

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of Commission Meeting**  
**(Subject to revision and approval by the Commission)**  
**Thursday, February 19th, 2025, at 11:00 AM,**  
**Spector Hall (Ground Floor)**  
**22 Reade Street**  
**New York, NY 10007**

**Members in attendance:**

Sarah Sayeed, Chair/Executive Director  
Giovanni Barcenos, Commissioner  
Mark Diller, Commissioner  
Eve Baron, Commissioner  
Joshua Ocampo, Commissioner  
Aicha Cisse, Commissioner  
Edwin Maxwell, Commissioner  
Frank Perez, Commissioner

Commissioners Natalie DeVito and Donna Gill participated in the meeting via WebEx video conference. Commissioners Natalie DeVito, Donna Gill counted towards quorum. A quorum was established with 10 commissioners.

**Business Conducted & Agenda Items Discussed**

- I. Attendance: Roll call confirmed quorum.
- II. Approval of Minutes: Prior meeting minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote of those present.
- III. Mayor's Office of Mass Engagement (OME) Presentation: Commissioner Tascha Van Auken presented an overview of OME's purpose and current "building phase," including staffing plans, tools/technology, and coordination across City agencies to strengthen long-term civic engagement infrastructure.
- IV. Participatory Budgeting (The People's Money): Staff provided an update on Borough Assemblies, noting the final session would occur

“this weekend,” final ballots would be selected at that time, and voting is expected to launch in May.

- V. PB & Health Equity Research Partnership: Devin Madden (Mount Sinai) presented on a research partnership examining Participatory Budgeting as an intervention to advance health equity, including planned surveys/interviews and a multi-year analysis of PB data to translate community priorities into usable insights.
- VI. Program Updates:
  - a. Participatory Budgeting (The People’s Money)
  - b. TRIE Neighborhood Initiative
  - c. Community Boards
- VII. Public Comment: No public comments were recorded for this session.
- VIII. Better Public Meeting Survey: The Commission shared the ActiVote survey as part of Better Public Meetings New York.
- IX. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 PM.