

Manhattan Community Board 9
Executive Committee
December 12, 2019

6:35 PM meeting called to order.

Agenda adopted with amendment to add introduction from YCD. Minutes adopted.

Presentations

Bronx Bus Network Redesign, Marcus Book and Ryan Zatlin

Draft plan released in May, significant outreach through multiple channels since then, including web and social media, digital screens in stations, community meetings and presentations. Redesign implements more direct routings, stop balancing (including more space between them in some cases), better connections to E-W routes and subway lines, greater frequency.

Bx15 will be discontinued in Manhattan and replaced with new M125 route between The Hub in the Bronx and Manhattanville. M100 (based out of a Bx depot, but which can be reviewed again during Manhattan redesign) will no longer turn on M125.

Board members emphasized the added burden of having to transferring off the M100 to get to Central Harlem on 125th street (Mr. Zatlin clarified this transfer will not require paying); the importance of bus service to seniors and people with limited mobility; and the way the topography of our neighborhood affects riders' ability to access public transit.

Bronx redesign outreach continuing, implementation expected in Fall of 2020. Manhattan redesign will start in Spring 2020, expected to take a year, with implementation to follow.

Lindiwe Gararirimo, Neighborhood Advisory Board, Youth & Community Development

NAB tasked with doing anti-poverty work through community service block grants. Community needs assessment (every 3 years) recently conducted, results being processed, which will result in priority setting for the neighborhood. NAB will put out RFP for funding for programming, which come from Federal Community Service Block Grants. Past reports available on website. Needs have included housing, Head Start. NAB currently has six members.

Chair's Report

Tragically, Tessa Majors, a young community member, a student at Barnard, was murdered yesterday in Morningside Park. Not yet known who is responsible. Unfortunately violence in our community often results in cascading violence, which we want to prevent. Columbia, Barnard, DA, Friends of Morningside Park, and local elected officials all part of conversation. Important that tragedy is handled appropriately: community is with the authorities but also watching to make sure process is handled with care. Some news reports included apparently careless remarks that seemed to misplace blame when it is too soon to know. Gentle reminder that CB9 statements can only come from Chair. Don't let this become an opportunity to divide the community; move forward toward justice and healing and prevention of future tragedy.

Many committees have interest in tower at 125th and Broadway on old McDonald's site. Construction is as of right based on zoning, but Columbia's commitments also matter. Columbia is not in compliance with restrictions and covenants (which they have represented to Empire State Development). Failing to honor promises renews contentiousness of Manhattanville project. Asked YEL committee to work closely with CEC5, schools in P.S. 125, and TCCS on this. Matter of 125th / Broadway subway station also will be affected.

137th Street subway is on MTA's priority list for bringing into compliance. Need to get additional stops in the neighborhood equipped with elevators.

Action item tonight includes Broadway Housing letter of support for request from HPD.

Community board application season coming up. Spread the word about how to apply, why to apply, and the time commitment required. In particular, we need better representation from Latino community and young women.

Planning CB officers' induction ceremony for January.

Mayor's preliminary feedback on budget requests expected in January: when it's released, follow up ASAP with designated contact from city agencies. Respond to them to provide and request additional information to understand requests and establish dialogue about our priorities.

We need community leaders to volunteer to help on the census—no pay. Call 732.497.2809 for info.

Treasurer's Report – AT

Report in packet

It is time to get proposals for grants and programs

DM Report – E Prince

Written report in packet

Need volunteers for census of the homeless; also when below 32 degrees, if you see homeless outside, call 311.

Committee Reports

AF: Seniors

We need more CB members

AT: Housing

HDFC issues: We had been allocated funds for land use study; got semi report, will get more next year. The report will provide everything you might want to know re a specific property sites.

JA: Eco Dev

Are pressing Sanitation for the RFP on the Marine transfer station
Looking at the Tastee site for community benefits

AC: Parks

Marie Walsh addressed the committee on Plaques and Monuments

CT: Uniformed Services & Transportation

We got the Bronx bus plan presentation we heard tonite
No Jan meeting

DH: Arts and Culture

Last mtg cancelled

Planning going on for Artist Circle event

JA announced an invite to "our first movie" –about a first trip to Nigeria showing @7, discussion @6 on 12/13

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25.