

CB1 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: MAY 2013

DATE: Tuesday, May 28, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Pace Performing Arts Center
140 William Street, 1st Floor

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, EDT.

I. Public Session

- 1) Vanessa Herman (Pace University)
 - Welcomed CB1.
 - This is the first meeting held at the new space at 140 William St.
- 2) Sarah Diaz (Assemblymember Deborah Glick)
 - Discussed the Assemblymember's work on women's rights.
 - Discussed work on Citi Bike issues.
 - Working with Councilmember Margaret Chin on the Nassau Street Denny's issue.
 - Working on LGBT hate crime issues.
 - Assembly passed New York State Dream Act.
 - Wants to stop the horsemeat industry in New York.
- 3) Corie Sharples, PS 150 Parents and Paul Hovitz (PS 150)
 - Opposed to moving PS 150 to Chelsea.
 - Would like the current school to grow in the current location in CB1.
 - Community organizations and businesses are concerned that they will lose patrons.
 - 85% of parents have stated that they will not bus their children to the new school in Chelsea. Instead, parents will put their children on the waitlist for other neighborhood schools, adding to the overcrowding issue.
 - Busing the students to Chelsea will be expensive for the City of New York.
 - Taste of Tribeca event will be impacted.
- 4) Tom Goodkind (CB1)
 - Opposed to worship in public schools.
 - Concerned that Councilmember Chin did not block support for this issue.
- 5) Yume Kitasei and Amy Varghese (Councilmember Chin)

- Introduced the Councilmember's new communication director, Amy Varghese.
 - Councilmember is against discrimination by religious organizations.
 - Addressing issues related to slowing the speed limit in Battery Park City.
 - Wrote a letter asking for World Trade Center security plan comment period to be extended.
 - Councilmember Chin sponsored legislation to require bus safety records to be listed online.
- 6) Matthew Bethell (Senator Daniel Squadron)
- Upset about recent hate crimes against the LGBT community.
 - Passed legislation that strengthens penalties against reckless drivers.
 - Working on riverfront issues.
- 7) Kimberly Flynn (June 3rd WTC Health Forum)
- Please join us to promote outreach.
 - Located at 61 Broadway.
- 8) Hannah Friedman (Borough President Scott Stringer)
- Last week, the BP's wife gave birth to their second son.
 - Community Board trainings are coming up on June 3 and 12.
 - Please attend conflict of interest trainings.
 - BP released a report on cybercrime. Cybercrime law has not been changed since 1984.
- 9) Ariana Massuh and Parents (PS 276)
- Speaking on behalf of 37 parents still on the waitlist.
 - They have collected a petition with over 700 signatures.
 - Would like the Department of Education to build more schools in Lower Manhattan.
- 10) Sandra Fields (OccupyEMF.org)
- Concerned that Wifi is dangerous for children in schools.
 - Concerned about the new head of the Federal Communications Commission.
- 11) Frances Curtis (District Council 37)
- 125,000 members visit their offices for services.
- 12) Mary Perillo (WTC DEIS)

- Concerned about NYPD security plans for the WTC.
 - Save Our Downtown group has formed.
- 13) Sumumba Sobuke and Bill Johnson (Occupy Wall Street)
- Thanked everyone who came to May Day.
 - Another unaffiliated group will be hosting events at Zucotti Park.
 - Friday night meetings occur at 60 Wall Street.
- 14) Todd Fine (Friends of the Lower West Side)
- Thanked CB1 for its resolution in support of signage about the history of Little Syria.
- 15) John Fratta (CB1)
- Supports bike share program.
 - Concerned that new bike racks are blocking spaces outside houses of worship, which interferes with ceremonies such as funerals.
- 16) Jim Hein (New York Road Runners)
- Discussed American Heart Association Run.
 - Event raises \$2 million dollars every year for the charity.
 - May 28 from 6:45pm-8pm.
 - Admitted that community outreach was insufficient. Cited the recent bombings as causing many changes in their plans.

II. **Business Session**

- A) Adoption of April 2013 minutes
- Adopted as presented
- B) Chairperson's Report

Announcements:

- Thanked Pace University for hosting the meeting in their new space at 140 William Street.
- WTC Campus Security Plan DEIS Comment Period was extended to May 22 (from May 8) as a result of our public testimony and we are planning ways to continue our efforts to revise the security plan to minimize impact on our community while maintaining safety
- FDNY Commissioner Sal Cassano has approved an illuminated plaque for the two fallen firefighters Joseph Graffagnino and Robert Beddia, 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 memorial to their fellow firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001

- Con Edison Storm Hardening – in response to Sandy an \$80mm investment south of Canal Street in next several years to protect infrastructure, harden components, mitigate impacts and facilitate restoration
- WTC Healthcare Forum for Lower Manhattan on Monday, June 3rd – PSC- CUNY, 61 Broadway, sponsors include the WTC Health Program and CB1

Milestones:

- White security tent damaged during Sandy was removed in The Battery Park historic area – restoring iconic view of Statue of Liberty (May 2013)
- Convene Ribbon Cutting with Congressman Nadler – to launch New York City's most advanced professional Conference Center in Downtown Business District, nearly 40,000 square foot location is largest new business opening since hurricane Sandy (04/29/2013)
- The Blue School 2nd Grade Seaport History Museum Exhibit and Show on the 6 month anniversary of Sandy (04/30/2013)
- DCTV broke ground on its new state-of-the-art fully interactive digital Cinema at 87
- Lafayette Street on White Street – Borough President Stringer and Councilmember Chin. It will be the first “All documentary/All the time” Academy Award eligible Cinema in the United States (05/07/2013)
- 408 foot spire is set into place at the top of 1 World Trade Center (05/10/2013)
- Hudson River Park Trust Pier 25 Playground Opening (Saturday, May 11, 2013)
- Washington Street Plaza Completed – NYC DOT partnered with Downtown Alliance to create a new public plaza on Washington Street between Albany and Carlisle Streets; plaza includes movable tables and chairs, decorative planters, and granite blocks (May 2013)

Testified:

- Committee on Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Oversight Hearing on The Effect of Changing Demographics on the Lower Manhattan Neighborhood with Land Use and Planning Staff Diana Switaj – focused on school overcrowding and active recreation space (05/07/2013)
- City Council Sidewalk Café Legislation – Evan Lacher (05/07/2013)
- New York City Planning Commission Hearing on the Special Governors Island Zoning District with Michael Levine (05/08/2013)
- Community Board 5 East Midtown Rezoning Hearing (05/13/2013)
- Oversight – Ferries: A Vital Part of New York City’s Public Transit System (05/29/2013)

Forums Attended:

- Project R.E.A.C.H. (Resources and Education on Autism as CUNY’s Hallmark) – Disability
- Awareness Month Special Event (04/24/2013)

- Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer “Start-up City: An Entrepreneurial Economy for Middle Class New York (04/26/2013)
- Fifth Annual 26th Senate District Community Convention: State Senator Daniel Squadron
(Sunday, 04/28/2013)
- Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation Planning Strategic Session with Michael Levine (Saturday, 05/04/2013)

Meetings:

- Hudson River Park Trust Taskforce (04/24/2013)
- Department of Education Small Speaker Silver Group Task Force to address school overcrowding (04/29/2013)
- Governor Island’s Tour with CB1 members and staff (05/06/2013)
- Speaker Silver School Overcrowding Task Force (05/10/2013)
- Council Member Chin South Street Seaport Meeting – commence a conversation involving community stakeholders with an eye to identifying urban planning concerns (05/22/2013)
- Civic Center Task Force – with Commissioner Levin, LMCC, City and Mark Costello to start discussions on choosing an operator for the community media facility to be located at 346 Broadway (05/24/2013)

Served:

- New York City Rescue Mission 11th Annual Mother’s Day Banquet along with Council Member Chin (Saturday, 05/11/2013)
- Planted at Downtown Alliance’s Sprucing Up Wall Street Park which was severely impacted by Sandy (Saturday, May 18, 2013)
- Upcoming:
 - Asphalt Green Tour at 5:30pm before the next full board meeting at 5:30pm
 - HRPT NID – HRPT plan not submitted, so no scheduled CB1 hearing; possibly September

The Chair wished Michael Levine a happy 70th birthday and the audience viewed a slide with an extensive list of Michael's accomplishments.

C) District Manager’s Report

- Continuing to meet with DCAS about moving CB1’s office to One Centre Street.

III. Committee Reports

A) Personnel Committee

- 1) Interview with Matt Danzer, applicant for Public Membership – Report

- Matt Danzer has been approved as a public member of the CB1 Planning Committee.

2) Staff – Update

- Job description for CB1’s Director of Land Use and Planning was posted last week. The position must be open for four weeks and will close on June 12, 2013. The committee will begin interviewing on June 16, 2013. They are hoping to have a recommendation by June 25, 2013. The current CB1 Land Use Consultant is applying for the position and a Solicitation would be issued for the Consultant position if it becomes vacant during the summer.

B) **Landmarks Committee**

1) 502 Canal Street, application for facade reconstruction – Update

- Working with developer.

2) 60 Collister Street, application for 2 rooftop pergolas – Resolution *Adopted*.

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

3) 333 Greenwich Street, application for sixth floor enlargement – Resolution *Adopted*.

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

4) 70 Franklin Street, application for new storefront and entrance on Franklin Place – Resolution *Adopted*.

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

C) **Quality of Life Committee**

1) Construction Projects in Lower Manhattan – Report

- There is still a lot of construction occurring throughout Lower Manhattan.

2) Con Edison Storm Hardening – Report

- Con Edison is hardening its infrastructure to make it more resilient. This will result in some temporary noise and disruption.

3) Washington Street Plaza – Report

- 4) State Liquor Authority proposed New York State bill – Manhattan Borough Board Resolution supporting the resolution regarding an amendment to require the State Liquor Authority make available on its automated public license query website and database information pertaining to any conditions it imposes on a licensed premises. *Adopted*

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

- 5) State Liquor Authority proposed New York State bill – Manhattan Borough Board Resolution supporting the resolution regarding an amendment to include certain terms and conditions as part of an on-premises license. *Adopted*

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

D) **Youth & Education Committee**

- 1) WTC Environmental Health Forum, June 3rd – Report

- See Kimberly Flynn’s comments.

- 2) Speaker Silver's Overcrowding Task Force – Report

- 3) Waitlist/school overcrowding – Report

- Downtown is currently seven classes over capacity.

- 4) 2014 preliminary budget cuts to child care and after-school programs – Borough Board Resolution - Community Board 1 supports the resolution that endorses the Campaign for Children, a partnership of The Emergency Coalition to Save Child Care and the NYC Youth Alliance. *Adopted*

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

- 5) Relocation of PS 150 – Resolution urging DOE to withdraw the proposal to re-site PS 150 to Chelsea and instead site and build a new zoned school downtown, as close to the current location of PS 150 as possible, and make that new location the site of any proposed re-siting of PS 150 in the future. *Adopted*

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

E) **Financial District Committee**

1) Presentation on 120 Fulton Street 80/20 Project – Resolution urging the NY State Legislature to enact legislation to allow 421-a tax abatements enabling the additional number of affordable housing units to be built at 120 Fulton Street, providing maximum housing benefits to Lower Manhattan. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 3 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) Lower Manhattan Lighting Initiative – Report

- The project has been cancelled because the funding that was expected will not be available.

3) Hornblower at Pier 15 – Report

- An eco-friendly boat is coming back.

4) 133 Greenwich Street – Report

- A high-rise hotel will be developed at this site.

5) Water Street streetscape improvements – Resolution supporting the NYC Department of Transportation Water Street Pedestrian and Streets Improvements Plan because it will create much needed quality of life improvements on Water Street and is expected to have economic development benefits. *Adopted*

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

6) 40 New Street, application for restaurant wine and beer license for KEJK Inc., d/b/a Star Shine – Resolution in opposition to granting a restaurant wine and beer license to Star Shine for 40 New Street unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

7) Request for support for signage in vicinity of lower Washington Street – Resolution supporting an effort by the City to work with local community groups and historical societies to place a graphic sign with textual history, photographs, and a map of Little Syria, the Lower West Side neighborhood at an appropriate location in the vicinity of this historic area. *Adopted*

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

F) **Battery Park City Committee**

1) Neighborhood Slow Zone Application – Resolution stating that CB1, in partnership with Council Member Margaret Chin, will apply for a Neighborhood Slow Zone within Battery Park City. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) Asphalt Green Community Center – Report

- Will open on June 15.

3) Downtown Connection bus service – Resolution supporting the continuous operation of the Downtown Connection in its current form. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4) 21 South End Avenue, application for a liquor license for Miramar – Resolution in opposition to granting an alteration of a restaurant liquor license to Sawa Restaurant Corp. at 21 South End Ave. unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5) 375 South End Avenue, application for a liquor license alteration for Merchants River House – Resolution in opposition to granting an alteration of a restaurant liquor license to 375 South End LLC at 375 South End Ave. unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6) Run for Knowledge street activity permit application for Warren Street between West Street and North End Avenue, Saturday, September 21, 2013, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm – Resolution not in opposition to the application submitted by the Run For Knowledge for a street activity permit for Saturday, September 21, 2013 subject to conditions. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7) 38 West St., application for a sidewalk café renewal for Café Casano – Resolution approving the sidewalk café license for Café Casano at 38 West Street. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

G) **Seaport/Civic Center Committee**

1) Maintenance of the Jerry Driscoll Walk on the East River Esplanade – Report

- This section of the East River esplanade between Peck Slip and the Brooklyn Bridge was heavily damaged by Sandy. The Parks Department has been repairing the area and it is once again being heavily used. The Parks Department

Administrator for CB1 will walk around the area with CB1 staff and CB1 members and public members to identify work that still needs to be done.

2) Blue School Students South Street Seaport Museum – Report

- Students did a great job presenting the history of the area.

3) NYC Comptroller’s audit report issued regarding the South Street Seaport Associates – Resolution *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

4) 100 Centre Street, request for approval of site reconstruction and stabilization with new ADA ramps and compactor with enclosure for Criminal Court – Resolution *Adopted*

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

5) South Street Seaport – Pier 17, application for a wine and beer license for Starfish Café Inc. – Resolution *Adopted*

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

6) South Street Seaport – Pier 17, request for one-time alteration of hours for Beekman Beer Garden – Resolution *Adopted*

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

H) **Special Seaport/Civic Center Committee**

1) Howard Hughes Corporation Seaport Reactivation Plan – Report

- Timeframe for construction has been extended.
- Howard Hughes will host special events.

2) South Street Seaport Museum – Report

- Museum of the City of New York has extended the term for the Seaport Museum to remain open through the summer. However the board of trustees of the museum has not yet responded to a request for a four month extension through October.

I) **Tribeca Committee**

1) 131 Duane Street, application for a sidewalk café renewal for City Hall Restaurant – Resolution approving the sidewalk café license for City Hall Restaurant at 131 Duane St. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) Friends of Duane Park, street activity permit application for 65 Duane Street between Hudson Street and Staple Street, Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, curbside lane only – Resolution not opposing the application submitted by the Friends of Duane Park for a street activity permit for Wednesday, June 19, 2013 subject to conditions. *Adopted*

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

3) Codification of committee standards for licenses – Report

- The Committee is trying to standardize stipulations for liquor licenses.

J) **Planning Committee**

1) Special Governors Island District – Update

- Will be adopted on June 6, 2013 by the City Planning Commission. There will be a stipulation that if new commercial uses exceed a certain size, special review by Community Board One will be required.
- The new district will allow for additional schools to be built.

2) Civic Center Plan – Resolution recommending approval by the Borough Board of the sale transactions. *Did not carry.*

BOARD VOTE: 0 In Favor 31 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused

3) NYC Plaza Program – Update

- Bogardus was approved.
- Two others were denied.

4) East Midtown Rezoning – Resolution conveying CB1’s recommendations on the rezoning plan in conformance with the concerns of Community Board 5. *Adopted*

BOARD VOTE: 31 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

5) Sidewalk Café City Council Legislation – Resolution opposing the proposed amendment to limit the community board review period to thirty days. *Adopted*

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

IV. **Old Business**

No Old Business to report.

V. **New Business**

No New Business to report.

VI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Adam Malitz, Secretary.