

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

January 16, 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); W. Benjamin (Chair, Land Use; Fe Florimon, (Chair, Youth & Education); S. Simon (Chair, (Health & Environment)

Absent: A. Ogilvie, (Chair, Housing & Human Services); I. Medina, Chair, Licensing Committee; James Berlin (Parliamentarian)

Excused: E. Lorris Ritter (Chair, Parks & Cultural Affairs)

Staff: Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Others in Attendance: Charlie Samboy, AVP, Government & Community Affairs, NYC, EDC

Meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm by 1st Vice Chair, Richard Lewis.

First Vice Chair's Report: Richard Lewis reported:

- The funeral of Pamela Palanque North was well-attended at Riverside Church.
 - Donations in memory of Pamela should be made to the Jumel Mansion or the Education Fund at Jumel Mansion.
 - There was a discussion about creating a memorial proclamation honoring Pamela Palanque North.
- Commercial Leases
 - There was a discussion about continuing efforts to counter real estate firms that are trying to price out commercial and residential properties.
 - Community efforts to get the lease extension for Coogan's Restaurant was discussed.
- Workshop
 - "We Work Harlem" is sponsoring a workshop on Thursday, January 18th between 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at 8 West 126th Street. All board members are encouraged to attend.

District Manager's Report: Ebenezer reported:

- As District Manager, he was actively involved in efforts to preserve the lease at Coogan's.
- Galicia Restaurant is being similarly affected by a real estate company that wants to excessively increase the rent He said that the community needs to rally around Galicia and indicated that he has reached out to Aldrin Bonilla of the Manhattan Borough President's office for help. There will be a rally on Sunday, January 21st at 172nd & Broadway.

- The fire on Riverside was discussed. Councilman Levine's office is accepting donations.
- Steve Simon mentioned that condo owners in that location need to retain an attorney. In addition, tenants need to be reminded to pay \$1 per month to maintain their claim to their apartments.
- The 900 page EIS for the Inwood Rezoning is posted on the web site. It has been certified as of today and the clock starts on January 25th.
- He reviewed the calendars for February and March and indicated that EDC, HPD and the Parks Department agreed to work with him to appear at the various committee meetings.
- There was an agreement to move up the March General meeting to March 20th so that it precedes the March 25th date for the community's response to the EIS. The Executive Committee meeting will take place on March 15th.
- There will be a Public Hearing on February 22nd at an Inwood location to be determined.
- Each CB 12 Committee is to provide recommendations to the Land Use Committee which will become the final Resolution. Recommendations should include programs and projects to be funded by the City. Yahaira Alonzo indicated that EDC will cover the cost of translation and any AV services that may be needed.

Secretary's Report: Mitch Glenn reported the following:

- He met with Ebenezer, Paola and Ely to get acquainted with the procedures.
- He has created a form that reports various Committee changes and it is under review.
- He is working with Paola and Ely regarding the management of attendance and reminded everyone about the need to report excused absences accurately.
- Domingo Estevez has agreed to provide Secretarial support at the upcoming General Meeting since he cannot attend himself.

Treasurer's Report: Jason Compton has just assumed the role of Treasurer.

Committee Reports:

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

- There was no quorum at the January 8th committee meeting.
- There was discussion in the meeting about a Resolution opposing the closing of the High School for Health Careers and Sciences. Opposition to the closing has also come from the CEC and the Manhattan Borough President's Office.
- Due to the need for immediate action, the Executive Committee considered a Resolution opposing the closing. Fe Florimon and Richard Lewis will finalize the wording.
- **The vote was unanimous in support of the Resolution** – which will then be presented to the full Board at the January 27th General meeting.

Licensing Committee: Chair, Isidro Medina reported the following:

- There were only (4) liquor licenses up for consideration – including one for a pet-friendly establishment called "Café Bark" on West 181st Street.

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

- Due to inclement weather, the January meeting had to be postponed to Thursday, January 18th.
- The Committee is expecting an update on the planned changes at Allen Hospital and an

update on Project Renewal.

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

- There was discussion at the Committee meeting about a putting in a pedestrian ramp at 157th Street and Riverside Drive.
- There was a discussion about the problems that face the Riverstone Senior Services as they drop off and pick up seniors. Buses are being re-routed to areas that are not accessible to the seniors.
- Lyle Blackwood was supposed to attend the meeting as a liaison of the NYC DOT. He should be at an upcoming meeting to consider the pedestrian ramp and the Riverstone problem.
- The Committee will collaborate with the Committee for the Concerns of the Aging

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

- The January meeting was a brainstorming session on Inwood rezoning.
- After the meeting, Wayne summarized the areas that might be the focus of future consideration. He passed out this document at the Executive Committee.
- Shah suggested – and everyone agreed – that this document should be shared with the full Board.

Parks & Cultural Affairs: Mitch Glenn reported the following:

- It was a short meeting because the two presentations that were planned did not show up: PlusPool.Org. on a floating swimming pool in the river and a presentation on Inwood Hill Park
- There was a discussion on a dog run in Bennett Park – but the Committee did not seem to favor this kind on development.

Business Development: Chair, Jason Compton reported the following:

- The Committee has not yet met.
- The bike lanes on Dyckman Street are a continuing source of concern. Jason has reached out to Councilman Rodriguez about negative effect on local businesses.
- The Committee will seriously study the Inwood rezoning and its impact on local businesses.
- Isidro Medina announced that the Washington Heights & Inwood BID got a grant from NYC for Inwood 360. There will be a public meeting at La Parilla at 101 Dyckman Street on January 30th to deal with the bike lane issue. The DOT Commissioner and Lyle Blackwood are supposed to be there. Other members of CB 12 will be there.

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

- Crime in the districts is down. The NCO program has helped.
- There are a number of dead fire hydrants in the community. DEP has a list and plans to repair them. DEP will provide an update at the District Service Cabinet meeting.
- They reviewed some new laws and some plans of the coming.
- There were no significant problems in the community on New Year's Eve.
- The response time for EMS is down to 6 minutes
- Shah Ally announced that Inspector Fausto Pichardo, formerly of the 33rd Precinct, has been promoted to two-star Chief – the highest ranking officer of Dominican heritage in the NYPD. He will be invited to an upcoming General Meeting for community recognition.

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

- The January meeting of the Aging Committee will take place at Arc XVI Senior Services, 4111 Broadway at 174th Street. It had to be postponed due to inclement weather.

Youth & Education: Fe Florimon reported

They are working on a planning committee with the UN and Community Heights High School.

Housing & Human Services Committee: No report at this time.

- Steve Simon had a couple of comments about the Resolution that has come out of this Committee:
 - “Safety City” (654 West 158th Street) a DOT property. They should have been contacted and included in the discussion.
 - No neighbors on either side were notified about this matter ahead of time.
 - This particular community land trust has no prior experience and does not live in the community.
 - CLOTH has expressed interest and has the support of Councilman Levine.
 - .He asked that the Resolution be rescinded.
- Wayne Benjamin noted that sometimes groups come before various committees with previously composed Resolutions and the Committees should be wary of accepting these Resolutions without proper review.

A motion was made and seconded by acclamation to adjourn the meeting at 9:47pm.

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth (Betty) Lehmann
Assistant Secretary
February 20, 2018