

Housing Land Use and Zoning Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 6:30 P.M.

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Committee Members: Signe Mortensen (Co-Chair), Anita Cheng, David Hanzal, Liz Waytkus
Barry Weinberg, Ilana Mercado

Public Members: Tiffany Khan, Olga Salcedo

Excused: Annette Robinson

Missing: Indiana Porta, Karen Ward Gamble

Minutes

- I. Meeting started with a memorial to our leader April Tyler who passed recently
- II. Call to Order at 7:24
- III. Move to adopt agenda Barry and Anita second
- IV. Signe move to adopt with any changes, Barry second
- V. Introductions/Presentations/Announcements
 - a. Shawn Rickenbacker – Max Bond Center CCNY grant proposal
 - i. CCNY has applied for a US Dept of Energy grant. CCNY has an energy creating plant on campus and the proposal would be to partner with communities to introduce new technologies “micro grid” to produce a connected community. The proposal has the opportunity to reduce energy costs, better for environment, reduces data divide. This is a multiyear project with \$65M to be divided across different communities. CCNY has been invited to participate in final round. Application is due in two weeks. Program seeks to retrofit existing building; DOE would pay if application was successful. Will solicit the interest of individual buildings and some businesses.
 - ii. During question period, David Hanzel offered his professional expertise with the project. Question was brought up about increasing supply costs from ConEd and if this project could help reduce those costs. The project includes energy distribution, individual energy use and building management with a menu of energy options.
 - iii. They are asking for a letter of support that was presented.
 - b. City Council Speaker – Intro 2186 Planning Proposal - Update from Liz on the proposed comprehensive planning initiative. DCP and mayor office do not support. The bill has not been presented to community board yet. There is a lot of interest but also concern of too top down and not enough support for communities.
- VI. New Business Discussions

- a. Request to committee members to form new subcommittees or taskforces to help push projects forward with the loss of April. Dan Cohen suggested to create a taskforce on the RKO Theater.
 - b. Signe reminded everyone to become a public member of HLUZ and participate in the committee or a taskforce.
- VII. Old Business; Subcommittee/taskforce reports
- a. Budgeting – Barry said the committee responded to all action items
 - b. Community workshops – Signe reminded us of the workshops April wanted to see happen but let’s keep it in mind.
 - c. Developments we are watching
 - i. St Luke’s – bids are coming in
 - ii. 142 – Ryan from Planning said application is almost complete and the ULURP process will begin this spring. The official CB9 meeting will come in the next few months
 - iii. 155th street project is an as-of-right but no update
 - iv. Child’s Memorial window of opportunity still exists
 - d. Film and TV Subcommittee – Lois, Anita and William said they would be willing to help. Discussion on how to coordinate a subcommittee zoom meeting.
 - e. MHCC – Laura Friedman gave an update on local projects including McGifford and Riverside Church. Rezoning still moving forward. Working with elected officials on the school that was promised for 125th Street where McDonald’s was. They are negotiating with Columbia on nonaffiliated apartments to keep them as not Columbia people as they turn over to keep affordable housing opportunities in the neighborhood. Working on a project to acknowledge the legacy of St. Luke’s now that it has been remained.
 - f. HDFC – The coalition remains active with monthly webinars.
 - g. NYCHA
- VIII. Action Items
- a. LOS for CCNY proposal to US DOE Connected Communities for West Harlem Connected Community Microgrid
- IX. Adjourn-Next Meetings: XXX motion. Signe second. All in favor.