



The City of New York

# Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

## **Chairperson's Report for August and September 2013**

### **Catherine McVay Hughes**

It has been another extremely busy time 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.

#### Milestones

- Community Memorial Plaque Dedication Ceremony Honoring the Memory of Firefighter Robert Beddia (Engine Company 24) and Firefighter Joseph Graffagnino (Ladder Company 5) at the Quarters of Engine 10 and Ladder 10, 124 Liberty Street just in advance of the six year anniversary of the 130 Liberty Street fire – attended with Council Member Chin and Ro Sheffe (08/16/2013)
- Traffic lights installed at Spruce Street School and the NYP Lower Manhattan Hospital at the intersection of Gold and Beekman Streets (summer 2013)

#### Updates

- Department of Education will not be issuing a proposal to relocate PS 150; we would like to thank Department of Education, the City, our elected officials, including Assembly Speaker Silver, Manhattan Borough President Stringer, Senator Squadron, Assembly Member Glick, and Council Member Chin, and especially the PTA and parents of PS 150
- Thank CB1 member Linda Gerstman, Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center's Robin Forst and Community Construction Liaison for Broadway Phase 1 Liz Baptiste for increasing the construction safety of Broadway and Rector so that FDNY trucks can pass more easily at that corner
- Requested statistics for CB1 website: almost 25,000 unique visits for last year (7/18/12 - 9/10/13)

#### Press Conferences

- With Only 11 Days Remaining ... Urging Sick and Injured 9/11 Responders and Survivors to Register for Compensation Before October 3<sup>rd</sup> Deadline – joined Senator Gillibrand, Victim Compensation Fund Special Master Sheila Birnbaum, Union and Community Leaders (09/23/2013)
- Urge Sick and Injured 9/11 Responders and Survivors to Register for Compensation Under Zadroga Act Before October 3, 2013 Deadline – joined Representatives Nadler and Maloney, and Victim Compensation Fund Special Master Sheila Birnbaum, elected officials and union leaders (9/9/2013)
- Hudson River Park Trust Opening of Dog Run and esplanade opening with HRPT President Madelyn Wils and Council Member Margaret Chin (08/05/2013)
- Brooklyn Bridge Beach – Borough President Stringer, Speaker Quinn, Council Member Chin and others announced \$8 million in funding for development of East River beach and recreation sites while protecting shorefront from extreme weather (08/01/2013)

## Installation

- Cultural Medallion Ceremony honoring noted civic activist Albert Sprague Bard – joined Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission Chair Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and former Chairs Beverly Moss Spatt, Kent Barwick, Laurie Beckelman, Gene Norman and Sherida Paulsen; Municipal Art Society President Vin Cipolla; New York Preservation Archive Project founder Anthony Wood; Historic Districts Council Executive Director Simeon Bankoff for the first in a series of celebrations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the New York City Landmarks Law (25 Broad Street, 09/23/2013)

## Community Nights

- National 9/11 Memorial Community Night (Sunday, 09/08/2013)
- National Night Out – CB1 gave a citation to the New York Police Department 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct and Transit District 2 for their dedicated services (08/06/2013)

## Report

- “Manhattan CB1 District Needs Statement – Fiscal Year 2015” submitted to City Planning; please note that Capital and Expense Budget Requests referenced in this document were adopted on October 23, 2012 for New York City Fiscal Year 2014 (prior to Superstorm Sandy). CB1 will adopt its requests for Fiscal Year 2015 next month. (08/02/2013)

## Forums

- H2O Resiliency – attended opening presentation on the first day and hosted in-house working session on second day with Michael Levine and Diana Switaj (September 9 -10, 2013)
- Downtown Hospital Emergency Preparedness Conference – attended opening session (Pace University, 09/13/2013)

## Meeting

- World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee Meeting – attended with Mariama James (08/08/2013)

## Announcements

- A Celebration of the Life of Elizabeth H. Berger, President of Downtown Alliance and former CB1 member, will be at The Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts, Pace University 4:00pm-5:30pm, Sunday, September 29, 2013