



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
Assistant District Manager

General Board Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

Wednesday, December 4, 2013 – 6:00 PM

Honorable Chair Henrietta Lyle:

The Chair opens the meeting and welcomes every one. The Chair recognizes Nina Saxon and thanks her for two years of service and commitment to the Harlem Community.

Elected Official Speakers

Maurice Cummings of Assemblyman Keith Wright's Office:

New legislative session – will be looking into Affordable Housing, housing for our seniors. Minimum wage will go up to \$8.00 on December 31, 2013. Please visit the Department of Labor's website. "Raise the Age" New York is the only State that currently prosecutes youth as adults. Hearings on this issue will be held December 6, 2013.

Carter Avery of Assemblyman Farrell's Office:

Earned Income Tax Credits information. Office puts together a listing of offices where you can have your taxes prepared for free. These services do not start until February 2014. Number to office is 212-234-1430.

Famod Konneh of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office:

Weekend sports program for youth has serviced approximately 1800 young people Please take copy of the flyer and refer young people to us. Introduced the Deputy Director, Ms. Linda Jeanette.

Calvin Solomon, Director of Community Projects, Special Narcotics Office:

Recent arrests at the Philip Randolph Houses. Based on community complaints, primarily in the CB 10 area, we have launched a major investigation and it has resulted in the arrest of two individuals, who have been remanded and hearing will be December 10, 2013. Thank you and please be patient when you give complaints to our office, it takes time in order to take the appropriate actions to make the cases. Informed the public of the recent drug bust in Harlem on 124th Street providing details of court dates.

Nina Saxon of the Borough Presidents Office:

Community Board 10 applications. “I want to tell you that as a community board, your resumes speak values, collectively you guys rock like the Titans. Thank You for the pleasure of working with all of you”.

Shelly of Councilman Robert Jackson’s Office:

Councilman Jackson will be completing 12 years of community work as your councilman of Hamilton Heights and Sugar Hill, which will be split between Inez Dickens and Mark Levine, the district is split along Edgecombe Avenue, East and West. Councilman Jackson met with constituents to inform them of the changes as these constituents apply for capital allocation and should know the boundary changes. Councilman Jackson will be presenting a check to HCZ Baby College.

Maggie McDermick staff of Assemblyman Robert Rodriquez:

Introduced herself to the community and informed us of her background and desire to assist individuals within the community. She is a long time resident of East Harlem and staff member of Assemblyman Robert Rodriquez. Contact phone is (212)828-3953, her office is located at 55 East 115 St, she invited us to come by and visit.

Roll Call

Honorable Chair Henrietta Lyle

Ms. Lyle highlighting the report of the accomplishments of Community Board 10 for the months of November and December 2013. She discussed the Community Board 10 attendance at the Urban League’s Public hearing regarding three major concerns, 1) loss of small businesses on 125th St 2) job creation and 3) affordable housing. Chair Lyle informed the public of the right to have a say, regardless of the lack of right to vote on private property concerns. Board Retreat was insightful and informative and other information that can be found in the report.

Presentation of Voting Items:

Economic Development Committee, John Lynch

Resolution: Support of a New Wine and Beer License Application for Harlem Coral LLC. d/b/a/ Harlem Coral

“Will there be prevailing wages?” – yes. Community resident voiced concerns with the location being close to a school and a church. Cannot have full liquor license near within 200ft of church.

Resolution: Support of a New Liquor License application for Mess Hall LLC d/b/a Mess Hall. Concerns were raised regarding exhaust units in the back yards which generate considerable noise.

Ms. Brock and others began to shout out disturbing the order. Lastly concerns regarding community support, petitions were submitted for review.

Resolution: Support of the New Liquor license Application for 2070 Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Sabroso! Located at 2070 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd.

Concerns with the problems that currently exist in the building and prior existing issues with rodents. How will the trash be disposed? There will be a specific service that will be picking up the trash daily.

Hours of Operation concerns, and on Sunday a brunch will exist, we are hoping to acquire the crowds from the churches, from noon to about 3 pm.

Culinary program in Wadliegh High School. Desire to maximize on the historic relevance with the Sugar Ray Robinson Way (124th St between Frederick Douglass Blvd and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd).

Honorable Chair, Henrietta Lyle acknowledged the information regarding concerns with new restaurants and their plans for exhaust units will be addressed in the committees, as well as the garbage collection.

Land Use Committee, Brian Benjamin

Resolution: Request for a Letter of Support for Harlem Valley Farms Comprehensive Composting Project at Block 1919 Lot 5 at 197 West 134th Street.

Joshua Hakimi, Harlem Valley Farms proposed the project and location: Community Garden including a comprehensive composting station at HPD owned lot (Block 1919 Lot 5) at 1919 West 134th Street. He intends to use the lot as an educational tool to promote health, education and sustainability to engage local youth in the community and outside of the school environment. They are seeking a letter of support from Community Board 10.

Extensive discussion pursued regarding collaboration with the school and offering composting services to other community garden groups. Mr. Hakimi presented the committee with 50 community signatures and cooperation with St. Johns Church across the street. This lot is not good for growing due to the lack of sun and the abundance of shade.

Manny Rivera reminded the community that the presenters are not here to be subjected to cat calls, name calling and disrespect, based on the poor behavior of some of the community members in attendance. Chair Lyle reiterated the same, this is something that we need to deal with, this type of behavior sends the wrong message to entrepreneurs and other prospective businesses, as well as to the visitors to our General Board Meetings.

Chair reviews board process.

Joshua Hakimi is looking for a letter of support from the Board. Questions followed from the board regarding the space and HPD ownership which was answered with the information that if HPD who owns the property decides to build, or sell we agreed to vacate the property. Composting was explored for informational purposes to the community as requested. Hours of operation were discussed, when working with the schools volunteers cannot enter; however the weekends are open to volunteers.

Resolution: Manhattan Community Board 10 Land Use/Landmarks Committee voted in favor of the letter of support.

Lemor Realty Corporation (“Lemor”) has submitted an application seeking Community Board 10 support for site control at 407, 409 and 415 Lenox Avenue (Malcolm X Blvd) for the purpose of developing a mix use facility to include 130 units of affordable residential rental units, and commercial and community space. Lemor will also offer community space to Street Corner Resources Inc, free of charge, a community based organization dedicated to reducing gun and gang violence via music, education, job training, and access to employment opportunities.

Lemor request a letter of support that will enable them to continue talks with HPD.

Iesha Sekou explained to the community the opportunity for her organization to have space

Board Member Mr. Clark – concerns with history of contractors that are not of African American decent, and wants to know who will the contractors be? Response: At this time we know the owner is African American, however we plan to continue to work with Minority Businesses, and we will certainly continue to seek to work with sub-contractors who are minorities.

Dr. Samuels made derogatory statements towards the board.

Community was advised by Brian Benjamin that any project seeking city tax credits must participate in the lottery system.

By-Laws reviewed by Manny Rivera to the community, at the Retreat. The chair will address concerns with ways that best practices can be put in place as they are throughout the city, with the City Charter. The By-Laws Committee will be open if people want to come down to participate, I will send out information and it will be posted on the website and sent to board members.

Chair Henrietta Lyle informed the public and Board Members to reassure them that all that is discussed is reviewed and respected.

Second Roll Call

Chair requested from the board to combine the voting items due to late timing of the meeting to speed things up, submitted and seconded by the Board.

Harlem Coral the first vote and Mess Hall, the second vote called. Members voted and the results are:

Harlem Coral votes recorded -	20	-Yes	3	-No	3	- Abstained
Mess Hall votes recorded -	20	-Yes	5	-No	1	- Abstained
2070 AC Powell Blvd votes recorded -	25	-Yes	1	-No	0	- Abstained

Land Use

Lemor Realty votes recorded -	26	-Yes	0	-No	0	- Abstained
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Joshua Hakimi votes recorded - 26 -Yes 0 -No 0 - Abstained

Honorable Chair Henrietta Lyle informed the board members that if they abstained and would like to discuss reasons for their abstention with the Eco Dev Committee, please feel free to do so. Announcements reiterated to all the speakers in Community First Session continuance, reminded to limit it to announcements.

Community First:

Marie Littlejohn as member of the Friends of the ACPowell Malls - tree lighting event – they have increased the lighting from six trees to eight trees.

Fund raiser Bus Ride to Atlantic City on February 8th, 2014.

Strongly encouraged the board to encourage their Health Committee Chair and their two members that attend those meetings to look into what is going on.

Community Advisory Board meeting that will be held December 18, 2013 in the Martin Luther King Pavilion, 2nd floor in the medical board room at 6pm.

Iesha Sekou – informed community of the “knock out gang” – youth gangs are knocking out women as a form of entertainment. Caution your children and the youth to not participate in this or other violent activities. Please be aware and talk to the youth, they need direction.

Juanita Thomas good evening, I want to announce the passing away of Queen Mother Silvia Jordan, she was a long time mother, and she was a human rights worker for the Diaspora of Africa helping people all over the world. Her services will be at the Rev Ike’s church. At the Schomburg stuff in the garbage – history on historians, expensive paintings, to make room for a tea room.

Kaye Samuels –Mayor Bloomberg has decided what Harlem is supposed to look like in the future. Accuses Board of withholding information. Calls Mr. Rivera “one of the biggest liars”.

Honorable Chair Lyle asked that Ms. Samuels please refrain from personal attacks at the board members and to leave the podium

Dr. Samuels continues to rant.

Dr. Samuels was informed that she was out of order

She continued to shout and yell, you’re out of order!!!

Dr. Samuels was informed that she is not to yield personal attacks to the board members.

Dr. Samuels continued to be disruptive as she was asked to leave the podium. Dr. Samuels was again out of control and abused the privilege to speak to the community in this manner. She left the podium continuing to rant in a disrespectful manner.

Ms. Brock – Brings up issues at Harlem Hospital. Importance of handling the youth properly. “We need some assistance with domestic violence, you have not addressed that but you can address liquor license and all that kind of mess instead of talking about domestic violence.” We have child abuse, there is plenty of stuff going on in this community that is not being addressed. I was in community board 7 and a group called “not in my back yard” and someone said send it up to community board 10 they take everything. Microphone was cut off.

“Yeah you can cut it off because the truth will set you free!!”

After this Dr. Samuels to continue her loud behavior and shouting.

Ms. Brock was asked to leave the podium as the next speaker wanted to speak, meanwhile the ranting continued from Ms. Brock and Dr. Samuels.

Imani Scott – sang “To the utmost, heal thyself.” Event at 26 East 125th Street on the 2nd floor.

Jolinda Ruth Cogen – CERT North had elections last night and the new chief is I and the deputy chief is Londel Davis Jr. Operation Hope at W 134th Street. Mastermind Groups and leadership training on John Maxwell’s 21 laws. Jolinda was interrupted and attacked by Dr. Samuels.

Co-founder of Young Harlem a non-profit organization seeking to end the violence amongst the youth. Toy drive at the Polo Grounds on December 21, 2013 at the Children’s Village.

Gingerbread competition. Please reach out at our website is www.thenewyh.org.

Joel Rogers - Second annual holiday book drive. Partners are Bake My Cake located at 116th and St Nicholas Avenue and the Harlem YMCA at 135th St, including Harlem for Kids. Educational film screening and community discussion series - Monday December 16th from 5:30pm at Church on the Hill showing documentary, “The Best Kept Secret”.

Manny Rivera, Parliamentarian

Makes a motion that the board empowers the officers of the board to take methods deemed appropriate to ensure the order of a General Board Meeting, which will include asking the building management to enforce the rules that are in place for the people to observe the proceedings of meetings.

Continues to say – Guests and other people in the community are being subject to insults and harassment, and some of language borders on the same type of language that is offensive. I think we need to take a strong stand on that. To ask that the management do as they said they would.

The purpose of this board is to provide information and represent the community. What we cannot have is one, two or three people consistently imposing their will on the group because they are not satisfied. This is a democracy, and these rules protect the process and that is why this motion is on the floor.

Honorable Chair Henrietta Lyle

Asks for thoughts on motion

Dr. Samuels and Ms. Brock continue to disrupt meeting.

Would like for board to support Manny Rivera’s motion and perhaps we can limit these individuals attendance to our meetings.

The motion is to authorize the executive members of the board to take the appropriate measures in advocating for the management to address the situations of concern. We simply want the meetings to take place in an orderly fashion which includes the manager of the building to enforce their rules of orderly conduct.

Honorable Chair Henrietta Lyle reported that at the next Executive meeting this motion will be explored in discussion and of course everyone is invited to join the discussion.

Manny Rivera makes motion that topic of conversation goes before the Executive Committee for further investigation.

Samuels continued to rant and spew out negatives to the board and the Executive Committee members.

Adjourned