



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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LGBTQ Task Force Minutes

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 8:00 PM
215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor
Hon. Manny Rivera, Chair

LGBTQ Task Force Chair Manny Rivera began the conversation by introducing himself, and asked for all in attendance to introduce themselves. One of the topics of discussion was the “messages” displayed on the Atlah Missionary Church’s sign post.

Jesus Perez from the Manhattan Borough President’s office was introduced and gave a review of the BP’s office efforts in this matter. It appears these efforts may result in some concrete action in that the sign is in clear violation of the rules regarding Landmarked properties. There will be a hearing scheduled before the Land Use Commission on May 4th. He will get back to us if the public can attend.

A proposed draft statement about this “church’s” sign from Manhattan Community Board 10 was presented and reviewed, which will also be reviewed by the Executive Committee for approval at the full Board meeting.

Key Points from the discussions were:

This behavior has been very disruptive to neighboring businesses, churches and tourists. Other non-profits, small businesses, and elected officials should be involved in the conversation regarding the next steps to take. An approach to economically impact the church might be a better approach and can possibly have a bigger and longer lasting effect.

The discussion ended with the task force deciding to discuss further coordinated actions in the coming weeks and continuing to work closely with the Borough President’s office and other community groups.

The task force also discussed the planned “listening session” possibly in April or May. The feeling was that it would be best to hold such on a Saturday, as opposed to a weekday or evening. Manny will reach out to the BP to see her availability.

Board Member Christina Curry noted that the Community Board reach out to the LGBTQ Deaf & Disabled community for representation and involvement within this session.