

COMMUNITY BOARD 1-MANHATTAN
MONTHLY MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, September 22, 2020

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: Live Remote
<https://live.mcb1.nyc>

AGENDA

Public Session

Comments by members of the public (6 PM – 7 PM)
(2-3 minutes per speaker)

- Deborah Glick, member of the state assembly
 - Focused on census. Concerned with low rate response. Asking people who are out of town to take the census. Can be taken online.
 - Voting - Early voting; you can apply now. If you are concerned about mail-in voting, file now, get your ballot and send it in now. Can deposit at an early voting site.
 - Reminding citizens to get the flu shot. Working with Northwell at 12th St and 7th ave for a free flu shot in a safe environment.
 - Reminded citizens to wear masks

- State Senator Brian Kavanagh
 - Discussed Covid-19 Recovery Small Business Lease Act. Hope to enact next session.
 - Passed bills to facilitate voting, including absentee ballot access.
 - Encourage people to vote early
 - Young people civic engagement event. Aimed at people in HS and college for those interested in engaging in advocacy and policy.
 - Housing: Joint hearing last week on housing discrimination. Subpoenaed real estate brokers, eviction moratorium expires September 30th, encouraging other elected officials to extend the moratorium. Hoping to continue to cover rent that people cannot pay with federal funds/help. Working on affordability measures at 245 Rector Street.
 - Governor extended moratorium for commercial eviction until 10/20

- Claudia Zhu, office of Assembly member Yu-Line Niou
 - Committed to working to address issues related to Covid-19 to support the community especially people of color.

- Eager to resume session to address important issues related to the difficulties related to the pandemic.
- Lucas Wolf, Comptroller Scott Stringer's office
 - Back to school is top of mind for parents dealing with pandemic.
 - Comptroller came out with back to school guidelines.
 - Comptroller working to help unsheltered students
 - Working to ensure 250 water streets are transparent and in the interest of the community. Sent a letter to Economic Development Corporation (EDC) with other officials and received a response back.
- Amr Kotb - NY Public Library
 - Checking in regarding reopening in response to meeting with CB1 education Chair Joyce
 - 50 NY Public Library (NYPL) locations open to date. No NYPL locations open in CB1 currently - planning on opening Battery Park City branch within 60 days
- Gigi Lee - Council Member Chin
 - Discussed future of senior centers in NYC
 - Felt the paper did not address funding issues in a post covid world and working to ensure a variety of issues are addressed, including food
 - Census - encouraged the community to fill out census forms.
 - PS 150 - has been approved for new construction.
 - School reopening - worked with principals to ensure equity for those in class as well as those at home.
 - Daclaudio - helped to ensure a popular local restaurant could reopen.
- Congressman Nadler
 - Nadler introduced and the House passed a bill pregnant workers fairness act.
 - Addressed situation with the Supreme Court. Concerned that the President will select a new SCOTUS judge that will eliminate a variety of policies important to New Yorkers. Discussed concern with precedent of the GOP not holding hearings for Garland in 2016.
 - Concerned about a lack of passage of relief dollars for those hit hardest by pandemic. The House passed an extension of existing relief but the senate has refused to consider House legislation. (HEROES Act)
 - Hopeful that a continuing resolution will prevent a government shutdown.
- Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
 - Discussed lawsuit related to Borough Based Jails (BBJ) /Manhattan Detention project
 - Asked members to help with efforts to have people fill out census forms. Several buildings in FiDi are not allowing census workers to come in and it's affecting the count by thousands. Will reach out to CB1 for additional help.

- Met with various chambers of commerce. Discussed how city workers and corporations can help small businesses
- Focused on vacancy issues with commercial storefronts. Will have a comprehensive report in Feb 2021. 78% decrease on Broadway.

- Christopher Marte (Neighbors United Below Canal - NUBC)
 - Lawsuit regarding jail plan won injunction against development of jail.
 - Won on technical and community grounds. Neglected to take steps regarding EIS. Process lacked integrity and fairness, according to the judge.

- Jan lee (NUBC)
 - Thanked CB1 for its work on the borough based jail in Chinatown
 - Supports the judge's ruling regarding a lack of health and traffic effects with construction.
 - Concerned about city appeal of the injunction against construction of the jail. Due to cost to taxpayers (time and money).

- Anne Stenson
 - Thanked community board regarding help with 225 Rector.

- Roger Byrom
 - Concerned about small businesses and lack of assistance with sidewalk dining.
 - Has been working to advance the cause of outdoor dining.
 - Spoke to Eat Out to Help out program in the UK - gives credit to restaurant visitors for helping to advance that program in the UK and wants to implement it here.
 - Will liaise with members of Small Business Working Group.

Business Session

- A) Adoption of July 2020 minutes - Passed unanimously as presented.
- B) Chairperson's Report – T. Meltzer
- Spoke to the resurgence of business in Lower Manhattan
 - Urged urgent attention to census - respondent rate is 64%. Must do better.
 - Spoke to a need of increased public participation. Asked board members to get more people involved. We need more public engagement.
 - Updated on BBJ lawsuit

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - T. Meltzer

1) Placard Abuse by City Agencies - Resolution

-Friendly amendment to add, “thus depriving small businesses their legal right to set up outdoor dining in this crucial time”

Passed by a vote of 43 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused

- 2) NYPD Seizures of Public Space - Resolution
Passed by a vote of 43 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused

Street Fair Task Force - D. Charkoudian

- 1) Changes due to COVID-19 street fair events - Report
- 2) Updates on 2020 and 2021 events – Report

Waterfront, Parks & Cultural Committee - P. Goldstein

1) Lower Manhattan Parks - Report

Report from NYC DPR regarding status on capital park projects. City has cut back on funding of parks due to pandemic and recession. Staffing shortage in CB1 - 15 people total. Damage to parks due to people staying there due to protests and sit-ins.

2) Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Governors Island Residency Initiative - Report

Report by LMCC devoted to governor's island residency initiative, which works to house many in the cultural community in NYC who are homeless due to pandemic. Also updated on River to River - an effort to help rebuild and reimagine rebuilding of downtown post-pandemic. Also updated on a variety of upcoming events on Governor's Island

CB1 member added that downtown leagues have been permitted land use for playfields as long as they followed Covid-19 protocols

Youth & Education Committee - T. Joyce

1) Reopening public schools update - Report

Follow up on the work CB1 did on the different models on public school reopening. Waiting for perspective on the school year starting before offering resolution.

2) DOE Learning Bridges program for Fall schools reopening - Report

Discussed program on child care support for those who need it. Waiting to see how the program works before offering any resolutions. Will tackle in October.

3) NYPL Access for Grab and Go in CB1 and Amsterdam Construction - Report

Report on the opening of libraries in CB1

4) SCA/Mayor's Office construction of Trinity School - Report

Mayor's office confirmed that the city has started construction on Trinity Street School for PS 150, which is losing its space.

Landmarks & Preservation Committee - B. Ehrmann

1) 60 Collister Street and 55 Laight Street, application to renovate existing entrances with addition of glass construction and industrial street canopy to main building entrance - Resolution

Passed by a vote of 36 in favor, 2 opposed, 6 abstained and 0 recused

2) 287 Broadway, application to add signage for exterior ground floor banner signs on cast iron facade and privacy vinyl on glass - Resolution

Passed by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused

Environmental Protection Committee - A. Blank

1) North Battery Park City Resiliency - Resolution

Passed by a vote of 44 in favor 0 opposed 0 abstained 0 recused

2) Seaport/Financial District Interim Flood Protection Measures - Report

No surge flooding as a result of recent storm - which was a good test of the water resiliency mitigation systems

3) Hudson River Park Trust updates - Report

Report on the Tribeca Habitat Enhancement Project.

Report on Estuarium on West Side Highway

4) 250 Water Street Brownfield Cleanup Program - Report

Update provided by Excel Environmental resources - investigation is complete. No issues found so far with mercury or air quality. Final remedial report available in the coming months.

Transportation & Street Activity Permits Committee - B. Kay

1) Increased Space for Pedestrians and Cyclists on the Brooklyn Bridge - Resolution
Goldstein moves for an amendment to resolution for additional discussion and studies for Brooklyn Bridge Entry - debate on unfriendly amendment.

Vote on amendment passed by a vote of 39 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstained 0 recused.

Amendment: BIFRT: "The DOT should engage with the Brooklyn Bridge Forest Team to fully assess the environmental impact of this plan and based on those results return for additional discussions with CB 1 about taking steps to implement the Reimagining Brooklyn Bridge entry;"

Amended resolution passed by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed 3 abstained 0 recused

2) Review of Citibike Locations in CD 1 - Resolution

- Amendment to remove second whereas regarding POPS accepted by friendly amendment.
- Friendly amendment to insist on engagement from CitiBike before locating bike racks.

Resolution passed by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained, 0 recused

3) Re-Open Dining on Ann Street - Resolution

Friendly amendment accepted to remove: The Downtown Alliance, the local Business Improvement District (BID) assist Da Claudio Restaurant by cleaning Theater Alley and making sure that the alley's road bed is level and safe for outdoor dining if it becomes Di Claudio's option for outdoor dining

Resolution passed by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained 0 recused

4) Congestion Pricing Working Group - Report

Quality of Life & Service Delivery Committee - P. Moore

1) Funding for Civilian Complaint Review Board - Resolution

Friendly amendment accepted to add "domestic disputes" and remove "domestic violence."

Resolution passed by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 5 abstained 0 recused

2) DDC Oversight - Report

3) Policing in Perspective - Report

Land Use, Zoning & Economic Development Committee - F. Cunningham

and Small Business Group - C. Mahoney

Land Use, Zoning & Economic Development Committee

1) Trust for Governors Island - Report

Update on plan for Governor's Island.

2) Borough Based Jails/Manhattan Detention Complex - Report

Small Business Working Group

1) Indoor Dining Reopening Plans - Report

2) Save Main Street: A Crash Program to Help Save NYC Small Businesses - Report

**Licensing & Permits Committee - S. Cole
and Large Venues Working Group - T. Meltzer**

Large Venues Working Group

1) Rebooting the Working Group - Report

Licensing & Permits Committee

Financial District area

1) 67 Nassau Street, application for liquor license for Suco Hana, Inc. d/b/a Sushi & Co.
- Resolution

Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

2) 85 Broad Street, application for liquor license for APQ 85 Broad NY, LLC d/b/a Le
Pain Quotidien - Resolution

Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

3) 126 Pearl Street, application for liquor license for Rex Pipe Shop Inc. d/b/a Rex
Club/Barclay Rex - Resolution

Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

Battery Park City area

1) 395 South End Avenue, application for liquor license for APQ South End Avenue
NY, LLC d/b/a/ Le Pain Quotidien - Resolution

Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

Tribeca area

1) 81 West Broadway, application for liquor license for APQ Tribeca NY, LLC d/b/a Le
Pain Quotidien - Resolution

Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

Battery Park City Committee - J. Cuccia

1) West Thames Park, Basketball Court, & the Illumination of the Pedestrian Path
Between Albany and West Thames Streets - Report

- 2) Oval Lawn Construction - Report
- 3) BPCA - Report
- 4) BPC Security Update - Report
- 5) Affordability and Housing Security for 80/20 Tenants at 225 Rector Place - Report
- 6) Creative Ways to Encourage Census Completion in BPC - Resolution
Resolution passed by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

Old Business

Full board vote on August Executive Committee Resolutions

Resolutions passed by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained 0 recused

New Business

Adjournment

Meeting Adjournment at 10:00 pm

Submitted by Colin Mahoney, Secretary