



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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www.nyc.gov/mcb4

Manhattan Community Board 4

Member Profiles

Updated last on 8/29/2017

Robert J. Benfatto

Joined MCB4: Public Member since 2014

Other Community Engagement: N/A

Residence: Bay Terrace since 2000

Profession(s)/Vocation: President, Business Improvement District

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Hellenistic Philosophy/Short-story Writing/People Management

Lee Compton

Joined MCB4: 2004

Other Community Engagement: NYCCOC Board

Residence: Chelsea since 1986

Profession(s)/Vocation: Biotechnology - Retired

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Educator - Research & Communication Skills; Biodiversity; Photography

Paul Devlin

Joined MCB4: 2017

Other Community Engagement: Member, Gays Against Guns; Member, Hell's Kitchen Democrats; Member, Middle Collegiate Church; Fundraiser, National MS Society

Residence: Hell's Kitchen

Profession(s)/Vocation: Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Outdoor sports (running, biking, tennis, kayaking, skiing); Travel

Tina DiFeliciantonio

Joined MCB4: 2012

Other Community Engagement: HDFC Coalition Steering Committee, and former Member of the BRC Advisory Committee

Residence: Chelsea since 2012

Profession(s)/Vocation: Non-Fiction Producer/Director

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Hanging out with our teenage son, friends, family, rescue dog Cowboy, and, BunBun Stealth

Burt Lazarin

Joined MCB4: 2005

Other Community Engagement: Chelsea Waterside Park Association, Identity House, NY Institute for Gestalt Therapy, Chelsea Gay Association (1978-1984)

Residence: Chelsea since 1977

Profession(s)/Vocation: Labor union consultant, urban planner, psychotherapist

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Organizational Development, Social Change

Jeffrey LeFrancois

Joined MCB4: 2016

Other Community Engagement: Housing Conservation Coordinators (HCC), CHEKPEDS, Hell's Kitchen Democrats

Residence: Hell's Kitchen

Profession(s)/Vocation: Non-profit Operations + Community Affairs

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Public transportation and safe streets, cooking, politics and pottery (though not necessarily together), floral design, entertaining, and travel.

Italo Medelius

Joined MCB4: 2017

Other Community Engagement: Community Access Committee (founding member), Hudson Guild Neighborhood Advisory Committee, Latino Commission on AIDS/OASIS (MSM Latino youth outreach), ACT UP - NY, New York City Network of Worker Cooperatives

Residence: Hudson Yards (2010)

Profession(s)/Vocation: Workforce Development

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Theatre, Animals (everything about them), Visual Arts, Boxing, Mixed Martial Arts, Adventure Sports (hiking, skydiving, rock climbing)

Maria Ortiz

Joined MCB4: 2013

Other Community Engagement: N/A

Residence: Chelsea/Hell's Kitchen since 1978

Profession(s)/Vocation: Social Worker

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Salsa dancing and hiking.

Allen Oster

Joined MCB4: 2015

Other Community Engagement: President & Chair Park Committee of West 400 Block Association, 21st, 22nd & 23rd Streets, Member Board of Save Chelsea

Residence: Chelsea since 1998

Profession(s)/Vocation: Real Estate Broker, Flooring Sales/Project Manager

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Traveling, Hudson River Park Volunteer, community advocacy

Delores Rubin

Joined MCB4: 2013

Other Community Engagement: N/A

Residence: Clinton since 1969

Profession(s)/Vocation: Equity Trader

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Financial Literacy Educator

Howard Smith

Joined MCB4: 2002

Past Chair of Quality of Life Committee

Withdrew as full member in 2012 due to limited time availability,

Became Public Member: HK/Clinton Land Use & Zoning - 2013 • to current

Other Community Engagement: N/A

Residence: Clinton since January 1967

Profession(s)/Vocation: Previous career as Stage Manager; General Manager of theatre & dance companies. JD - New York Law School. Since 1985: Founder and owner of Chinasmith, Inc. - A tour specialized operator to China and SE Asia

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: China, Asia and Rural Environment; carpentry and construction.

Ken Stewart

Joined MCB4: 2013

Other Community Engagement: Member of various organizations advocating for people with disabilities.

Residence: Clinton since 1992

Profession(s)/Vocation: Arbitrator for Financial Industry Regulatory Authority

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Member of Dramatists Guild; Off-Broadway Actor; Marathon Runner (8 marathons).

Pamela Wolff

Joined MCB4: April 1, 2011

Other Community engagement: Chelsea West 200 Block Association, Council of Chelsea Block Associations, Chelsea Waterside Park Association, BRC Community Advisory Committee

Residence: Chelsea since 1956

Profession/vocation: Residential Cooperative Management since 1982, retired Jan 2017.

Interests/Hobbies/Skills: Community activism/bridge climbing/sailing (Clearwater only)