-future-seaport/>