



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
215 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor—New York, NY 10027  
T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

**HENRIETTA LYLE**  
Chairperson

**ANDREW LASSALLE**  
District Manager

## **SPECIAL HOUSING COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, October 30, 2014 6:30 PM**  
215 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street

**Hon. Barbara Nelson, Vice-Chair**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Barbara Nelson, Ibrahima Diafoune, Ashely Emerole, Donna Gill, Earl Keller, Daniel Land Parcerisas, Danni Tyson

**Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm.**

The meeting began with Board Member Danni Tyson explaining that the meeting was called to discuss how the committee would move going forward. Danni Tyson expressed that upon joining the Community Board years ago the Housing and Land Use committees operated separately. She stated that in the past, both were separate committees and functioned well because each committee had its own focus. When the committees merged the Housing committee was lost with respect to its own focus.

Board Member Earl Keller expressed that some Housing issues within Central Harlem aren't being properly addressed such as brownstone owners being kicked out of their properties to create new housing and also AirBnb's effect on the housing and rental property.

Board Member Barbara Nelson expressed there was a discussion after new Board Members joined. There was difficulty expressing how CB 10 would play a role within the Mayor's plan dealing with Affordable Housing. At Joint Housing/Landmarks and Land Use meetings she felt that the views being expressed wasn't from a Housing committee perspective but from a Land Use perspective on topics such as Affordable Housing.

Board Member Ibrahima Diafoune stated, to him and the community that he represents within the community board, it is very important that the committees be separate. When there are problems within the African community dealing with housing issues; if there isn't a Housing committee it makes it extremely difficult to solve these issues.

Board Member Earl Keller expressed that the committees should be separate. Board Member Keller stated that when situations arise a call for committees to work together should happen but both committees should operate in separate capacities.

Board Member Donna Gill expressed that she feels that the committees should be separate because they both have different issues and mandates. Even though Land Use speaks to the way Housing is being built, the housing mandate looks more to preserve and protect the community and its residents. That isn't to say that Land Use doesn't have the same views but that they also have other components that factor heavily into their decisions. For example, preserving new projects vs. what is already built within the area.

Board Member Donna Gill also stated that the attendance for the Housing committee is a concern and should be addressed.

Board Member Daniel Parcerisas expressed that since he has been a Board Member the committees have met jointly. Board Member Daniel Land Parcerisas stated it depends on the involvement of members on the Housing Committee. He asked what is the point of having a separate committee if Housing isn't a functioning committee. Even though there are very good reasons for them to be separate it will come down to whether people show up or not. Daniel Parcerisas suggests the committee members be honest with themselves. Within six months or a year reflect as to whether becoming a separate committee is working or not.

Board Member Ashley Emerole stated that when she joined the Community Board it was a joint committee. Ashley Emerole expressed that she would like to have separate committees as it would allow for specific housing issues to be discussed.

The Housing committee vote was passed to keep the committees separate with a vote of 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions

**Meeting adjourned**