

## **MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 4**

December 5, 2012

FULTON AUDITORIUM, 119 9<sup>th</sup> AVENUE

### **AGENDA**

Public Session: Christine Berthet

Adoption of Agenda: Corey Johnson

Adoption of Last Month's Minutes: Corey Johnson

Report of the Manhattan Borough President: David Czyzyk

Reports of Local Elected Officials: Various

Report of the District Manager: Robert J. Benfatto, Jr.

Report of the Chair: Corey Johnson

Committee Reports -- Letters & Resolutions

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

Chair Corey Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

A public hearing was held regarding a Pier 57 ULURP, #s 13010ZSM, 130102SM, N13003104ZSM and 130103ZSM. This is for a zoning map amendment to change zoning from M2-3 to M1-5 and a series of four special permits and a chair certification.

Noreen Doyle, the vice-president of the Hudson River Park Trust and the designers made a presentation in support of the ULURP applications.

### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Johnson introduced First Vice Chair Christine Berthet to conduct the public session.

Mike Riegelman registered a complaint and concern about the ongoing noise emanating from Hardware Bar on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. between West 47<sup>th</sup> & 48<sup>th</sup> Sts. Riegelman said that he lives on the fifth floor of the building and he can sometimes hear the bass from music being played in the bar.

Miguel Acevedo spoke about Item #5 and claimed that there is possibly union busting taking place at the property.

Updating on the West 45<sup>th</sup> Street Lottery, CB4 member Barbara Davis noted that the lottery process has been closed and that the section process has begun. Successful applicants will receive notification by the first week of January, 2013.

Danya Sherman from the Highline related that in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the Highline is currently closing at 5 pm. Also, ground has been broken on the third section of the Highline.

The next speaker, Heather Beaudoin spoke in support of the the Good Jobs and Responsible Development resolution that is spearheaded by Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and will be voted on at the January 17, 2013 Borough Board meeting.

Finally, Natalia Salgado also spoke in support of the Good Jobs resolution.

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Berthet declared the public session closed

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER FULL BOARD MEETING:**

The agenda was adopted, with the addition of Item #s 8 and 9

The board adopted the November 7, 2012 minutes as submitted by Evangeline Gomez with minor clarifications suggested by Raul Larios.

### **REPORT OF MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT SCOTT STRINGER:**

David Czyzyk, representing Stringer, reminded current CB4 members that the reapplication deadline is December 23, 2012 and urged anyone who was interested in becoming a member to apply. Czyzyk also mentioned that Stringer is part of a task force that is assisting in ensuring that those affected by Tropical Storm Sandy receive essential services.

### **REPORTS OF OTHER ELECTEDS:**

Katie Smith, representing Congressman Jerold Nadler, announced that she will be leaving at the end of December to go to law school and will also be traveling abroad.

State Senator Tom Duane's liason, Jared Chausow, said that Senator Duane would soon be taking a position on the proposed Success Academy schools. Regarding the Durst project on West 57<sup>th</sup> St, Duane believes the project should not be allowed to proceed without an acceptable affordable housing component.

Jeffrey Lefrancois, thanked voters who returned State Assembly member Dick Gottfried to Albany in the November election. Lefrancois updated on the underground railroad site on West 29<sup>th</sup> St., which is currently before the Board of Standards and Appeals. Many elected, including Gottfried, are calling for the removal of the illegal fifth floor of the building.

Paul Sawyer, representing State Assembly member Linda Rosenthal, announced that she is having her annual holiday party on Thursday, December 13 at the district office. He also related that Rosenthal led a donation drive after Sandy and that it was a huge success.

Michaela Miller, the liason for City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, also spoke of Speaker Quinn's efforts to help those affected by Sandy. She also spoke about a hearing chaired by Council member Gail Brewer that is investigating issues stemming from Election Day voting. Quinn and Brewer called on the state Board of Elections to take steps to remedy these issues.

Council Member Gail Brewer spoke about the initiative to remove pay phones from street corners. She also talked about the oil spill at the Sheffield and said her office is monitoring the situation closely. Brewer also updated on the Windemere at West 57<sup>th</sup> and Ninth Ave.

### **REPORT OF DISTRICT MANAGER ROBERT J. BENFATTO:**

CB4 District Manager Bob Benfatto wished everyone Happy Holidays and said his gift to CB4 members was a single item agenda. Benfatto related that the City Council passed the Chelsea Market development. He also mentioned that there still is no deal regarding affordable housing at the Durst project on West 57<sup>th</sup> St. Finally Benfatto announced that CB4 Community Associate Nelly Gonzales is pregnant and is expecting in early May, 2013.

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### **REPORT OF MCB 4 CHAIR COREY JOHNSON:**

Chair Johnson announced that a date for the CB4 holiday should be known by later in the week. He welcomed new CB4 member John Sharp, who introduced himself to membership. Johnson related that, along with Lefrancois, he also testified at the Board of Standards and Appeals about the underground railroad site.

### **COMMITTEE LETTERS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

#### Waterfront, Parks and Environment/Chelsea Land Use/Transportation Planning Committees

Item 1: ULURP Letter to DCP re Pier 57-APPROVED with Roll Call Vote 36-0(as amended)

#### Chelsea Land Use Committee

Item 2: Letter to DCP re Response to Pier 57 DEIS-APPROVED

#### Chelsea Land Use/Chelsea/Hell's Kitchen Land Use Committees

Item 3: Letter to DCP re Midtown East Zoning Study-APPROVED

#### Transportation Planning Committee

Item 4: Letter to DOT re cross town bike lanes-APPROVED (as amended)

#### Business Licenses and Permits Committee

Item 5: Letter to SLA re The Highline Hotel-180 Tenth Ave. (20/21)

After lengthy debate, Item 5 was returned to committee.

Item 6: Letter to SLA re Funky Joe's-455 W. 56<sup>th</sup> St.

Item 7: Letter to SLA re Balkania-691 Ninth Ave. (47/48)

Items 6 & 7 were bundled and APPROVED

#### Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Land Use

Item 8: 511 Ninth Ave. Zoning Compliance re Street Wall and Curb Cuts-APPROVED

#### Housing, Health and Human Services

Item 9: Resolution for Good Jobs and Responsible Development

After considerable debate, Item 8 was returned to committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

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Respectfully Submitted by Larry Roberts