

Public Meeting of the CB12M's Housing and Human Services Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 6, 2020

Location: CB12M Office 530 West 166 Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present: Barbara Fraizer, Waldys Cruz, Carolina Charles, Ariel Miranda, Eleazar Bueno

Public Member: Marshall Vanderpool, Alexander Melendez

Members Absent: Richard Allman, Jonathan Nuñez-Frometa, Karen Taylor, Public Members: Richard Habersham, Naysha Diaz, Ashley Fernandez, Christopher Ventura

General Public: Kevin Martinez, Denise Canniff, Daniel Farrell, Katie Herchenroeder

Agenda Items:

1. Update on the HDFC/TIL Reso on Levine amendment 1783
2. J-51 Abatement Analysis
3. HUD Proposed Rule Change on Disparate Impact
4. HPD Properties Pathways RFEI
5. SAGE Senior Affordable Housing
6. HelpUSA Shelter Update
7. Old business
8. New business

Discussion took place as indicated below:

Agenda Item 6:

- Meeting started with introductions and Help USA presentation by Daniel Farrell. Quorum met at 7:20PM
- The women's shelter at 284 Audubon Avenue opened on November 20, 2019 with about 6 women. The shelter has capacity for 174 occupants and is now at 155.
- The facility includes a computer lab, recreation areas, dorms of approximately 10-13 beds, showers, well-built ADA bathrooms and a roof deck.
- Help USA is a national non-profit with a large footprint in NYC. Has 2 main objectives: Provide shelter and to provide affordable housing.
- The facility is not currently equipped to handle mental health or substance abuse. Currently speaking directly to New York Presbyterian doctors in order to get some onsite services.
- Most occupants are between ages 35-45 some are in their 70's and 80's and some in their 20's.
- 30-40% of the occupant's work
- Barbara suggested CB12M and other local businesses can be included in the shelter's preferred vendors list.
- Daniel will return to the Housing and Human Services committee once the Community Advisory Board at the shelter has been put in place to further discuss how we can assist.

Agenda Item 5:

- The presentation was followed by a presentation by Daniel Puerto from SAGE.

- SAGE assists in providing permanent, affordable homes to seniors in partnership with Help USA. SAGE is LGBT friendly, but any senior of 62 years or older can apply and participate in the various programs.
- SAGE also has various senior centers throughout the city. The midtown senior center offers dinner. SAGE provides education on health and wellness and educates seniors on their rights.
- Daniel presented senior LGBT affordable housing facilities. Stonewall House in Downtown Brooklyn includes 145 Section 8 affordable units. Crotona Park North in The Bronx with has 83 units affordable units. These brand-new building facilities provide tenants and community services, laundry rooms, and terraces. Must be 62 years old and over to apply.

Agenda Item 1:

- The Interim Chair brought up a re-written resolution “SUPPORTING LEVINE AMENDMENT 1783-A TO EXCLUDE HDFO AND TIL COOPERATIVES FROM THE HOUSING PORTAL” and mentioned Mayor de Blasio, Council Member Ben Kallos and others endorse the amendment.
- Ariel Miranda expressed opposition to the resolution and read a portion LL64. He expressed concern over the lack of oversight that will happen as a result of the passing of Amendment 1783-A.
- Eleazar suggested adding another ‘Whereas’ to the resolution to include oversight in the sales process.
- A vote was taken to close the discussion with the condition that an expert in the matter will come to the next committee meeting and explain the amendment and provide a different point of view than what has already been presented. The committee voted to close the discussion as follows 4 in favor, 2 against and 1 abstain.
- Meeting ended at 9:30PM

Submitted by Carolina Charles, Member