

Manhattan Community Board 9
Executive Committee
August 8, 2019

Absent a quorum, meeting called to attention at 6:40pm.

Marcus Book, Gov & Community Relations, MTA; Jessica Signarella, Project Manager

Andy Byford, NYCT president, taking actions to improve transit including redesign of bus network across 5 boros. BX routes enter MN – in CB9, BX15 and M100.

Problems include service reliability (infrequent, inconsistent spacing), declining ridership. Focusing on more direct routes, spacing/balancing, and improving connections. Working with DOT to identify priority areas for buses – bus lanes, queue jumps, signal priority.

BX15 and M100 operate out of BX depots but include MN in route. Increase space between stops. Break BX15 into two routes, introduce M125. M100 would terminate at 125th. M125 would operate from hub in BX to Manhattanville.

Plan is currently draft; open house next week at Touro College cafeteria (Thurs 8/15/19, 6-8pm), then final plan will be released. No current implementation timeline: likely late 2020. Lessons learned from mistakes of SI Express bus redesign.

Melisa Solomon, LOTUS Health and Wellness

Family health center opened on West 126th. Applying for Federally Qualified Health Center grant, asking for letter of support. Serve 100 patients, team-based care. Staff includes PCPs, nurse practitioner, psychiatrist, social workers, acupuncturist.

Lotus is extension of St. Mary's Center. St. Mary's nursing facility serves people with HIV and operates an adult day care. Affiliated with methadone clinics but not intending to become one at this location. Federal funding will help operations and growth on top of existing fee-for-service. Looking at expanding space into building next door.

Chair's Report

Goal to let committees take longer term proactive look at planning for community, rather than continually responding to agency and providers. Think about where we want to go and bring proposals to them instead. Important to prepare for Census and work with MBPO and city Census Director.

Look at neighborhood burdens on land through lens of Fair Share rules, as applied to issues like methadone clinics. Propose for MTA Manhattan bus redesign, continue criminal justice initiatives. Ceremony for induction of officers.

Meeting called to order at 7:49pm.

Treasurer's Report

Goal of getting Friends of CB9 organization set up. Budget set and approved. Impress balance funded at \$500. \$42,500 allocated for each CB (same as last fiscal year) – city council working out guidelines. \$5,000 from CM Perkins and \$7,500 from CM Levine for community outreach.

District Manager's Report

City advisory of ramp redesign and reconstruction at corner St. Nicholas and 112th street.

Committee Reports

Housing – April Tyler

Former church on east side of Amsterdam, 147/148, is under construction. Department of Homeless Services and property owner proposing family shelter of 132 studio apartments. Committee urged permanent affordable housing. WHDC would partner.

Health – Edwin Torres

Follow up with FDNY, Mt. Sinai on issues of ambulance sirens and noise. City will try to regulate. Working to talk to methadone clinics to hold them accountable and avoid disproportionate burden on CB9.

Anthony Carrion – Parks & Landmarks

Meeting at AM Taylor's office to discuss air conditioners at PS186. High ceilings have led to excessive heat, developers want to push costs onto residents. Electeds working to find solution like split-unit AC unit, then all parties will work to secure funding.

Maritta Dunn – Economic Development

MTP Investment (Marine Transfer Station) requested letter of support. They will abandon project if board is not supportive, but proposal would bring great benefits to community. Will propose new letter of support.

Action Items

Letter of support for Lotus postponed to future meeting following presentations before other committees and full board. An additional letter was withdrawn.

Ilana Mercado, Task Force on Film & Television, presented resolution calling for moratorium on filming in area around 135th – 146th, Convent, St. Nicholas, and Amsterdam. Action item put to a vote in spirit, with precise language and map of affected area to be included in the final proposal. Item carries 8-0-0-0.

Adjourned at 8:23pm.