

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – CB 12 Manhattan
October 1st 2014 – 7pm

Attendance: Shahabuddeen Ally, Chair; Maurice Owen-Michaane, Assistant Chair;
Kelly Boyd; Isidro Medina; Pamela Palanque-North;
Board Members: Osi Kaminier
Excused Absence: Liliana Saneaux

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Chairman Ally

- Chair Ally welcomes everyone
- At the start of the meeting we did not have quorum, so the Chair went directly to NYPD Precinct Reports
- **NYPD 33rd Precinct report – Captain V. McDermott**
 - Captain V. McDermott introduced herself as the recently (as of Summer 2014) appointed Executive Officer of the 33rd
 - Reported that of the 77 Precincts in NYC, only 4 others Precincts have a higher percentage of lower crime YoY than the 33rd
 - No homicides as of YTD
 - 2 non-fatal shootings YTD, but both were not random, the detectives are on the case
 - Danny Guzman was introduced as the new Community Affairs Officer for the 33rd
 - A recent burglary was solved due to the fact DNA was left behind at the scene of the crime
 - A spate of bike thefts was occurring because perp was using a device to cut the bike locks
 - Arrest made last night in the beating of a kitten as well as in the killing of a bird
 - Chair Ally: Has there been more enforcement of cyclist rules since the pedestrian death in Central Park? Captain McDermott reiterated that cyclists need to obey traffic laws, and that traffic safety team is enforcing VTL
 - Captain V. McDermott reiterated focus on motorcycles, including several confiscations YTD
 - Asst. Chair Owen-Michaane asked both Precincts about the traffic issues on Broadway, specifically about double parked cars and illegal u-turns; Captain McDermott responded that during the week of Sept. 22, they conducted a Vision Zero education week, and speed readers on Broadway were up, and that enforcement on Broadway is a priority
 - Asst. Chair Owen-Michaane asked both Precincts if they could use/want cameras for traffic enforcement, including red light and speed cameras, and both Precincts said yes very enthusiastically;

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- Both Precincts mentioned there are currently no traffic enforcement cameras in either Precinct
- Isidro Medina: How many traffic transgressions occurred in the 33rd this week? Captain McDermott: was a good week
- **NYPD 34th Precinct report – Officer Perez**
 - 40 Auxiliary officers supported the 34th as part of the Medieval Festival this past weekend
 - 34th is doing well, crime is down 5% YTD in all categories except felony assaults
 - Successful summer in keeping things under control, with no homicides over the summer
 - Chair Ally inquired about the recent Inwood Gym robbery; Officer Perez responded by saying they have video footage of the crime and it was masked men with guns
 - The issue of La Marina being opened all year round was brought up, but 34th has no knowledge
 - Kelly Boyd: inquired about illegal valet parking; Officer Perez responded saying the area where this may occur is part of parks property, which does allow some usages as such
 - Chair Ally requested that the Deputy Inspector of the 34th attend our next committee meeting to address this issue
 - Asst. Chair Owen-Michaane inquired if an arrest had been made regarding summer shooting at La Marina, and how many officers are needed on a typical holiday/big weekend at La Marina; Officer Perez responded by saying no arrest had been made as of this time; about 20 officers are typically needed
 - Improved lighting on lighting in the La Marina area was mentioned as an issue
- **Manhattan DA's Office – Sandrine Fermino**
 - No major update
 - October is Domestic Violence awareness month
 - Shine the Light event in Harlem later in Oct.
- **No updates from the 33rd or 34th Police Councils**
 - Asst. Chair Owen-Michaane attended the 34th Police Council meeting in September reported no major update
- Quorum present to begin budget discussions
- **FY 2016 Budget Discussion for the Public Safety Committee**
 - Chair Ally kicked off the discussions regarding the budget, and the importance of the issues facing our community as it relates to public safety
 - Discussion lasted about an hour, with serious input from all members of the committee present at the meeting
 - **The following was voted to be presented as the FY 2016 Public Safety Committee Expense Budget Proposal (in rank order):**

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- Increase the number of Police Officers at the 33rd and 34th Precincts, including additional officers and detectives (not a new request) – with increase in crime, committee felt this was a very important need, and the 34th and 33rd agreed
- New request for at least 4 additional Park Enforcement Officers in CB 12M Parks
- New request for additional School Safety Officers (a division within the NYPD) at schools within CB 12M – with increase in school bullying and issues of violence, committee felt this was a very important need, and the 34th and 33rd agreed
- Restore funding to increase the number of fire safety inspectors (not a new request)
- Funding for the 33rd and 34th Police Community Councils (not a new request)
- **The following was voted to be presented as the FY 2016 Public Safety Committee Capital Budget Proposal (in rank order):**
 - New request to purchase/install cameras in troubled areas as outlined by the committee – with increase in crime, committee felt this was a very important need, the 34th and 33rd agreed
 - New request to purchase and install additional lighting in troubled areas as outlined by the committee – with increase in crime, committee felt this was a very important need, and the 34th and 33rd agreed
 - New request to purchase additional vehicles, including ATVs, scooters and other vehicles for the 33rd and 34th given the diversity of terrain in CB12M, including the vast park land we have that traditional police cars cannot be utilized in
 - New request to replace the very outdated phone systems in the 33rd and 34th Precincts
 - Full renovation of the Engine 67 Firehouse on West 170th (not a new request)
- **New Business:**
 - Chair Ally & Assistant Chair Owen-Michaane led a group discussion regarding a proposed Public Safety Forum
 - The committee had a wide ranging discussion on the topic, and enthusiastically supported having the forum
 - The proposed date for the Forum was Dec. 10th 2014 @ 7pm
 - Several committee members discussed the need to ensure a wide range of community groups are involved
 - The Nov. 2014 Committee meeting will focus on the details/agenda of the proposed forum
- **Meeting adjourned at 945pm**