

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD #1
MARCH 23, 2010
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
199 CHAMBERS STREET, RICHARD HARRIS TERRACE
(WEST STREET AND GREENWICH STREET)

Public Session

- **Tom Goodkind** – Community Board 1 Member
Announced the release of the new CD entitled “Happy Days Are Here Again” by the TriBattery Pops, the local band of which he is the conductor. Distributed free copies of the CD to his fellow Community Board 1 members.

- **Jean Grillo** – Community Board 1 Public Member
Supports the wine and beer license for the Hersha Hotel, saying that they have been good neighbors and agreed to close at midnight.

- **John Ricker** – Representative from the **Office of New York City Comptroller John Liu**
NEW WEBSITE. Announced a new website intended to increase transparency for government spending: www.comptroller.nyc.gov/mymoneynyc/index.asp
DSNY GARAGE IN HUDSON SQUARE. Concerned about the cost of the planned DSNY garage.

- **Molly Bidol** – Representative from the **Office of Assembly Member Deborah Glick**
SCHOOL OVERCROWDING. Glick continues to fight for reduced class sizes in local schools.
MTA SERVICE CUTS. The MTA has announced that it will maintain the M8 and M22 bus lines.
INDEPENDENCE PLAZA NORTH RENT STABILIZATION. Wrote letter to DHCR protesting their recent decision to not require IPN to be rent stabilized.

- **Gary Fagin** – Knickerbocker Chamber Orchestra
Announced free concert on April 23rd. There will a fundraiser on April 15th. For more details, call (917)929-8375.

- **Billy Parrot** – Battery Park City Librarian
Announced opening of the new Battery Park City Public Library.
- **Greg Kirschenbaum** – Representative from the **Office of Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer**
BUILDING SURVEY. A survey by the Manhattan Borough President's Office found that 40 percent of Manhattan's street addresses are unmarked; a violation of the City's Administrative Code and a quality of life and public safety problem.

INDEPENDENCE PLAZA NORTH RENT STABILIZATION. Has sent a letter to the New York City Housing & Preservation Department and New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal expressing disappointment with the decision not to require rent stabilization.

U.S. CENSUS. Census forms are due in April. Participation is very important. Please get the word out!
- **Paul Goldstein** – Representative from the **Office of Speaker Sheldon Silver**
CELEBRATIONS & OPENINGS. Celebrated last week's opening of the grass lawn adjacent to the Tweed Courthouse. The new Battery Park City Library also opened. Congratulated the community board and all who worked to enable the opening of the new library.

MTA SERVICE CUTS. The MTA has announced that M-22 bus service will be mostly retained.

WEST STREET PEDESTRIAN SAFETY. Pushing to develop and implement a pedestrian safety plan before the public school year starts in September. Would like placement of additional pedestrian managers on West Street at Vesey and Liberty Streets.

SCHOOL OVERCROWDING. P.S. 234 are overcrowded and there is a need to find space for a new school in the area.
- **Celine Mizrahi** – Representative from the **Office of Congressman Nadler**
HEALTH CARE. On March 16th, for the first time in 9 years, another 9/11 Health Bill has advanced from the House subcommittee. He voted "Yes" for the health care reconciliation bill, which passed in the House.

TRANSPORTATION. Worked for authorization of \$14.8 billion for the expansion of public transportation.

U.S. CENSUS. The Census form is due in April.
- **Krista Saunders** – Publicity Associate for BMCC
Announced the BMCC Performing Arts Center website: www.tpac.org
- **Mary Cooley** – Representative from the Office of State Senator Daniel Squadron
SCHOOL OVERCROWDING. Introduced legislation to combat school overcrowding and promote accountability in the school zoning process. The legislation would require the Department of Education to use the most reliable data that is available and make it public.

NIGHTLIFE. Is working on new legislation aimed at strengthening the SLA 200 and 500 foot rules so that distances are measured from the establishment's property line rather than from the main entrance, and adding additional requirements for the SLA to consider the history of the applicant with the community board in which the establishment would be located and any past fire safety violations.

DISTRICT COMMUNITY CONVENTION. On April 11 at BMCC, the Senator will hold a second annual community convention from 2:00-5:00pm.

- **Anneliese Pfeil** - Warren Street resident
Thanked the Youth Committee for the resolution on school overcrowding and expanding parent choice.
- **Anthony Notaro** – Community Board 1 Member and President of the 1st Precinct Community Council
Announced the next 1st precinct council meeting on the last Thursday of the month. Explained that the 1st Precinct Community Council deals with SLA issues and street safety among other matters.
- **Allan Tannenbaum** – Community Board 1 Member
Went to Washington, D.C. on March 16th for the Congressional Committee hearing on 9/11 health issues. Advised everyone about health services for 9/11-related illness at Bellevue Hospital.
- **Jake Itzkowitz** – Representative for Council Member Chin
WTC REDEVELOPMENT. Working with the Port Authority and Silverstein to encourage an agreement about redevelopment of the WTC site.

WEST STREET PEDESTRIAN SAFETY. The Councilmember will conduct a Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Committee hearing on pedestrian safety on April 19th.

MTA SERVICE CUTS. Working to prevent MTA cuts to Access-a-Ride, as well the M5, M9, M20, and M22 bus lines.

BPC LIBRARY. Was pleased to attend the opening of the new public library in Lower Manhattan.

Business Session

Announcement Regarding Nominating Committee

The following five members confirmed that they accepted nomination for the Nominating Committee:

1. Linda Belfer
2. Mariama James;
3. Diane Lapson,
4. Liat Silberman; and
5. Paul Sipos

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on February 23, 2010 were adopted as presented.

Chairperson's Report

C. McVay Hughes for J. Menin

9/11 TRIAL RELOCATION. Menin asked the Manhattan Borough Board to consider supporting the resolution that originated in Community Board 1 asking that the trials be relocated from Lower Manhattan. Additionally, she has spoken at meetings of all Manhattan community boards regarding this resolution except for Community Boards 9 and 11. The resolution was approved at the March meeting of the Borough Board.

OPENING OF BATTERY PARK CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY. In 2006, CB 1 negotiated and secured \$3.5 million from Goldman Sachs for the funding of the BPC library. Menin attended and spoke on behalf of CB1 at the opening.

130 LIBERTY STREET. Testified on behalf of CB 1 at the NYC Council Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Committee hearing on March 2nd regarding 130 Liberty Street. Emphasized the need for a continued open process and an efficient and safe demolition and raised concerns about what will happen at the site when demolition is complete.

CHARTER REVISION & LAND USE. Attended a Planning Committee meeting along with Jeff Galloway. Asked the Committee to review ULURP procedures and make recommendations for improvements to the Charter Revision Commission.

WTC REDEVELOPMENT. Spoke at a rally on March 9th to advocate for moving forward with WTC redevelopment. Attendees included: Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Christopher Ward, Larry Silverstein and thousands of construction workers.

WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT. Named Bob Townley as CB1 Representative on the HRPT Advisory Council.

District Manager's Report

N. Pfefferblit

THE BUDGET. Recent budget proposals would require community board budgets to eliminate \$15,500.00 in addition to the cut initially proposed, thereby reducing the budget by about 30%. The recent proposal was due to the reduction in aid to the City expected in the state budget.

- **Paul Hovitz** – Community Board 1 Member
Proposed a resolution asking the Mayor to rescind the proposed cuts to community board budgets as boards are already underfunded and would not be able to carry out responsibilities mandated by the City Charter if cuts are made.

BOARD VOTE: 35 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

ANNUAL REPORT. Our Annual Report was submitted on time. Thanks to all for meeting the deadline. It is available on the CB1 website.

MTA BUDGET CUTS. Thanked Marc Ameruso for testifying last week at the MTA public hearing on proposed budget and service cuts.

- **Marc Ameruso** – Community Board 1 Member
Reported that the turnout at the hearing was so great that they closed the doors early. Had to wait five hours to speak, and dozens of people were not allowed into the building even though many of them had pre-registered. Criticized the MTA for shutting the public out of the process.

Election of Nominating Committee

The nominees for the Nominating Committee were elected by unanimous consent.

Committee Reports

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO OBTAIN A COPY OF A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZED IN THE MINUTES, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.NYC.GOV/HTML/MANCB1

Waterfront Committee

1. Comprehensive Waterfront Plan - Update
The Department of City Planning reported on an update of the Citywide Comprehensive Waterfront Plan.
2. *RiverAlive wants to build on Pier 13. However, although their design plans are fine, the group is cash poor and not a part of our Revitalization Plan.*

WTC Redevelopment Committee

1. LMDC update – Report
*130 Liberty Street has been demolished down to the 21st floor and the demolition is planned to be completed by December 2010. **Julie Shapiro** wrote an excellent article on the funds that are remaining but unaccounted for in the LMDC budget. At the LMDC's next board meeting in April, the board will discuss these leftover funds.*
2. Ending the Impasse at the World Trade Center Site – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 1 Recused

Quality of Life Committee & Small Business Task Force

1. Discussion regarding New York City Council paid sick leave legislation – Report
This legislation has been proposed by Council Member Gale Brewer and would require sick time for small business employees. This is the 2nd time it has been presented to the committee. CB3 has passed a resolution in support of this legislation, but CB 1's committee remains divided on the issue. No resolution was passed.

Quality of Life Committee

2. Addition of Canal Street corridor to NYC Department of Transportation “Safe Routes to Transit” program - Resolution

It is sometimes difficult for pedestrians to make their way along Canal Street due to the high volume of pedestrians and vendors on the sidewalk.

BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Enforcement of licensed sightseeing guide requirement for tour buses - Resolution

TABLED, because of concerns including the lack of a requirement for licensing out of state tour guides in New York.

Task Force to Commemorate Albert Capsouto

1. Report

On Thursday, at 6:00 PM the task force will hold a meeting. On April 6th, there will be a Memorial for Albear to be held at 2 Debrosses Street, the Tribeca Rooftop. The task force would like to rename Cavala Park in Albear’s honor. Deborah Glick suggested we name the water feature in the park after Albear. The task force also talked about naming a part of Downtown Hospital, and endowing a scholarship fund at Stuyvesant H.S. A dear friend of Albear’s, Shimon Zlotnikov has contributed \$5K in Albear’s honor to the Stuyvesant fund.

Battery Park City Committee

1. Battery Park City Library Branch – Report

Linda Belfer and Julie Menin attended the opening.

2. Discussion of recent falling debris incident and review of safety plan with Milstein Properties – Report

Milstein was unable to account for the origin and cause of the piece of plywood that fell. The board fell onto the ice skating rink where children were skating. Fortunately no one was hurt.

3. Report on Route 9A and West Thames Park by New York State Department of Transportation – Report

They originally requested a 24 hour work schedule because they’re behind due to the unusually cold weather recently. However, the weather has improved and they no longer will need to work 24 hours in order to finish by Memorial Day.

4. Discussion of West Street Crossing safety issues with Sam Schwartz Pedestrian Management – Report

The Committee discussed a proposal by Sam Schwartz Engineering for each crossing to have its own crossing guard. However funding for the proposal has not been secured.

5. Discussion of vacant BPCA seats and a call for more local representation now that vacancies provide an opportunity to add more actual BPC voices to this important deliberative body – Resolution

Two people have left the Board of the BPC Authority, so there are two seats currently available. William C. Thompson has been appointed as the new President. There is a resident of Lower Manhattan already on the Board, but he's not a CBI Member and not known to any CBI members. Members have a fiduciary duty to the BPC Authority, and the Authority claims there could be a conflict of interest if a CBI member were to join the board. Bob Townley disagrees with this as do Mark Costello and Bill Love.

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

Youth & Education Committee

1. Presentation on Explorer's Program for High School students – Report
The Committee met some of the students in the Transit District 2 Explorer's Program. The students also volunteer in the community.

2. Discussion regarding classroom space at Manhattan Youth – Report

Manhattan Youth and the Department of Education have not yet negotiated a new contract for Manhattan Youth rooms on loan to P.S. 234. Talks are ongoing.

3. Presentation on upcoming April exhibit in the Pier 17 food court atrium at the Seaport - Report – “The Tiger Lady” has a great photo exhibit.

4. Presentation on Parents Will No Longer Be Divided! Campaign by the Coalition for Educational Justice – Report

5. PS 397 Taste of Front Street fundraiser – Report

6. Termination of NYC Department of Youth and Community Development funding for IS 89 after school programs – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 1 Recused

7. School Overcrowding - Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

Tribeca Committee

1. Transportation and Parking Regulations Sub-Committee – Report
A sub-committee was formed to examine regulations which need to change to reflect the changing neighborhoods.

2. Neighborhood liquor license issues with Brick, 22 Warren Street – Report

There were many complaints regarding this bar, but the proprietor claims the complaints should be targeted toward 2020, a neighboring bar. Each one pointed the finger to the other. They will return in June to show us what progress they have made towards becoming good neighbors.

3. New Business – One Way Tolls on Verrazano Bridge – Report

The community was promised the one-way tolls would be reversed, but it hasn't happened. This traffic flow creates congestion in Lower Manhattan around the Holland Tunnel and the community wants action to reverse it, which might require an act of Congress.

4. 130 Duane Street, application for to upgrade hotel wine license to hotel liquor license for Hersha Hospitality Management, L. P. d/b/a Duane Street Hotel – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. 106 Duane Street, application for eating place beer license for Beignet Inc. – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. Street permit application by Cercle Rouge – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

7. Street permit application by the CityKids Foundation – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee

1. New York Land Use Review Procedure – Resolution

NYC Charter Revision will be on the ballot in November. Development of clearer standards for ULURP evaluations was discussed. Jeff read a very detailed resolution that passed unanimously.

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Lower Manhattan Bus Plan Update – Report

There are legal issues pertaining to interstate commerce related to bus parking issues. Hopefully, these issues will be resolved. We've had meetings with City DOT and the Port Authority but more planning needs to be done.

3. Brooklyn Battery Tunnel and Commuter Bus Storage Issues – Report

Commuter bus storage is under consideration for the Battery Tunnel garage in Greenwich South. We should explore ways to prevent buses from parking in or even entering Downtown NYC. Interstate Commerce issues are involved.

4. IPN Senior Center - Report

Thanks to Tom Goodkind and others who have helped research this. There will be more work to be done in the future.

Seaport/Civic Center Committee

1. 11th Annual South Street Irish Stroll – Report

The event took place on March 13th, despite the nasty weather. The promoter agreed to come before the committee in the future prior to the event.

2. Designation of Restricted Use Street for Duane Street between Broadway and Lafayette Street, Elk Street between Duane and Reade Streets and Pearl Street between Centre Street and Park Row – Report

The impact on the community is expected to be very minor.

3. Street permit application by the South Street Seaport/General Growth Properties on Saturday, June 26, 2010, South Street between Beekman Street and Burling Slip – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. Application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) for fairs in City Hall Park, with one each month from May to September 2010 – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. Possible holiday market in City Hall Park in December, 2010 to benefit Community Board #1 – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. 125 Fulton Street, application for beer license for Bread Factory Cafe – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7. South Street Seaport, Pier 17, application for Kiosk-Summer Beer license for space 4506 for Salmaan Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Seaport Beer – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

8. South Street Seaport, Pier 17, application for Kiosk-Summer Beer license for space 4506A for Salmaan Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Seaport Beer – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9. South Street Seaport, Pier 17, application for Kiosk-Summer Beer license for space 4506B for Salmaan Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Seaport Beer – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

10. Chinatown Working Group 197a Plan – Report

Financial District Committee

1. Proposal for newsstand in front of 75 Barclay Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. 77 Pearl Street, application for restaurant wine and beer license for Pizza Pizza of NYC Corp. – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Street permit application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, July 9, 2010, Broad Street between Water Street and South Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. Street permit application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, August 6, 2010, Broad between Water and Beaver Streets – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. Street permit application by the Pearl Street Park Association (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Sunday, July 4, 2010, Water Street between Fulton Street and Broad Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. Street permit application by Community Board #1 (Mardi Gras Festivals Productions; promoter) on Friday, October 15, 2010, Broad Street between South Street and Water Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

BPC Community Center and Ballfields Task Forces

1. Revision of Ballfields and Community Center Memorandum of Understanding – Report *Met with BPCA to discuss revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding.*

Personnel Committee

1. Public members appointments – Report

The process for appointment as a CB 1 Public Members begins with a letter from the applicant to the committee chair, who forwards it along with a letter of recommendation to the District Manager who then sends it to the Personnel Committee for consideration. They're voted to 1-year terms. All 26 active public members have been reappointed. Almost all have excellent participation and attendance and Roger will reach out to those whose attendance has fallen off to remind them of their responsibilities.

Street Fair Task Force

1. Proposal from Mardi Gras Festival Productions Inc. regarding remaining locations for 2010 street and park fairs for Community Board One – Report

Met with Joe Giovanni of Mardi Gras Productions to discuss applications for fairs that will move forward and be presented to geographic committees.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by: Noel E. Jefferson, Secretary, and Marc Ameruso,
Assistant Secretary