

Manhattan Community Board 9
3291 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

General Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 19th, 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 S. Prophete

Proposed Agenda for 1/19/2023

- General Board Meeting Agenda;
- General Board Minutes (12/15/22);
- Chair's Report; (will be shared at the meeting)
- Treasurer's Report;
- District Manager's Report;
- WHDC Report;
- UMEZ Report;
- 125th Street Bid Report;
- MBPO Report;
- Action Item(s):
 - 1. Ratification of Ltr. or Comments on Proposed Part 115 – Personal Home Cultivation of Medical Cannabis: Round 1 (Medical) Regulations
 - 2. Ratification of Reso re: Disapproval of new Link5G Kiosks within CB-9M;
 - 3. Ratification of Planned Action Report (PAR) for New Hire
 - 4. Reso re: Million Trees;
 - 5. *LOS re: The 12th Avenue Accessibility Improvements (HWM12AVE) Project
- Committee Minutes;
- Flyers, and Announcements;
- January/February - 2023 Calendars;

I. Call to Order

The meeting started at 6:48 PM. We reached a quorum (38 members present). The recording and the live broadcast started. V. Edwards has called the meeting to order. S. Prophete took the Attendance roll.

II. Adopt Agenda

The meeting agenda for tonight was submitted prior to the meeting. C. Thompson moved to adopt the agenda. W. Alexander seconded the motion. All remaining members present unanimously agreed. T. Kovaleff votes not entitled.

III. Adopt Minutes

S. Prophete & T. Kovaleff submitted the minutes from the December 2022 general board meeting prior to the meeting. C. Thompson moved to adopt the minutes. L. Henry seconded the motion. All remaining members present unanimously agreed. T. Kovaleff abstains.

IV. Presentations/Updates/Discussions

- No presentations at this time

V. Reports

Board Chair Report: B. Weinberg

- Mayor Releases Preliminary Budget for 2023-2024
 - Cuts to numerous agencies. Libraries hit the hardest.
 - Response to proposed budget due 2/12
- Condolences to the family of Sam Brown (recently passed away) - Founder of the Children's Foundation in Harlem
- Meeting at the Forum on 125th Street for Hybrid Meetings
- New CU President - Nemat Shafik starts in June 2023
- Barnard STEAM Summer Program for teachers in K-8 schools
- New Commanding Officer for the NYPD 26th Precinct - Captain Alvarez

Treasurer's Report: C. Thompson

- No expenditures made at this time
- Waiting on system password(s) to be restored
- Hearing on preliminary budget

District Manager's Report : E. Prince

- Report in the packet distributed
- Review Mayor Budget proposals

- Sent out in packet - letter of response needed from committee chairs
- Feb. 23rd for MBPO Deadline for Capital
- Openstreet Applications Open and due by 1/31
- HOPE survey for Homeless will be taking place this month
- Rat Academy training on 1/31
- Employment Opportunity - DOT holding Job Fair on Friday, Feb. 3rd, 2023 at 55 Water Street
 - [Http://on.nyc.gov/dotjf](http://on.nyc.gov/dotjf)
- Free covid tests available - <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

WHDC: P. Watler-Johnson

- Report in the packet.
- Last WHDC meeting was in December
- New annual meeting has not been set yet
- New Resource Center Director hired - Vincent ?
- Marcus Garvey Project Completed
 - WHDC reimbursed 2 million loan plus interest

UMEZ: Rev. Morgan Thomas

- UMEZ funded 2.4 Million dollars for 52 organizations in our district (last fiscal year)
 - Sought out federal funding and grants
- Perscolas Technology / Apprentice IT Program - to be launched soon
- \$300,000 earmarked to help local artists

125th Street BID Report: Ken Miles

- No BID report available for this month

Manhattan Borough President's Office Report: Mark Levine & Minah Whyte
(minahwhyte@manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

- State of the Boro - 1/31 at City College
 - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/manhattan-borough-president-mark-d-levines-state-of-the-borough-address-tickets-500225256207>
- Capital Funding available - applications due on 2/23 at 5 PM
 - <https://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov/funding/capital-funding/>
- Limit Non-emergency Helicopter Use
- Against proposed 5G Towers installation
- For Compost Program throughout Manhattan - pick up of organics is essential to cut down on waste
- Outlined Benefits of Urban/Street Trees - calling for the planting of one million new trees
- Right to Council - housing court does not have enough lawyers. Asking for moratorium until all tenants can be adequately represented
- 145th Street and Amsterdam Ave. Project
 - Need affordable housing and supportive housing

VI. Public Session

John Martin Green

- Blackberry Productions - encourage community awareness
 - Theater Based Intervention model with regards to community policing
 - Introducing COPP intervention model
- Save the Date - Event on Tue 2/21 at Harlem School of the Arts from 6-8 PM
 - Will share RSVP with Eutha to distribute

Lisa Edmiston (Concerned Citizens for a Better Harlem)

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/concernedcitizensharlem/>
- Project on 145th Street
- Looking for definitive statement from Councilmember Abreu on the project

Matt Gerber (Concerned Citizens for a Better Harlem)

- 1727 Amsterdam Avenue
- Looking for clarity from the developers and the city about the project
- Community is looking for replacement of lost resources

Ms. Mack (CODA Alliance)

- <http://www.nyccoda.org/>
- Purchased a building on 152nd Street and St. Nicholas
- New Free Pilot program - Finance for Women
 - Every Thursday from 630-830 PM
- March 1st - Digital Literacy Program for Seniors

Annapurna (Red Balloon Preschool) - Annapurna.Potluri007@gmail.com

- Columbia attempting to remove preschool from current space
- Current space would be turned into a CU owned preschool
- Offered to temporarily move them to a temp space for one year

Tiffany Khan

- Email sent to CB9 on 1/12 about HPD funding issues
- <https://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/homefirst-down-payment-assistance-program.page>
- Grant from HPD - for 1st time homebuyers (low to moderate income)
- Application fee is \$850.00. Way to high for low/moderate income families
- HPD is taking 4-6 months to process an application. Way too long.
- Has tried to see Councilman Abreu about the problem
 - Can only make appts with his office. Can no longer make on demand or ad-hoc visits. Needs assistance getting traction on this issue.

Emmitt Sklar (Esklar@council.nyc.gov) - Office of Councilman Shaun Abreu

- Francheco is under the weather

- Speed Cameras are now on for 24 hours. Speeding violations down 25%
- Three Kings Day - Toy Giveaway
- Councilman protested with Nurses and union. Nurses reached a new CBA deal with Mt. Sinai
- Working on making universal exit interviews across all city agencies
- Email him or the Chief of Staff (Amber) to coordinate a meeting with the councilman re: 1727 Amsterdam Ave. project
 - <https://council.nyc.gov/district-7/>
- Councilman Abreu has joined the meeting at 8:20 PM.
 - He is in full support of permanent supportive housing
 - He is leaning towards YES on the project but wants some guarantees from BRC.
- Columbia has agreed to pay for elevator study at 125th Street Station

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

- Rat Academy Training on 1/31/23
- Upcoming Book drive for new or gently used books
- Gov. Hochul signed a sponsored bill by the Assemblyman to have electrical chargers on site for any new parking garages/sites that are built
- Fighting to reform criminal justice system
- Sent letter to LPC commissioner to make Morningside Heights Historic District
- Asking to cease non-emergency Helicopter use & activity in our district
- Expressed public support for Red Balloon

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

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/>
- Recently hired a new funding coordinator

- Working on Housing Projects for our district
- Organizaing Rally against the 145th St. Truck Stop on Sunday
- Against the 145th Street Amsterdam project

VII. Action Items

1. Ratification of Ltr. or Comments on Proposed Part 115 – Personal Home Cultivation of Medical Cannabis: Round 1 (Medical) Regulations
 - a. Explained by Chair Weinberg
 - b. A unanimous consent motion by W. Alexander. C. Thompson seconded the motion. All members present unanimously approved.
 - c. Ratification of comments passes
2. Ratification of Reso re: Disapproval of new Link5G Kiosks within CB-9M;
 - a. Unanimous consent motion by L. Henry. D. Hardeman seconded the motion. A. Robinson and T. Kovaleff abstained
 - b. Ratification of the resolution passes
3. Ratification of Planned Action Report (PAR) for New Hire
 - a. Unanimous consent motion by W. Alexander. J. Arrendell-Johnson seconded. All members present unanimously approved.
 - b. Ratification of planned action report passes
4. Reso re: Million Trees
 - a. Chair Weinberg went over the resolution. Friendly amendment given.
 - b. A unanimous consent motion by D. Hardeman. W. Alexander seconded. All Members present unanimously approve.
 - c. Resolution passes
5. *LOS re: The 12th Avenue Accessibility Improvements (HWM12AVE) Project
 - a. Chair Weinberg went over the letter of support
 - b. A unanimous consent motion by V. Edwards. W. Alexander seconded. All members present unanimously approve.
 - c. Letter of Support passes

VIII. Old Business

- a. None was brought up at this time.

IX. New Business

- a. None was brought up at this time.

X. Adjourn

- S. Mortensen moved to adjourn the meeting. T. Khan seconded the motion. All participants were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM

Respectfully submitted by Solomon Prophete