

**COMMUNITY BOARD 12, Manhattan
General Meeting
September 29, 2015**

**Isabella Geriatric Center
515 Audubon Avenue
New York, New York 10040**

Draft Minutes

Board Members Present:

Richard Allman, Shahabudden Ally, Mary Anderson, Glennis Aquino, Anita Barberis, James Berlin, Isaiah Obie Bing, Manny de los Santos, George Fernandez, Fe Florimon, Barbara Frazier, Wanda Garcia, Mitchell Glenn, Osi Kaminer, Andrea Kornbluth, Elizabeth Lehmann, Richard R. Lewis, Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Maria Luna, David Mattera, Jay Mazur, Estevan Nembhard, Ayisha Ogilvie, Maurice Owen-Michaane, Pamela Palanque-North, Terriell Peters, Martin Restituyo, Jonathan Reyes, Arlene Schulman, Steve Simon, Alyce Smith, Luis Tapia, Felipe Wytik Sanchez

Board Members Excused: Wayne Benjamin, Aldemar De Jesus Diaz, Christopher Smith

Board Members Absent, Yahaira Alonzo, Katherine Diaz, Domingo Estevez, Yosef Kalinsky, Isidro Medina, Juan Mejia, Rud Morales, Priscilla Mota-Willis, Liliana Saneaux, Jason Tejada, Gloria Vanterpool

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, Debora Blow, Paola Garcia

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***Call to Order:*** **Chairman George Fernandez called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. No quorum as of yet.**

***Chairman's Introductions:***

- ~ George Fernandez introduced NYC Public Advocate Letitia James who intended to address the group.
- ~ He welcomed back former NYS Assembly Member Gabriella Rosa who has just returned to the community.

***Public Advocate Letitia James addressed the meeting noting the following:***

- ~ The Public Advocate's Office is in the forefront of bringing about the recent nail salon legislation, securing cameras to be worn by the NYPD, and finding ways to fix the broken foster care system
- ~ She indicated the NYC Pension system is divesting itself of investments in firms that sell guns.
- ~ She indicated that the Public Advocate's Office is encouraging the Federal Government to pass legislation that will ban assault weapons and will require background checks.
- ~ She indicated that the Public Advocate's Office is behind efforts to provide affordable housing for the more than 50 thousand homeless New Yorkers, a third of whom are children.
- ~ To contact the Public Advocate's Office, call (212) 669-7200.

***New York State Assemblyman Herman D. Farrell, 71<sup>st</sup> AD addressed the meeting noting the following:***

- ~ Construction on 151st Street Pedestrian Footbridge has begun. The construction phase of the long-awaited pedestrian footbridge into Riverside Park at 151st Street and Riverside Drive is

underway.. This project will cost \$20 million in State funding. The DOT Plan plans to plant three trees for each tree removed. The project is expected to be completed by December 2016.

***NYC Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez, District 10 addressed the meeting and reported the following:***

- ~ He thanked members of CB 12 who have participated in the participatory budgeting process~
- ~ He invited everyone to participated in the October 3rd meeting regarding the “Inwood NYC “ Project. It will replace the former Sherman Creek Project and involves the development of approximately 100 acres from Dyckman Street North from Broadway east to the river. HPD, City Planning and other agencies will be at the meeting to get community input. The meeting will be held at PS 5 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.
- ~ The plan to bring an outdoor skating rink to District 10 did not receive any bids. The \$2 million that had been set aside for the rink will be re-appropriated to meet other needed services in the community.
- ~ He is interested in bringing ferry service to the west side of Manhattan including stops at 72<sup>nd</sup> St., 125<sup>th</sup> St., George Washington Bridge and Dyckman Street.
- ~ He is interested in improving the safety of transportation and is convening a meeting at NYU for the purpose of pursuing the matter further.
- ~ He has introduced 3 bills to improve intersection safety, better lighting at trouble spots and turning signals.
- ~ He complimented the various restaurant owners in the community who have demonstrated a willingness to make improvements in noise reduction, earlier closing hours and prohibition of hookah use.

**Quorum was reached at 7:48pm. Separate motions were made and passed by a voice vote to do the following:**

- ~ Add the Health & Environment Resolution to the Agenda.
- ~ Delete # 15 and # 28 from the Agenda. (The applicants have withdrawn their applications at this time. CB 12 needs to notify the SLA that these establishments need to come back.)
- ~ Adoption of the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Minutes.
- ~ Adoption of the September 29<sup>th</sup> Agenda

***George Fernandez announced that James Berlin will serve as Parliamentarian at this meeting.***

***Chairman’s Report: George Fernandez announced the following:***

- ~ The 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct will add 6 Peace Officers to ensure public safety due to recent problems that have occurred at the 168<sup>th</sup> Street Men’s Shelter.
- ~ He encouraged all CB 12 members to attend the planned October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on the “Inwood Plan” that is scheduled to be held at PS 5.
- ~ He announced the following changes to the CB 12 Committees:
  - Felipe Wytik Sanchez will be Assistant Chair – Housing & Human Services
  - Arlene Schulman will be Assistant Chair – Health & Environment
  - Elizabeth Lorris Ritter will be Chair of Parks & Cultural Affairs
  - Osi Kaminer will remain Assistant Chair – Parks & Cultural Affairs
  - Ayisha Ogilvie has been reappointed to chair the IT Committee
- ~ He is looking for Assistant Chairs for (2) Committees – Business Development and Public Safety
- ~ He announced that Kelly Boyd and Lorenzo McGougan have resigned from the Board.
- ~ He announced that the following individuals are serving on the Nominating Committee:

- Shahabudden Ally
  - Yahaira Alonzo
  - Ayisha Ogilvie
  - Terriell Peters
  - Felipe Wytik Sanchez
  - Andrea Kornbluth
  - Anita Barberis
- ~ He announced that on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm there will be a NYC Participatory Budget meeting at the Campbell Sports Center to discuss how \$1 million is to be spent.
- ~ He announced that there will be meeting of ANMARK meeting at CB 12 offices on Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

***District Manager's Report: District Manager Ebenezer Smith announced the following:***

- ~ There will be a Public Meeting on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> to review District Needs. This will enable us to modify the Statement of District needs.
- ~ The West 190<sup>th</sup> Street station on the A line is in poor condition. He is working to have the MTA to have the elevators improved in time for the Medieval Festival and to have the station painted. In addition there are long-term needs for the station that need to be addressed.
- ~ The Medieval Festival will take place on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in Fort Tryon Park. Parking will be difficult on that day
- ~ He is working with the NYC Department of Buildings regarding the legality or illegality of the Omega Laundromats which is operating at 614 West 157<sup>th</sup> Street.
- ~ There will be a Small Business Fair on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 12:30pm that will be held at 530 West 166<sup>th</sup> Street – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- ~ PS 4 has 3 air conditioners on the roof that make a lot of noise. Residents in buildings across the street complained. He has held a meeting with the school and the residents to see what can be done.

***George Fernandez – introduced Community Policing Officers – Officer Perez & Sargent Garcia of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct*** who reported that they are not opposed to the following resolutions.

- ~ #20 – not opposed to it
- ~ # 25 – not opposed to it – will continue to do a walk-thru
- ~ # 26 – not opposed to it – will continue to do a walk-thru

***Borough President's Report - Northern Manhattan Liaison, Giovanni Puella presented the following:***

- ~ Borough President Brewer wrote a letter to Police Commissioner Bratton regarding the issues arising from the Men's Shelter at the Armory. The response indicated that the NYPD is aware of the Borough President's "NYC Safe" initiative and will place additional officers on duty to provide additional security.
- ~ The School Annex Building located in the playground between 168<sup>th</sup> and 169<sup>th</sup> Streets needs to be removed and the playground restored. The Borough President has written to the Parks Department and wants the Parks and Education Departments to work together to restore the area.
- ~ The Police-Community Relations Report is being released following interviews with more than a thousand New Yorkers. The report contains key proposals that will be reviewed.
- ~ The Borough President's Office will plans to sponsor a Small Business Forum in CB 12M.
- ~ The Borough President's office is seeking interns for the Fall. Check the web site for details.
- ~ The Borough President hosted a public meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> concerning traffic congestion. Further discussions will consider congestion pricing, Bridge tolls, etc

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Public Session – Isaiah Obie Bing administered the Public Session and the following individuals spoke:

Martin Collins spoke about the role of the Empire State Development Corporation in providing free business counseling and small business loans for Veterans. He also spoke about the Medieval Festival that is to take place on October 4th.

Mayela Calderon, Community Outreach Coordinator, Brothers and Sisters spoke about an interest in expanding the services into Washington Heights & Inwood. They have t(3) goals – recruit volunteers, expand services and identify job resources.

Salieen Shah spoke about the Citizen’s Committee for NYC and the need for grant applications. Due date = January 25, 2016. Grants are for \$500 – 3,800. Call (212) 822-9580 or check the web site: www.citizensnyc.org

Danita Nichols of the New York Public Library spoke about the fact that the Inwood Library will be open 7 days a week. As of December 1, they are adding staff, increasing hours and expanding programming. In addition the Fort Washington Branch will be renovated. The History Project is continuing.

Dr. Karen Ellefsen, Isabella Early Childhood Education spoke about the intergenerational center for children from the ages of 3 months through 5 years. There will be an Open House on Wednesday, November 11th.

Mitch Glenn representing the Residents of Sylvan Terrance spoke in support of Resolution #2.

Nayma Silver spoke about a Fashion Show she had at the Dyckman Houses. She is looking for a venue and other community supports to afford an opportunity to schedule another Project Beauty Institute for young women in the community.

Mary Eyre, Community Resident, spoke about her concern about safety problems caused by bikers and requests more transparency in the planning process.

Joel Yoffie spoke for Phil Zarblocki, Advocates for Public Integrity, about overcharging by the Armory. They wanted \$1,850 for (3) hours of use of the space. This matter has been brought to the attention of Rodriguez’ office and the Mayor’s office but no action has followed.

Dr. Gary Altheim, Executive Director, Growth & Development Services, thanked everyone for making “Reach Potential Arts” program a success. The Program ran on subsequent Tuesdays. For more details, consult the web site: www.excelgds.org.

Arelia Taveras (and Group) spoke in support of Resolution #26. She (they) indicated that many community residents have signed a petition in support.

David Friend, Community Resident spoke of the 500 foot rule governing establishments serving liquor and registered his opposition to Resolution #28.

Katie Weaver, Community Resident, spoke in support of the restaurant in Resolution #26..

Katherine O’Sullivan, MFU (Moving Forward Unidos), (and 20 others) complained about the exorbitant number of liquor licenses on Dyckman Street.

Ana Maria Gomez, community resident, spoke in approval of Resolution #26.

Michael O’Boyle, spoke in support of Gregory Gonzalez, owner of Kon’to Euro Caribbean Cuisine Corp. and recommended that the Board approve \the application.(Resolution #26).

Seny Taveras, Executive Director, CUNY in the Heights, also spoke in support of Mr. Gregory Gonzalez and the educational work he plans to do with students from CUNY in the Heights. (Resolution #26).

Geogoria Gonzalez spoke in support of the restaurant in Resolution #26
Maria Gomez spoke in support of the restaurant in Resolution #26
Dmitri Daniel Glinski, Director of Intercommunity Affairs, spoke about the importance of immigrant diversity and asked for community support.
Joel Yoffie read a poem – “Green Shades of Ghostly Autumn”
Sarah Fisher of Friends of Inwood Hill Park thanked Councilman Rodriguez for a grant for stewardship in Inwood Hill Park. (Parks Equity Initiative Grant).
Mike Fitelson, Executive Director, United Palace of Cultural Arts, spoke about the upcoming Hip-Hop Nutcracker. Will have 2 shows this fall (Nov 20 & 21) and will also announced that UPCA received a grant tour the show in 11 cities including Moscow. Information is available in the back.
Tony Martinetti, Inwood Owners’ Coalition, spoke in favor of Resolution # 6. (Cavala Café). 75 Community residents have signed a similar petition.
Manuel Gonzales, President, Baseball Club, spoke in support of local baseball clubs.
Arelya Seleio, Union Communal, Friends of Audubon Playground, spoke about and distributed a report about a report how the park can be restored.

Committee Chairs’ Reports & Resolutions:

George Fernandez recommended that Land Use, Traffic & Transportation and Health & Environment precede Licensing Committee Resolutions. **Motion was offered and seconded by voice vote.**

Martin Restituyo, Assistant Chair of Land Use discussed (2) Resolutions

- 1) Resolution # 2 has been withdrawn at this time – applicant will return next month
 – Motion was offered and approved
- 2) Resolution opposing approval of the application submitted to The Board of Standards and Appeals requesting Multiple Zoning Variances to facilitate the development of a proposed 16-Story Mixed-Use building at 4452 Broadway.

Wanda Garcia, Assistant Chair, Traffic and Transportation, introduced (2) resolutions:

- (1) Resolution in support of Columbia University Presbyterian Hospital's application on new Revocable Consent to Install and Maintain Sidewalk planters at 650 West 168th Street.
- (2) Resolution in support of safety improvements and Bicycle Lanes on St. Nicholas Avenue between 1169th & 193rd Streets.

There was a friendly amendment to the resolution concerning Columbia University to remove the 3rd “whereas” which refers to the Land-Use committee.

There were several questions regarding loading zones and the impact on the planned Bike Lanes on St. Nicholas Avenue.

Steve Simon, Chair of the Health & Environment Committee proposed the following Resolution:

Resolution in support of the NYC Transit’s Proposed Wetland Mitigation in the North Cove in conjunction with its floodwall project at the 207th Street Rail Yard.

George Fernandez and Arlene Schulman (Committee Member, Licensing Committee), presented resolutions for the Licensing Committee (in view of Aldemar Diaz and Isidro Medina’s absence)

Arlene indicated some corrections to the Committee Meeting minutes:

- #2 – La Estufa – Arlene Shulman voted “no” – not “abstain” under committee vote
- #4 – El Rancho los Compadres – change Angela to Arlene
- \$5 – Restaurant Libertad – change Angela to Arlene
- #21- Inwood Beer Garden & Bistro – Timing on Stipulations – Monday to Wednesday – Sunday close at 1:00am; Thursday, Friday and Saturday – 3:00am close.

George Fernandez spoke about the Resolutions that did not receive Committee support. Referring to the committee minutes, these restaurants are:

2 – La Estufa

#19 – Kismat Restaurant

#22 - Kon'to Euro – 34th Pct. did a walk-thru and approves – change Committee minutes

#26 - Jasper Juice Inc.

George Fernandez then reviewed new applications for licenses.

#20, 25 \$ 26 – complied with the walk through and are approved (Committee minutes)

A Motion to amend the language of Resolution # 9 was made. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The vote was 32-0-0-0.

Richard Lewis, Chair of Housing & Human Services -refer to the Committee minutes.:

Mitchell Glenn, Chair, Parks and Cultural Affairs - refer to the Committee minutes.

Richard Allman, Assistant Chair, Business Development – refer to the minutes of the Committee.

Shahabudeen Ally, Chair, Public Safety – refer to the minutes of the Committee.

Mary Anderson, Assistant Chair, Committee for the Concerns of the Aging – Refer to the minutes of the Committee.

Fe Florimon, Chair, Youth & Education Committee referred to the Committee Minutes.

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**Legislative Representative:**

**Maria de la Cruz, New York City Controller's Office, Washington Heights**, spoke about Hispanic Heritage and a new initiative "Take it to the Bank" . Information is available in the back.

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Voting on the Resolutions:

Item #	Resolutions	Voting: Y-N-Abst- Absent NV	Passed or Failed
1.	Resolution opposing approval of the application submitted to The Board of Standards and Appeals requesting Multiple Zoning Variances to facilitate the development of a proposed 16-Story Mixed-Use building at 4452 Broadway.	34-0-0- 16-0	passed
2.	Resolution opposing the proposed exterior alterations to 432 West 162 nd Street in the Jumel Terrace Historic District		withdrawn
3.	Resolution in support of Columbia University Presbyterian Hospital's application on new Revocable Consent to Install and Maintain Sidewalk planters at 650 West 168th Street.	34-0-0- 16-0	passed

4.	Resolution in support of safety improvements and Bicycle Lanes on St. Nicholas Avenue between 169 th & 193 rd Streets	33-1-0-16-0	passed
5.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its On-Premises Liquor License to: 524 Villa Riva Corp. dba Claro De Luna - 524 W. 207 th Street, (bet. Post & Sherman Avenues.)	33-3-0-16-0	passed
6.	Resolution to not recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its On-Premises Liquor License to: La Estufa Inc. dba Cavala Café - 5025-5035 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 215 th Street.)	33-0-1-16-0	passed
7.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its On-Premises Liquor License to: 4060 Broadway Rest Inc. dba Aquamarina – 4060 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 171 st Street.)	32-2-0-16-0	passed
8.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its On-Premises Liquor License to: El Rancho Los Compadres Corp. – 110 Sherman Avenue, (bet. Dyckman & Academy Streets.)	31-3-0-16-0	passed
9.	Resolution with no opinion to the SLA to grant a Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: Restaurante La Libertad – 3764 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 156 th Street.)		No Vote
10.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: YU Sushi Inc. – 827 W. 181 st Street, (at the corner of Pinehurst Avenue.)	33-1-0-16-0	passed
11.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: Cabana Salvadorena Restaurant – 4384 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 187 th Street.)	32-2-0-16-0	passed
12.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: Ceci Restaurant Inc. – 78 Sherman Avenue, (bet. Thayer & Dyckman Streets.)	33-1-0-16-0	passed
13.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Renewal of its Restaurant Wine License to: 207 th Street Lina Restaurant Inc. dba El Lina Restaurant – 500A W. 207 th Street, (bet. Post & 10 th Avenues.)	32-2-0-16-0	passed
14.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant an Alteration to Existing Method of Operation to: Café Sahara Inc. - 4026 10 th Avenue, (at the corner of W. 215 th Street.)	29-3-2-16-0	passed
15.			No Vote

	Resolution with no opinion to the SLA to grant an Alteration to Existing Method of Operation to: El Nuevo Jobo Restaurant & Bar Inc. - 3915 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 164th Street.)		
16.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Corporate Change to: Rush Tapas Bar, Inc. - 586 W. 207th Street, (at the corner of Vermilyea Avenue.)	30-3-1-16-0	passed
17.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Corporate Change to: 21 Bar Corp. – 4318 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 184th Street.)	31-2-1-16-0	passed
18.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a Corporate Change to: R&M Restaurant Corp. - 1261-1263 St. Nicholas Avenue, (at the corner of W. 173rd Street.)	30-3-1-16-0	passed
19.	Resolution to not recommend the DCA to grant a New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café License to: Kismat Indian Restaurant Inc. - 603 Ft. Washington Avenue, (at the corner of W. 187th Street.)	15-18-1-16-0	failed
20.	Resolution to recommend the DCA to grant a New Enclosed Sidewalk Café License to: Grito Mexican Grill - 1555 St. Nicholas Avenue, (at the corner of W. 188th Street.)	29-5-0-16-0	passed
21.	Resolution to recommend the NYC TLC to grant a New Livery Car Base Café License to: G.T.N.Y Car Service Inc -177 Sherman Avenue,(at the corner of W. 204th Street.)	32-1-1-16-0	passed
22.	Resolution to recommend the NYC TLC to grant a New Livery Car Base Café License to: Gallant Car Service Corp. - 5030 Broadway, (bet. W. 213th & W. 214th Streets.)	31-2-1-16-0	passed
23.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: Humberto's Rice & Beans LLC. - 1318 St. Nicholas Avenue, (at the corner of W. 176th Street.)	30-4-0-16-0	passed
24.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: JR Primos II Restaurant Corp. - 4986 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 211th Street.)	27-6-1-16-0	passed
25.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: Inwood Beer Garden & Bistro, Inc. dba Inwood 12 Bar & Grill – 4892 Broadway, (at the corner of W. 204th Street.)	28-5-0-16-0	passed
26.	Resolution to not recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: Kon'to Euro Caribbean Cuisine	7-26-1-16-0	failed

	Corp. – 261-267 Dyckman Street, (at the corner of Payson Avenue.)		
27.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: JAPP Drink Corp. – 704 W. 177 th Street, (at the corner of Broadway.)	30-4-0-16-0	passed
28	Resolution with no opinion to the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: 186 Sushi Restaurant Inc. – 1506 St. Nicholas Avenue, (bet. W. 185 th & W. 186 th Streets.)		withdrawn
29	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New On-Premise Liquor License to: Hudson Heights Bar & Grill Corp. – 701 W. 180 th Street, (at the corner of Broadway.)	29-4-1-16-0	passed
30	Resolution to not recommend the SLA to grant a New Restaurant Wine License to: Jasper Juice Inc. - 4028 10 th Avenue, (at the corner of W. 215 th Street.)	34-0-0-16-0	passed
31	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New Restaurant Wine License to: Sabor Tropical Restaurant Corp. - 143 Sherman Avenue, (at the corner of Academy Street.)	26-8-0-16-0	passed
32.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New Restaurant Wine License to: Burger Heights 79, LLC. – 79 Audubon Avenue, (at the corner of W.169 th Street.)	32-2-0-16-0	passed
33.	Resolution to recommend the SLA to grant a New Eating Place Beer License to: Taqueria Los Jarritos Inc. - 121-A Nagle Avenue, (at the corner of Sickles Street.)	32-2-0-16-0	passed
34.	Resolution in support of the NYC Transit's Proposed Wetland Mitigation in the North Cove in conjunction with its floodwall project at the 207 th Street Rail Yard.	34-0-0-16-0	passed

George Fernandez referred everyone to the minutes of the other CB 12 Committee meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 11:37pm.

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann
October 27, 2015