

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

February 20, 2018
Executive Committee
DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members Present: S. Ally (Chair); R. Lewis (1st Vice Chair); I. Medina (2nd Vice Chair & Chair, Licensing); M. Glenn (Secretary); B. Lehmann (Asst. Secretary); J. Compton, (Treasurer); R. Allman, (Chair, LGBT and By-Laws Task Forces); Y Alonzo, (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); M. Anderson (Chair, Aging Committee); Eleazar Bueno (Asst. Chair, Business Development); Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education); A. Ogilvie, (Chair, Housing & Human Services); E. Lorris Ritter (Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); S. Simon (Chair, (Health & Environment); James Berlin (Parliamentarian)

Excused: W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use)

Board Member: Natalie Espino,

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by 1st Vice Chair, Richard Lewis.

First Vice Chair's Report: Richard Lewis reported:

- The Inwood Rezoning Public Hearing will take place on Thursday, February 22nd at IS 152, on Academy Street. There was acknowledgement that Wayne Benjamin would chair the meeting and a discussion as to how the meeting would proceed.

District Manager's Report: Ebenezer reported:

- There will be a public hearing at DCP on April 10th concerning 4452 Broadway. In November 2016, CNB 12 passed a Resolution opposing the development of this site. He to have a Board member attend the April 10th meeting to reiterate the Board's opposition. Liz Ritter will also attend on behalf of the Board.
- There was a discussion about the need for a public hearing of the 2019 Budget. The due date for responses is March 16th, Liz Ritter offered to have the public meeting at the same time as the Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee meets (March 13th) since most budget items concern parks. The suggestion was accepted.
- The CB 12 office staff reviewed the possibility of getting a new Pitney Bowes stamp machine but decided to stay with the existing model in an effort to contain expenses.
- The contract for water cooler services at CB 12 is up. It was decided to survey other vendors for pricing considerations – including the business owned by former Board Chair, George Fernandez.
- There was a discussion about how to honor a CB 12 staff member who was passing a 10th anniversary of employment. It was decided to consider the matter further in Executive Session later in the meeting.

Secretary's Report: - There is no Secretary's report at this time.

Treasurer's Report: There is no Treasurer's Report at this time.

Committee Reports:

Health & Environment Committee: Chair, Steve Simon, reported the following:

- The Committee reviewed the Inwood Rezoning matter and is in the process of sending its comments to Wayne Benjamin of the Land Use Committee.
- The Committee reviewed the plan to close 30 psychiatric beds at Allen Hospital with a plan to divert care to Gracie Square Hospital and the Westchester division of NYP. The plan is unacceptable and the committee voted a Resolution unanimously to oppose the closure
- The Resolution will be presented to the full Board at the General Meeting.

Traffic & Transportation Committee – Chair, Yahaira Alonzo, reported the following:

- The MTA came to the recent meeting to discuss the planned rehabilitation of the 163rd Street station. The plan is to close the station for 6 months beginning this spring.
- The Executive Committee had the following points:
 - The Station should be renamed the 161st Street station.
 - Accessibility should be constructed at the same time as the rehabilitation.
 - A shuttle bus should be provided to afford transit from the 157th Street Station to the 168th Street station.
 - A Resolution was passed unanimously by the Committee (12-0-0-0) in support of these recommendations. Liz Ritter will draft the Resolution for presentation at the General Meeting.

Parks & Cultural Affairs: Chair, Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, reported the following:

- There was a presentation about possible public art works at Fort Tryon Park and at Sherman Creek.
- There was a discussion about possible landmark status for the open spaces surrounding Inwood Hill Park. This led to a discussion about the need for open spaces to be part of the rezoning process.
- There was a discussion about the fact that the Slave/Native American Burial Grounds is not included in the rezoning study and needs to be.
- The next meeting will be a joint meeting of the Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee and the Public Safety Committees.

Licensing Committee: Chair, Isidro Medina, reported the following:

- There were 21 license applications including 7 renewals. Many were withdrawn due to incomplete applications.
- The problem of joint (duplicate) ownerships was discussed. The 34th Precinct has been helpful in sorting this out. It was decided that CB 12 will forward new and renewal applications to the Precincts ahead of Committee meetings to afford them sufficient time to review same.
- Osi Kaminer suggested that the Precincts also be sent any previous Resolutions regarding these applications – especially those where stipulations have been included.
- There was a further discussion about the licensing application process.

Business Development: Asst. Chair, Eleazar Bueno, reported the following:

- The Committee met in Inwood at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church. The New York City EDC, Neighborhood 360, Workforce 1, Inwood Small Business and Inwood Is Not for Sale attended the meeting.

- The Committee has sent its recommendations to Wayne Benjamin concerning the business concerns reflected in the Inwood Rezoning plan. There is a concern that 100 jobs – and as many as 1,000 jobs – may be lost in the planned rezoning.

Public Safety Committee: Chair, Richard Lewis, reported the following:

- All public agencies attended the recent meeting including the NYPD, NYFD, etc.
- Crime in the districts is down, except for incidents of assault which has increased.
- A report by DEP on fire hydrants was given. All repairs are done within 4 days of being reported. DEP tests fire hydrants 2 or 3 times per year.
- There was a discussion of the fire at 775 Riverside Drive. There is no known cause as of yet.
- The next meeting will include a discussion on infrastructure and environmental issues.

Committee for the Concerns for the Aging – Chair, Mary Anderson, reported the following:

- The recent meeting, held at the Riverstone Senior Life Services, was attended by 30 people. The EDC, Inwood Is Not for Sale and Assemblyman Al Taylor attended the meeting.
- Comments by the Committee on rezoning will be sent to Wayne Benjamin.
- A site visit is planned for Seniors Helping Seniors. Al Taylor will attend.
- The next meeting will take place at the Dyckman Senior Center.

Youth & Education: Chair, Fe Florimon, reported the following:

- Glennis Aquino and Maria Luna chaired the meeting in Fe's absence. The EDC was present.
- A White Paper on Inwood Rezoning was presented at the meeting.
- Discussion surrounded the impact of rezoning on school overcrowding.
- The Committee is considering a separate meeting for Spanish speakers only.
- Fe indicated that she met with Chancellor, Carmen Farina, concerning the need to keep the High School for Science and Health Careers open. There is a rally planned for February 22nd at 2:30 at City Hall.

Housing & Human Services Committee: Chair, Ayisha Ogilvie, reported the following:

- The most recent meeting was attended by Charlie Samboy of the EDC, Michael Sandler of HPD, Brian Honan of NYCHA and Paul Epstein of Uptown United.
- There was a discussion of the impact of an influx of a large number of new residents to the area.
- The Harlem Rezoning is being litigated and we should learn what the issues are.
- The Committee would like the Ambassador Training Program - which trains housing advocates - brought to CB 12.

Land Use Committee: No report at this time.

Review of Calendars:

- The Committee for the Concerns of the Aging will take place at the Dyckman Senior Center.
- The Youth and Education Committee will meet on March 3rd and April 7th.
- The preliminary meeting concerning budgets will take place on March 13th.

New Business:

- There was a discussion about the format at the upcoming public hearing set for February 22nd.
 - The EDC will do a 5-minute presentation.
 - Wayne Benjamin will chair the meeting.
 - There is a 2-minute limit for each speaker.
- There was a discussion about previously passed Resolutions on the Community Land Trust.

- A decision was made to table the matter for a later time.

Executive Session – 9:30 pm to 9:55 pm

Motion to Adjourn was unanimously made and seconded at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann
Assistant Secretary
March 15, 2018