



Economic Development and West Harlem Piers Minutes

5 December 2023 at 6:30pm

Attendees

Committee members present: Hon. Maritta Dunn (co-chair), Hon. Joyce Adewumi (co-chair), Hon. Clayton Sanford, Hon. Michael Iglesias

Committee members absent: Hon. Chris Berry, Hon. Clotilde Monguya, Hon. John-Martin Green (excused)

1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:49 PM with a quorum present.

2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was moved for adoption by Clayton Sanford (CS) and seconded by Maritta Dunn (MD).

3 Adoption of Minutes

The minutes were moved for adoption by MD and seconded by Michael Iglesias (MI).

4 Introductions/Presentations/Announcements

4.1 Presentation by Joyce Adewumi

Joyce Adewumi (JA) presented on behalf of the [New York African Choral Ensemble](#), funded by the [West Harlem Development Corporation \(WHDC\)](#). She advertised an upcoming gathering on Saturday December 9th in collaboration with NYPD 30th precinct and PS IS 210 at 501-503 W 152nd St, New York, NY 10031 from 3-7 PM. The event will feature artists participating in the NYC multi-cultural festival, with food, a secret santa, performances, and dancing.

The organization is planning its 15th Anniversary NYC MC Festival to celebrate diverse cultural groups, aiming to reduce stereotypes and foster better police-community relations. Vendors will have opportunities to sell and promote their goods. JA is also involved with the 30th precinct, assisting in organization. MD proposed to add JA's presentation to the general board meeting agenda.

4.2 West Harlem Piers

MD expressed concern over low attendance from CB9 members and local residents at the tree lighting event at West Harlem Piers, citing poor advertising.

Discussion ensued on the process for signing the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA). CS is preparing a letter to the comptroller with John-Martin Green's (JMG) assistance, and plans to distribute the draft to the committee. This letter will be reviewed at the January meeting.

5 Subcommittee Reports

MD raised concerns about the lack of awareness of CB9 among local residents. JA proposed a survey to assess district needs and encouraged CB members to engage in individual advertising.

Zoya Abbas from *Hon. Al Taylor's* office discussed the challenges in helping constituents understand the role of their office and suggested using more social media for outreach. JA suggested that organizations operating within the district should include links to CB9 on their websites.

6 Old Business

6.1 2024 Small Business Conference

Building on previous planning, the conference is set for April, focusing on permits, licensing, and avoiding scams. JA noted the potential for funding from private industry. Elected officials will speak about resources and discretionary funds, with a planning meeting for all stakeholders.

Proposed date: Saturday, April 27th, 2023, from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Assignments were allocated among committee members for various aspects of the conference. These assignments delegate responsibility, but all will help out with different aspects.

- Maritta Dunn (MD): Reserve space at the Forum, coordinate catering.
- Joyce Adewumi (JA): Contact elected officials, coordinate marketing.
- Clotilde Monguya (CM), Michael Iglesias (MI): Invite and communicate with small businesses.
- Clayton Sanford (CS): Contact government agencies and speakers.
- John-Martin Green (JMG): Event branding and keynote organization.

7 New Business

- Discussion on the Baylander's move to Brooklyn for the winter and a potential project involving oyster shells near the Marine Transfer Station (MTS).
- Vote on conducting a hybrid meeting in January passed, with JA, MI, and CS voting in favor, and MD abstaining.

8 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.