

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, MANHATTAN
Executive Committee Meeting
530 West 166th Street, New York, New York

March10, 2015

MINUTES

ATTENDING: Bing, (First Vice- Chair), A. Diaz, (1st Vice Chair & Licensing) B. Lehmann [Secretary], S. Ally [Public Safety]; W. Benjamin [Land Use], M. Glenn [Parks & Cultural Affairs], F. Florimon [Youth & Education], Yosef Kalinsky (Traffic & Transportation), J. Miller (Business Development); S. Simon [Health & Environment]; G. Vanterpool [Aging]

ABSENT - EXCUSED: G. Fernandez [Chair]; P. Palanque-North, L. Saneaux (Assistant Secretary), R. Allman, (By-Laws Task Force)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Felipe W. Sanchez

Staff: Ebenezer Smith [District Manager]

The meeting was called to order by First Vice Chair Obie Bing - at 7:20 pm.

First Vice Chair's Report:

The work of the By Laws Committee is wrapping up soon.

Secretary's Report:

Betty Lehmann reviewed the attendance matters as related to Board Members. There was substantial discussion as to the matter of how to calculate absences based on reason and based on a rolling calendar year. A full report at a future meeting will be provided.

Treasurer's Report:

Pamela Palenque North submitted a Treasurer's Report at the meeting. She referenced the fact that Community Boards are not mayoral agencies. There is an amount of \$8,000 that is not in the current budget. Ebenezer will check on this. There will also be an effort to properly identify codes and to pass this information along.

There was a discussion about the fact that committees need to identify needs and to pass this information onto the Board. Steve Simon suggested that the Board explore the use of translation services particularly for the Youth & Environment Committee and for the Licensing Committee meetings.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Smith reported the following:

- ~ Small Business Services, a Federal agency, held a Community Meeting that was very successful. They are offering many services to help our businesses in the community.
- ~ DCAS inspected the CB 12 offices. There are (2) problems:
 - Kick plates for the doors
 - Signs for the bathrooms
- ~ The building does not have a permanent CO and only

- has a temporary one. DCAS cannot sign off until a permanent CO is issued – but will work with CUMC pending resolution.
- ~ CB 12 offices need to have keys for the bathrooms and there was substantial discussion as to methods of securing bathroom doors with and without using keys.
- ~ Richard Lewis asked about the possibility on installing cameras in CB 12 office.

Committee Reports:

Business Development Committee – Jason Miller

Chair Jason Miller reported on the Small Business Forum which took place on March 3 at Isabella. There were about 70 people in attendance. Organizations that took part included the Department of Labor, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the NYC Department of Health, the New York Business Development Council, Facility Value Inc., Accion, Inc. other small businesses. There was much discussion about how government can help small business grow and develop. The Forum was very successful and is considered a good start.

In view of the forum, there was not specific Business Development Committee meeting March.

Committee for the Concerns of the Aging – Gloria Vanterpool

Chair Gloria Vanterpool indicated that Deputy Inspector Wilson Arambales, 33rd Precinct spoke at the recent Committee meeting. He spoke about the importance of community policing. In addition, there was discussion about the project being worked on by the NYC Department for the Aging concerning the possible release back to the community of non-violent prisoners age 60+.

Housing & Human Services Committee - Richard Lewis:

Chair Richard Lewis reported that there was no quorum at the meeting of the Housing & Human Services Committee and therefore no resolutions could be considered.

There were (2) speakers:

Trevor Alexander, Community Outreach Specialist, HRA, OCSE – Outreach & Paternity Services spoke about a program to assist impoverished fathers to fulfill their obligations with regard to child support. Efforts are made to connect fathers with pre-natal clinics to forge financial, emotional and medical bonds. It was recommended that visits be made to the schools to educate teenagers.

Councilman Mark Levine spoke about a bill pending before the City Council to provide free legal assistance to tenants who are faced with proceedings in Family Court. If passed, New York City would be the first in the nation to have such a bill. There were 30,000 people in eviction proceedings in 2013. Councilman Levine also spoke about the need to renew and improve the rent stabilization laws due to expire in June. There is a current vacancy rate of 3.4%.

Land Use Committee - Wayne Benjamin:

Chairman Benjamin announced that Tamara Rivera has resigned from the Board and will no longer be serving on the Land Use Committee and recommended that we recognize her contribution.

The New York City Housing Trust & NYC Parks made a presentation at the recent meeting about the installation of air conditioning in the landmarked Morris Jumel mansion. The air conditioning unit will be located outside the building and will air condition the octagonal room in the mansion. A dehumidified will also be installed. All preservation efforts will be made to maintain its current appearance. Landmarks Preservation must also approve this. The Committee approved the resolution.

We received notice of an ULURP application for 474 West 159th Street. Children's' Services plans to acquire the building they already occupy.

There had been a lively discussion in the December meeting about the prospect of transferring air rights as part of a bigger plan to build additional buildings along Broadway. It was decided that the Committee will consider the matter further when they receive more detailed information.

Parks & Cultural Affairs – Mitchell Glenn:

There was no report for this committee at the meeting.

Public Safety - Shahabudden Ally:

There was no report for this committee.

Traffic & Transportation: - Yosef Kalinsky

There was substantial discussion about the creation of bike lanes and the impact on parking spaces in areas such as Edgecombe Avenue. The City has spent \$60 million to upgrade the area in preparation for the opening of the High Bridge. This will include greenways, bike lanes, improvements in 158th & 159th Streets as crosswalks. It was decided that the Board would continue to monitor and review the situation.

Chair Kalinsky reported that New York Presbyterian plans to improve the sidewalks between 165th and 168th Streets.

Parks & Cultural Affairs – Mitchell Glenn

Mitch Glen reported that there are only 4 PEP officers in Northern Manhattan and that that number is way too few compared to what is needed for this community.

The restaurant La Marina is on Parks Department property the committee has requested information from the NYC Parks Department as to the operation of La Marina. The Parks Department indicated that it will send information as requested.

Youth & Education – Fe Florimon:

Fe Florimon reported that the presenter scheduled for the March 9th Youth & Environment Committee meeting cancelled at the last minute. There was a discussion among those attending about District 6, the 53 schools that make up the district, the 25,000 students who are served and what the needs of the community are.

There was a discussion about the extent to which Parent/Teacher Associations operate within the community.

Licensing Committee – Aldemar Diaz:

Aldemar Diaz reported that the Licensing Committee will meet on March 11th and that there are 14 applicants for licenses – including 3 or 4 new applications. None are on

Dyckman Street.

On Thursday, March 12, there will be an all borough meeting at the Borough President's office which he plans to attend along with George Fernandez, Ebenezer Smith & Obie Bing

Health & Environment - Steve Simon:

The regularly scheduled March meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. Steve Simon indicated that there will be a joint community forum of the Youth & Education Committee and the Health & Environment Committee on Monday, April 13th , The focus will be on mental health services for the communities teenagers. There as been an alarming increase in suicide and suicide attempts among the areas' teenagers.

Executive Committee – Richard Lewis:

There was a discussion as to whether the Executive Committee or the full Board needs to meet, review and vote on Intro 214 .

There is a meeting on March 17th in which HRA and the Department of Human Services will be testifying. It was suggested that CB 12 consider testifying or providing a letter of support. It was decided to bring the matter up for discussion at the April meeting.

By-laws Task Force – Richard Allman

There was no presentation about this task force.

The meeting was ended at 9:40pm

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann, Secretary
March 10, 2015