

MINUTES
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 9
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/HARLEM PIERS COMMITTEE
HELD ON ZOOM. DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Committee Members:

Co-Chairs: Hon. Maritta Dunn (present) Hon. Joyce Adewumi (present)
Hon. John Martin-Green, (present), Hon. Jonathan Sinagub (present), Hon. Kelsey Bitts (absent), Hon. Vanessa Jones (present), Hon. David Hanzal (present), Hon. John George (Present)

Other Attendees:

Ira Gershenhorn

Call to order

Roll call by Hon. Maritta. Dunn: quorum reached meeting called to order by Co- Chair Hon. Joyce Adewumi (JA) at 6:43pm.

Approval of Agenda

Hon. John Martin Green motioned to adopt Agenda and 2nd by Hon. Jonathan Sinagub.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to adopt Minutes with changes. Hon. MD 2nd. by (Hon) JMG.

Old Business

Hon. JA presented District 'Needs Statement' open for discussion. Review of working draft read by (JA)

Hon. JMGreen: Our committee LGBTQ request a job skills training program.

Hon. Maritta Dunn states it's an Economic Development issue which should be addressed by EDHP committee

Ira: Should be more specific Ex: what type of jobs would we like to see cultivated in our community. for ex. Construction jobs not working well. Specifically JANUS Properties signed lease with BIO MED Co. should we ask for training so residents are prepared for those jobs? Need to be specific in our request.

JA acknowledges we can be specific need for education in view of current situation. any proposals toward types of job training we should know.

Jonathan S: Does it come from Non Profit or Profit.?

MaD: Non Profit represented.

JA: from the working draft will craft final document due in two weeks.

MaD: How will we get info to local residents? Columbia has tons of job training. 1) Community not aware. 2) How to address residents about job training available.

Discussion....

JA references Expense portion of Draft for support. Need to make sentence about funding to support Bio-Tec Jobs as an outlet for training businesses in or community. Mentions Agritecture.

Jonathan S. need to invest in New Technology...funding for jobs/skills training in agritecture, green architecture, renewable energy, etc.

JMG and Jonathan crafted sentence describing training needs and funding request.
Why training offerings are not fulfilled – Community outreach is practically non-existent.

MaD: Part of our role is to disseminate info: West Harlem, Columbia, CB9 cited several events targeted for small businesses she attended were patronized other communities..

JMG: Columbia is responsible to communicate offerings. There's been no serious efforts to get info out. Suggests that CB9 might coordinate to make these events more accessible.*

MaD: Emails/ hosting – needed to get message out.

Jonathan: There is organization which does just that – disseminates, promotes access to what's available. Need organization. Not Columbia's job.

JMG: might be another ask. Funding to disseminate, training, retraining..

JA: What's needed to move this community forward.

MaD: Outreach is key. Develop 3 types of outreach for people we need to reach.

John George: Is anyone being paid to do this outreach?

JA: Our job is to make recommendations to elected officials.

John: Are we looking to recommend a new organization to fulfill and apply for this. Anyone can create one.

Ira: Business Support System. Multi prong kind of approach.

JA: There are businesses that connect others with businesses. Promotes inside and outside their community, Small business combine and connect to others as a result of the organization. SCOB- Let's have a statement as an expense.

Next expense item. Strategize initiative need in education toward technology driven society.

Ira: Get info from Dept of Buildings about various training for their needs. 1

MaD: List Directories, 2) Social media. Small business assoc., 3) Libraries, disseminate.. 4) is there a CB9 Newsletter 5) create Document of available free trainings.

JMG Fund job skills training, Provide funding for emerging bio technology, green tech, agritech, building assessment....JMG: to What agency would this be directed?

JA: New certification/degrees in Tech fields.

JMG: crafting sentence about Degrees and certifications.

JA: Converting businesses to Covid readiness.

Ira:assists restaurants to convert to new regulations. Group provides assistance to comply COVID regulations/demand

MaD: Businesses looking to heat outdoor spaces to function 9-12 mos. without losing business.

John: Dept of Bldgs. Reviewing use of propane which is outlawed. Electrical- not practical. City needs to decide if propane will be allowed.

MaD: Electrical heating must be considered. Outdoor use is imperative.

JMG: Agrees. pg. is included for what we need. Start at 1st page under Expense....discussion on crafting sentence request.

JMG reads statement request.

JA: NYCEDC is one of agencies to approach for technology.

John : Safety Assessment training – Building Evaluation Certification to identify damages after disasters and readiness for habitation. Also Cite Certification Management. Will reach out to see what they can provide. Safety managers needed. They all need this skill.

JA: Next item under Capital Expense. Request new communities designated Economic Opp Zone. Any tax breaks/subsidies for potential business/companies to help thrive. Should Small Businesses have a different tax structure due to the challenges of this area?

JMG: Reads from working draft tax base

JA: Request funding to serve or strengthen internet/ bandwidth in this community. How strong is it?

David Hanzal: Bandwidth is important for business and students for the next year very important and future Server infrastructure in communities is a long term issue.

JA: discussion on bandwidth, towers distribution, silicon valley in central Harlem, Having one in our district, what is their function...

JGM: impact on remote learning, adequate access. How can Silicone Valley Harlem assist? To help businesses with this issue... to what agency do we address ?

JA: What do we need to support internal need of our businesses.

DH: Study or survey of businesses who could benefit from improved internet,,...

Discussion: what other needs will support small business and make our community more viable...

Discussion on accessibility from St. Claires Place to West Side Hwy is a bottleneck,.. Widen Pedestrian Path. Decided not to include in Needs Assessment Statement at this time.

Repaving of 145th and 135 removed from Needs Assessment at this time.

Discussion; Funding to support wild oyster population at WHP etc. to make true fishing designation destination.(NYC DEP, DC, DEConservation) *agreed to wording item 4 Needs Assessment.

JMG: discussion on Reef Ball and signage , importance and location. What is value: Supports Eco System. Coastline Mitigation. Mention Workshop on Waterfront Development in November. Reef balls attract fish and birds.

MaD: Discussion around Funding on West Harlem Ferry. Told Plan to open Casino. Discussion on Marine Transport Station and Dept of Sanitation involvement. Borough President never responded to CB9. Community Board did make request on Oct 5.Captain Conan..... Nov 12 will be Waterfront Meeting.

MaD: surveyed area for docking of ferry. Edgewater NJ has no interest.

JA: motion to include in funding Request

Majority decided not to include matter in funding request.

JA will reproduce document and send to all.

Jonathan will attend Waterfront Comprehensive plan workshop. Needs chance to have dialogue about this area . Hopes this workshop will lead to it.

MaD: WHP /Columbia agreed \$\$\$ annual support for this area. Parks have no bathrooms or water fountains. Need to be transparent about these funds. What are they for? Should respond.

JMG: Bring to attention at workshop

Ms Dunn and Jonathan will represent CB9 at virtual workshop.

IRA: requesting funding presentation. JMG responds this has been addressed .

Jonathan will write letter of support for Ira presentation.

No New Business.

JMG moved to adjourn at 9:02pm

2nd by MD.

Respectfully submitted by
Joyce Adewumi