

Community Board 12 Housing and Human Services Meeting
May 2, 2019

Members Present: Ayisha Ogilvie (chair), Barbara Frazier (Asst. chair), Waldys Cruz, Jay Mazur, Marshall Vanderpool (public member)

Members excused: Naysha Diaz, Ariel Miranda **Absent:** Bianca Guerrero

Public attending: Paul Hinterstein, Sharifah Harvey, Nancy Preston (MFU), Bernadette & Cliff Elkind

Rent Guideline Board: Resolution supporting zero percent increases for rent stabilized apartments passed unanimously. Increase in homelessness and rise in rents due to MCI's and vacancy allowances cited

Committee: 5 in favor (unanimous) Public: 4 in favor (unanimous)

Repurposing of church and other religious properties: Resolution passed calling that repurposed church and religious properties be used for 100% permanently affordable housing or other human service purpose. Desperate need for affordable housing in Washington Heights Inwood and excellent efforts of Cooper Square Community Land Trust discussed. Nancy Preston (MFU) presented map of at least 48 properties in WH-I that are religiously owned, many thriving, some at risk. Holy Trinity Episcopal in Inwood and St. Rose of Lima School specifically discussed.

Committee: 5 in favor (unanimous)

Public: 4 in favor (unanimous)

Proposed SNAP Rule Change: Proposed SNAP rule change would have blanket federal work requirements for "able-bodied" adults. In reality, due to medical, mental, family and transportation difficulties, these requirements would be onerous and deprive eligible needy adults of vital nutrition. Resolution passed opposing these proposed revised regulations.

Committee: 5 in favor (unanimous)

Public: 4 in favor (unanimous)

Proposed HPD Rules Changes: HPD proposes that for smaller buildings developers may contribute to a housing fund for affordable apartments rather

than build MIH apartments in a particular building. Motion to table matter and refer to executive:

Committee: 3 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain

Update on MADD Equities: Nancy Preston reported on Land Use meeting. Now plan 28 stories, 2 towers. Schools and universities for commercial space. 614 apartments total. 100 parking spaces, only 20% will be for tenants. 24% studios, 45% 1 bedroom, 32% 2-bed, 25% MIH, rest of affordability expire in 50 years. Park design problematic.

Discussion on Cooking Gas interruptions: Several instances of prolonged interruption of service brought up. Issue to be discussed in June when more info available.

Meeting then had executive session concerning past minutes, better communication methods and better implementing Robert Rules.

Meeting adjourned 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Frazier