

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

December 13, 2018

Executive Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

Executive Committee Members Present: R. Lewis (1st Vice Chair); I. Medina (2nd Vice Chair & Chair, Licensing); B. Lehmann (Asst. Secretary); M. Anderson (Chair, Aging Committee); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use); Eleazar Bueno, (Chair, Business Development); E. Lorris Ritter (Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs); D. Nabavian (Chair, Traffic & Transportation); James Berlin (Parliamentarian); Richard Allman (Chair, LGBT Task Forces)

Absent Shah Ally (Chair) M. Glenn (Secretary); A. Ogilvie, (Chair, Housing & Human Services); S. Simon (Chair, (Health & Environment)

Excused: Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education)

Others in attendance: Natalie Espino, (Community Liaison, MBPO's office).

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by First Vice Chair, Richard Lewis

Vice Chair's Report: Richard Lewis stated the following:

- Chair Shah Ally would not be present at the meeting due to a personal emergency.
- The calendars for January and February were reviewed with the following changes:
 - The Public Safety Committee will meet on January 16th, not January 8th.
 - The Executive Committee will meet on February 19th not February 18th.
 - The Aging Committee will meet at Riverstone Senior Services in January 3rd.
 - The Health & Environment Committee will meet on January 10th, not January 3rd.
- 360 Pro-Plus software upgrade is recommended for the office. It is free – but Shah Ally and Ebenezer need to sign off on the upgrade.

District Manager's Report: None at this time. Ebenezer Smith is on vacation.

Nominating Committee: None at this time.

Secretary's Report: None at this time.

Treasurer's Report: None at this time.

Committee Reports:

Health & Environment Committee: No report at this time.

Traffic & Transportation Committee: Chair, Debbie Nabavian reported the following:

- One Resolution was introduced and passed concerning a petition by CUMC for revocable consent to run a telecommunications conduit between 169th to 171st Street. CUMC was not present at the meeting, so questions could not be asked.
- CUMC will be present at the next meeting. After discussion it was decided to table the resolution to the January meeting.
- The MTA came to the meeting. The shutdown of the 168th Street subway station was discussed.
- The dangerous traffic problems around the Success Academy were discussed. There are now

500 students and the problem has gotten progressively worse. A Resolution is being drafted to bring the matter – and the need for a solution- to the attention of the Success Academy.

Land Use Committee: Chair, Wayne Benjamin, reported the following:

- No Resolutions were introduced at the meeting.
- The Hispanic Society made a presentation on the upgrades including a new copper roof and the planned renovations of what had been the Museum of the American Indian. They will have climate control capabilities throughout.
- A discussion was held regarding a desire to rezone parts of Audubon Avenue for commercial use. This option to rezone was not supported by the committee.
- The Sherman Plaza site was discussed with respect to the FAR calculation. This matter will be revisited and the FAR calculation will be verified.
- The 2019 Charter Revision was discussed. Members were counseled to submit suggested changes as soon as possible.

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

- A Resolution regarding La Marina Restaurant was introduced recommending that the NYC Parks Department cancel their concession agreements with the restaurant. The Resolution also requested that the SLA revoke their liquor license – and that a new RFP with greater focus on community use be issued by the Parks Department.
- They reviewed possible changes to the City Charter - and the recommendations are included in the committee minutes.
- Representatives from Warner Brothers met with Liz Ritter, Debbie Nabavian & Richard Lewis. Warner Brothers will be filming “In the Heights” beginning for ten (10) weeks starting in May. A recommendation was made to offer them a vacant storefront as a primary office area and that they be encouraged to use local restaurateurs to supply the canteen needs of the actors and crew.

Licensing Committee: Chair Isidro Medina reported the following:

- There were 17 licenses up for review. Four (4) are new licenses and offer no conflict.
- There were thirteen (13) licenses were up for renewal.
- None of the 17 submissions were rejected.

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

- There were no Resolutions considered in the committee.
- Community League of the Heights (CLOTH) made a presentation about the Avenue NYC Project in which they surveyed commercial vacancies between 165th Street and 178th Streets. There is a 17% vacancy in the community compared to 20% vacancy rate city-wide.
- There was a discussion about the concerns of small business owners about rising rents and other factors.

Public Safety: Chair Richard Lewis reported the following

- There has been an uptick in crimes of all types in the community in the 33rd Precinct.
- The 34th Precinct was not present.
- Traffic collisions are down throughout the district.

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

- The Youth & Education and Aging Committees are organizing a Holiday celebration involving community school children who will entertain the seniors at Isabella on December 15th. Local politicians have been invited. There will be a DJ and food for all who attend.
- The December meeting of the Committee took place at the Dyckman Senior Center. Shirley Saxton of the Social Security office made a presentation at the meeting.

LGBTQ Task Force: Chair, Richard Allman reported the following:

- The task force is planning a meeting for early January 2019.
- The Task Force will consist of 5 Board Members and 6 or 7 Public Members.
- The Chair is Richard Allman and the Assistant Chair may be Tanya Bonner.

New Business: None at this time.

Old Business: None at this time.

Motion to adjourn by acclamation: 8:10 pm

Minutes Prepared: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann
Assistant Secretary
January 15, 2019

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