

Executive Committee Meeting

11 May 2023 / 6:30 PM / ZOOM

ATTENDEES

CB9 Staff - Eutha Prince

CB9 Board Members - J.Adewumi, W. Alexander, D. McIntosh-Brown, M. Dunn, V. Edwards, D. Hardeman, M. Hardin-Cordero, H. Jason, P. Watler Johnson, T. Kovaleff, S. Prophete, J. Sinagub, C. Thompson, E. Torres, B. Weinberg, L. Henry, S. Mortensen, S. Wilson (late)

AGENDA

- (Revised) Executive Committee Meeting Agenda;
- Executive Committee Minutes (04/13/23);
- Chair's Report; (will be shared at the meeting)
- Treasurer's Report;
- District Manager's Report;
- Action Item(s):
 1. Ratification of LOS re: The Osborne Association
 2. Reso re: May 2023 Addendum to May 2017 Reso re: TIL Program
 3. LOS re: 611 West 112th Street - Docket: LPC-23-08973/Permit Type: Certificate of

Appropriateness

4. LOS re: 1763 Amsterdam Ave.
5. Reso: Affordable Housing in Institutions in CB9
6. LOS re: CCNY application for HUD

Liquor License New Application(s):

6. Reso re: New Grange, LLC – 1627-1635 Amsterdam Ave
7. Little Street Lounge, LLC – 126 Hamilton Place
8. Presto Fresh Mexican Grill Corp. – 429 W. 125th Street

Corporate Change:

9. Jaelar Restaurant Corp. – 3533 Broadway

Liquor License Renewal(s):

10. Picante Inc. - 3426 Broadway
11. Bono Trattoria Restaurant – 3658 Broadway
12. Romcargio LLC - 1034 Amsterdam Avenue
13. PLOWSHARES COFFEE, LLC – 1351 Amsterdam Ave.
14. Peaceful BSB Restaurant Corp. – 712 West 125th St.
15. Taqueria San Pedro – 3662 Broadway
16. Manhattanville Market – 3229 Broadway
17. The Cotton Club – 664-66 West 125th Street

- Committee Minutes
- Flyers and Announcements
- June - 2023 Calendar

NOTES

- Quorum reached at 6:44 PM. The meeting was called to order by B. Weinberg.
- 17 members in attendance.
- The meeting Agenda was amended by B. Weinberg & S. Mortensen and adopted unanimously by all members.
- The minutes from the 4/13/23 executive board meeting were moved to be adopted by C. Thompson. The motion was seconded by D. McIntosh-Brown. Minutes were adopted unanimously by all members.

Chair Report: B. Weinberg

- DCP is very behind on rezoning of Morningside
- Encourage or urge developers to build affordable housing
- Applications are taking upwards of 2 years to process (way too long)
- DEP extended amnesty for delinquent water bills until the end of the month - forgive interest and fines until 5/31
- Columbia University President Bollinger retiring on 6/30. Dr. Shafiq starting on 7/1
- NY State legislature is ending in June.
 - Discussing J51 tax abatements
 - Climate requirements and reduce carbon emissions
 - Bail Reform

Treasurer's Report: C. Thompson

- No changes to the report at this time.
- Any committee chairs needing funds should send a budget and proposal to Carolyn and Barry for review (a must-have component of outreach to the community).
- Jonathan Thomas has decided not to re-apply.
- DCP alerted the district office that the budget process will start in June this year. Needs to be completed by October 2023.
- Officers decided to set aside funds for staff development.
- Can we get business cards for members of the board? Limit to the executive committee?
 - It would have to come out of the supplies budget.
 - Eutha would have to follow up with OMB

District Manager's Report: E. Prince

- Her report included in the meeting invite
- District 9 will be part of the pilot program - trash containerization

- Repurpose parking spots for collection containers
- Inviting Sanitation to June General Board Meeting
- Looking to address the RAT problem
- Trash collection may increase to 6 times a week.
- Trash containers will be placed outside of up to 14 schools in CB9. Part of the rat mitigation zone.
- Bar and Billiards did not attend the DEP hearing
 - Issued \$8,000 fine
 - Defaulted on all complaints
 - Will meet with SLA and could seek to get cease and desist order
 - Had a meeting with Captain Rivera of the 30th Precinct
- Working June District Newsletter
- Riverbank State Park is celebrating their 30th Anniversary on 6/17
- Will speak with OMB and CB10 about business cards.
- Hakeel looked at SLA regulations - which should be referred to the US&T committee for review
- New Girl Scout Troop in Grant Houses (125th and Amsterdam)
- We should add Bascia's book for children - "17 Trees" and her donation to the newsletter.

Committee/Task Force Reports

Election Committee: L. Henry/T. Khan

- Only one intent-to-run form filled out so far. Due on Monday 5/15. Should be present at the 5/18 General Board Meeting
- Calling board members to reach out and gauge interest.
- Plan to do a dry run on Thursday
- Reminder all exec. positions are open
- Nominations can come to the floor
- Candidates' night will be on WED 5/31 must be present.

Uniformed Services and Transportation Committee: C. Thompson / P. Watler Johnson

- Liquor Licenses were approved and reviewed by NYPD & SLA
- ZipCar /CarShare Parking spots
- The lawyer for the new Grange states that Violations have been resolved and paid.
 - We would like something in writing
 - Must confirm with the city agencies

Arts and Culture Committee: J. Signaub / D. Hardeman

- Michael Palma - draft letter of support - engage WHDC & Columbia for 5,000 sq. ft. space for Arts & Culture per CBA with Columbia.
- WHDC retracted support.
 - Zead and Michael are negotiating separately

- Asked committee members to come up with goals for next year.

Senior Issues Committee: W. Alexander

- Thanked all the people who helped with the Senior Resources Fair - it was a HUGE success for our community.
- Looking to have the first committee meeting in person in June at the CB9 office.

Health and Environment Committee: L. Henry / E. Torres

- Working on how we can make city agencies accountable
- Letter of Support regarding noise issue
- Meeting with Mt. Sinai (Mr. Brad Corn - Public Relations)
- Meeting with Link5G and OTI
 - Resolution made to reject the 5G towers in Morningside Heights & CB9
 - Tower installed on 118th St. and Amsterdam Ave.

Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee: D. McIntosh-Brown / S. Wilson

- Libraries re-opening and will have activities and events in the summer
 - Get middle school & high school students involved
- WHDC has 200 tickets for NY Liberty Game and will distribute them to organizations in CB9
- Summer Youth Employment
- Sign the petition to support NYPL and restore their budget
 - Shaneeka will share the link with Eutha

Parks and Landmarks Committee: H. Jason

- New Regional Manager for NYC Parks - Mark Vaccard
- Construction taking place at Morningside Park
- Art installations will be put in Morningside Park
- Jacob Schiff seating area should be completed this summer
- Friends of St. Nicholas Park had a great turnout for Easter Egg Hunt on Earth Day
- The Youth Gardening Program in Morningside Park begins in June
- Riverside Park has a lot of free programming throughout the summer
- Block planting on 137th Street on Sat 5/13 from 9 AM -12 PM
- The Hort is currently operating programming 6 out of 7 days of the week at Riverbank State Park
- At Riverbank - track and field renovations are ongoing and to be completed end of summer, the locker room renovations in the aquatics area will begin after the anniversary celebration.
- Presentation from Wendy Hilliery Gymnastics Foundation - they provide free & low-cost programs at Harlem Armory. They are looking for a permanent space (dedicated gymnastic center) for their program.

Economic Development/West Harlem Piers: Committee: J.Adewumi / M. Dunn

- There is a new head of the department at West Harlem Piers.
- Maritta reached out to him regarding the needs that need to be addressed

- Fix crosswalks where the bikes go by.
- Need a safe pedestrian crossing in the area
- Still active with the recognition of West Harlem Businesses - trying to finalize
- Discussion re: Marine Transfer Station and the possibility of it being a cannabis educational facility.

Housing and Land Use Committee: S.Mortensen

- Sean from CCNY Max Bond - strong partnership with them - LOS for them to strengthen grant proposal
- Vince Morgan WHDC Resource Center - discussion about plans and working with partners in the community and obtaining feedback
- Audrey Walks City of Yes Text Amendments - get stuff built initiative
- Child's Memorial - 1763 Amsterdam Ave.
 - Issues with staffing at City Agencies
 - Developers have a deadline

Strategic Planning Committee: V. Edwards

- Went over 3 items in the CBA
- Creating Bulk Oil Purchasing for HDPC
- 5000 sq. ft. of space for Arts & Culture
- Business advice for small/local businesses
- Columbia Small Business Development Center
- Elevator at 137th Street Subway Station

LGBTQ Committee: J. Martin-Green

- Not present at this meeting

Cannabis Task Force: M. Aristy-Farer / M. Hardin-Cordero

- The event at CU Forum on 4/18 was extremely successful
 - About 150 people attended
 - Thanks to Happy Munkey (legacy org)
 - Working on an event for this summer
- Working on regulation guidelines to make them applicable to our district
 - Will ask for feedback and comments
- 125th Street BID
 - Businesses suing to stop dispensary on 125th Street

ACTION ITEMS

1. Ratification of LOS re: The Osborne Association
 - T. Kovaleff moves for unanimous consent. W. Alexander seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.
2. Reso re: May 2023 Addendum to May 2017 Reso re: TIL Program

- May 2023 addendum shared on-screen by Signe Mortensen
 - Updating May 2017 Resolution re: TIL program
 - D. Hardeman moves for unanimous consent. L. Henry seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.
3. LOS re: 611 West 112th Street - Docket: LPC-23-08973/Permit Type: Certificate of Appropriateness
- Currently, an SRO but the building has been purchased by Columbia - which wants to turn it into housing for graduate students
 - The property has been in need of repairs for 10-15 years. Needs major renovations
 - The building needs to be ADA compliant
 - T. Kovaleff moves for unanimous consent. W. Alexander seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.
4. LOS re: 1763 Amsterdam Ave. aka Child's Memorial Site
- Church was purchased and torn down in 2016
 - DHS had plans to put in a shelter and studios for housing.
 - The community wants more sustainable housing for families
 - NYSAG Office/Tish James requires the developer to finish the project in 2 years
 - Broadway Housing pulled out of the deal. They have not built sanctuary spaces before.
 - Met with Vahdat family and said they could not adhere to NYSAG office guidelines
 - The shelter would also house families with pets and allow the Church to own 1st floor
 - Creating/funding Hamilton Heights Community Fund with NY Trust of \$250,000 and CB9 would decide how to allocate funds
 - Options right now are a Homeless Shelter or Luxury housing, affordable housing option is no longer optimal.
 - T. Kovaleff moves for unanimous consent. W. Alexander seconds the motion. D. Hardeman abstains. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.
5. Reso: Affordable Housing in Institutions in CB9
- Rent burden in our neighborhood
 - Urges Columbia University New projects should include 30% affordable housing for CB9
 - 3rd resolution on this matter
 - D. Hardeman moves for unanimous consent. L. Henry seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.
6. LOS re: CCNY application for HUD
- Research Center of Excellence funding opportunity
 - Specifically a HUD grant
 - Passed committee unanimously
 - W. Alexander moves for unanimous consent. T. Kovaleff seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.

Liquor License New Application(s):

7. Reso re: New Grange, LLC – 1627-1635 Amsterdam Ave
- Owners are supposed to meet with tenants and landlord
 - Recommendation to add to agenda and withdraw if needed.
8. Little Street Lounge, LLC – 126 Hamilton Place
9. Presto Fresh Mexican Grill Corp. – 429 W. 125th Street
- Pertaining to the new liquor licenses - T. Kovaleff moves for unanimous consent. W. Alexander seconds the motion. V. Edwards and L. Henry abstain. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.

Corporate Change:

10. Jaelar Restaurant Corp.(Caridad) – 3533 Broadway between 144th & 145th Street
- Moving from 2 principal owners to 1.
 - W. Alexander moves for unanimous consent. M. Hardin-Cordero seconds the motion. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda

Liquor License Renewal(s):

11. Picante Inc. - 3426 Broadway

12. Bono Trattoria Restaurant – 3658 Broadway
13. Romcargio LLC - 1034 Amsterdam Avenue
14. PLOWSHARES COFFEE, LLC – 1351 Amsterdam Ave.
15. Peaceful BSB Restaurant Corp. – 712 West 125th St.
16. Taqueria San Pedro – 3662 Broadway
17. Manhattanville Market – 3229 Broadway
18. The Cotton Club – 664-66 West 125th Street
 - Pertaining to all liquor license renewals - D. Hardeman moves for unanimous consent. W. Alexander seconds the motion. S. Mortensen votes present and not entitled. The rest of the executive board members approve adding to the 5/18 Gen Board Meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

- TBD - Thursday, June 8th, 2023

Motion to adjourn by C. Thompson and seconded by M. Hardin-Cordero. The remaining board members were in agreement. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by S. Prophete