

Manhattan Community Board 9
General Board Meeting
February 20, 2020

Called to attention at 6:38pm.

Presentations

Shawn Rickenbacker, CCNY Max Bond Center for Urban Futures

Work with Housing & Land Use to give committee a useful web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) tool to speculate about district's future and how committee deals with developers. Similar models: CB3 used approach to build Lower East Side Resiliency Plan; Brooklyn CB2 working on revisioning BQE.

Team worked to identify land and property assets and trends in real estate market. System lets users forecast and monitor change. Goal is to let CB9 be proactive about urbanization. Team is preparing tutorials for users. Example datasets include supermarkets and HDFCs along Broadway, with option to layer on city datasets. Can be used to identify potential development sites and what can be built as of right. Along with partner software Vivacity, put 3D model of hypothetical building, DOB data, and FAR data side by side.

Meeting called to order at 6:55pm. There was a quorum.

Chair's Report

Per Borough Board meeting, anticipated budget cuts from State and City budgets. Successful January town hall on Morningside Park and creating more opportunities for youth.

Ongoing projects include street and sidewalk reconstruction on 12th Avenue. Landmarks Preservation Commission adopted rules to let staff make more decisions, with some poor results. Dealing with RAD privatization of NYCHA to ensure complete restoration of buildings occurs. Urging MTA to add elevators to subway stations. Rezoning of Morningside Heights. Repurposing of RKO Hamilton Theater. Expand facilities for Columbia Secondary Schools and other schools colocated with it.

New initiatives include connecting CB9 residents to MWBE opportunities and union apprenticeships. Looking to ensure former Child's Memorial Tabernacle Church becomes permanent housing for formerly homeless people, rather than temporarily serving as shelter housing.

February 24: public budget hearing to discuss city agency responses to CB budget priorities.

Treasurer's Report

Allocation from Council Members for community education and outreach: \$12,500. Seven committees submitted proposals by January 31, with impressive visions and proposals including recognizing outstanding local individuals and businesses, neighborhood studies, town halls, educational programming.

CB also gets \$42,500 to further our work with the community from the city.

District Manager's Report

Plastic bag ban takes effect March 1 – remember to carry reusable bags. Ed Gordon will be holding an event on his new book at City College.

FY21 preliminary budget hearing on February 24; district office can also provide copies of board's budget requests. Written testimony forms are available and can be dropped off at board office to be included in the board's report.

Assemblymember Danny O'Donnell

All electeds around Columbia demand that they keep promises to the community. He and AM Dickens met with high level DOE officials to make clear that Columbia must follow through on promise to build a school, and DOE must accept it. Key insight is that Columbia's covenant to build a school somewhere in Manhattanville development was signed after the letter Columbia had been relying upon to avoid commitment on a specific site. Giving Columbia the chance to do the right thing; otherwise, prepared to issue strongly worded letter and public relations campaign.

Office is providing free reusable bags. Looking into state program to emulate programs in San Francisco and Texas that allow small local businesses to be designated to unlock federal funds to make improvements.

Fight back against Governor's budget. HDFCs are extraordinarily important and must remain – disagree with some colleagues proposing to take them away. Bill in Albany to preclude state financing for institutions with endowment of over \$8 billion.

Meeting agenda and minutes adopted at 7:30pm.

WHDC Representative, Patricia Johnson

Pathways to apprenticeship is recruiting, with information sessions in late March. Contact West Harlem Skills Training Program for more information. Also providing culinary apprenticeship program for people interested in jobs as line cooks.

MBPO, April Adams

Capital grant funding applications available (deadline 5pm February 21). Office distributing reusable bags. March 1: Women's History Month open house. Talking with EDC about 12th avenue revitalization. Thanks for successful Morningside Park Community Forum.

Public Session

D Hardeman: Liaison to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Council

Very local

The Epic system transforms records so can be available to all hospitals

Coronavirus: Not confirmed in City or state

There is a shortage of masks

New Bldg at 169-70 streets: will house YMYHA which will offer lifeguard training internship as part of SYEP

Highlighted Uptown Art Stroll

C Fredmar: Lasker Pool and Rink Design

We are concerned about the Central Park Conservancy's redesign of Lasker which will cut the size to 74% of its present size.

Referred to Parks Committee

J Miller: Institute for Retired Professionals

Gave description of program running at the New School
Peer led discussion groups on various topics
For more info call 212.229.5682

T Johnson: WEACTION events

Invitation to attend lobby trip on 2/25 on toxic chemicals
NYCHA meeting on 3/17
3/14 monthly mtg at Church of the Crucifixion

A Galkowski: Riverside Park Conservancy

To introduce self as the outreach coordinator
Wants volunteers
Distrib fliers
Volunteer orientation 3/25 from 6-7 PM call 212.870.3088 for details or
anastasia@riversideparknyc.org

N Melville: Lasker

To endorse Catherine's speech

S Williams: Accessible dispatch Program

Part of the TLC
Provides accessible transportation
914.320.3970

A Celestine: Uptown Night Market

Wed are presenting an idea of bringing a night market to West Harlem. A celebration of cuisine, culture and community that caters to the "love to eat community" while providing a platform for food entrepreneurs, local musicians, and artisanal merchandise vendors. The goal is to create a family friendly affordable event series .
jessica@thebronxnightmarket .com
Group wants suggestions for a location.

Elected Officials

Sabrina Ellis, State Sen. Brian Benjamin

Close to 300 constituents filled out constituent survey, helping to shape 2020 legislative priorities – thank you. Working to provide for dignity of formerly incarcerated through state IDs. Gentrification tax bill. Standing up for trans community against hate. 2020 census is on April 1.

Porfirio Figueroa, State Sen. Robert Jackson

Held workshop for people to build resumes and interview for jobs. HR at Columbia-Presbyterian got information to look for opportunities. Upcoming event to learn how to seal criminal record. Program with IDNYC, student voter registration, and census awareness.

Eric Cuello, CM Mark Levine

Public testimony for city budget on March 16, 10am at City Hall. Public encouraged to come and advocate for items. Right to Counsel 2.0 hearing next week. Program has been successful, but there's more that can be

done because minimum wage household above income requirements. Also need to provide representation at appeals level for successful cases, and to fund community organizations to do that work.

Ely Silvestre, District Attorney's Office

Summer Internship Program flyers available: application deadline March 9. Required to live or attend school in Manhattan; current junior or senior; commit to entirety of July 6-August 7 program. Application requires essay and letter of recommendation.

Accepting applications for gun violence fellowship program: deadline February 29. Required to be currently in college or have a GED.

Clean Slate event coming up on May 9 to resolve outstanding NYC summonses, or redirect to Legal Aid Society on site for support. No arrests will be made under any circumstances.

Assemblymember Al Taylor

Seal your records event on February 22. Not budging on bail reform; newly fixed system is right thing to do based on experience in life and public service. Boards of HDFCs now doing some of the bad behaviors that problematic landlords do. Opposed to current Assembly bill.

Action Items

There was debate about the presence of the Baylander at West Harlem Piers, which has lasted much longer than was ever suggested at their first presentation to the Board, and the proprietors' lack of responsiveness to the board.

Votes (Y-N-A-P)

Item 1: Budget Justice: 29-0-0-0

Item 2: Dos Toros: 28-0-1-0

Item 3: 2867 Bway (The Heights) upstairs: 28-0-1-0

Item 4: 2867 Bway: 28-0-1-0

Item 5: Baylander: 4-21-4-0

Item 6: Trufa: 28-0-1-0

Item 7: Chopped Parsley: 27-0-2-0

New Business

John-Martin Green on behalf of the SGL/LGBTQ+ Task Force. Thursday, March 26 Task Force convening joint town hall with CCNY to honor local leaders, including Chair Barry Weinberg.

Meeting adjourned 9:05pm.