

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD #1
THREE LEGGED DOG ART AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER
80 GREENWICH STREET
DECEMBER 21, 2011

Public Session

Paul Goldstein - Representing Speaker Silver

The Speaker organized a session for the new Port Authority Executive Director to meet with the community. He talked about PAC. There are reports in newspapers that funding might be lost, but he said that's not accurate. PA is progressing with forming board. 450,000 square feet of retail on track and the desire to have LMCCC continue. The proposed methadone clinic's application has been withdrawn. Speaker facilitated their meeting with the community. The Speaker played a major role in legislation creating a fairer tax structure and insisted that the "Millionaires Tax" continue. The agreement reached had the same effect. There was positive news at the School Overcrowding Taskforce: Peck Slip will have 56 more seats, an increase to over 700 seats and the new principal, Maggie Sienna, was introduced.

John Ricker - Representing NYC Comptroller John C. Liu

Reported in response to last month's question from Tom Goodkind regarding CityTime contract, that payments were stopped in June 20, 2010. He continues to monitor city contracts.

Victoria Weil - President of Friends of Bogardus Park

Tribeca Committee voted to support resolution making permanent the pedestrian plaza next to Bogardus Garden. She asked for CB1 support for the committee resolution.

Arthur Piccolo - Resident

Police held a hearing on closure of Thames Street between Trinity and Greenwich based on a 2004 Local Law to facilitate pedestrian flow around the 9/11 Memorial. He reported that the "Bull" remains barricaded with 2 full time officers nearby.

Wendi Wang - Shen Yun Promotions International

Next year is Year of the Dragon and Shen Yun performance at Lincoln Center is starting January promoting traditional Chinese culture.

Michelle Shuster - Ace NY Services for the Homeless

Tribeca Beautification Program. They are proposing a tree planting program and would love to have the support of CB1.

Diane Stein - CB#1 Public Member

Thanked the Joint committees which voted for a resolution in support of the Living Wage Bill

Maureen Silverman - Tribeca Resident

Asked for CB1 support of the Living Wages Bill resolution

Michael Burke - Resident

Wants the WTC Sphere to be returned to the Memorial Plaza.

Adan Steiner - LGBT Community Center Counselor

Asks that we support smoke free environment. Said aggressive marketing by tobacco companies is affecting consumers, specifically youth, raising smoking rates. He wants Tobacco companies to stop targeting teens. 66% of New Yorkers support smoke free buildings. Paul Hovitz asked that he address the Youth & Education Committee to draft a resolution

Alec Schierenbeck – Representing Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer

Talked about effect of Walmart entering NYC. He cited a report from Loyola, Chicago that within 2 years, 66 small food and produce stores in Harlem could be closed. This is troubling. Grants are available for “Green Your Street” program and application deadline is January 20, 2012. An upcoming information session is on January 5th at 6:30PM for people who would like to apply for positions on the Community Board.

Jenifer Rajkumar - District Leader

Her website is Jenifernyc.com. The NY County Committee has a new youth committee. Initial meeting drew a large crowd. She is developing new ways to engage constituents.

Jordan Levine - Representing Senator Squadron

Earlier this month, the Senate came back into session. Sen. Squadron is pushing for completion of PAC and for community representation on that board. Also calls for stronger restrictions on Hydrofracking.

Yume Kitasei - Representing Council Member Chin

The Councilwoman is responding to the death of soldier Danny Chin by calling for the U.S. Army to take stronger measures to investigate and ensure such tragedies do not recur. Also, she passed a bill on air filtration on large buildings that calls for an upgrade in soot filters. Lastly, the Councilwoman is happy to see the resolution supporting the Living Wage Bill.

Allan Tannenbaum – CB #1 Member

Starting working on a photo story about hydrofracking. Went to Pennsylvania where water has been polluted and landscape has become more industrialized where hydrofracking has occurred.

Emma Roszko - Assemblymember Glick

Governor called special session to enact the new tax structure and the Assembly Member was involved in pushing for more progressive taxation. Also, talked about the need to better regulate hydrofracking

Stephanie Basile

Union Organizer spoke about the need to pass the Living Wage Bill.

Business Session

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on November 22, 2011 were adopted unanimously as presented.

Chairperson's Report

Talked about PANYNJ meeting. One of the most important issues is the need for a PAC. Attended Speaker Silver's School Overcrowding meeting. Met with the Howard Hughes Corporation which is developing a new proposal for Pier 17 at the South Street Seaport. It will come to the Landmarks and Seaport Committees. Testified with Vice-Chair Catherine Hughes on Hydrofracking. Spoke about the importance of approving the Living Wage Bill, which will affect projects in our community. We have a quorum.

District Manager's Report

Nothing new on the budget cuts but still stay on top of issue. Testified at several hearings, including at the City Council on Governors Island and at the NYPD Administrative meeting on the closure of Thames Street. Andrew Brokman testified about hydrofracking on the Upper West Side.

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

WTC Redevelopment Committee

WTC Medical Working Group's 2011 Annual Report - Report

Annual Report is now available and describes the diseases studied and notes that children have been understudied. WTC Health Registry's third survey is now underway. It is important to fill out the survey for several reasons.

WTC Performing Arts Center – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 28 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Accounting from LMDC - Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 29 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Landmarks Committee

105-107 Reade Street, application for rooftop addition and façade restoration – Resolution

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

388 Broadway, application for rooftop addition – Resolution

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

105-107 Washington Street – Report

Old Downtown Community House which was a settlement house in 1925 for needs of Syrian community. The Landmarks designation recommendation was turned down.

Youth & Education Committee

Update by Chinatown Working Group on Education and Schools Action Plan

Most of this covered non-CB#1 schools.

Possible Sites for the Construction of New Schools – Report

Talked about several sites but one of the most exciting is the unoccupied Sym's Building. It's is 67,000 square feet and falls within the SCA specifications. Elected officials are in full support. This could be a zoned middle school. Discussed the zoning of Peck Slip and Spruce Street.

Review of the Latest Zoning Proposal and Accommodations – Resolution

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

Review of the DOE's Process for Presenting New Zoning Proposals – Resolution

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

Tribeca Traffic Transportation Sub-Committee

Reade Street Parking Regulations – Resolution

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

SLA Process Review Task Force

Presentation of final SLA questionnaire to geographic committees – Report

The questionnaire is finalized and will be emailed to all board members and in January the Task Force Co-Chairs will present it to all geographic committee.

Tribeca Committee

Permanent closure of the Bogardus Plaza - Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 28 In Favor 3 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

401 Greenwich Street, application for tavern wine and beer license for Kaffe 2, Inc. d/b/a Kaffe 1668 – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

1st Amendment Issues Related to the Sukkah in Duane Park Proposal – Report

Several months ago the Tribeca Committee passed a resolution which opposed this. Some of the issues were clarified and discussed, including the ACLU's assessment of the legality of religious displays on public property.

Beautification Program for Tribeca – Report

The project was spoken about in Public Session. ACE (Tribeca Partnership) is working to provide planters in Tribeca and is seeking sponsorship especially by condo boards.

Battery Park City Committee

Update on plan to renovate the Winter Garden and maintain the staircase – Report

Proposal to station food trucks at North End Avenue – Report

David Cheikin, Brookfield, reported on both of these issues and the response was very favorable. Emphasized that the Winter Garden Staircase is staying and indeed there will be retail behind the stairs.

Recent dismissal of Battery Park City Authority personnel – Report

Discussion about the dismissal of 19 employees. Committee was very concerned about the manner in which these actions were carried out. But yesterday the BPCA Board voted a retroactive severance package for the 19 former employees.

Discussion of South End and North End Avenue traffic issues and possible installation of traffic lights and/or stop signs – Report

Will be discussed in detail with NYC DOT at the January BPC meeting.

250 Vesey Street, application for a restaurant liquor license for Casa Masa LLC d/b/a Casa Masa – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Tunnel to Towers RunWalk, application for a street activity permit on Sunday, September 30, 2012 on Vesey Street from West Street to North End Avenue and on North End Avenue from Vesey to Murray Streets during the hours of 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Planning and Infrastructure Committee

Designations Zoning Text Amendment – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 28 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Chinatown Working Group on Immigration and Social Services and Parks, Open Space and Recreation Action Plans – Report

Strategic Planning Needs Assessment – Report

Planning and Community Infrastructure and Seaport/Civic Center Committees

Support for the Living Wage Bill in the New York City Council – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 24 In Favor 2 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused
Seaport Historic District – Report

Fulton Street Project – Report

Archaeological Findings from the Fulton Street Project – Report

South Street Seaport Christmas Tree and Holiday Market – Report

Santa Pub Crawl – Report

10 Reade Street (AKA 2 Lafayette Street), application for renewal of sidewalk café license for Albachiara LLC d/b/a Alba – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 24 In Favor 2 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

Street Fair Task Force

Discussion of 2012 street fair proposal from Mardi Gras Productions – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 26 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

Housing Committee

5,000 Rentals in the Financial District - Report

World Trade Tower at 130 Liberty Street –Report

Retired seniors to stay in our community – Report

Completion of Seniors’ Guide update by work group - Report

Quality of Life Committee

Medhattan Immediate Medical Care, a new urgent care clinic in Lower Manhattan – Report

Mayor Bloomberg's New Homeless Policy Regarding Eligibility Requirements for Shelter – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 26 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Food Carts Letter Grades Bill and Excessive Fines for Vendors – Report and Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 26 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Financial District Committee

Relocate Gramercy Park Medical Group treatment facility for substance abusers to 90 Maiden Lane – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Application for newsstand at southeast corner of Broadway and Beaver Streets newsstand – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Application for newsstand at northeast corner of West Broadway and Barclay Streets – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Application for newsstand at Williams and John Streets in front of 99 John Street – Resolution

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

Closure of Thames Street between Trinity Place and Greenwich Street from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily for security reasons by NYPD – Resolution

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

Planning and Infrastructure Committee

(E) Designation Zoning Text Amendment – Resolution

BOARD VOTE: 28 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Chinatown Working Group on Immigration and Social Services and Parks, Open Spaces and Recreation

Action Plans – Report deferred.

Strategic Planning Needs Assessment – Report deferred.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

Approx. 9 pm.

Respectfully amended and submitted by Secretary Anthony Notaro and Assistant Secretary Marc Ameruso