

COMMUNITY BOARD NO.1 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, May 15, 2007
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Pace University
1 Pace Plaza, Media Room

AGENDA

I. Public Session

- Mary Cooley (Borough President Stringer)
 - BP Stringer and Assembly Member Glick met with HPD about Section 8 Housing at Independence Plaza North.
 - The BP wrote to the DOT Commissioner regarding stop signs in BPC that were removed. He is upset that they did not share these plans with the community sufficiently ahead of time.
 - The Borough President's Office is organizing a meeting regarding the West Street crossing.
 - The Borough President is continuing his work to identify vacant lots around Manhattan and the 30 page document that resulted from his survey is now available on the MBP website.
 - There will be a training session for new board members.

- Matt Viggiano (Senator Connor)
 - Testified at the Landmark Preservation Commission regarding the redesign of Peck Slip.
 - Noted that the SLA granted an on premises liquor for Harrison Bar despite community objections.
 - Said that a transportation study is needed for all of Lower Manhattan.

- Sayar Lonial (Council Member Gerson)
 - Spoke about the possible move of the WTC Vesey Street Stairway to Site 2B at BPC. This move would not be permanent.

- Andy Neale, CB1 Member
 - Announced that he has a vintage English Piano to give away.

- Susan Watts
 - An exhibit of her photographs will be on display in Battery Park City from the last week of June until October.

- Deborah Morris (Downtown Alliance)
 - The Alliance is sponsoring its annual tasting of food from Lower Manhattan restaurants at Chase Plaza on May 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rain date is May 24.
 - The annual River to River Festival starts June 1.

- Eleanor Goldhar (92nd Street YM-YWHA)
 - The YMHA is requesting that the board approve a liquor license for the café at their new facility at 200 Hudson Street. They intend to return next year to request approval for a sidewalk café.

- Erin Drinkwater (Congressman Nadler)
 - There will be a hearing on the environmental impacts of 9/11 in Washington D.C. on May 22.
 - On national and international affairs, the Congressman believes that Attorney General Gonzales should resign and that U.S. troops should be withdrawn from Iraq. He also supports a bill to increase penalties for hate crimes.

- Lisa Furbee Hegerman
 - A traffic light is needed at South End Avenue where it meets Liberty.

- Simeon Banister (Public Advocate Gotbaum's Office)
 - The Public Advocate believes that the 2030 Plan from the Mayor is basically sound.
 - The Public Advocate is concerned that the Department of Education has left parents out of the special education process. Mr. Banister recommended that people look at the Public Advocate's website for more information.

II. Business Session

A) Adoption of Minutes

- The Minutes of the April meeting were passed unanimously with one amendment -- Paul Hovitz was excused for the Seaport committee.

B) Chairperson's Report – Julie Menin

- The TriBeCa committee met with the City Planning Department regarding the Tribeca North rezoning, and specifically how to restrict certain types of use groups and how to include or encourage affordable housing in any rezoning.
- The Port Authority will come before CB1 to discuss retail at the WTC site.
- Announced that David Emil would be the new head of the LMDC and said that she looks forward to working with him.

C) District Manager's Report - N. Pfefferblit

- NY Downtown Hospital has a new President and renamed the street in front of their building after their founder, the first female physician in the United States
- The Manhattan Borough President's Office is helping to resolve the payment due to former CB1 DM Paul Goldstein.
- The board is working with the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications to connect to Citynet so that staff members can use official New York City email addresses.

D) Treasurer's Report J. Kopel

1. Gave an accounting of the board's current finances. CB1 made \$41,000 from street fairs this year with \$29,000 more coming. The board is working to resolve outstanding issues and expects the agreement with Friends of Lower Manhattan for an \$80,000 grant to be signed imminently.

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE A COPY OF A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZED IN THE MINUTES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CB 1 OFFICE AT 212 442-5050

III. Committee Reports

A) Executive Committee – Julie Menin

1. Reported on the presentation on new liquor license application procedures by New York State Liquor Authority CEO Joshua Toas and Tom O'Connor, Deputy Commissioner for Government Affairs.
 - The SLA gave CB1 an update and suggestions on how to more effectively address issues pertaining to SLA applications.
 - A memo summarizing the meeting will be sent to all CB1 members
2. Raised the subject of whether it would be better to start CB1 meetings at 6:30 p.m. rather than 6 p.m. There was a discussion followed by a vote.
 - Vote: 14-24-1 (the motion did not pass, and meetings will continue to begin at 6:00 p.m.)

B) Nominating Committee - Linda Belfer

1. Reported that the following three candidates will seek the position of CB1 Secretary:
 - Noel Jefferson
 - Chelsea-Lyn Rudder
 - Dennis Gault
 - In accordance with the CB1 by-laws, there will be a candidates forum with speeches by each candidate and questions from board members.
 - Letters from each candidate will be sent to all board members by the CB office.
2. Asked for nominations from the floor and none were made.
 - Marc Ameruso announced that he will miss the June full board meeting. This will be the first time he has missed a full board meeting since he has been a member the last 10 years.

C) Battery Park City Committee L. Belfer

1. Reported on a discussion among committee members about future Battery Park City Committee agenda items. Some of the topics raised included the following:
 - The possibility that the WTC Vesey Street staircase might be relocated to site 2B. The committee feels strongly that a school is needed at Site 2B and the staircase should not interfere with this.
 - Traffic problems on West Street.
 - New pedestrian bridge being considered for Battery Park City South.
 - The ongoing need to inform the community about planned fireworks events. This will be discussed at the next BPC meeting with FDNY representatives on June 5th.
 - The need to retain affordable housing in Battery Park City -- a letter went out to Gov. Spitzer as a result of the discussion at the May meeting.
2. Report on Traffic Plan for the North Neighborhood
DOT removed stop signs as part of a new traffic plan without consulting or informing the community. The Lower Manhattan DOT Commissioner has been invited to discuss this and respond to community questions and concerns at the next BPC meeting.
3. Support Battery Park City Authority Request to Develop Pier A - Resolution
The Committee believes the Authority would be the best entity to develop Pier A which could be an amenity for the community but has been neglected. The developer who currently has the option to develop the Pier has not taken action.
 - Vote: 40-1-0

D) Quality of Life/Affordable Housing Committee - Pat Moore

1. Report on presentation regarding affordable housing by Brad Lander, Director, Pratt Center for Community Development
 - Mr. Lander gave an informational presentation to the committee and spoke very knowledgeably about the range of affordable housing programs in the City.
2. Model Animal Care and Control Legislation – Resolution
 - J. Galloway said he did not understand what the CB was supporting. P. Moore responded that the bill would provide for more funding for animal control and more enforcement agents.
 - Amendment: the first THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT was changed to a WHEREAS.
 - Vote: 36-2-3
3. Report on presentation by Josephine Perrella, Sheldrake Organization regarding affordable units at 200 Chambers Street (Site 5B)
4. Report on Mission Statement on Affordable Housing
 - This Mission Statement is still a work in progress.
5. Report on request for support for the Ready Access to Assistance Act (REAACT)
 - There is an ongoing discussion at the committee regarding this request for support from the Public Advocate's office.
6. Bill to amend the penal law in relation to vulnerable elderly persons
 - The Committee continues to discuss this bill as well.

7. Tax Credit for NYC Renters – Report
 - Discussion is ongoing.
- Announced that there would be an affordable housing rally on May 23 at 1st Ave. and 23rd St.

E) Youth & Education Committee and New School Task Force - P. Hovitz, R. Skinner

1. Status report
 - Discussed the Department of Education reorganization of District 2. The Committee will meet with a DOE representative at its next meeting to discuss the reorganization.
2. Special Education in School District Two – Resolution
 - The Committee continues to work on this resolution.
3. Millennium High School Gym – Resolution
 - Vote: 40-0-0-1
4. PS 234 Walkway – Resolution
 - Vote 41-0-0

F) 197A Planning Task Force - R. Landman

1. Status Report
 - In August the Committee will have a needs assessment report which will have all concerns in one document.
 - It may be necessary to change the name of the task force
 - The Task Force is working on a mission statement.

G) WTC Redevelopment Committee - C. McVay Hughes

1. Memorial Foundation – Report
 - The timetable calls for a plaza in 2009, Museum in 2010, Security Center 2013.
 - A pedestrian circulation study did not include residents.
2. Greenmarket - Report
 - Silverstein Properties has determined that the Greenmarket cannot be located at 7 WTC because the building would not be able to be evacuated in case of an emergency. There will be a meeting with Brookfield to explore location of a Greenmarket at Zucotti Park.
3. Performing Arts Center - Resolution
 - Councilman Gerson held a public hearing on April, 16 regarding the PAC.
 - Only \$50 million has been raised by LMDC.
 - Construction costs are estimated to increase by 1-2% per month.
 - Andy Neale asked about whether if the Memorial Foundation took responsibility for raising funds for the PAC, someone could try to restrict whether a contribution to the Foundation could be used for the PAC.
 - M. Connolly said that fund raising for the PAC should occur at the same as fundraising for the Memorial. J. Menin emphasized that the Mayor is doing a great job raising funds for the Memorial.

- Vote: 40-0-1 with Amendments addressing need for the Memorial Foundation to raise funds for the PAC.

H) Seaport/Civic Center Committee - J. Fratta

1. 89 South Street on Pier 17 South Street Seaport, application for renewal of beer license for Salmaan Enterprises, Inc, d/b/a Wine & Chill – Resolution
 - Vote: 41-0-0
2. 11 Fulton Street, application for renewal of liquor license for Bridgewater – Resolution
 - Vote: 41-0-0
3. 90 Baxter Street, application for renewal of wine and beer license for Jaya Malaysian Restaurant, Inc. – Resolution
 - Vote: 41-0-0
4. 225 Front Street, application for renewal of wine and beer license for Barbarini, Inc. – Resolution
 - Vote: 41-0-0
5. 77 Fulton Street, application for renewal of grocery beer and wine license for 77 Fulton Street Food Corp. – Resolution
 - Vote: 41-0-0
6. 89 South Street on Pier 17 South Street Seaport, application for seasonal beer license for Cyber Cigar Coffee Bar – Resolution
 - Tabled
7. Proposed street activity on Thursday, June 14, 2007 to Saturday, June 16, 2007 in front of City Hall Park, Park Row between Ann Street and Beekman Street by J & R Music World – Resolution
 - There was a discussion about items 7 and 8. P. Hovitz said he opposes closing the street. A. Neale said that J & R have been bad neighbors.
 - Vote: 21-13-3
8. Proposed street activity on Thursday, August 23, 2007 to Saturday August 25, 2007 in front of City Hall Park, Park Row between Ann Street and Beekman Street by J & R Music World – Resolution
 - Vote: 21-13-3
9. Proposed street activity on Saturday, June 30, 2007 to close Spruce Street between Gold Street and Nassau Street by New York Downtown Hospital – Resolution
 - Vote: 34-3-0
10. Proposed street activity permit on Saturday, June 16, 2007 to close South Street between John Street and Beekman Street by the South Street Seaport – Resolution
 - Vote: 33-3-1
11. Film permits by the Mayor’s Office for Film, Theater and Broadcasting - Resolution
 - P. Hovitz said the Mayor’s Office for Film, Theater and Broadcasting has ignored requests from CB1 community to limit film shoots.
 - P. Moore said that Dean McCann came to the Q of L committee and was very open to working with us.

- M. Ameruso added that the Mayor's Office for Film, Theater and Broadcasting has been one of the most responsive City agencies and that asking for a moratorium is a mistake, and instead we should ask for certain problem areas to be put on a 'hot spots' list.
- Amendment: Add WHEREAS: we request that heavy duty lights used in filming be obscured so they do not blind drivers on East River Drive.
- Add to THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, ...and businesses.

- Vote: 14-5-4-2

I) Landmarks Committee - R. Byrom

1. 108 South Street, LPC application for approval of renovation of five story loft building for residential use - Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
2. 18 Dover Street, LPC application for construction of new six story masonry residential building with retail use on ground floor – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
3. 50 Hudson Street, LPC application for alternation of windows – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
4. 416-424 Washington Street Loading Dock – Report

J) Tribeca Committee - A. Neale

1. Liquor license renewal, extension, transfer and upgrade/downgrade applications:
 - 81 Hudson Street, application for renewal of liquor license for Puffy's Tavern – Resolution
 - 81 Warren Street, application for renewal of liquor license for Il Giglio – Resolution
 - 59 Reade Street, application for renewal of liquor license for Spaghetti Western – Resolution
 - 136 West Broadway, application for renewal of liquor license for Edward's – Resolution
 - 156 Chambers Street, application for renewal of beer and wine license for Tribeca Kitchenette Resolution
 - 139 Reade Street, application for renewal of restaurant wine license for Kiva Café – Resolution
 - 351 Broadway, application for renewal of restaurant wine license for Y & L New Fancy Foods, Inc. – Resolution
 - 275 Church Street, application for downgrade of restaurant wine license to eating place beer license for Neighborhood, Inc. – Resolution
 - Vote: All passed unanimously
2. Liquor Licence applications:
 - 428 Greenwich Street, application for on premises liquor license for Plan Do See Corporation – Resolution
 - Vote: 36-0-1
 - 200 Hudson Street, application for on premises liquor license and wine license for the café by The Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
3. Sidewalk café renewal applications:

- 353 Greenwich Street, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk café for Yaffa's Tea Room – Resolution
 - Yaffa's sidewalk café does not comply NYC regulations even though the owner has been told correct the problem.
 - Vote: 33-4-0
 - 130 West Broadway, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk café for Bouley Bakery & Market – Resolution
 - Vote: 34-3-0
 - 228 West Broadway, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk café for the Bubble Lounge – Resolution
 - Vote: 34-3-0
 - 301 Church Street, application for renewal of unenclosed sidewalk café for Bread in TriBeCa – Resolution
 - Vote: 34-3-0
- The next TriBeCa North rezoning meeting will be on June 7 at 5:30pm.

K) Financial District Committee - R. Sheffe

1. Proposed street closure from May 19-October 28, 2007, Thames Street and Cedar between Broadway and Trinity Place by Suspenders Restaurant (WEEKEND ONLY) – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
2. Proposed street closure from May 19-September 30, 2007, Cedar Street between Broadway and Trinity Place by Trinity Place Bar and Restaurant (WEEKEND ONLY) – Resolution
 - Vote: 33-4-0
- 3) One Wall Street, application for liquor license for Haru One Wall Street Corp. – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0
- 4) Financial District Security Improvements Phase II – Resolution
 - Vote: 37-0-0

L) Waterfront Committee - J. Nadel

1. Pier 26 – Resolution
 - There is a strong feeling that there needs to be a transparent public process as concerns the design plans.
 - The boathouse needs to be widened in order to accommodate the kayaks that will be stored there.
 - An estuarium needs be included in the plans.
2. Report on East River boat tour/naming of Maritime sub-committee on in-water options for East River Waterfront Plan
 - The tour would take place on the coming Saturday at 11:15am.
3. Report on presentation by Connie Fishman, Hudson River Park Trust
 - A resolution on Pier 40 will be presented at the next meeting.

IV. Old Business
None

V. New Business
None

VI. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted, Marc Ameruso, Assistant Secretary