

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

May 12, 2015

MINUTES

ATTENDING: G. Fernandez [Chair]; Bing, (First Vice- Chair); A. Diaz, (1st Vice Chair & Licensing); P. Palanque-North (Treasurer); B. Lehmann [Secretary]; L. Saneaux (Assistant Secretary; S. Ally [Public Safety]; W. Benjamin [Land Use]; F. Florimon [Youth & Education]; W. Garcia, Asst. Chair Traffic & Transportation; M. Glenn [Parks & Cultural Affairs]; R. Lewis (Housing & Human Services); G S. Simon [Health & Environment] G. Vanterpool [Aging]; R. Allman, (By-Laws Task Force); Anita Barberis, By-laws Task Force

Excused: Yusef Kalinsky (Traffic & Transportation); Maurice Owen-Michaane (Business Development)

Staff: Ebenezer Smith [District Manager]

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fernandez- at 7:19 pm. Quorum was achieved.

District Manager's Report:

Ebenezer Smith reported the following:

- ~ He has been in contact with Ulysses Grosso of Workforce 1. There will be a job recruitment event to be held at the Community Board Office on Tuesday, May 19th between 9:0am and 5:00 pm. The primary interest is recruiting for restaurant employment. Ebenezer is preparing fliers concerning this upcoming event.
- ~ He reported that the cost of printing 60,000 fliers at Staples would be about \$2,000. Therefore the printing of fliers will be done at the Board office.
- ~ Angela Fernandez is heading a new organization responsible for organizing the Dominican Day Parade. The first meeting will be on May 14th at 7:00pm at 809 Bar & Grill. Invitations have been sent and Ebenezer plans to attend. They are looking for additional members to help with the organizing effort.

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**Committee Reports:**

**Gloria Vanterpool, Chair, Committee for the Concerns of the Aging** said the following:

Mary Anderson will be the new co-chair of the Aging Committee  
David Mattera, new Board member, is considering serving on the Aging Committee  
He represents several of the Catholic Churches in the area and is interested in representing the needs of the various parishioners.  
She referred everyone to the committee minutes.  
George Fernandez, Board Chair, reported that Adult Protective Services would like to make a presentation at an upcoming CB 12 meeting and he referred them to make an initial presentation at the Aging Committee first.

**Ricard Lewis, Chair, Housing and Human Services** reported the following:

The NYU Furman Center for Real Estate has released a several reports recently on the prospect of creating affordable housing in NYC

He attended a Co-Op and Apartment Expo recently.

- ~ He attended a meeting with Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie about the prospect of strengthening rent regulation laws.
- ~ The Housing and Human Services Committee has passed (5) resolutions on the following:
  - Rent Rate freezing
  - New York City Council Intro 736
  - NYCHA sustainability
  - 421-A Application Resolution
  - Sunset of current Rent Regulations
- ~ The Borough President sent (2) representatives to the meeting.

**Shahabuddeen Ally, Chair, Public Safety reported the following:**

- ~ There has been a meeting of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB).
- ~ A new neighborhood policing initiative will begin in Precinct 33 and 34 and there will be ongoing communications as to how that is proceeding.
- ~ The Public Safety Committee will continue to meet with both precincts.

**Wanda Garcia, Assistant Chair, Traffic and Transportation reported the following:**

- ~ The Committee passed (4) Resolutions including (1) in the possible street naming for former Mayor David Dinkins.
- ~ George Fernandez indicated that he had researched the issue and learned that co-naming a street could only be done for a deceased person. He indicated that he had reached out to the Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NOMAA) and received a positive response from Sandra Betancourt Garcia. He will forward her e-mail Councilman Levine and has been told that Mr. Levine will refer the matter to the City Council.

**Steve Simon, Chair, Health & Environment Committee,, reported that:**

- ~ EMS provided an update on the performance of the new Base Station on Amsterdam Avenue. Their response time was better than that of the City overall and measured a response time of 5:49 minutes. They also handle an average between 29,500 and 31,000 calls.
- ~ The NYC Clean Heat Program has been successful. Only 11 buildings out of 500 are left that have not been in contact regarding the necessary upgrades. The Committee asked for a letter from the Community Board thanking Con Ed for their efforts.
- ~ A zoning variance has been submitted regarding The Equity Project School (TEP) which is to be located at Academy and 214<sup>th</sup> Street. Steve Simon is reviewing the remediation report for this location and has requested that CB 12 be the repository for remediation documents.
- ~ Obie Bing submitted a list of questions regarding the remediation plan.

**Aldemar Diaz, Chair, Licensing Committee reported the following:**

- ~ There were (16) applications for liquor licenses: (6) are for new licenses and (10) are for renewals. He indicated that he does not expect any controversy at the next General Meeting.
- ~ El Presidente Restaurant has resolved outstanding issues and has received support from local building residents and local politicians. He believes the controversy is gone.

- ~ George Fernandez reported that that there may be some issues raised about (3) local restaurants: El Tete, Mama Juana and Maha Tapas (next to Papacito).

**Richard Allman, Chair, By-laws Task Force:**

- ~ Thanked the Committee members for their hard work and their collegiality:
  - Anita Barberis
  - Obie Bing
  - Aldemar Diaz
  - Richard Lewis
  - Richard Allman
- ~ A draft of the By-laws was presented and there was substantial conversation regarding the first sections of the document.
- ~ Richard Lewis indicated that the purpose of the revision is to address the following:
  - Upgrading the standards
  - Addressing new categories such as what constitutes a member in good standing
  - Updating committee structure and leadership responsibilities including what it means to be fully engaged in participating on a committee.

**The Committee went into Executive Session** to consider the following matters:

- ~ What constitutes a Committee vs Special Project
- ~ What constitutes a Member in Good Standing
- ~ Policy vs. Process.

**After Executive Session**, the Executive Committee decided on the following:

- ~ To review the By-Laws and to submit an recommendations to Richard Allman by May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- ~ To consider whether the By-laws Task Force should present their process at an upcoming General Meeting.
- ~ To evaluate whether there should be a separate meeting the summer to finalize the new By-laws.

**The meeting adjourned at 10:56pm**

**Respectfully submitted:      Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann  
June 8, 2015**