



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

Chairperson's Report for July 2014

Catherine McVay Hughes

It has been another extremely busy month for Community Board 1. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger than ever. I would like to report on 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

- Continued to work on the opening of a Greenmarket on Greenwich Street at Albany and converting the former 9/11 Memorial queuing area to a temporary public plaza; working with Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, Downtown Alliance, Mayor's Office, NYC Department of Transportation, NYC Police Department, Grow NYC and Port Authority of NY and NJ
- Continued to work on improving pedestrian and vehicular flow around 9/11 Memorial Plaza with PANYNJ, Mayor's Office, Downtown Alliance and 9/11 Memorial; opened sidewalk along Route 9A along edge of plaza, increased signage and worked on opening of Cortlandt Way with the PANYNJ
- Transportation Planning Certification Review Public Meeting/Listening Session For New York Metropolitan Transportation Council – raised concerns for CB1 (07/17/2014)
- Seaport Working Group – presentation and discussion of June 2nd Open House and Online Survey Response by Jonathan Martin; findings suggest broad support (91% approval rating overall) for the guidelines and principles as presented, based on 2,367 comments from approximately 250 individuals (including local businesses, organizations, and workers, and other NYC residents); 71% overall approval rating for Guideline 6 suggests moderately strong support in favor of limiting building height and protecting the low-rise character of the Seaport area; Guideline 7 on Resiliency received the strongest support with 98% of respondents identifying resiliency as a matter of paramount importance (06/14/2014)
- HRPT Air Rights Meeting – New York State has heeded community concern and has stopped pursuing a General Project Plan (GPP) for Pier 40; NYS has finally recognized that the Hudson River Park legislation that enabled the sale of air rights did so by explicitly empowering the City's own land use process (ULURP). This ensures that local representatives have a say in any change to local zoning, and gives the Community Board a voice in the process as well as the City Council and the Borough President (06/27/14)
- Governor's Island Plaque Dedication to Speaker Silver for his work (06/25/14)
- 3 WTC – Board of Directors of the Port Authority of NY and NJ voted to approve the proposed modification to the PANYNJ/SPI 2010 agreement to release \$159 M of SPI's

insurance which was previously sequestered for other purposes to be used for construction of 2 WTC; one provision of the deal calls for up to \$50 M of these funds to be immediately released to SPI to jumpstart vertical construction (06/25/14)

Events

- Governor Cuomo signed medical marijuana legislation at NY Academy of Medicine (07/07/2014)
- Downtown Boathouse Opening at Pier 26, Hudson River Park (07/04/14)
- Abraham De Peyster Statue Rededication Ceremony – historic sculpture of the 20th Mayor of New York City (1692-1694) was recently reinstalled in the northern portion of Foley Square; CB1 unanimous support in resolution of September 2012 (07/08/14)

Meetings

- Build Schools Now: School Site Working Group Meeting – Discussion of Potential School Sites in Lower Manhattan with Pratt GAUD Studio, Matt Viggiano (07/18/2014)
- Manhattan Borough Board Meeting (07/17/14)
- The New York Conference on Water (07/16/2014)
- NY Rising site visit to Lower East Side composting facility with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Regional 2 Director Venetia Lannon, Executive Director Christine Datz-Romero, Diana Switai and Michael Levine (July 2, 2014)
- 9/11 Monument Committee – Borough President Brewer, Congressman Nadler and stakeholders (06/30/14)
- Borough President Brewer Department of Parks and Recreation applicants review panel (06/27/14)
- Gateway Annual Shareholders Meeting and Honoring of Commissioner Kelly for Lifetime Achievement Award (06/26/14)
- NYC DOT Lower Manhattan Bi-Weekly Community Meeting (07/10/14, 06/26/14)
- U.S. General Services Administration Regional Planning Discussion about Lower Manhattan – goal of the meeting was to share information and establish working relationships to make informed, collaborative decisions; first time ever meeting included CB1 (06/25/14)
- Asphalt Green – meeting with Carol Tweedy and Maggie Siegel, retiring and new Executive Directors, and Anthony Notaro to ensure smooth transition in leadership with community and raise concern regarding scholarships (06/23/2014)

Announcements

- CB1 has recommended to the Bellevue Hospital Community Advisory Board that Frances Curtis replace Susan Cole as CB1's representative
- Welcome Calli Lerner who started her CB1 membership on July 1, 2014 and joined both the Seaport/Civic Center and Financial District Committees; Una Perkins will be her Mentor
- Megan McHugh has joined the Street Fair Task Force
- John Fratta has decided to continue to serve on CB1 through December 31, 2014
- The presentation on Sidewalk Cafes, which Michael Levine presented to each geographic committee (except for the Battery Park City Committee, which will receive the presentation in September), will be placed on the CB1 website. There has been an addition of a map which shows Sidewalk Café regulations in CD1
- No planned CB1 meetings in August; next monthly meeting will be in September at Hudson River Park Trust Boathouse at Pier 26; please dress appropriately for weather