



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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BRIAN A. BENJAMIN
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
District Manager

Housing Committee

Monday, January 23, 2017 - 6:30 PM

Hon. Charles Powell, Chair
Hon. Donna Gill, Vice Chair
Hon. Danni Tyson, HDFCs Subcommittee Chair

Committee Members in Attendance (5): Hon. Charles Powell; Hon. Donna Gill; Hon. Danni Tyson; Hon. Jason Clark; Hon. Shanelle Washington

Committee Members Not in Attendance: Hon. Kevin Bitterman; Hon. Derrick Graham; Hon. Earl Keller; Hon. Ibrahima Diafoune; Hon. Nark Bones; Hon. Lisa Downing; Hon. Barbara Nelson

Chairman's Note on Attendance: Given the severe weather on Monday, January 23, 2017, the Board members in attendance should be commended and consideration should be given to those not in attendance for this meeting.

PRESENTED ITEMS:

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Discussions

- a. *Presentation by Shantonu Basu*
Deputy Director – Housing Unit
Manhattan Legal Services
On Housing Eviction Prevention

- Board Member Shanelle Washington explained that Attorney Basu could not attend our January meeting but would be happy to attend future meetings.
- Board member Jason Clark indicated he would reach out to Attorney Basu to ascertain whether he would be available to make a presentation at the Committee's February meeting. **Note:** Since the time of the January meeting, Jason Clark confirmed his successful outreach to Attorney Basu who indicates he will be at the February meeting to do the presentation on *Housing Eviction Prevention*

- Shanelle Washington was thanked for her outreach to Manhattan Legal Services regarding the important community concerns on the subject of eviction prevention.
- b. *HDFC Sub-committee Updates by Hon. Danni Tyson*
- Ms. Tyson spoke of her continued outreach to Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) to arrange for a more in-depth presentation to the General Board and to shareholders at a future public forum.
 - The need for CB 10 to development its formal Resolution regarding our position on the HPD proposed Regulatory Agreement was discussed and it was agreed that the Housing Committee would have a draft Resolution to present at its February 2017 meeting and for presentation to the Executive Committee in February and General Board in March.
- c. *Review of Housing Committee's contribution to the CB 10 FY 2017 District Needs Statement*
- A brief discussion was held on those elements of the CB 10's District Needs Statement relating to Housing regarding deeper and greater affordability in new and existing projects which require Land Use Committee approval; in establishing a greater focus of the homelessness crisis within our district and beyond and the concern of our Committee and Board regarding NYCHA privatization.

3. Old/New Business

- a. Member of the public spoke of her frustration in failing to gain assistance from City Agencies and Public Officials regarding housing issues. The Chair and other Board members joined in the discussion and it was recommended that the concerned member of the public consider forming a Tenant's Association in her building and that we can then work with that Association as a Committee. She was invited back to our February meeting with an update on the progress made in forming such an association.
- b. Board member Danni Tyson suggested that the Chair of Housing do a similar presentation to housing residents encouraging them to start their own grass roots advocacy organizations (Tenant Associations, etc.) to more proactively address their valid objections to housing conditions and predatory landlord practices. This suggestion (and ways to implement) will be discussed more at our next Housing Committee meeting.
- c. Regarding the lack of response from elected officials to housing issues, the Board and public participants agreed on the importance of attending public candidate forums for the upcoming special City Council election scheduled for February 14 as that City Council member will have influence and impact on an array of housing issues (including but not limited to the proposed HDFC Regulatory Agreement; affordable housing; NYCHA privatization, etc.).

4. Adjournment

- a. Motion by Charles Powell to adjourn. All in attendance seconded and agreed. Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Meetings submitted by: Hon Charles Powell