

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD #1
JULY 26, 2011
DANCE NEW AMSTERDAM
280 BROADWAY, 2nd Floor (Entrance at 53 Chambers Street)

Public Session

Katie Peila – Dance New Amsterdam Executive Director – The facility is comprised of dance theatres, 9,000 students and 11,000 artists and provides workshops and artistic programs.

John Ricker – NYC Comptroller John Liu’s Office sends greetings for a safe summer. Website should be checked out. Fraud alert reports concerning City government can be made by phone: 212-669-3639, or by calling John: 212-669-3668.

Alec Schierenbeck – Scot Stringer’s Liaison to CB1 – 2 weeks ago, the Borough President unveiled a month long study of potholes, detailing how he reported them to 311 and then called the Mayor’s Office to show faults in the way they were handled. He also recently released a comprehensive guide for immigrants in Chinese and Spanish.

\$60M in discretionary funds allocated by the Council has been doled out indiscriminately and has not been distributed equally.

Denise Katzman – Sane Energy Project – Mayor Bloomberg favors energy companies involved in hydrofracking and those transporting the gas.

Ashley Varoba – NYC Coalition for a Smoke-free City. The aim of this organization is to keep NYC safe from smoke.

Melissa Brown – 9/11 Twin Towers Orphan Fund – requesting financial support for children who lost their parents during 9/11.

Tom Goodkind – Affordable Housing Report – One person found a home in Southbridge Towers, but otherwise there is virtually no affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. Copies of the report produced by Tom’s task force were given to all who worked on it.

Boris Pincus – Poll Worker Recruitment – Up to \$600 will be paid to workers for a 2-day’ period.

Nancy Gruskin – Founded the Nancy Gruskin Foundation that created the 5-to-Ride

pledge whereby restaurants will train their cyclists to follow responsible bicycling rules. Her husband was killed by a bicyclist riding in the wrong direction. She presented at the Quality of Life Committee.

Jack Brown – Said he was representing a coalition of organizations promoting responsible bike riding. Called for a new task force to address this issue. He will also present to CB 8.

Jake Itzkowitz and Matt Viggiano – Council Member Chin’s Office – Jake announced that he’s entering law school and this will be his last day working with CB 1. There will be a meeting soon of the task force on buses bringing visitors to the Memorial.

Emma Rosco – Assembly Member Deborah Glick’s Office – Urged people to speak out against hydraulic fracturing. Jeff Galloway, CB 1 Planning Chair has testified on this matter.

Anthony Notaro – National Night Out Against Crime will be held on Tuesday at 6 PM. Last year, the NYPD’s Safe Child initiative provided finger printing, photo I.D.’s etc. for all children whose parents requested it.

Ann DeFalco – Parent Liaison UFT Membership is open. Topics include school partnerships, increasing parent involvement and opposing budget cuts to education. Francine Streich oversees this initiative.

Tricia Joyce – opposes funding for charter schools at the expense of public schools. CB 1 Member Mariama James stated that charter schools are public insofar as they are created pursuant to State Legislation.

Senator Daniel Squadron - Welcomed the crowd with enthusiasm, reporting that this evening was the first opportunity he’s had to meet before the Board since the state legislature recessed. He invited us all to attend his August 16th forum “After ‘I Do’: What’s Next for LGBT New Yorkers?” to be held at BMCC. He also thanked Ro Sheffe and Julie Menin for the resolution on the CB1 Downtown Heliport Resolution to be considered later in the meeting.

The state legislature approved a bill increasing to \$2,500 the amount at which apartments are subject to vacancy decontrol, among other changes.

Hydrofracking legislation – Stated concerns about the process which involves numerous toxic chemicals.

Business Session

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on June 28, 2011 were adopted as presented.

Chairperson's Report

- Thanks to our host, Dance New Amsterdam for hosting our meeting.
- “Hand in Hand: A Remembrance of 9/11” will take place along the esplanade in BPC on 9/10. There will be a tree planting in honor of survivors as well.
- Welcomed CB 1's new member, Deron Charkoudian, who will serve on the Financial District and 2 other committees.
- Thanked CB 1's Secretary, Noel E. Jefferson, for her long and dedicated service as secretary.
- Five members have been confirmed to serve on the Nominating Committee for the special election for Secretary: Linda Belfer, Michael Connolly, Mariama James, Joel Kopel and Paul Sipos. The committee was confirmed unanimously and will meet during the summer.
- Yume Kitasei and Bill Love will no longer be a part of CB1 as this is their last full board meeting. Yume received a citation for her distinguished and valuable work with CB 1 ranging from the website to policy matters.
- Bill Love, Parliamentarian and member of the WTC and Financial District Committees has given invaluable leadership to CB 1. Many thanks for his dedicated 8-year membership and dedicated service.

Arts and Entertainment Chair Harold Reed – Dance New Amsterdam has asked CB 1 for a revised letter to be included in a packet that will be sent to potential donors and other interested parties.

District Manager's Report

This is also the last CB 1 meeting for Urban Fellow Heather Anderson who's been working with us for a year and working on many significant projects.

Treasurer's Report

FY July 1st 2010 – June 30, 2011 – CB 1's total budget went toward the personnel budget to cover salaries. Next year's budget will be \$206,895.00. Seven energy-efficient and quieter air conditions will be purchased to replace old ones. If anyone knows of businesses that are disposing of office equipment, inform the District Office.

Election of Nominating Committee

Nominations from the floor for Nominating Committee: there were no nominations made from the floor. The following members were elected by unanimous consent to serve on the committee

Linda Belfer
Michael Connolly
Marianna James

Joel Kopel
Paul Sipos

Committee Reports

Quality of Life Committee

Update on Construction Projects in Lower Manhattan – Report

LMCCC gave a brief update. Fulton Street reconstruction is moving along, but not yet finished.

Discussion regarding Department of Health inspections of food vendors – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

1. Presentation regarding 5 to Ride Campaign – Report

Discussed and will continue further discussions.

2. Presentation regarding advocacy campaign for enforcement of bicycle laws – Report

Bicycle rules are not being followed, nor enforced as they should be to protect our communities.

Discussed earlier and committee will continue to follow up.

Youth & Education Committee

1. Presentation regarding Department of Education home-schooling initiative – Report

A press release reported that grants will be available to supply technology for youth who can't afford the necessary technology.

2. Presentation regarding Department of Education anti-bullying program “Overcoming Obstacles.” – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 2 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Presentation regarding Pace University Oral History of 9/11 Project – Report

Information regarding this initiative will be forthcoming.

4. Speaker Silver’s Overcrowding Task Force – Report

Paul Goldstein chaired this meeting. Issues included the need for children to attend schools away from their neighborhoods as a result of over-crowding

5. Loss of 2600 teaching positions through attrition – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. City Hall Park bike path – Resolution**

BOARD VOTE: 30 In Favor 12 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

** Resolution considered jointly with the Seaport/Civic Center Committee.

7. Auxiliary site and gym for Millennium High School – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed Abstained 0 Recused

8. Recent judicial decision regarding UFT lawsuit over school closures and Charter School co-locations – Resolution*

Some changes were made to the language of the resolution and these were accepted by the committee Chair.

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9. Millennium School needs a gym - Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed Abstained 0 Recused

Seaport/Civic Center Committee

1. Foley Square Wayfinding Signage – Report

The newly installed signage will help jurors and tourists alike.

2. Save Our Seaport - Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 2 Abstained 1 Recused

3. Street Co-naming Request for J & R Music World, Park Row between Beekman and Ann Streets – Report

Application was withdrawn by J & R.

4. Collect Pond Park Construction Update – Report

The Parks Department is reclaiming a parking lot for an enlarged and rebuilt

Collect Pond Park.

5. Delury Square Park Issues – Report

The Parks Department will add benches for people so that people can sit by the beautiful fountain.

6. 277 Water Street, application for a new restaurant liquor license for Samsara Café Inc. d/b/a Samsara – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 42 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 1 Recused

7. 150 Centre Centre Street – application for a new restaurant liquor license for Mika Japanese Cuisine & Bar Inc. d/b/a Mika Japanese Cuisine & Bar Inc. – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 42 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 1 Recused

8. Street Activity Permit application by the Taste of the Seaport on Sunday, October 9, 2011 will provide full street closure of Front Street between Peck Slip and Beekman Street. Closure of streets will be during the hours of 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM; event will take place between 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Tribeca Committee

1. 52 Walker Street, application for renewal of tavern liquor license for KNH Enterprises, LLC d/b/a M1-5 – Report

2. 116 Duane Street, application for a new tavern - restaurant liquor license for Corporation to be formed by Mike Hynes d/b/a pending – Report

3. 77 Hudson Street, application for a new restaurant liquor license for Zutto Squared, LLC d/b/a Zutto – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. 222 West Broadway, application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café for Lena Inc. d/b/a Franklin Caffè Buon Gusto – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. Street Activity Permit application by The Village Light Opera Group on Saturday, October 15, 2011, Leonard Street between Broadway and Church Street. Closure of streets during the hours of 10 AM and 7 PM; event will take place between

noon and 6 PM – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. Street Activity Permit application by Jewish Community Project Downtown on Sunday, October 16, 2011, F/O 146 Duane Street between West Broadway and Church Street. Closure of streets during the hours of 7 AM and 2 PM; event will take place between 11 AM and 2 PM – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7. Request by New York City Rescue Mission for support of request for grant from Federal Home Loan Bank for addition of three floors to current structure – Letter of Support

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

8. DOITT plans to relocate payphone from south side of Canal Street to the east side of Varick St between Beach Street and Laight Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9. 301 Church Street, application for an unenclosed sidewalk café renewal for Bread in Tribeca LLC – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Personnel Committee

1. Interviews with Applicants for Community Liaison position – Report

Yume joined the committee for the interviews with the three finalists. The finalists are highly qualified and Julie Menin will meet them before a final decision is made.

Financial District Committee

1. Pier 11, between Gouverneur Lane and Wall Street, South Street, application for tavern liquor license for Three Brothers Baking – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. 80 Nassau Street, application for wine and beer license for Kortako LLC – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Street Activity permit application by Sons of Italy Freedom Block Party (Promoter Mardi Gras Festival) on Sunday, September 25, 2011, Liberty Street between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. Green Resources in CB1 – Report by Urban Fellow Heather Anderson
5. Use of Downtown Heliport at Pier 6 for tourist flights – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. Street activity permit application by Chabad of Wall Street (Mardi Gras Festival Productions) on Sunday, August 14, 2011, full street closure of Liberty Street between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7. Street activity permit application by Community Board 1 (Mardi Gras Festival Productions) on Saturday, August 6, 2011, full street closure of Liberty Street between Trinity Place and Nassau Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 43 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

8. Street activity permits application by NYC Police Museum (Mardi Gras Festival Productions) on Monday, September 5, 2011, full street closure of Liberty Street between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution

WTC Redevelopment Committee

Special thanks to Bill Love, Yume and Heather for their contributions to the WTC Redevelopment Committee.

1. Port Authority NY&NJ and Silverstein Properties Update

The progress made since this time last year is amazing and the project is moving forward.

2. Victims Compensation Fund Presentation by Sheila Birnbaum, Special Master Presentation – Report

Sheila Birnbaum advised us of the process by which people can apply to the WTC Victims Compensation fund. The online application process will be open on October 1st. There will be pro bono assistance available so that applicants won't need to hire an attorney. However, if applicants decide to hire one, the maximum fee is 10%. The catchment area has been expanded to Reade Street. The deadline for comments regarding these proposed changes is August 5th.

Allan Tannenbaum reported that NYOSH reported that it has not found a link between exposure to dust from the WTC site and cancer although a lot of dust was visible as far north as IPN.

We're fortunate to have Special Master Birnbaum working with us to administer this fund.

2. The Battery Conservancy Update on Upcoming Events by Warrie Price, Founder and President – Report

Reported on events planned at Battery Park to commemorate 9/11 including Flags and CB1's "Hand in Hand" which the Battery Conservancy is co-sponsoring.

Battery Park City Committee

1. At-grade crossing of West Street at Vesey Street discussion with New York City Department of Transportation – Report

There is need for more BPC residents to join this Board.

2. Issues with curb cuts along West Street near West Thames Street and discussion with New York State Department of Transportation – Report
3. Battery TV survey regarding use of the lawn at West Thames Park – Report
4. Street Activity permit application by Harmony on the Hudson on Sunday, September 25, 2011, Battery Place between Little West Street and 1st Place – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5. Community representation on Battery Park City Authority Board – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. Proposal for lion sculptures outside Battery Park City Public Library – Letter
7. Tour of Poet's House – Report
8. 301 South End Avenue, application for new restaurant liquor license for 301 South LLC d/b/a Southwest NY/the Black Hound – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9. 102 North End Avenue a.k.a. Site 25, application for a new restaurant liquor license for Site 25 Restaurant Concepts, LLC d/b/a Wei West – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

10. Otterness' Lions Sculptures Issue – Report

Chairperson Menin said that she has placed a call to the BPC Authority regarding their rejection of the proposal to place the sculptures outside the BPC library and is awaiting a reply from Gayle Horowitz.

Landmarks Committee

1. American Stock Exchange Building at 86 Trinity Place and Western Electric Company and Factory Building at 125 Greenwich Street – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Bogardus Garden Clock Tower Proposal – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. Governors Island, application for approval of demolition of three buildings in historic district, two non-contributing additions to existing buildings and a swimming pool – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4. 70 Pine Street, application for storefront and interior alterations and creation of a loading dock – Report

Showed visuals demonstrating the effect of the loading dock and because it appeared fine, the committee agreed to it.

5. 111 Broadway, application for storefront renovation and awning – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6. 463 Greenwich Street, application for installation of new bulkhead – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7. Manhattan Borough Board Resolution Regarding Community Board Review of Landmarks Applications – Report

8. Timing allowed after CB 1's receipt of an application doesn't always allow us time to request revisions and other design changes based on the committee's comments, so the BP is considering how to improve the process.

9. Extension of South Street Historic District to include all of Pier 17 – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Street Fair Task Force

1. Update on 2011 Community Board One street fairs – Report

CB 1’s Street Fair Task Force reviews street fairs and refers them to the appropriate geographical committee.

2. Sponsorship of Street Fairs for Fundraising by CB #1 in 2012 – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Old Business

None

New Business

1. Allocation of LMDC Community and Cultural Enhancement Funds

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2. Authorization of offer of employment to new CB1 Community Liaison

BOARD VOTE: 44 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3. 2011 Preliminary Revised Draft SGEIS for High-Volume Hydraulic Fracturing for New York State

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

4. An Open Ceremony on September 10, 2011 to Commemorate the 9/11 Attacks

BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by: Noel E. Jefferson, Secretary