

CB1 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2014

DATE: Tuesday, June 24, 2014
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Gibney Dance
280 Broadway

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

I. Public Session

1. Senator Daniel Squadron

- Thanked Gibney Dance for hosting the meeting.
- The state legislature has passed legislation that he co-sponsored with Speaker Silver requiring the School Construction Authority (SCA) to collect population data and use the information in connection with the Authority's five-year capital plan.
- George Calderaro: any updates on ferry noise in Battery Park City? Answer: There has been progress and his office is exploring ways to make further improvements. Representative Nadler is working with the Coast Guard to find ways to lessen noise from ferry horns as well.
- Tom Goodkind: asked about rent stabilization laws that are set to expire in 2015. We need to be organized after the election.
- John Fratta: we need a respite from the constant construction in lower Manhattan. Suggested a construction-free week.
- Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center no longer exists. The role has been shifted to the NYC Department of Transportation. Met with NYC DOT along with Chairperson Hughes and Community Liaison Tamar Hovsepian to make recommendations on how to make DOT as effective as possible in this role.
- The Spruce Street middle school that was threatened will be preserved.

2. Sarah Diaz (Assemblymember Deborah Glick)

- Happy that the middle school will be saved.
- AM Glick is trying to get a bill banning gay conversion therapy passed.
- Working to ensure that there will be meaningful community input on the sale of air rights by the Hudson River Park Trust.

- Glad that approved rent increases were significantly lower than in other recent years.
3. Christopher Marshall (Public Advocate Letitia James)
 - Working on many initiatives and constituent services.
 - Please contact with any questions or concerns: 212.669.4506.
 4. Paul Goldstein (Assemblymember/Speaker Sheldon Silver)
 - Thrilled about the middle school being saved.
 - Pleased with the passage of legislation regarding school overcrowding data.
 - Speed limits have been lowered to 25 miles per hours. Medical marijuana has been approved by the state legislature.
 - The Governors Island Trust will be honoring Speaker Silver.
 - The Borough President has changed the rules for community boards to expand eligibility to 16 year olds.
 5. Yume Kitasei (Councilmember Margaret Chin)
 - SCRIE income limit has been increased to \$50,000.
 - CM Chin has a bill in the health committee to improve hepatitis b and c reporting.
 - Working on a bill to improve public notice about government proposals.
 - A bill is being developed to reduce liquid waste left by garbage on the street.
 - Looking to expand affordable housing opportunities in connection with the Mayor's initiative.
 6. Charles Collins and other parents (Spruce Street Parents)
 - Thanked officials for their efforts to save the middle school.
 - Thanked Community Board 1. Paul Hovitz was singled out for working on this issue.
 - Paul Hovitz commended the group for its effective advocacy.
 7. Morris Chan (Borough President Gale Brewer)
 - Happy that SCRIE has been expanded. Contact the BP's office for more information.
 - BP delivered testimony asking for a 0% increase at the Rent Guidelines Board. Pleased that the increase was lower than usual.
 - Pleased that 16+ year olds can serve as full members of Community Boards.
 - Glad to see that so many CB members are signing up for the Borough President's Community Board training sessions.
 - Michael Skidmore is retiring from CB1 and was given a letter of commendation from the Borough President.
 - Thanked Marc Ameruso for volunteering to distribute literature at local schools regarding the Free Summer Meals Program.
 8. Officer Jim Rudolph (NYPD)

- Crime is down 5.7% in Transit District 2. Protect your valuables in the subway. Make sure to drink plenty of fluids before getting in the subway to avoid passing out.
- If you see something, say something.
- National Night Out is August 5.

9. Martin Sweeney (Downtown Boathouse)

- Free boating is returning to Pier 26.
- There are educational programs as well.

10. July 4 Festival

- There are 5 tickets left out of 60. The tour is from 3am-7am. There will be many historic activities.

II. **Welcome**

1. Gina Gibney, Chief Executive Officer & Artistic Director of Gibney Dance

- Welcomed CB1.
- Thanked Senator Squadron for working to preserve the dance studio.
- Discussed the history of Gibney Dance.
- Gibney Dance works with victims of domestic violence to help them express themselves through the power of dance.
- The budget for this fiscal year is balanced.
- Please visit www.gibneydance.org.

Guest Speaker

1. Frank McCarton, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, NYC Office of Emergency Management

- A CB1 resident and parent.
- Discussed Superstorm Sandy.
- Hurricane season began June 1. The City of New York monitors all hurricanes off the coast of Africa. NYC's hurricane season does not begin until August.
- Please pick up a hurricane zone brochure. Please evacuate if you are asked to do so by emergency officials.

III. **Business Session**

The Business Session began at 7:15pm, EDT.

A) Adoption of May 2014 minutes

- Were 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/html/archives/chairpersons_report.shtml.

A few highlights:

- The 9/11 Memorial and Museum opened last month and the fences came down, something that we have been advocating for a long time so that the WTC site could be reincorporated back into the surrounding community. Although this is an exciting moment, it has created a new set of issues for pedestrian and vehicular flow for residents, which CB1 continues to work on. This was the subject of a Special June Quality of Life Committee Meeting with multiple agencies
- Chinatown Partnership Meetings – Vera Sung will now be going to meetings representing CB1 instead of Michael Levine
- Thank you Michael Skidmore who will be retiring from Community Board after 22 years
- Thank you John Fratta who is stepping down as Treasurer following the June CB1 meeting.
- Welcome Calli Lerner who has been appointed to CB1 and will start on July 1
- Seaport Working Group Guidelines Open House – presentation by facilitator; great community turnout and participation (06/02/14)
- Helicopters – invited NYC Economic Development Corporation to come to CB1 meeting; They are currently working on some mitigation efforts and will report back in fall 2014; resolutions passed in 2009 and 2011; continues to be a quality of life issue (especially with the development of the East River Esplanade and Governor's Island) and potential safety issue
- Sandy Announcement – HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, Governor Cuomo, Mayor de Blasio, Senator Schumer: Including \$335 million for Rebuild By Design for 23rd Street to Morris Street for part of Big U; concerned that nothing yet has been allocated to address flooding south of Brooklyn Bridge or anywhere in CB1, although costly damage occurred and two people drowned (06/02/14)
- Tour of Governor's Island's new 30-acre park and 2 ballfields (06/23/14)

C) District Manager's Report

- The staff is working on improving liquor license procedures.
- Pleased with the budget process this year. There were no proposed or adopted cuts to the budget for community boards.

IV. Committee Reports

The full version of the resolutions are available at the following link on the Community Board 1 website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb1/html/archives/resolutions.shtml>

A) **Nominating Committee**

1) Secretary to cast one vote for officer positions unopposed – Request

- The Secretary cast a vote to elect the following candidates for two year terms as directed by the chairperson:

Catherine McVay Hughes – Chair

Anthony Notaro – Vice Chair

Adam Malitz – Secretary

Dennis Gault – Assistant Secretary

Joel Kopel - Treasurer

B) **Executive Committee**

1) Lower Manhattan Development Corporation – Report

- David Emil, the LMDC President, reported on the status of LMDC programs and funding.
- Small business grant program still has funds available and continues to accept applications.
- There are \$12.3 million remaining in funds for affordable housing.

2) CB1 procedures for review of applications to the NY State Liquor Authority – Report

- Jeff Ehrlich spoke briefly about revisions made to the questionnaire for liquor license applicants and the stipulations form. Jeff is working with the CB1 staff to improve these procedures as noted earlier in the District Manager’s report.

3) Spruce Street School – Resolution *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*

C) **Battery Park City Committee**

1) Update and response to BPC Committee Report

- Met with Shari Hyman, the President and COO of BPCA.

2) Pending traffic and transportation issues in BPC – Report

- DOT presented its plans to make improvements in BPC. The plans were well received by the committee.

3) BPC Parks Enforcement Patrol – Report

- The PEP representatives made their monthly appearance to discuss concerns of the committee members and public.

D) **Seaport/Civic Center Committee**

- 1) Pier 17 construction, Fulton Market Building and Seaport uplands – Report
 - Thanked Howard Hughes Corporation for attending the meeting. Pier 17 will be ready by late 2016. Construction is moving forward.
- 2) Brooklyn Bridge George Washington Plaque – Resolution
Passed: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
- 3) Taste of the Seaport street activity permit application for Front Street between Beekman Street and Peck Slip, Saturday, October 18, 2014, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm – Resolution
Passed: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

E) **Planning Committee**

- 1) MTA Bridges and Tunnels – Report
- 2) MTA representatives provided an update on the status of post-Sandy Repairs to Bridges and Tunnels.
- 3) Lower Manhattan Multi-Purpose Levee Feasibility Study – Report
 - EDC provided an update on this study.
- 4) Affordable Housing & Stabilization Guide Updates – Report
 - See guide.
- 5) The Big U protective system for Manhattan – Resolution urges HUD to allocate dedicated funding for both study and implementation of the “Compartment 3” portion of the BIG U proposal, which would contribute to the overall hardening of Lower Manhattan and assist in bridging the gap between short-term measures such as rapidly deployable flood barriers, and long-term strategies like the Lower Manhattan Multi-Purpose Levee.
Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused
- 6) Opening Cortlandt Way as a pedestrian pass-through – Resolution calls upon the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the New York City Department of Transportation to work on opening Cortlandt Way as a pedestrian pass-through as quickly and safely as possible.

Passed: BOARD VOTE: 41 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

F) **Landmarks Committee**

1) Seaport Mixed Use Project, application for Tin Building, pavilions under FDR Drive and Link Building by Howard Hughes Corporation – Report *Tabled*

2) 25 Broadway, application for master plan for catering hall in Great Hall – Resolution recommends the Landmark Preservation Commission approve the application.

*Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 0
Abstained 0 Recused*

3) 87 Leonard Street, application for storefront renovation ADA entries, lowering of transoms and addition to the penthouse – Resolution recommends that the Landmarks Preservation Commission approve this application with the exception of certain elements.

*Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 0
Abstained 0 Recused*

4) 21 West Street, application for removable flood barrier – Resolution

*Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 0
Abstained 0 Recused*

5) 15 Jay Street, application for sixth floor addition – Resolution

*Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 0
Abstained 0 Recused*

6) 66 Leonard Street, application for approval of signage – Resolution

*Passed: BOARD VOTE: 40 In Favor 0 Opposed 0
Abstained 0 Recused*

G) **Quality of Life Committee**

1) Tour bus management at the WTC – Report

- Lower Manhattan DOT Commissioner Luis Sanchez presented about his office's efforts to manage commuter and tour buses and address impacts to quality of life associated with them.

2) Impact of 9/11 Memorial Plaza opening on pedestrian and vehicular flow – Report

- See Chair's report.

H) **Tribeca Committee**

1) Pier 26 construction, condition of Pier 40 and air rights transfer discussions – Report

- The Hudson River Park Trust has commissioned a study about Pier 40 and the findings will be available soon.
 - The Trust is working with the Department of City Planning to develop a review process for air rights sales that will include meaningful input from community boards comparable to the ULURP process.
- 2) Overview of Hudson River Park Trust 2014 summer programming – Report
 - There will be numerous events.
 - 3) JCP Sukkot Block Party street activity permit application for Duane Street between Church Street and West Broadway, Sunday, October 12, 2014, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm – Resolution does not oppose the application submitted by the Jewish Community Project for a street activity permit for Sunday, October 12, 2014 subject to conditions. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 39 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*
 - 4) 361 Greenwich Street, application for sidewalk café license for Silmor Enterprise Corp. d/b/a Tablao – Resolution does not object to the sidewalk café license for Silmor Enterprise Corp. d/b/a Tablao at 361 Greenwich Street. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 1 Recused*
 - 5) 396 Broadway, application for hotel restaurant liquor license for Bridgeton 396 Broadway LLC d/b/a TBD – Resolution opposes the granting of a hotel restaurant liquor license for Bridgeton 396 Broadway Fee LLC d/b/a TBD unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*
 - 6) 98 Chambers Street, application for restaurant beer license for Satya Foods Inc. d/b/a A Saffron Thread Fresh Indian – Resolution opposes the granting of a restaurant beer and wine license for Satya Foods Inc. d/b/a A Saffron Threat Fresh Indian at 98 Chambers Street unless the applicant complies with limitations and conditions. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 39 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*
 - 7) 59 Reade Street, application for alteration of liquor license to permit sidewalk café for 59 MACT Corp. d/b/a Maxwells – Resolution opposes the alteration of the on-premise restaurant liquor license to 59 MACT Corp., d/b/a Maxwells. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 38 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused*
 - 8) 329 Greenwich Street, application for alteration of liquor license to permit sidewalk cafe – Resolution does not object to the alteration of the on-premise restaurant liquor license to 329 Greenwich Street LLC d/b/a Telepan Local. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 39 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused*

I) **Financial District Committee**

- 1) Tour bus management – Report

- DOT presented. This is a significant quality of life issue in the district. DOT is assisting with complaints.
- 2) 20 Exchange Place – Report
 - Problems with noise from construction. The noisiest work will be over soon.
 - 3) Water Street Summer Programming – Report
 - Skipped
 - 4) National Park Service – Report
 - Juneteenth happened on June 19. There will be July 4 celebrations.
 - 5) 195 Broadway, letter requesting waiver by NYS legislature of 200 foot rule – Report
 - The committee approved a letter to Speaker Silver supporting a legislative action that would waive the 200’ rule at this address so that CB1 would have the ability to review a proposal for a liquor licensed establishment at 195 Broadway. Any proposal would require a full review by CB1 before approval. The legislative action does not waive community board review it in fact makes the review possible.
 - 6) Coenties Slip Pop-Up Greenmarket – Resolution supports the Downtown Alliance Pop-Up Greenmarket on Coenties Slip between Water and Pearls Streets. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 1 Recused*

J) **Youth & Education Committee**

- 1) NY Harbor School – Report
 - There will be a resolution next month.
- 2) Pre-K and Kindergarten registrations – Report
 - There will be a resolution in July.
- 3) Division of classrooms inside Tweed Courthouse – Resolution Community Board 1 calls upon the DOE to divide the four classrooms and install soundproofing materials up to the ceiling and requests that the Chancellor relocate the Conference Room making that much needed space available for students and instruction. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 35 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused*

- 4) Deficiencies in Public School Budgets – Resolution urges DOE to keep its promise to parents, students, community and Speaker Silver and open the middle school 6th grade in 2015. *Passed: BOARD VOTE: 35 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained 0 Recused*

VI. **Old Business**

No Old Business to report.

VII. **New Business**

No New Business to report.

VIII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:35pm, EDT.

Respectfully submitted by Adam Malitz, Secretary.