

CB 1 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 2013

DATE: Wednesday, March 27, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: 7 World Trade Center
250 Greenwich Street, 10th Floor

Chairperson Catherine McVay Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:05pm, EDT.

I. Public Session

- 1) Larry Silverstein (Silverstein Properties)
 - Thanked Catherine McVay Hughes for all of her work.
 - Discussed the progress made since 9/11.
 - Very satisfied with the relationship that has been established with CB1.
- 2) Malcolm (World Trade Center Construction)
 - Discussed the timeline for WTC construction progress.
- 3) Captain Brendan Timoney (NYPD)
 - New Commanding Officer for the 1st Police Precinct. Has been in place for 2 weeks.
 - Discussed his background in law enforcement.
 - Plans to maintain good relationships with CB1 and the community.
- 4) Chris Shelton (Communication Workers of America)
 - Thanked CB1 for welcoming CWA.
 - Opposed to Verizon plan to move 1100 employees from West Street in Manhattan to Brooklyn.
 - Presented a petition from 280 local merchants opposed to the move.
 - The move will be bad for the economy of lower Manhattan.
 - Without redundancies in Manhattan and Brooklyn, emergencies could have worse impacts.
- 5) Sammy (Corner Gourmet II)
 - Opposed to Verizon moving its employees from lower Manhattan to Brooklyn.
 - He will go out of business if Verizon moves these workers as he relies on their business.

- 6) Ron Spaulding (CWA)
 - Opposed to the move.
- 7) Tom Lavin (CWA member and CB1 Resident)
 - Opposed to move.
- 8) Angel Vazquez (CWA)
 - Opposed to move.

Other CWA members spoke; however, they did not submit information sheets. The points made in opposition to the proposed move of workers by Verizon were reiterated. Attendance sheet for a list of attendees is available at the CB1 office.

- 9) Damien O'Brien (Lilly O'Briens)
 - Opposed to the proposed move by Verizon.
- 10) Councilmember Margaret Chin
 - Thanked all of the CWA members. Has spoken to CWA about this issue. Wants to keep the CWA Verizon employees in Lower Manhattan.
 - Discussed the benefits from the Pier 17 negotiations. Was happy to get the leases of business owners extended until September 2013. The food market will be available next fall. The space on the rooftop will be open most of the time. Four times per year, community groups will be able to use the space for events. Howard Hughes Corporation will donate \$750,000 to the Seaport Museum.
 - John Fratta thanked Councilmember Chin for her work on the project.
 - Paul Hovitz: this is a non-binding letter of agreement; what is to stop them from renegeing on their promise? Answer: the commitment is strong and they can be held responsible for any promises that are not kept. Matt Viggiano (CM Chin's Office): Any broken promises will adversely impact future ULURP applications.
- 11) Joseph Graffagnino (Plaque for Fallen Firefighters)
 - Thanked CB1 and Chairperson Catherine McVay Hughes for efforts to memorialize his son and other firefighters who lost their lives in the fire at 130 Liberty Street.
 - Please vote yes on the resolution supporting a memorial plaque.
- 12) Paul Goldstein (Assemblymember Sheldon Silver)
 - The ballfields are ready for opening day on April 7, 2013.
 - Next week there will be another school overcrowding meeting. Schools Chancellor Dennis Walcott will be in attendance.

- Speaker Silver is pleased about the agreement on the minimum wage. It will be set at \$9 per hour in January 2015.
 - Successfully advocated for the state to increase funding for education.
 - Please see the budget report for more information.
- 13) Matt Borden (Assemblymember Deborah Glick)
- Fighting for more money for Hudson River Park.
- 14) Mary Cooley (Senator Daniel Squadron)
- Dismayed that the budget was voted on during the middle of the night.
 - Thinks the minimum wage should be indexed for inflation. Voted no on the proposed amount.
 - The annual Community Convention is on April 28 at BMCC.
 - See newsletter for details.
- 15) Hannah Friedman (Borough President Scott Stringer)
- April 24 is Denim Day to protest sexual violence.
 - New report: Growing Gotham about economic growth for women and minority-owned businesses in New York City.
 - Community Board appointments are being made soon.
- 16) Lei Xi (Chinese Culture & Shen Yun)
- This Chinese cultural organization is performing at Lincoln Center April 20-28. They celebrate and promote traditional Chinese culture.
- 17) Nadine Ghattas (Chinese Culture & Shen Yun)
- Shen Yun promotes awareness of Chinese culture.
- 18) Katherine Groede (Community Environmental Center)
- Community Environmental Center Eco House is in Foley Square.
- 19) Deborah Mella (Cipriani Ballroom)
- Opposed to a newsstand being built in front of their establishment.
- 20) Tom Goodkind (TriBattery Pops)
- The Pops is playing at the Little League Opening.
 - Thanked the New York Mets for assisting with the opening of the ballfields.
 - They have sold 5 CDs. They are free for Community Board 1 members.

- Please join their group.
- 21) Simon Bertrang (Trust for Governors Island)
- Discussed proposed commercial zoning for the island.
- 22) Richard Suarez (Department of City Planning)
- Discussed proposed Water Street POPS zoning text amendment.
- 23) Jacques Capsouto (CB1 Public Member)
- Owns two properties on Greenwich Street.
 - Opposed to the Neighborhood Improvement District (NID).
- 24) Eileen McColgen (Co-President of 26 North Moore)
- Opposed to the NID.
 - There should be a forum on the NID issue.
 - Existing BID areas are exempt from the NID, but still benefit from the park.
- 25) Nicole Vianna (NID)
- Opposed to the NID.
- 26) Paul Hovitz (CB1)
- Concerned with the Pier 17 deal.
 - More market space is needed.
- 27) David Sheldon (Save Our Seaport)
- Would like CB1 to support the SOS position on Seaport development.
 - Concerned with the way the development of the Seaport is going.
- 28) Brian Lacey (39 North Moore St.)
- Opposed to a liquor license for a proposed restaurant.

II. **Business Session**

The business session began at 7:21pm, EDT.

- A) Adoption of February 2013 minutes
- Adopted unanimously

B) Chairperson's Report – C. McVay Hughes

1. 2012 Accomplishments and 2013 Goals Report submitted and posted on-line. It was developed at each committee (03/22/2013). Thanked every CB1 member and staff for their hard work and dedication this past year.

2. Press Conferences – joined:

- Senator Squadron announcing Superstorm Sandy Small Business Legal Clinics for Historic South Seaport area (2/28/2013)
- Borough President Stringer, Congressman Nadler, Senator Squadron, Council Member Chin's Lunch at Historic South Street Seaport for small businesses meeting and to local business (Fresh Salt, 3/1/2013)
- Speaker Quinn and Council Member Chin – announced year round new food markets at Pier 17 & Tin Building; pushed back Pier 17 redevelopment construction start date allowing existing tenants to stay through summer and ensure additional public access to the new roof top; 2 major uncertainties: relationship of HH with SS Museum needs to be fully resolved and the future of the 2 buildings; more zoning and HH will need to come back for approval (3/20/2013)

3. Testified:

- NYC Council Pier 17 ULURP (03/14/2013)
- The Council of the City of New York Committee on Governmental Operations Fiscal Year 2014 Preliminary Budget Hearings – proposed 8% reduction (03/14/13)

4. New York City Council:

- Proclamation for WTC health-related advocacy from Council Member Chin and Speaker Quinn – received one along with Allan Tannenbaum, Marc Ameruso and John Feal (2/27/2013)

5. Pace University Panel: What is Sandy? Participated with Climate Central and WNYC (03/19/2013)

6. Meetings:

- WTC Survivors Committee – with Bob Schneck (03/05/2013)
- NYC Deputy Commissioner for Small Business Services Elizabeth De Leon – at historic South Street Seaport (03/12/2013)
- Midtown Rezoning Multi-Taskforce with Deputy Mayor Steele and Chair Burden (03/15/2013)

- SIRR Lower Manhattan CBO Briefing - Mayor Bloomberg's Special Initiative for Rebuilding & Resiliency (SIRR) (03/20/2013)
- Civic Center Taskforce – progress moving along on the almost 16,000 sq ft of community space for a nonprofit educational arts space for digital art, new media, visual arts; with Jeff Galloway, Marianna James, Evan Lacher (Tricia Joyce and John Fratta could not attend) (03/22/2013).

C) District Manager's Report – N. Pfefferblit

- Annual report is now posted on the CB1 Website. Thank you to all who helped get it done on time.
- Was at the CB1 annual budget hearings.
- The budget outlook for the year is positive.

III. **Committee Reports**

A) **Executive Committee**

1) Task Force to Review CB1 Committee Structure – Report

- Looking to ensure that the committee structure works.
- Marc Ameruso: concerned that the issue is repeatedly brought up every couple of years.

2) Borough of Manhattan Community College – Resolution strongly urging that BMCC continue to stay downtown in Tribeca and the Financial District. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

3) Community Board 1 Population – Report by Diana Switaj, Land Use and Planning Consultant

- Reviewed data from the census.
- Study focused on the population of children in CB1.
- Massive increase in children over the past decade.
- Financial District and Battery Park had largest gains.
- Diana and Catherine are attending Speaker Silver's School Overcrowding Task Force meeting next week.
- Several members commented that they believe the population numbers are higher than what has been published.

4) Department of Education – Resolution inviting DOE Chancellor Dennis Walcott to meet with CB1 leadership at his earliest convenience to discuss the community's education needs and possible solutions to the crisis regarding schools downtown. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5) Calendar for 2013 – Report

- The CB1 office has scheduled the rest of 2013’s monthly meetings dates.

6) NYC Department of Transportation Wayfinding Content Workshop – Report

- Two dozen people showed up at the geographic committees to review proposed wayfinding maps and signage.

B) **Financial District Committee**

1) Plaque for Fallen Firefighters – Resolution wholeheartedly supporting a plaque for the two fallen firefighters who died heroically fighting the fire at 130 Liberty Street to be installed on Fire Engine Ladder 10’s Greenwich Street exterior wall near the bronze memorial to their fellow firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) Broadway 1000 Steps – Update

- A walking tour has been organized for this exhibit opening in May, 2013.

3) Water Street streetscape improvements – Report

- Department of Transportation showed a presentation for proposed changes to Water Street and closure of Coentes Slip and Gouvernor Lane.

4) Presentation about proposed plan for London Calling film shoot at 20 Exchange Place

5) South Prow, 10 South Street (Governors Island), application for wine and beer license for Salmon East Seven Corp., d/b/a Little Eva’s – Resolution in opposition to granting a restaurant wine and beer license to Salmon East Seven Corp., d/b/a Little Eva’s for South Prow, 10 South Street (Governors Island) unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6) 111 John Street, application for wine and beer license for Zen Master Foods, Inc., d/b/a Mooncake Foods – Resolution in opposition to granting a restaurant wine and beer license to Zen Master Foods, Inc., d/b/a Mooncake Foods for 111 John Street unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7) 32 Old Slip, application for catering facility liquor license for Sentry Centers 32 Old Slip LLC d/b/a Convene at 32 Old Slip – Resolution in opposition to granting a catering facility liquor license to Sentry Centers 32 Old Slip LLC d/b/a Convene for 32 Old Slip, unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

C) **Battery Park City Committee**

1) Route 9A – Update

- State DOT gave a progress report on Route 9A reconstruction.

2) Traffic light study and traffic calming measures – Update

- BPC traffic light warrant study will commence shortly
- Working group met to discuss traffic calming measures. DOT is revising designs based upon the meeting. The working group will meet an additional time prior to presenting designs to the committee.

3) West Thames Street Bridge

- Planning has begun.

D) **Seaport/Civic Center Committee**

1) Howard Hughes Corp. – Report

- Substantial concessions were made to the community on Pier 17 by Howard Hughes.
- Progress is being made on reopening Seaport properties

2) Durst Properties – Report

- Durst owns many buildings on Front Street.
- Explained the reasons for the delays they are facing in reopening Front Street buildings.
- Paul Hovitz: There is a law suit because of damage from Sandy.

3) Problems at DeLury Park and Fulton Street – Resolution supporting the request by Friends of DeLury Park for DeLury Park to be designated a “No Dogs Allowed” park. *Adopted*

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

4) Continued support of Historic South Street Seaport and Museum – Resolution supporting goals in the mission statement of Save Our Seaport and requesting advocacy on behalf of those goals by elected officials. *Adopted*

6) Spirit Raise Project – Resolution recommending that the "curfew" for amplified sound be extended by 30 minutes to 9:30 pm for the Sprit Raise Project. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7) 5 Beekman Street – Report

- Concerns were addressed about a proposed Denny's.

8) 21-23 Peck Slip, application for a renewal of a sidewalk café license for Acqua Restaurant – Resolution approving the renewal of the sidewalk café license for IDG Seaport Inc. at 21-23 Peck Slip. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

9) 225 Front St., application for a liquor license for TDB – Resolution in opposition to granting a restaurant liquor license to Dona Gallo Inc. at 225 Front St unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

10) Half Marathon – Resolution requesting that the Mayor's Office of Street Activity Permits not allow The Half Marathon to come back to the Seaport. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 21 In Favor 4 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

E) **Tribeca Committee**

1) Hudson River Park Trust State Legislation/Proposed Neighborhood Improvement District – Report

- There will be future meetings on the proposed Hudson River Park Neighborhood Improvement District (NID). The CB1 Chair will vote the way the full board votes.
- Mark Ameruso: we need to clarify the official position of CB1 on the proposed NID.
- This issue has been referred to the Tribeca Committee for a resolution.

2) 50 Varick St., application for a liquor license for Spring Studios – **Postponed**

3) Fresh Direct - Report

- They are working on a plan for trucks that service Tribeca residents.
- 4) Washington Market Park Equipment Request – Report
 - Update on funding.
 - 5) Bogardus Plaza capital improvement project – Report
 - Requested letter of support for funding. Request was granted.
 - 6) Public Art for Tribeca Park, Department of Parks – Postponed to April, 2013
 - 7) 39 North Moore St., application for a liquor license for TDB – Resolution in opposition to granting of a restaurant liquor license to 39 North Moore St. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 8) 429-435 aka 62 Laight Street, application for a liquor license for Dylan Prime – Resolution in opposition to granting an alteration of a restaurant liquor license to Laight Restaurant Corp. at 429-435 Greenwich unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 9) 363-367 Greenwich Street, application for a liquor license for American Cut – Resolution in opposition to granting an alteration of a restaurant liquor license to Alfredo of Rome Tribeca LLC at 363-376 Greenwich unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. Not included. *Adopted.*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 10) 139 Duane Street, application for a renewal of a sidewalk cafe license for Blaue Gans – Resolution approving the sidewalk café license for Blaue Gans at 139 Duane Street. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 11) 134 West Broadway, application for a renewal of a sidewalk cafe license for Petite Abeille – Resolution approving the sidewalk café license for Petite Abeille at 134 West Broadway. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

F) **Planning Committee**

1) Governors Island Special Purpose Zoning District – Resolution supporting the adoption of the proposed zoning text and map amendments to establish a Governors Island Special District; and requesting that new or renovated construction should be LEED-rated and Energy Star certified, that consideration be given to amelioration of possible future storm damage, that retail uses seek a balance of uses that will attract residents of CB1 as well as tourists and that sufficient open space be included as part of any new construction on Governors Island in order to maintain its park-like atmosphere. *Adopted*

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

2) Water Street Temporary Programming for POPS Text Amendment – Resolution supporting the proposed zoning text amendment regarding Water Street POPS in Lower Manhattan provided that programmatic uses for the POPS enhance and are not in competition with local businesses, and that Community Board 1 is notified of all programmatic uses to occupy the POPS; and asking the Department of City Planning to report to it on the success of the POPS and plans to make it permanent in the future. *Adopted*

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

3) East Midtown Tri-Board Task Force – Resolution authorizing the CB1 Chair to join the Tri-Board Task Force on East Midtown Rezoning and to designate a representative to vote at the Task Force on its behalf. *Passed*

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

4) Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency – Report

- This is a Mayor’s Office initiative.

G) **Quality of Life Committee**

1) Update on Construction Projects in Lower Manhattan – Report

- There are two Hilton hotels being built.

2) Annual update by WTC Health Registry – Report

- Studies are beginning in 2014 and 2015. They will incorporate the effects of Superstorm Sandy.

3) Counterfeiting – Report

- Councilmember Chin is proposing legislation to prevent counterfeiting.

4) Updates by CB1 Senior Programs – Report

- Southbridge Seniors is open two days per week.
- The budget is stretched.
- Independence Plaza’s senior programs aren’t getting enough people.

H) **Landmarks Committee**

1) 502 Canal Street, application for facade reconstruction – Resolution recommending the Landmark Preservation Commission continue to hold over the application until the applicant has presented to the Landmarks Committee in April. *Adopted*

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

2) 32 Avenue of the Americas, application for alteration to entrance and "Retail Master Plan" – Resolution recommending the Landmark Preservation Commission approve the application only after noted changes are reflected in the Master Plan. *Adopted*

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

3) 60 Pine Street, application for alteration to existing approval for roof top addition. *Adopted.*

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

4) 70 Pine Street, application for alteration to ground floor windows, sprinklers, security desk, and railings – Resolution recommending the Landmark Preservation Commission approve the application. *Adopted*

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

5) South Street Seaport New Market Building – Report

- Canceled.

I) **Youth & Education Committee**

1) Human Trafficking – Report

- The DA’s office gave a presentation on how to prevent human trafficking.

2) The NYC Kids Project – Report

- Gave a demonstration on how students can relate to each other.
- In need of funding because their funding was cut.

- 3) Help us Stop Budget Cuts to NYC Public Schools Petition – Report
 - Budget cuts are impacting local schools. A resolution will be presented next month.
- 4) 2013 Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten numbers within CD1 – Report
 - There will be one less Pre-K at 276. There will be one opening at Tweed.
 - The overcrowding is getting worse every year.
- 5) Gymatoriums – Resolution voicing great concern over the use of a “gymatorium” in all future public school construction and urging the DOE and SCA to find ways to construct a separate gym and auditorium - *adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 6) Minimum wage increase and indexing – Resolution in support of raising the minimum wage and indexing it in New York State.

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

IV. **Old Business**

No old business to report.

V. **New Business**

Bob Townley thinks CB1 full board meetings are rushed.

VI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm, EDT.

Respectfully submitted by: Adam Malitz, Secretary