

CB9 Economic Development/Harlem Piers Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Location: Broadway Housing, 583 Riverside Drive at West 135th Street

Committee Members: Quenia Abreu, Chair (present) , James Archer (Absent), Erik George (absent), Nekpen Osuan (Present), Nick Smith (excused), Jose Taveras (Present)

Call to Attention at 6:54. At 7:22 pm quorum achieved – Call to order

Motion to Adopt Agenda and the minutes, 2nd by Jose Taveras

Discussions:

Columbia Employment & Information Center: The committee was informed by the chair the Columbia University Employment & Information Center was not going to present at the meeting. The Center was going to make a presentation at the Executive Committee and General Board Meeting. It was agreed by the committee to reach out and ask them to come to the next meeting to start a conversation about working together. The Chair will follow up with Victor Edward and CU to set up the meeting.

Job Fair: The Committee agreed to organize a CB9 job fair with private corporations, in September 15, 2016 from 11 am to 3 PM, at River Bank Park or City College.

West Harlem Employment Center: The Committee agreed to work on a resolution to present to the board asking the West Harlem Development Corporation to Create the West Harlem Employment Center. Nekpen will work on the resolution.

Vacant Retail Spaces & Commercial Tenants' tights: The committee expressed a concern regarding the increasing number of vacant store fronts in the area and agreed to organize meeting with the businesses in CD9, Council member Mark Levine, MBP Gail Brewer and Senator Adriano Espaillat. The objective of the meeting will be to discuss the lack of protection for commercial tenants once the lease expires and the pending legislation (The small business and jobs survival act) at city hall that will give some rights to commercial tenants and end the unfair practice of landlords of evicting business owners once their lease expires. Jose suggested doing an inventory of vacant commercial spaces. Q. mentioned she believed Arnold Botner was working on one last year and will check with him.

Marine Transfer Station – Jose will reach out to Padmore to get all the documents having to do with the Marine Transfer Station and will reach out to WeAct for updates regarding the transfer of the station from DCAs to Dept of Parks.

Others: The committee discussed changing the name of the Committee to the Economic & Business Development Committee.

Meeting Adjourned - motioned and 2nd by Nekpen at 8:30 PM.