

Manhattan Community Board 9
3291 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

CB9M General Board Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, March 16th, 2023

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: The Forum at Columbia University on 125th Street and Broadway, also broadcast over Zoom and Facebook Live

Attendance:

See the "Roll Call" Sheet/Attendance took by Chair Barry Weinberg

Proposed Agenda for CB9M General Board Meeting on Thursday, 3/16/2023

- General Board Meeting Agenda;
- General Board Minutes (02/16/23);
- Chair's Report (will be shared at the Meeting);
- Treasurer's Report;
- District Manager's Report;
- WHDC Report;
- UMEZ Report
- 125th Street BID Report
- Manhattan Borough President's Office (MBPO Report)
- Nominating Committee 2023 Report
- Election documents *attached* (including a link to By-Laws below):
 1. Election Timeline Amended
 2. Intent to Run Form - www.cb9m.org/intent-to-run
 3. Brief and Full Job Descriptions of Each Officer
 4. Revised Election Process
 5. <https://www.cb9m.org/pdf-archives/resources/by-laws-2018.pdf>

Action Item(s):

1. Reso Calling on the New York City Department of City Planning to Initiate a Citywide Zoning Text Amendment to Make R1, R2, and R3 Zoning Variants Equivalent to R4 Zoning Variants;
2. LOS re: Energy Efficiency Equity and Jobs Act S2469 (Parker)/A2655(Hunter);

Liquor License (Renewals):

3. Reso re: Rai Rai Ken Corporation located at 1467 Amsterdam Ave., NYC 10027
4. Reso re: Dear Mama located at 611 W. 129th Street, NYC 10027
5. Reso re: Jaelar Restaurant Corp. located at 3533 Broadway, NYC 10031
6. Reso re: The Expat located at 64 Tiemann Pl. aka 195 Claremont Ave, NYC 10027
7. Reso re: Pisticci Restaurant located at 125 LaSalle Street, NYC 10027

New Liquor License(s):

8. DS Morningside Residents, Inc. located at 30 Morningside Dr., NYC 10027

- Committee Minutes
- Flyers, and Announcements
- April - 2023 Calendar

I. Call to Order

Chair B. Weinberg called the meeting to order at 6:42 PM. We reached a quorum (28 members present). The recording and the live broadcast started. B. Weinberg took the Attendance roll.

II. Adopt Agenda

The meeting agenda for tonight was submitted prior to the meeting. L. Henry moved to adopt the agenda. C. Thompson seconded the motion. All remaining members present unanimously agreed.

III. Adopt Minutes

S. Prophete & T. Kovaleff submitted the minutes from the February 2023 general board meeting prior to the meeting. V. Edwards moved to adopt the minutes. C. Thompson seconded the motion. All remaining members present unanimously agreed.

IV. Reports

Board Chair Report: Hon. B. Weinberg

- Tour of Site called "Landing Road" in the Bronx run by the Bowery Residents Committee
 - Similar to the site at 1727 Amsterdam Avenue, but smaller
 - Site actually belongs to NYC and not Health and Hospitals Corporation
 - Will probably have to go EULER process
- Attended Borough Board Meeting this morning
 - Data.census.gov

- PUMA (public use microdata area)
 - <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/pumas.html>
 - Advanced search → geography → Public Use Microdata Area
 - Drill in to find our community district.
- MBP Office will conduct training on how to use and leverage this data
- Received correspondence from Columbia University regarding Red Balloon Daycare, and their intent to replace Red Balloon with another non-profit at 560 Riverside Drive.

Treasurer's Report: Hon. C. Thompson

- No change at this time.

District Manager's Report: Eutha Prince

- Report in the document packet distributed via email
- Harlem Strong - CBOs and FBOs
 - Providing mental health awareness and access to mental health resources
- Dept. of Sanitation - new rule goes into effect April 1st
 - Waste put out after 8 PM on pick up day
- Emergency Management Commissioner of the Day
 - Contest is open to all NYC high school students enrolled in grades 9-12.
 - Deadline for applications and essays is April 1st.
 - ALL ENTRIES must be emailed to readyny@oem.nyc.gov with the subject line "Commissioner for a Day Essay Contest"
- SYEP accepting applications for youth 16-24
 - Pay is \$15/hour - no cost to employer
 - Deadline is 3/31
 - SYEP Employee application deadline is March 31st: <https://application.nycsyep.com/>
- Next General Board Meeting in April will take place at City College (in person)
 - Emergency declaration by the mayor is due to expire
 - For now, we will maintain hybrid format but it needs to be cleared with the board beforehand.
- Committees requesting to use discretionary funding
 - Imperative that chairs/co-chairs submit your request to the District Office asap
- If members of the board are up for reappointment, then they need to reapply to MBPO asap. Contact the district office with any questions.
 - Deadline 4/15

WHDC Report: Hon. P. Watler-Johnson

- WHDC Report is in the packet distributed
- New Resource Center Director hired - Mr. Vincent Morgan
- Marcus Garvey Project Completed
 - WHDC was reimbursed for the \$2 million loan plus interest

- WHDC Annual board meeting was on 2/25 at the Harlem School of the Arts
- Community Based Grants were awarded and advised they have to meet requirements
 - Remaining grants are expected to be issued by April. The new Grant Funding Application cycle is scheduled to be announced in June.
- New annual report or Annual year of review is being drafted and will be posted on the website
- Executive Board elections taking place
- Working with DYCD regarding SYEP program slots
- Riverside Park Conservancy going to offer scholarships for summer camp
 - Deadline is 4/10
- Exploring financial Resources for HDFCs
- Zead Ramadan - Executive Director shares the following developments:
 - Free admission for seniors - who want to see “Mama Wants To See You Swing.”
 - Scholarships available for Little Lions Summer Camp sponsored by WHDC
- Is there someone at WHDC that is monitoring CBA? - V. Edwards
 - Pat will follow up.

UMEZ: Rev. Morgan Thomas

- UMEZ will meet the week after next.
- Nothing new of note.
- Still waiting to release PerScolas information

125th Street BID Report: Ken Miles

- BID report was sent out in the documents packet
- Local Electeds are asking Governor to stop dispensary

Manhattan Borough President’s Office Report: Mark Levine & Minah Whyte

(minahwhyte@manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

- Spread the word about applications to the community
- Questions about the reapplication to the board.
- Deputy MBPO is supposed to join at 7:45
 - Report from Keisha Sutton-James
- 40% of scaffoldings in Manhattan
- Financial support/lines of credit
- Reduce delays
- Remove sidewalk sheds
- Extend Local Law 11
- Extending deadline until 3/31 for Community Board Applications
- Women’s History Month Event at Roosevelt House/Hunter College at 3/22 at 6PM
- www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Shed-the-Shed-Report-V5.pdf?mc_cid=e0c9773a62&mc_eid=ee9393190c
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Election Committee Report - L. Henry

- Members: L. Henry, T. Khan, T. Lumley, A. Robinson, K.Miles, T. Kovaleff
 - met this past Monday
- Procedures and steps for candidates to run
- Documentation kept by Signe and the committee last year.
- Committee went over and made minor changes
- Suggested timeline
- Survey will be sent out via email to all 45 current members
- No more than one term which is 2 years for a member to be in a particular role
- Intent to Run Form - www.cb9m.org/intent-to-run
 - Need forms by May 15th, submit to the chair of the elections committee and district manager
 - Nominations night by May 18th
 - Position of the chair and the vice chair are open
 - Need at least 7 other current board members who support your candidacy and a written statement not exceeding 250 words that set forth your background and qualifications for the relevant board office
 - Description of the positions are found in the Bylaws

V. Public Session

Deidre McIntosh Brown

- DYCD - SYEP Program, we did not get as many slots. Not enough businesses participating. No cost to the employers.
- Requesting employers to sign up
- Applications to hire are open until May 26th.
- Columbia is hiring
- Pushing Mt. Sinai and City College
- Non-profits, organizations, small businesses are needed to sign-up
 - SYEP Employers application deadline is May 26th:
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/dycd/services/jobs-internships/employer-interest-form.page>

Signe Mortensen

- Annual Plant Sale - www.tinyurl.com/150plantsale
 - Supporting 150th Street Block Association and Garden - 11th year of fundraiser
 - Order now online, pick up on Saturday May 6th
- TeamUpCleanUp - planning meeting
 - Flyer will be sent out to district office

Tiffany Khan

- Burial Assistance for families who are victims of COVID-19
 - Only available for 120 days after death of a loved one
 - <https://www.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/burial-assistance.page>

- Congressman Espaillat is engaged in the Conversation to extend

Earnestine Temple

- Board of Elections
- Need over 4,000 poll workers
- There is training, office work, outreach needed in the communities, not just working the polls
- Wonderful opportunity to get young people engaged

Shawn Abreu / Franchesco Martinez - City Councilmember District 7

Contact - fmartinez@council.nyc.gov or 212-928-6814

- Working on getting scaffolding down
- Ebikes are a pressing issue
 - Lithium batteries are a safety issue, causing fires
- Women in Business Roundtable at Columbia University
- Rallying to fund public defenders and civil service workers
- Connect people to resources to save their housing
 - <https://gothamist.com/news/ny-state-left-millions-of-dollars-in-housing-vouchers-unspent-audit-finds>
- Facade issues at 149th and Convent Ave. - landlord refuses to fix the issue
 - Rather pay the fines
 - Councilmember and MBPO are working to get HPD and DOB to the building

Mirian Hernandez (Hernandezm@nyassembly.gov // 212-866-3970) - Office of Assemblyman

Danny O'Donnell

- Book Drive at District Office was a huge success
- First shredding event on April 1st from 12-3 PM
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEd7V_nEnVQIbGtfSmVUwduFkbsHmYn2QUMJFNzaloI5sHCw/viewform
- Continue to support Red Balloon. Attended rally with Red Balloon. Attempted to deliver petitions to Columbia
- Meeting with MTA/Columbia
 - Columbia working on hiring a consultant for the project
- Allocate more funding for students and health care providers
- Support for good cause evictions
- Dignity for all Students Act (Suicide Prevention)
- Calling for Arts funding from Gov. Hochul
- NYS One House Budget - <https://nyassembly.gov/Reports/WAM/AssemblyBudgetProposal/2023/2023AssemblySummary.pdf>

Joselinne Minaya - Manhattan DA's Office

- Contact - Washington Heights Office (212) 335-3320

- Sentenced 2 members of the Gang - “The Main Event” - violent drug trafficking ring from W135th Street Between Amsterdam and Riverside Dr.
- Human Trafficking Awareness Month
 - Human Trafficking Response Unit Hotline (212) 335-3400

Morgan Tiggs from Assemblymember Taylor’s Office

- tiggsm@altaylorfornny.org - (212)- 234- 1430
- Had audio issues, unable to give update

Lermond Mayes from Assemblymember Dickens Office

- Working on the following proposed bills
 - Parole Board - Needs more diverse ethnic makeup for equality
 - Good Neighbors Bill of Rights - hold owners with big footprints accountable

Gisele from Councilmember Kristen Richardson’s Office

- <https://kristininharlem.com/>
- Events for Women’s History Month
 - Saturday March 18th: Intentional Movement with MoHo Dance: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
 - Saturday March 23rd: Health Screening and Lessons in Nutrition: 1:00 - 3:00 PM
 - **Both events will be held at 163 Malcolm X BVLVD, New York, NY, 10026**
- Health Screening on March 20th
- Complaints about unregulated businesses selling cannabis
 - Open up 311 complaints
 - <https://cannabis.ny.gov/report-an-incident>

VI. Action Items

1. Reso Calling on the New York City Department of City Planning to Initiate a Citywide Zoning Text Amendment to Make R1, R2, and R3 Zoning Variants Equivalent to R4 Zoning Variants;

Resolution would be calling on the Department of city planning to undertake this text amendment and in order to do the text amendment they must go through ULURP, which means they’ve got to do an environmental impact study. We are just issuing a letter asking them to do this. This would be a 3-year process at minimum.

Vote was conducted by Chair Weinberg.

The following members voted NO to the resolution: Caldwell, Gerson, Hanzal, Jason, Khan, Ramirez

Following members ABSTAINED: D. Johnson, P. Watler Johnson, Lumley

Rest of the members in attendance voted YES support the resolution.

Reso carries will send to DCP

<https://www.amny.com/opinion/op-ed-new-york-city-has-enough-vacant-apartments-to-house-the-homeless-its-time-to-do-it/>

2. LOS re: Energy Efficiency Equity and Jobs Act S2469
(Parker)/A2655(Hunter);

Aristy-Farer moves for Unanimous consent. Annette Robinson seconds the motion for Unanimous consent. All board members present unanimously approved.
Letter of support passes with unanimous consent.

Liquor License (Renewals):

3. Reso re: Rai Rai Ken Corporation located at 1467 Amsterdam Ave., NYC 10027
 4. Reso re: Dear Mama located at 611 W. 129th Street, NYC 10027
 5. Reso re: Jaelar Restaurant Corp. (aka Nuevo Caridad) located at 3533 Broadway, NYC 10031
 6. Reso re: The Expat located at 64 Tiemann Pl. aka 195 Claremont Ave, NYC 10027
 7. Reso re: Pisticci Restaurant located at 125 LaSalle Street, NYC 10027
- a. Explained by Carolyn Thompson
 - b. A unanimous consent motion by W. Alexander. D. Hardeman seconded the motion. All members present unanimously approved. Members H. Jason & P. Caldwell abstain.
 - c. Renewals are approved.

Note: All of the above liquor license renewals were vetted by US&T committee, NYPD Precincts - 26th and 30th, and had no complaints or violations with the NY State Liquor Authority

New Liquor License(s):

8. DS Morningside Residents, Inc. located at 30 Morningside Dr., NYC 10027

Vote was conducted. Does not pass.

14 Board Members voted NO

7 Board Members ABSTAINED

9 Board Members voted YES

Live streaming and recording paused

Went into Executive session at 9:21 PM

Discussing Personnel Decision

Exited Exec Session at 9:28 PM.

VII. Old Business

- a. None was brought up at this time.

VIII. New Business

- a. None was brought up at this time.

IX. Adjourn

- S. Mortensen moved to adjourn the meeting. T. Khan seconded the motion. All participants were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM by Chair Weinberg.

Respectfully submitted by Solomon Prophete