



CB9M

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CHAIR'S REPORT MAY 18, 2017

As Chair I would like to say Thank You to all board members, public members and the general public, as we continue to conduct the work to support the growth and sustainability of our community. In conjunction with our elected officials and city agencies, we have served to identify issues that needs to be addressed, hold responsible parties accountable and ensure that ultimately the needs of our community are met. All this while, holding down full time jobs, running business, managing a family, or serving in other capacity is no easy feat and for this I applaud your spirit of community and volunteerism. I know this spirit of helping and giving does not begin or end with the community board, but recognize that it is appreciated and recognized. As the season comes to an end, and the appointment of new and returning board members, and the moving on of other members it has been a pleasure to work with you over the past year, and looking forward to doing so over the upcoming year.

The following are items the Board office is closely following and want you to be aware of.

CB 9 Bystander Training

CB 9 is working with the Borough President's office and HollaBack! to feature a Workshop on safety and bystander training. We are scheduling the workshop for early June and will be finalizing date and time shortly. Visit our website for further information. www.cb9m.org. Hollaback! is a global movement to end harassment powered by a network of grassroots activists. They work together to understand harassment, ignite public conversations, and develop innovative strategies to ensure equal access to public spaces. They leverage new technologies to bring voice to an issue that historically has been silenced, and to build leadership within this movement to break the silence.

Discretionary Fund Opportunities for Community Boards

The BP's will be providing information on the Manhattan Community Award Program MCAP discretionary dollars. They understand that there are always initiatives that need some financial backing and wanted to ensure that they speak to every board that have an interest. As such, the BP's budget team will be leading these sessions (going over the application process, what is eligible for funding) after Borough Board and Borough Service Cabinet this month. CB9 will have representative at both events.

DAY OF ACTION MAY 19 @ 8am RE: Manhattan Borough President's office Diabetes Health Fair- May 23rd at 4-6pm

CB9 joins forces with the BP's office for a Day of Action on May 19th at 8:00am to help promote this event by distributing fliers at various locations with Gale. Below is a list of locations and individuals assigned to flier these locations.

Day of Action for flier distribution assignments:

- 125th Street (A,B,C,D) Subway station (at the Northbound corner): Gale & Josie Guzman
 - 125th Street (1) Subway station: Shula Warren
 - NYCHA developments (staff will be accompanied TA rep):
 - o Grant Houses (In front of 55 La Salle Street): James Thomas
 - o St. Nicholas Houses (onsite location TBC): Rosalba Rodriguez
 - o Manhattanville Houses (management office at 549 West 126th St): Lori Williams
 - CB 9: CB 9 Staff
 - CB 10: CB 10 Staff
 - In front of entrance of the State Office Building (125th Street 7th Ave): Alassane Diop
- Please join us this Sunday, May 21st, 2017 to survey empty storefronts on Broadway

Storefront Survey

Support a survey of Broadway CB9's district area. The empty storefronts need filling! Join the BP's and volunteers on Sunday, May 21 to conduct a census along the length of Broadway for vacant commercial storefronts. Each surveyor will sign up for a number of blocks to report the addresses of vacant storefronts, the former occupants, and possible ideas on the types of businesses needed in the neighborhood. To register, please email your name, phone number and if you have a neighborhood preference to info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov with the subject line "Storefront Survey."

Letter from Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer to Lisette Camilo, Commissioner, New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services, regarding Community Board offices

Please see attached the letter from the BP in reference to securing space for CB offices. We are especially appreciative of this letter as we try to finalize our move to a more accommodating and permanent space.



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Gale A. Brewer, Borough President

May 12, 2017

Lisette Camilo
Commissioner
Department of Citywide Administrative Services
The David N. Dinkins Municipal Building
1 Centre Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner Camilo:

I am writing to you regarding Community Board offices. We are facing a variety of challenges with their physical spaces and hope you can help.

As you know, Community Boards serve as vital neighborhood resources and planning bodies. They address virtually every issue that our communities face – from land use to transportation to health concerns. In addition, they handle constituent complaints on everything from rats to housing problems. It is so important that they have both adequate and long-term space.

Currently in Manhattan we have two boards that need new space and are facing long term delays, and other boards are worried that they will wind up in similar situations. In addition, boards have many new mandated tasks that must be addressed within their spaces. These include accessibility issues and technology issues. Boards must be ADA accessible and now may need to be able to provide hearing devices. Boards must have the ability to livestream meetings. Ideally, boards should have spaces large enough to hold at least some public meetings (if not full board meetings) and to have the technology to take advantage of open data and other technology available to assist in their work.

The issue of delays is tricky. I know what a long process it is to identify and procure space (we went through it with my district office on 125th Street!). However, we have one board that has already moved several times in the past few years, and yet is still in a temporary space with a potential 18 month wait for permanent space and a second board that knows its lease arrangement is coming to an end shortly and is trying to jump start the process so it can avoid multiple moves.

I would be happy to meet with you on this or perhaps a first step would be for you to send staff to one of our Borough Service Cabinet meetings, so that they could hear from all District Managers about current conditions and space needs first hand. Please let me know how you would like to proceed.

Thank you so much for your attention to this.

Sincerely

Gale A. Brewer