

CB1 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2015

DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2015

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: Borough of Manhattan Community College
Richard Harris Terrace
199 Chambers Street

Chairperson Catherine McVay Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, EST.

I. **Public Hearing**

Mayor's Preliminary Budget for FY 2016

- No speakers signed up to present testimony

II. **Public Session**

A) Comments by members of the public

1) Andrew DeCurtis (NY Rescue Mission)

- Please remember the homeless.

2) Paul Goldstein (Assemblyman Sheldon Silver)

- Supports use of Battery Park City ballfields by community-based organizations

3) Jackie Blank (Representative Jerrold Nadler)

- There is a bill concerning helicopter noise in the NJ legislature. It is expected to pass.
- Congressional art competition is accepting applications.

4) Albert Eshoo (Right at Home)

- They provide non-medical home care for seniors.
- Would welcome opportunity to present in more detail at a CB1 meeting.

5) Nathan Brockman (Trinity Church)

- Invited the public to a “community conversation” at St. Paul’s Chapel about proposed new building and provided details of time and location.

6) Melissa Gindin (Senator Daniel Squadron)

- Millennium High School is applying for Public School Athletic League admittance.
- The State Senator’s next Community Convention will take place on Sunday, April 12 from 5pm-7pm. There will be free food.

7) Morris Chan (Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer)

- Many applications for community board membership have been received. Interviews have been scheduled in coming weeks.
- The Manhattan Borough President is hosting a Black History Month celebration. RSVP to the BP’s office.
- BP is looking into the 421-a housing program.

8) Sam Spokony (Councilmember Margaret Chin)

- Happy Lunar New Year.
- Introduced legislation to improve pedestrian safety.
- See monthly update about an RFP by NYCEDC.
- CM Chin fully supports congestion pricing.

Welcome

1) Dr. Karrin E. Wilks, Senior Vice President and Provost, Borough of Manhattan Community College

- Welcomed CB1. BMCC is committed to staying in lower Manhattan.

III. Business Session

The Business Session began at 6:30pm, EST.

A) Adoption of January 2015 minutes

- Adopted as presented.

B) Chairperson’s Report

- The full Chair’s report is available at the following link on the Community Board 1 website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb1/downloads/pdf/chairperson-reports/February%202015%20chair.pdf>.

A few highlights:

- Letter to NYC Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on Mayor de Blasio's Preliminary Budget FY 2016 – another letter will be sent reiterating CB1's request for siting a new K-8 school.
- Creation of New Park in Financial District near exit ramp of the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel (formerly known as Edgar Plaza and renamed as Elizabeth H. Berger Plaza) – NYCDOT has completed its studies. Parks Department design is pending approval from Commissioner Mitchell Silver. CB 1 asked City to fund the project for past 8 years in its Capital Budget to transform a forlorn area.
- BPCA Ballfields – an agreement was reached between Downtown Little League and BPCA for Spring 2015, but situation moving forward needs to be worked out by broader community discussion and long range planning.
- CB1's Resolution on Howard Hughes Corporation's application for appropriateness for the South Street Seaport was submitted to Landmark Preservation Commission; date for LPC Application Hearing TBD. Thank you Diana Switaj, Michael Levine, Roger Bryrom and Bruce Ehrman.
- Sightseeing Buses Meeting convened by Borough President Brewer – with Department of Consumer Affairs; pertaining to the operation, regulation, and enforcement of sightseeing buses in Manhattan (02/17/15).
- Sandy resiliency funding follow-up meeting – with Senator Squadron, NYC Council Member Chin, Dan Zarrilli, Marco Pasanella, Downtown Alliance and others; CB1 urged the City to address unmet needs to fund a comprehensive design, engineering and feasibility study that protects our most vulnerable edges along the waterfront and to make CB1 a top priority in the next round of Federal funding projects; City said that they are working on various options (City Hall, 02/06/2015).

C) District Manager's Report

- The CB1 staff toured the new CB1 space in the Municipal Building.
- The new space is expected to be ready around August 2015.

IV. **Committee Reports**

A) **Youth & Education Committee** Paul Hovitz

- 1) Governor's Education Budget – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 27 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 2) Pre-K for all – Report
 - Working on it.
- 3) State grants to middle schools – Report
 - Looking into this.

4) Advocating for new school seats – Report

- CM Chin will work on this issue.

B) **Landmarks Committee**

Roger Byrom

1) 463 Greenwich Street, application to extend height of elevator bulkhead – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 30 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) 440 Greenwich Street, application for exterior restoration and storefront infill – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 30 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

C) **Battery Park City Committee**

1) 250 Vesey Street, application for restaurant liquor license for L'Atelier NYC LLC – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- This restaurant will feature food by the highly regarded French chef Joel Robuchon.

2) 21 South End Avenue (Store 3), application for restaurant liquor license for Malaysian Kitchen USA Inc. – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

250 Vesey Street, application for liquor license for Parm Battery Park LLC – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- This will be a red sauce Italian restaurant. There is currently another Parm restaurant in Little Italy.

3) Brookfield Place – Report

- By March Brookfield will complete its work on the space and then tenants will begin their work.
- Plans have not been formalized for North Cove Marina, but Brookfield will come back to report when more information is available.

4) Water-related uses at Pier A – Report

- New York Water Taxi will be involved in water-related uses at the Pier and they visited the committee to introduce themselves and provide initial information.

5) Overview of the 2015 capital plan – Report

- Infrastructure study will take place.
- 6) NYPD First Precinct Update – Report
- The Precinct has been monitoring the use of parking spaces by vehicles associated with a unit of the New York Police Department that recently moved into Battery Park City. The Precinct is working with the unit to address community concerns.
- 7) Review of Map of Public Pay Telephones in Battery Park City – Report
- There are only two PPTs currently in BPC and neither is a problem.
- 8) BPCA permit requests: – Reports
- MS Society/NYC LeadDog Marketing Group, Inc. Sunday, April 19, 2015
 - National 9/11 Memorial/NYC LeadDog Marketing Group, Inc., Sunday, April 26, 2015

D) **Quality of Life Committee** Jeff Ehrlich

- 1) Construction update – Report
- Nothing major to report.
- 2) Community Board 1 Vendor Restricted Streets – Report
- A map of vendor restricted streets was created.

E) **Seaport/Civic Center Committee** J. Fratta/ M. Passanella

- 1) South Street Seaport Museum – Resolution *Passed*:
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 2) 233-235 Water Street, BSA Building Code Variance Appeals Application – Resolution *Passed*
- 3) *BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*
- 4) 121 Fulton Street, application for NYC Department of Transportation Street Seats program – Resolution
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 5) Street activity permit for CB 1 on Sunday, September 20, 2015 from 10am – 7pm, Fulton St. between Dutch St. and Broadway – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

6) 90 Baxter Street, application for wine and beer license for Jaya 888 Inc. – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

7) 19 Fulton Street, application for a seasonal liquor license for Flea Productions LLC d/b/a Smorgasbar – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 33 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

8) Howard Hughes Corporation Update – Report

- Pier 17 will be completed in one year. Fulton Market will be ready in spring 2016.

9) Reverting Peck Slip to 2-way and closing during school dropoff/pickup – Report

- Public safety is a concern.

10) Brooklyn Banks Skate Park – Report

- The proposal to reclaim public space under the Brooklyn Bridge, including the former skate park, was well received discussions with the Departments of Transportation and Parks and Recreation are still preliminary.

11) Review of Map of Public Pay Telephones in Seaport/Civic Center – Report

F) **Planning Committee** J. Galloway

1) Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) – Report

- A protocol is being put together for environmentally sound design at the waterfront. These standards are voluntarily adopted, similarly to LEED certification.

2) NY Rising – Report

- \$12 Million has been allocated for resiliency center.

G) **Tribeca Committee**

1) NYC Police Museum Fair, Friday June 19, 2015 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm, North Moore Street between West and Greenwich Streets – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

2) Tribeca Community School Block Party street activity permit application for Ericsson Place between Varick and Hudson Streets, Saturday, May 16, 2015 – Resolution *Passed*

BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 3) Street Activity Permit Application by Tribeca Family Festival, Saturday April 25, 2015, Greenwich, Beach, North Moore, Franklin, Harrison, Jay, Duane and Reade Streets – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 4) Street permit application by Taste of Tribeca on Saturday May 16, 2015, Duane Street between Greenwich and Hudson Streets and Reade and Jay Streets – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 5) Department of Transportation Street Seats application for space in front of Laughing Man Coffee, 84 Duane Street – Report
 - The committee members asked the applicant to return the following month with detailed plans. They will vote on the application after reviewing the plans.
- 6) Tribeca Park (Walker Street, Beach Street between St. John's Lane and Ave. of the Americas) temporary public artwork – Report
 - A new sculpture will be placed there. There were no objections to it.
- 7) Worth Street Reconstruction Project – Report
 - DDC came to the committee in advance of the project. There were concerns expressed about the length of the project and potential impacts. The committee will consider sending a letter outlining its concerns.
- 8) 111 Murray Street (“St. John’s site”) demolition – Report
 - This building is being built as of right. The development partnership agreed to return when plans for the building are available. They have not decided whether to include a plaza which would permit additional building height.
- 9) Review of Map of Public Pay Telephones in Tribeca – Report
 - Suggested moving one payphone to a new location. CB1 Public Member Shimon Zlotnikov spoke about his history of complaints about problems associated with the phone including illegal activity of various kinds. The committee agreed to submit a request to the Borough President's Office to relocate the phone.

H) **Financial District Committee** Ro Sheffe

- 1) Maiden Lane Pavilion and signage designs – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 2) Battery Maritime Building, PDC Sidewalk proposal – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 36 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 3) Street activity permit for Bowling Green Association on Monday, October 12, 2015 from 12pm-10pm, Whitehall St. between Stone St. and Water St., Broadway between Morris St and Stone St., and Broadway between Liberty St and Morris St. – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 4) Street activity permit for Veteran’s Day Festival – Independence Plaza Tenants Association co-sponsored event on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 from 12pm-7pm, Broadway between Liberty St. and Battery Place – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 5) Street activity permit for Sons of Italy Freedom Block Party on Sunday, October 04, 2015 from 12pm-7pm, Liberty St. between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 6) Street activity permit for First Police Precinct Explorers Block Party on Sunday, August 09, 2015 from 12pm-7pm, Liberty St. between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution *Passed*
- 7) Street activity permit for ZIUA USA – Romanian Day Festival on Sunday, May 10, 2015 from 12pm-7pm, Broadway between Liberty St. and Battery Place and Whitehall St. between Stone St. and Water Street – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

Street activity permit for Chabad of Wall Street Community Fair on Monday, May 25, 2015 from 12-7pm, Liberty St. between Broadway and Trinity Place – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

- 8) Street activity permit for Seaport Community Coalition on Sunday, August 1, 2015 from 12-7pm, Water St. between Fulton St. and Broad Street – Resolution *Passed*
BOARD VOTE: 32 In Favor 4 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 9) 27 Park Place aka 24 Murray Street, renewal liquor license application for MXK Restaurant Corp. – Report

New alarm is installed for the back door. The community is concerned about use by patrons of the backdoor on a street with many residents.

- 10) Pace University Community Needs Assessment Student Study – Report

- See summary in Chairperson’s Report.

- 11) Review of Map of Public Pay Telephones in Financial District – Report

- They will start installing new phones soon.
- Two should be relocated and details will be submitted to the Borough President's Office.

I) **Sidewalk Café Working Group**

1) Discussion of issues related to the location of sidewalk cafés in CB1 area – Report

- The group heard from representatives of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the City Councilmember's office.
- Next meeting is March 31.

V. **Old Business**

No Old Business to report.

VI. **New Business**

No New Business to report.

VII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:00pm, EST.

Respectfully submitted by Adam Malitz, Secretary.