CHAIR’S REPORT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 11, 2010

Community Board Membership

- Resignation
  o Ty Buckelew – effective immediately; relocating to Philippines for business
- Request for Leave of Absence
  o Miriam Aristy-Farer – effective April 1, 2010 – maternity leave
- New appointments and reappointments
  o To be announced April 1st

Conduct of Board Business, Roberts Rules and Parliamentary Procedures

Mayor’s Community Affairs Unit’s Parliamentary Procedures Guide for Community Boards

- Use of Roberts Rules/Parliamentary Procedure
  o “Today, Community Boards throughout New York city use parliamentary procedure to conduct their general meetings. They can formally adopt written rules of procedures which confirm, add to, or deviate from parliamentary law itself. Why? Because Robert’s Rules are meant to be a means to an end and not an end in themselves. Even General Robert realized this need. Since Community Boards are governmental and public bodies, Robert’s Rules are superseded by a Community Board’s by-laws, New York City Charter, and the New York State Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Laws.”

- Chairperson Voting
  o “Community Board chairs have the same voting rights and obligations as other members. If a chairperson is entitled to vote on a matter, he or she must either vote of abstain. A Board’s by-laws may not exclude the chairperson from voting on matters before the Board, nor may they restrict the Chairperson to voting only to break a tie.”

ML Wilson Boys and Girls Club/P.S. 186

- Spoke with Ms. Lynch, Office of Deputy Mayor for Economic Development
  o Recently assigned responsibility for Mayor’s Office involvement
  o Attended meeting in February with Club, numerous City agencies, elected officials to get understanding of actions to date
  o Mayor’s Office declined offer to attend March 2010 Executive Committee meeting, stating
    ▪ “We discussed this internally. The Mayor’s Office will not be attending. We’re still considering the project but believe it’s best to let the Department of City Planning speak to the issues in the context of the rezoning.”
• Consideration to re-institution Task Force or move discussion of issues to the Executive Committee to centralize issues and serve as point with Club/MBPO and City

West Harlem Rezoning
• DCP has come up with recommendations for rezoning
  • Most recent presentation focused on M-district and West 145th Street
• Land Use and Zoning Committee to provide feedback to DCP on most recent recommendations
  • DCP presentation to Full Board tentatively scheduled for April 2010

Community Board 9 Annual Report
• Due to Borough President’s Office by March 12th
  • Committee chairs/co-chairs to submit Committee accomplishments & goals to CB9 Office by Friday, March 5th

CARRY-OVERS
Borough of Manhattan Complete Count Committee (“CCC”)
• MBPO has formed a CCC to be comprised of residents, community, religious, cultural, tenant and government leaders, plus advocacy, NFP, community based and student organizations
• Goal: to encourage maximum participation of Manhattan residents in completing 2010 census
  • Census forms will be mailed between March 15 and March 17, 2010
  • NYC’s average response rate for 2000 census was 55%
  • CB9 response rates by census tract are included as attachment
    • 6 of CB9 census tracts had response rate of 45.9% or less
• Community Boards are asked to identify community-based groups that should be included in outreach efforts
• DM, Brandon Brice, Elvis Hernandez, Monique White are supporting CB9’s efforts to get word out
  • In addition, a joint community forum (CB9 and 12) is being planned

Mayor’s Office Initiative – Community Board Partnership
• CB9 has been paired with CB4
• Goal: Share best practices, learn about issues in other Boards, create longer term relationships
• Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs to attend General Board meeting, DSC meeting, Committee meetings, as available
  • Note to Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs: CB4 Calendar is attached in this package (go to their website for addresses – www.nyc.gov/mcb4)
Dear Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer:

Please accept this letter as my notice of resignation, effective Tuesday, March 1st 2010.

After 2 years of educational participation in Community Board 9, I bid adieu. I have been truly grateful for the opportunity and experience to serve the community. Thank you.

Community Board 9 has a unique way that appears to be improving by the meeting. With this, I have been amazed at the level of professionalism and dedication of my fellow Board members, and I will miss each and every one.

However, after much consideration, I have accepted an opportunity to work for the Dekeyser & Friends Foundation of Geneva, Switzerland - an opportunity that I feel I cannot turn down. http://www.dekeyserandfriends.com/

All the best to Community Board 9, and thank you again.

Ty Buckelew

cc: Shanifah Rieara, and Pat Jones
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Meeting Schedule, Public Hearings, and Public Sessions - Each Community Board shall meet at least once each month within the community district, and conduct at least one public hearing each month. . . . At each public meeting, the board shall set aside time to hear from the public.

Each Community Board should establish and publish a meeting schedule. Community Boards are mandated to meet at least once a month. A Board’s workload might necessitate more than one monthly meeting.

Community Boards may hold public hearings on any matter relating to the welfare of the district (City Charter Section 2800-d-3). Boards are required to conduct two public hearings during the budget process, and one during their review of the Citywide Statement of Needs. There is no Charter requirement for the presence of a quorum in order for a Community Board to hold a public hearing, except for public hearings held in accordance with the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). ULURP requires the attendance of 20 percent of the Board’s appointed members or seven members (whichever is greater). Any action or vote taken by a Community Board, however, may occur only in the presence of a quorum.

The mandate to hear from the public at every public meeting requires that a public session be conducted even if a Community Board has held a public hearing on a specific issue that month. The Charter does not specify how much time should be set aside to hear from the public. Some Community Boards hold these sessions before Board business is conducted, while other Boards hold them at the conclusion of their meetings. In either case, the presence of a quorum of Board members is required for this session.

Open Meetings Law and Closed Meetings - The Open Meetings Law (OML) requires all meetings of public bodies to be open to the public (with certain exceptions not applicable to Community Boards), but permits public bodies to close portions of their meetings (“go into executive session”) when certain types of issues are to be discussed and the correct procedure to close a meeting is followed.

The subjects that may be discussed in closed meetings are:

- matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
- information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- discussions regarding proposed, pending or future litigation;
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ARTICLE IV: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Elections Committee:

1. An Elections Committee consisting of five (5) members shall be selected at the Board’s general meeting in April of each year. The Chair of the Elections Committee shall be elected by the Committee.

2. The Elections Committee shall meet as often as necessary thereafter to facilitate the election process including distributing forms, collecting nominations and/or “Intent to Run” letters, and monitoring the election.

B. Candidates

1. Any Board member who wishes to run for office must submit to the Chair of the Elections Committee an “Intent to Run” letter which includes the signatures of at least seven (7) other current Board Members and a written statement three (3) days prior to the May Board meeting. The written statement shall not exceed 250 words, and must set forth the nominee’s background and qualifications for Board office. Incomplete letters will not be accepted. Members of the Election Committee may not run for office and are barred from signing intent to run letters.

2. The Elections Committee will announce candidates’ names at the Board’s general meeting in May. Nominations from the floor will be accepted during this meeting. All nominations from the floor must be supported by seven (7) present Board members. If accepted, nominees from the floor must submit their short statement (see section 1) within seven (7) days.

3. Candidates’ Night: A special meeting with all nominees will be held approximately two (2) weeks prior to the June meeting for the purpose of responding to the Members’ questions regarding each nominee’s vision for Board office. If the candidate is not present for such meeting, the nominee forfeits his/her candidacy.

C. Elections: At the June meeting of the Board, pursuant to written notice to each Member:

1. There shall be one (1) ballot for the election of officers. Each Board Member must be called by the Secretary from the official Board Roll to receive an election ballot. Then each Board Member must be called again by the Secretary to deposit his/her signed ballot in the ballot box.

2. A person receiving a majority of the votes cast for each office shall be elected. If no person receives a majority on the first ballot, the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall have a runoff vote
at that time. In the event of a tie vote, one further vote will be taken. In the event that after a run-off, no person receives a majority of the votes cast, nominations will be newly opened and voting will continue until a person receives a majority of the votes cast. In the event that only one person is a candidate for an office and that person fails to receive a majority of the votes cast, then nominations for that office will be newly opened from the floor. All nominations from the floor must be seconded in this circumstance.