



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**

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## CB10 Housing Committee Minutes

March 12, 2013

**Committee Attendees:** Barbara Nelson, Acting Chair  
Donna Gill  
Lupe Moreno

**Presenters:** LGBT Community Center; Ms. Erin McCarron, MSW  
Health Solutions; Ms. Maria Pico

**Guests:** Manhattan District Attorney Liaison, Famod Konneh  
Columbia Spectator Journalist, Gina Lee

**Agenda:**

1. Introductions
2. Presentation on Education on Smoke Free Housing Initiatives
3. New / Old Business
4. Adjournment

**Presentation:**

Ms. Erin McCarron began her presentation by reviewing the fact sheets submitted to Board Members that advocated for Smoke Free Initiatives as it relates to housing. Identified the current laws as it relates to smoking only in common areas as concerns were raised as to the complete impact of the request for a resolution or a letter of support.

Currently, prospective tenants and/or home owners as it relates to Coops and Condos are not provided information on the smoking policies of the housing developments. Advocacy for the Smoke Free Housing Initiative is asking that we simply have choices and rights to know the policies of the managements and development organizations as it relates to smoking. She sited that 65% of common air is shared in multiple dwellings, and that second hand smoke is full of carcinogens therefore exposing non-smoking tenants to density and exposure, unwillingly.

**Questions:**

How will this affect Choice, Policy, and Disclosure?

What are the detriments to the lease violators?

How are you currently educating the public in the community?

These questions were answered by visiting the website, through community boards, and word of mouth. Also the violators of the lease via current laws relating to smoking in common areas are subject to the incumbent management company's disclosures. The LGBT Community Center is holding smoking sensation classes and reported that they have a 75% success rate. They will be starting their 4<sup>th</sup> cycle soon; classes begin during the hours of 6pm – 7:30pm. There are plans for a housing summit to provide additional information to the community.

**Business Session:**

The presenters are looking for a letter of support and or a resolution on the Smoke Free Housing Initiatives. No quorum existed for a committee vote, however members present agreed on concerns regarding policy changes and Disclosures as it relates to current housing and newly built housing. Informed the presenters that a discussion will be ensue with the Executive Committee along with concerns and literature provided.

Housing Committee Members discussed HDFC's and Ms. Moreno provided information on a contact: Ms. Jackie Alexander (212) 863-6222 for inquiry regarding the possibility of acquiring a list of the HDFC's that may be in default. Also information was discussed regarding Inez Dickens office and a halting of this information being made available. Acting Chair, Barbara Nelson, to follow up with the contact information as this contact was acquired in March of 2008 via Ms. Moreno at a workshop attended.

Realizing the passion involved with discussing housing in the community and the need to maintain affordable and low income housing, another contact, Mr. Mark Matthews of HPD is to also be contacted to filter information.

It was suggested that we devise a survey of sorts regarding housing issues with about 10 questions, and to circulate them at the next three General Board Meetings to ascertain the needs of the community as it relates to housing issues.

Board Members were asked to assist in developing the survey to enable a focal point to address of community concerns. HDFC's are at risk and so are many other housing concerns according to communication but we want a tangible exchange to provide a foundation on where to begin based on the community's needs identified.

Possible name for the Survey is: "Saving Affordable Housing in CB 10". Acting chair agreed to email the minutes to committee members for review prior to sending and posting information on the website. Discussion on the possibility of posting the Survey on the website will be held with the Executive Committee.