



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY**  
**BOARD No. 4**  
 330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor  
 New York, NY 10036  
 tel: 212-736-4536  
 fax: 212-947-9512  
 www.nyc.gov/mcb4

Meeting Date	September 6, 2017
Meeting Time	6:30PM
Meeting Location	Hudson Guild Elliott Center 441 West 26 <sup>th</sup> Street 9/10 /Dan Carpenter Room A/B

**DELORES RUBIN**  
 Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
 District Manager

### September 2017 Full Board Meeting Minutes

<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b>	There was no public hearing this month.
-----------------------	---

<b>Public Session</b>	
<b>Italo Medelius</b>	Italo, who is a member of the board, noted that the Gristedes supermarkets located in the Chelsea neighborhood continue to not accept W.I.C. vouchers. He brought along a petition seeking to change that stance and asked for signatures.
<b>Yao Wei</b>	Mr. Wei announced his intention to open an online postal station in the community. This entity would be modeled on others found around the globe. It would provide a drop-off spot for items bought online as an alternative to home delivery.
<b>Jeremy Carmel</b>	Mr. Carmel voiced his concerns about Agenda Item 3; specifically, the failure of the applicant to properly notify the residents of his building of the upcoming BLP committee meeting where the license application would first be heard. He also complained that the proposed restaurant should be considered a nightclub because of its hours of operation and the presence of a DJ and security guards. Mr. Carmel was assured by the Chair that his concerns would be addressed later in the meeting.
<b>Matthew Reames</b>	Mr. Reames joined the previous speaker in opposition to the application in Item 3. He believes that the application misrepresents the true nature of the proposed establishment and he worries most about the everyday closing hour of 2 am. He noted that other restaurants in the community close at midnight during the week and at 1 am on the weekend. He, too, complained about the absence of proper notification.
<b>Jefferey LeFrancois</b>	Jefferey is a member of the board who spoke as a representative of the Hell's Kitchen Democrats political club. He noted the upcoming Citywide primary election and urged everyone to get out and vote.
<b>Lisa Wager</b>	Ms. Wager is the director of government relations at F.I.T. She related the story of Shani Perez, a recent F.I.T. graduate who is currently an elementary school art teacher at P.S. 51. Ms. Perez created a music video with her fifth-grade students that can be viewed on YouTube: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Sz11Yc7nTE">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Sz11Yc7nTE</a>  Ms. Wager was proud to announce that F.I.T. was recently named one of the country's top ten safest colleges by CollegeStats.org. Others on the list are in remote areas, so it was quite an achievement for an urban school like F.I.T.

**Remarks from Elected Officials and Representatives**

**Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal**

Ms. Rosenthal mentioned the 800,000 DACA recipients that are in jeopardy of deportation because of recent action by the Trump administration, noting that 42,000 of them reside in CD4. The State Assembly has passed several bills to protect these DACA children, including the Liberty Act which prevents law enforcement officers from asking questions regarding immigration status.

Another concern has to do with cuts in funding for NYCHA and health care that will be addressed when the Assembly reconvenes in January. She discussed new laws governing the sale of e-cigarettes to minors and reporting requirements for Airbnb. A new bill would force landlords with Airbnb and other online listings to disclose those listings to the mayor's Office of Special Enforcement.

Ms. Rosenthal went over some of the issues concerning the lack bus service throughout the City and indicated that she was working with the MTA to resolve them. She asked for input from the community on this.

**Lucille Songhai for BP Gale Brewer**

The Brough President held a press conference where she discussed the Garment Center rezoning and the mayor's decision to withdraw his most recent proposal that would have displaced many manufacturers. She will be holding borough consultation meetings on the next three Wednesdays where community board district managers will engage with representatives of the City's various agencies. Their discussions will form the basis of each board's Statement of District Needs.

Ms. Songhai referred to the BP's website for reports covering supermarkets and school-based mental health services. Ms. Brewer released a survey of Manhattan's supermarkets and grocers with recommendations to stem the tide of supermarket closures; one such recommendation is the elimination of the Commercial Rent Tax for supermarkets.

**Robert Atterbury for Congressman Jerrold Nadler**

The Congressman cosponsored a resolution to censure President Trump for his comments following the violence that occurred in Charlottesville. He also joined 50 House Democrats in a letter to the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff urging them not to comply with the administration's ban on transgender individuals serving in the military.

There are several appropriations bills currently in Congress, one of which has to do with funding health care and housing services for people suffering from AIDS. The Congressman has amended that bill to increase funding in such a way that the progress made in New York and San Francisco to slow the infection rate of AIDS would be allowed to continue. On a negative note, another bill would zero out all federal funding for the Gateway Program, thus removing the \$900 million that was originally promised by the previous administration. This will have a severe impact on the work underway on the Hudson River Tunnel Project here in the district.

**Rebecca Kriegman for Senator Brad Hoylman**

The Senator's office is hosting the Shred Day event on September 19<sup>th</sup> for those who wish to get rid of personal documents in a safe manner. Staff members will be visiting several schools in the district on opening day to distribute a Parent and Family Resource Guide. The guide is intended to help parents make decisions and plans for their children's future. It can also be requested by phone or downloaded from the Senator's website.

In an effort to enhance tenant's rights against landlord harassment, the Senator sent a letter to NYS Housing & Community Renewal asking that it notify tenants when it discovers that their landlord has illegally delisted units in their building from rent regulation.

**Matt Green for Council Member Corey Johnson**

The Council passed a package of seven bills to address the high number of tobacco-related deaths in the City – over twelve thousand last year. Two of those bills, which were sponsored by the Council Member and signed into law by the mayor, will further curb tobacco use and second-hand smoke. One bill imposes a 10% tax on tobacco products other than cigarettes, the proceeds of which will be contributed to public housing. It also imposes a minimum price for a pack of cigarettes to \$13.

	<p>On June 21<sup>st</sup>, the Council passed the Council Member’s bill to increase transparency in the City’s homeless shelter system regarding the medical services offered to individuals and families. The bill will require the Department of Homeless Services to provide the Council with the number of shelters with on-site services, a description of the health services available at intake facilities and the availability of health services to the unsheltered population.</p> <p>A large package of tenant protection bills was passed over the summer. One of the bills increases fines on landlords for using construction as a means of tenant harassment. It requires the posting of building permits outside of buildings under construction which show the number of tenants residing in the building. This requirement will make it difficult for a contractor or developer to claim that a building is vacant to avoid the adoption of a tenant protection plan.</p>
<b>Kevin Jean Baptiste for D.A. Cyrus Vance, Jr.</b>	District Attorney Vance’s office wants individuals in the DACA program to feel secure knowing that their cooperation in reporting crimes to law enforcement will not put them at risk with federal authorities. Mr. Baptiste made informational palm cards and flyers available at the meeting which outline ways to communicate with law enforcement.

<b>Board Reports &amp; Business</b>	
<b>Adoption of Agenda and Minutes</b>	The Agenda and July minutes were approved unanimously.
<b>Board Chair Report</b>	<p>Ms. Rubin indicated that she would be speaking for District Manager Jesse Bodine who would not be in attendance. She went on to note that the annual budget process is underway and that large paper pads were available at the back of the room to gather input from the community for inclusion in the Statement of District Needs.</p> <p>She reminded members that new Board officers will be elected in December and asked those wishing to run for office to email the District Manager and to include a resume along with a statement as to why you are suited for the position.</p> <p>The ACES Committee will have Kit Tollerson as a new public member. He is a former school teacher and, therefore, a good fit for the committee.</p>

<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Motions, Amendments, &amp; Comments</b>	<b>Result</b>
<b>Business License and Permits Committee (BLP)</b>		
Item 1: Letter to SLA re 665 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue – Tulcingo Del Valle - <b>Ratification</b>	Items 1 – 11 were bundled, except Item 3.	<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 2: Letter to SLA re 713 8th Avenue – Times Square Retail LLC d/b/a Engine		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 3: Letter to SLA re 544 W 27th Street - 27 West Chelsea Inc.	Amended to modify hours of	<b>Passed with 35 in favor and 3</b>

	operation.	<b>opposed.</b>
Item 4: Letter to SLA re 764 9th Avenue – Lucky Riceburger Ltd. d/b/a Yonekichi		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 5: Letter to SLA re 517 W 38th Street – Legacy Records NYC LLC		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 6: Letter to SLA re 200 8th Avenue – Excel Restaurant Group Corp.		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 7: Letter to SLA re 626 10th Avenue – Le Prive Group LLC d/b/a Le Prive		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 8: Letter to SLA re 777 8th Avenue – 777 Theatre Inc. d/b/a Roy Arias Stages		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 9: Letter to SLA re 505 8th Avenue – 505 HP LLC d/b/a The Quincy Bar & Grill		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 10: Letter to SLA re 137 W 14th Street – MC 137 Inc. d/b/a Offside Tavern		<b>Passed Unanimously</b>
Item 11: Letter to SLA re 409 W. 15th Street – Folk City		<b>Passed with 37 in favor and 1 present, not eligible</b>

**There is nothing to report from any of the Board’s other committees, as they did not meet in August.**

<b>Meeting Resolution</b>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	8:30 PM Meeting Adjourned
<b>Next Meeting Date and Location</b>	6:30 PM October 4, 2017 Mount Sinai West 1000 Tenth Avenue 2nd Floor Conference Room

As recorded by M. Noble