



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Julie Menin CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD #1

MAY 24, 2011

**BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
199 CHAMBERS STREET**

Public Session

- **Marva Craig** – Vice President of BMCC, Community Board 1 Member
Welcomed everybody to and encouraged people to use community resources BMCC has to offer, including the pool, which is open to the public at certain times. Reported that Fiterman Hall is expected to open in the fall of 2012.
- **Paul Goldstein** – Representative from the **Office of State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver**
SCHOOL OVERCROWDING. Schools Chancellor Dennis Walcott attended a recent School Overcrowding Meeting hosted by Speaker Silver. The Peck Slip site has been officially secured for a new school to be open in 2015, to be incubated starting in 2012. Thanked all in the community who advocated for this school.

BATTERY PARK CITY GROUND RENTS. The Speaker has brokered an agreement between BPCA and condo owners regarding ground rent payments. It will save millions of dollars for residents of BPC.

HYDROFRACKING. A bill in the State legislature would impose a moratorium on hydrofracking until June 2012.

AT-GRADE CROSSING AT VESEY STREET. The Speaker wrote a letter to the City Department of Transportation asking for the reopening of the at-grade crossing at Vesey Street. The Department of Transportation said that it would not reopen the crossing until after the completion of the East-West Connector and the removal of the pedestrian bridge.
- **Jessica Silver** – Representative from the **Office of Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer**
TOWN HALL ON EDUCATION CUTS. The Manhattan Borough President is hosting a town hall on May 25th at 6pm at 593 Columbus Ave.

SCHOOL BUDGETS. The Manhattan Borough President will be meeting with Chancellor Walcott to discuss the school budget, including planned mass layoffs of teachers.

TRACKING TAXPAYER MONEY. The Manhattan Borough President has launched a website that enables taxpayers to track how funds are spent at: <http://www.mbp.org/taxreceipt/>.
- **Ann DeFalco** – Community Board 1 Member

9/11 HEALTH. Encouraged children whose health was affected by 9/11 to schedule an exam by calling 866-982-0107.

- **Paul Hovitz** – Community Board 1 Member
MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS. Stated that hundreds of millions of dollars have been lost from school budgets because the City has failed to file for available Medicaid reimbursements.
- **Celine Mizrahi** – Representative from the **Office of Congressman Jerrold Nadler**
CLOSURE OF PARK ROW. The congressman, along with Speaker Silver, Senator Squadron, and Borough President Stringer, are all concerned about the prolonged closure of Park Row. They want an independent assessment by the Department of Homeland Security of possible alternatives.

9/11 HEALTH. The Congressman is concerned about requirements in the 9/11 health program, which bar treatment of those on the Terror Watch List.

BUS MANAGEMENT. The Congressman expressed concerns about the expected increase in bus traffic with the opening of the 9/11 Memorial on the 10th Anniversary of the September 11th attacks.

- **Captain James Chambers** – Member of the Historic Ships Society
Concerned about the lack of response to HRPT's Request for Proposals to have historic ships at Pier 25 and the need for preservation of historic ships.
- **Paul Cantor** – Community Board 1 Member
Spoke in favor of resolution in support of City Council legislation to criminalize the purchase of counterfeit goods.
- **April Naturale** – 9/11 Healing and Remembrance
The 9/11 Healing and Remembrance organization has a 24 hour toll free hotline; 866-212-0444, which provides support and counseling.
- **Victoria Weil** – Friends of Bogardus Garden
Asked for support for the installation of an historic clock tower at Bogardus Garden.
- **Carolyn Happy** – PTA member of P.S. 89
Thanked CB1 for supporting the Run for Knowledge event, an annual race hosted by P.S. and I.S. 89. This year, the Mayor's Office of Street Activity Permits has informed the schools that due to the moratorium on weekday street activity permits, the event will not be permitted. The PTA appealed to CB1 for help in getting an exemption from the moratorium.
- The following people spoke regarding the planned displacement of the NYPD mounted unit at the 1st Precinct to make room for the WTC NYPD Command: **Prudence Carlson, Patricia Aakre, Cindy Wenig, and Pete Gleason.**
- The following people spoke regarding the proposed closure of Ladder 8: **Patricia Aakre, Pete Gleason.**

- The following people spoke regarding the Seaport Museum: **Michael Kramer, Michael Yamin, Captain Mike Cohen, Kerry Nolan, Richard Dorfman, Jenifer Rajkumar, Sandy Eames, Davis Shelden,** and **Paul Keefer.** **Laura Nichols** said she has circulated a petition and collected 400 signatures against the closing of the Seaport Museum.
- **Donald Liloia** – NY Waterway
Announced the beginning of 7 day a week East River ferry service from Long Island City to Lower Manhattan and Governors Island.
- **Alina Lee** – Student
Invited all to attend the 2011 Livable Neighborhoods one-day Training Program for community activists sponsored by the Municipal Art Society. People can call 212-935-3960 x1285 to RSVP.
- **Peter Clevenger** – Resident
Spoke in favor of a resolution in support of legislation to criminalize the purchase of counterfeit goods.
- **Christina Sala** – Tribeca Green Market
The Tribeca Greenmarket will host a pilot program to recycle and compost waste on Saturdays from March until June.
- **John Ricker** – Representative from the **Office of New York City Comptroller John Liu**
To report waste or mismanagement in City operations, contact CAC's 24-hour waste/fraud hotline: (212) 669-4600 or (800) 800-6385 or action@comptroller.nyc.gov.
- **Frank Scandittio** – 32 BJ / SEIU
Spoke against the removal of the Winter Garden staircase proposed by Brookfield Properties. Referred people to a website, www.savethestairs.org.
- **Justine Cuccia** – Save the Staircase
Opposed removal of the Winter Garden staircase. She circulated a petition calling for Brookfield to preserve the staircase and collected 1600 signatures.
- **Tom Goodkind** – Community Board 1 Member
Informed the Community Board that Judy Karnas, longtime resident of IPN, and member of the all resident downtown band, The TriBattery Pops had passed away.
- **Sarah Malloy-Good** – Representative from the **Office of State Assembly Member Deborah Glick**
RENT LAWS. The State Assembly has passed legislation to renew and strengthen rent laws.
SUMMER INTERNSHIPS. The Office of State Assembly Member Glick is offering internships to high school and college students.

- **Matt Viggiano** – Representative from the **Office of Council Member Margaret Chin**
NYPD STABLES RELOCATION. The Council Member opposes the displacement of the mounted unit from the 1st Precinct and has urged the NYPD to find an alternative location in CB1 for the WTC Command.

COUNTERFEIT GOODS LEGISLATION. Community Board 2 has already voted to support Council Member Chin's legislation to make the purchase of trademark counterfeit goods illegal, to be considered later in the meeting by Community Board 1.

CHINATOWN BID. There will be a vote on May 26, 2011 regarding the certification of the Business Improvement District.

- **John Fratta** – Little Italy Merchants Association, Community Board 1 Member
On behalf of the Little Italy Merchants Association, spoke in opposition to a recommendation to ban left turns made by NYMTC in their Canal Area Transportation Study.

Business Session

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on April 26, 2011 were adopted as presented.

Chairperson's Report

J. Menin

NYPD STABLES RELOCATION. Menin, other CB1 members, and representatives of elected officials met with NYPD regarding the plans to relocate the 1st Precinct stables to make room for the WTC Command. The Community Board received hundreds of emails and facebook messages opposed to the closed of the stables. The Community Board has asked the City to find an alternate site, and proposed several possibilities.

- **Deputy Inspector Michael Yanosik** –NYPD Facilities Management
Said that given the timing and financial constraints, the temporary WTC Command must be located in a City-owned building. The stables will be restored after 18 months. The mounted unit will be relocated to 34th Street in the meantime. The WTC Command needs space for 130 to 240 personnel on the second floor, as well as showers (which 1 Police Plaza does not have).
- **John Fratta** and **Michael Connolly** – Community Board 1 Members
Asked why plans were not made years ago for the temporary WTC Command.
- **Roger Byrom** – Community Board 1 Member
Argued that there must be a better alternative location.
 - **Bill Love** – Community Board 1 Member
Asked if 104 Washington Street had been considered.
 - **Bob Townley** – – Community Board 1 Member

Spoke about the sentimental value of the mounted units to the neighborhood.

- **Marc Ameruso** – Community Board 1 Member
Questioned the security risk involved in positioning a WTC Command Center above a subway station.
- **Diane Lapson** – Community Board 1 Member
Expressed concern that the relocation would be permanent. Compared the situation to the closure of Park Row after September 11, 2001 (Park Row is still closed).

CLOSURE OF ENGINE 4 AND LADDER 8. Julie Menin, the Community Board, and Council Member Margaret Chin strongly oppose the proposals to close Engine 4 and Ladder 8 in Community Board 1.

PECK SLIP. Confirmed the good news that the Peck Slip site will officially be the site of a new elementary school.

TOUR BUS MANAGEMENT. The Community Board has continued to meet with Speaker Silver's Office and the Department of Transportation and other stakeholders regarding management of additional tour buses expected to accompany the opening of the 9/11 Memorial on the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

STAFF DEPARTURE. Yume Kitasei has given notice that she will be leaving her position in September. Thanked her for her outstanding service.

District Manager's Report

STREET FAIR MORATORIUM

CB1 and other organizations that sponsor street fairs have been informed that the Street Activities Permit Office will not approve weekday events in CB1 this season due to concern about keeping streets clear until traffic patterns are worked out prior to the opening of the Memorial. Went along with Bill Love to meet with SAPO to discuss this and events will be moved to weekends and holidays. It is possible that revenue will decline but efforts will be made to increase the number of events in parks which it is hoped will offset the reduction to some extent.

Committee Reports

Seaport/Civic Center Committee

1. South Street Seaport Museum - Report
The museum is not yet ready to meet with CB1 to describe ongoing discussions with the City about how the Museum can be restructured to enable it to survive
2. Peck Slip Postal Station – Update
The Post Office will relocate during conversion of the building into a school

3. New Village Voice Music Festival coming to Pier 17 – Report
Seaport has plans to control crowds at summer concerts and events

Tribeca Committee

1. Proposal by Canal Area Transportation Study for “No Left Turns” on Canal Street – Letter
Community Board approved sending a letter to express concerns about NYMTC’s recommendation to ban left turns on Canal Street.
2. Request by Friends of Bogardus Garden to create a clock tower at the southern tip of Bogardus Triangle – Report
The Community Board approved writing a letter in support of the clock tower.
3. 103 Warren Street, application for Board of Standards and Appeals special permit for a health club – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
4. 291 Broadway, application for Board of Standards and Appeals special permit for a health club – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
5. 86-88 Franklin Street, application for Board of Standards and Appeals special permit for a health club –Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
6. Friends of Duane Park, Saturday June 11, 2011 at Duane Street between Staple and Hudson Streets. Closure of street between 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM; event to be held between 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
7. Friends of Duane Park d/t/b/d at Duane Street between Staple and Hudson Streets. Closure of street between 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM; event to be held between 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
8. 186 Franklin Street, application for a new restaurant liquor license for 186 KT, LLC d/b/a Kutsher’s Tribeca – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
9. 6 Harrison Street, application for a new restaurant liquor license for Jung Sik Dang, Corp. d/b/a Jung Sik Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
10. Proposal to convert horse stables at the 1st Precinct to WTC police command – Resolution
Members expressed concerns about security (it’s located between two neighborhood schools and above a subway stop), about traffic and parking impact on the neighborhood, about the

loss of a historical facet of the neighborhood, and about the relocation of the mounted police unit to midtown and away from where most of the protests in the city tend to occur.

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

Personnel Committee

1. Review of RFP for Director of Planning and Land Use position

We will have to wait a month to learn the results of budget negotiations between the Mayor and City Council. At that time we will determine how to proceed with a Solicitation that has been prepared for a Director of Planning and Land Use. In the meantime preparations have begun to hire a new Community Liaison to replace Yume.

Financial District Committee

1. Update on construction at 180 Broadway - Report

A team from SL Green appeared to provide an update regarding construction of the building at 180 Broadway that will house dormitories for Pace University. Issues were raised regarding dust suppression, request for extended work hours and use of parking spaces and other matters. Catherine McVay Hughes and another resident of the building expressed concerns about the work and there was a lengthy discussion. The team agreed to make an effort to address concerns raised and will return to the Financial District Committee as needed as the project moves forward.

2. Update on construction of 99 Washington Street

A team from McSam provided an update about this project which is about to begin construction of a 44 story Holiday Inn. There were no nearby residents present but some issues were raised and the team seemed responsive. They will hold the dates of upcoming Financial District meetings and agreed to appear whenever they are needed.

3. Fulton Nassau Crossroads Program - Update

Representatives from EDC gave an update about the first year of the effort to improve facades of retail businesses on Fulton Street and adjacent streets included in the program. They described three tiers of the program with different levels of assistance provided, some requiring a private match. They displayed some facades transformed successfully as a result of grants provided under the program. They still have funds remaining and hope to field more applicants in the remaining year of the program. There was discussion about whether CBI should support an expansion and extension of the program and this possibility will be revisited at a future update.

Battery Park City Committee

1. Vesey Street Bridge – Report

State DOT was present at the Committee meeting to discuss maintenance issues with the bridge. State DOT is currently still handling maintenance of the bridge until an agreement can be reached between Brookfield and PANYNJ.

The West Thames sod issue also came up. DOT is holding off on installation of the sod until maintenance issues between BPCA and HRPT are worked out.

2. South End Avenue extra-long bus stop - Report
The Committee reiterated its request for this bus stop to be shortened to the normal bus stop length, as it is no longer a terminus for a bus route.
3. Jingle Bell Run/Walk on December 4, 2011 by Dawn Wright, the Arthritis Foundation
The Committee was not opposed to this event.
4. At-grade crossing of West Street at Vesey Street and Liberty Street – Resolution
The Community Board is asking for the at-grade crossing to be reopened as soon as possible, in advance of the completion of the East-West Connector and the removal of the Vesey Street pedestrian bridge.
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
5. 38 West Street, application for a renewal of a license for an unenclosed sidewalk café for Café Casano LLC – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
6. 250 Vesey Street, application for a new restaurant wine and beer license for Casa Masa LLC d/b/a Casa Masa Taco – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

WTC Redevelopment Committee

1. Annual Report on LMDC financials – Reports
LMDC President David Emil described remaining LMDC funds remaining in various categories. He said that the City will determine how to spend some of the funds remaining in the largest categories.
2. Presentation on FY 2010 Local Law 41 – Report
Geri Kelpin, the Director of Air and Noise Policy and Permitting at NYC DEP spoke about NYC Local Law 41 requiring sight-seeing buses licensed by the Department of Consumer Affairs and equipped with engines over three years old to use the best available emissions-reduction technology unless their engines meet upcoming federal standards. Ms. Kelpin discussed some of the limitations of the law and said that additional legislation is needed to better control pollutants from tour buses.
3. Silvertstein Properties – Report
4. 9/11 Health - Update
5. Mental Health Association of New York City 9/11 Grant - Update
6. 9/11 Health Act and Terrorist Watchlist – Resolution

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

7. Metered Tour Bus Parking – Resolution

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

Landmarks Committee

1. 317-319 Greenwich Street, application for painting of menu box, railing and platform and addition of gooseneck lighting – Resolution

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

2. 1 White Street, application for storefront renovation and new windows and doors and re-pointing brick – Resolution

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

3. 83 Chambers Street, application for window replacement, storefront renovation and awning – Resolution to Reject

Committee felt the design of an all glass storefront did not comply with Tribeca standards.

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

4. 186 Franklin Street, application for penthouse addition – Resolution

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

Affordable Housing Task Force

1. Review of progress and discussion of what is needed to complete Affordable Housing Guide – Report

Local elected officials are trying to help with J51 vouchers.

2. Manhattan Seniors – Report

Task Force will begin a new initiative in this area in the fall

3. Ideas for future guides – Report

Quality of Life Committee

1. Counterfeit goods legislation – Resolution

Some members expressed concern about the fact that the legislation would make purchasing counterfeit goods a Class A misdemeanor, versus a minor violation, which could potentially mean jail time, a criminal record, and a fine. There was concern about victimizing tourists and people who might not understand that certain goods are counterfeit or that purchasing them is a criminal act.

BOARD VOTE: 22 In Favor 13 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Firehouse closures - Resolution

Resolution opposes proposal to close Ladder 8 and Engine 4.

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

Youth & Education Committee

1. Presentation on Year Up – Report

The Committee heard a presentation by an organization based in Lower Manhattan that provides job training and support for “economically disconnected” youth with GEDs or high school diplomas.

2. Imagination Playground hours of operation and winter play - Report

***Nancy Barthold**, Assistant Commissioner for Parks, came to discuss Imagination Playground hours during the winter. They are open to suggestions as use of the playground is evolving. The park has 2 attendants when open. The Blue School said they would apply for standing permits and would be happy to share the park at time of use.*

3. Report on Speaker Silver’s Overcrowding Taskforce

4. Charter Schools – Report

5. NYC DOE funding failure – Medicaid reimbursement – Resolution

*The Committee heard from **Larry Charny** on NYC DOE’s poor record keeping, which has apparently prevented the city from receiving reimbursement for Special Education services over the past several years at the cost of millions of dollars. The committee passed a resolution calling for the DOE to improve in this area and apply for reimbursements.*

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

6. Early intervention Cuts – Resolution

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

7. Education Budget Cuts – Resolution

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

Old Business

No Business was conducted.

New Business

1. Street Activity Permit application for Community Board #1 for Monday, May 30, 2011 on Lafayette Street between Canal Street and White Street. Closure of streets 10:am to 7:pm; event will take place between noon to 6 PM – Resolution (Please note this event was previous scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2011 between Water Street and South Street and approved by the CB during

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

2. Street Activity Permit application for Run for Knowledge for Friday, September 16, 2011 on Warren Street between North End Avenue and West Street. Partial street closure from 3:00

PM until 9:00 PM; the event will specifically take place between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM –
Resolution

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

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by: Marc Ameruso, Assistant Secretary