



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 9
MANHATTAN

Morningside Heights
Manhattanville
Hamilton Heights
Sugar Hill

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 18th, 2024
6:30 P.M.

- I. **Call to Order**
 - Roll Call Attendance/Sign-in Sheet taken by Solomon Prophete & Eutha Prince.
 - Meeting called to order at 6:47 pm by Chair Edwards (quorum achieved).
- II. **Adopt Agenda**
 - Friendly amendment added by L. Gerson to add Gaza Reso to meeting agenda
 - Motion to adopt the agenda by S. Wilson. Seconded by J. Martin-Green.
 - Agenda has been adopted by members present.
- III. **Adopt Minutes (from 03/21/2024 meeting)**
 - Motion to adopt the minutes by J. Martin-Green. Seconded by W. Alexander.
 - Agenda has been adopted by members present.
- IV. **Presentation(s)/Update(s)/Discussion(s)**
 1. **Update from NYPD Special Ops. Lt. Salvia**
 - 4 months ago his unit arrived in our district to help address increase in crime
 - Help users get to a path to treatment or correction
 - 140 arrests, small command of 20 people
 - Working with NYPD Transit District 3
 - Restore build a block council meetings in 3 different sectors
 - Checkpoints established - 12 DWI arrests compared to 4 DWI arrests last year
 - May need to issue handheld stop signs at 145th and St. Nicholas - to traffic agents
 2. **BRC Update (1727 Amsterdam Ave. – Redevelopment Project Hilltop Houses)**
 - Kyle Jeremiah – New Director of Community & External Affairs
 - Supportive and Affordable Housing (68%)
 - Doubling the number of two-bedroom and three-bedroom units in the building
 - 60% AMI (~\$76,000) for a family of 5
 - BRC wants to engage with the community
 - 200 apartments, 1 for live-in superintendent, 9 stories tall
 - 80 units will be available to the public via Housing Connect
 - Expect that it will be completed in 4 years
 - Met with Emma Bowen Health Organization
 - NYC Health and Hospitals will identify residents and patients who can live independently for supportive housing with on-site services
 - Project will provide substance abuse programs and supportive services
 - Received \$10 million from State Homeless Services

- Received \$1.05 million from MBP Office and City Council
- The housing approach can make an immediate impact on those most vulnerable
- There is a shared goal to uplift the community at large and help those that are vulnerable
- Dr. Torres asked if a health assessment/study was done. Mr. Jeremiah will inquire
- Vice Chair Weinberg asked if Community Board feedback and documentation was reviewed
- L. Henry asked if the community can have a say in the final design. Mr. Jeremiah indicated that the final design has already went through internal approvals

3. Palante Harlem - People Against Landlord Abuse and Tenant Exploitation

- Elsia Vazquez - <https://www.palanteharlem.org/> or email palante@palanteharlem.org
- Came to talk about legal services that Palante can help with
- Able to secure funding to help tenants
- Has never lost a case
- Fight for tenants to hold landlords accountable
- Organizing tenants at 2 St. Nicholas Place (due to fire)
- Introduced attorney (Melissa) and team housing specialists
- Microgrants for women
- Empowering and organizing tenants
- Tenant protection
- New attorney will be starting in May 2024.
- Helping local residents every Thursday in English and Spanish at the CB9 District Office
- They work strictly with housing issues.

4. Riverside Park Conservancy

- Stephanie Caban – Riverside Park Conservancy
 - Looking for Goat Herders (6am and 6pm shifts)
 - Volunteers needed to pick up trash and prepping the area
- Whitney, Director of Programming – Summer on the Hudson Series
 - Powerpoint presentation
 - Events begin May 1st and end in October
 - 300 events between 59th Street and 181st Street
 - Movie series at 145th Street on the Waterfront
 - Spanish language walking tours
 - Outdoor Concerts at West Harlem Piers
 - Fishing clinics
 - Sunset Yoga Practice on 145th Street
 - Visit their website - Nyc.gov/parks/soh
- Merritt Bierbaum, Goat Program
 - Gotham – goat interns – eat weeds in the park around 120th Street near the tennis courts
 - Reforestation phase
 - Need new location for the goats to remove weeds – between 143rd and 145th street (not an area that is accessible via pathways)

- Festival – Friday July 12th from 11am – 2pm by 10 mile river at 151st Street
- Farewell Ceremony and Goat of the Year on 9/21

V. Reports:

1. Chair..... Hon. Victor Edwards
 - Report is included in the distributed meeting packet
 - Town Hall Meeting with Mayor went well
 - Met with City College Provost regarding community engagement

2. Treasurer..... Hon. Deirdre McIntosh-Brown
 - Report is included in the distributed meeting packet
 - Letter of comment submitted to Office of Management and Budget / Mayor’s Office

3. District Manager..... Ms. Eutha Prince
 - Report is included in the distributed meeting packet
 - Thank you to Anthony Achile CCNY, for helping us book this space to hold the meeting
 - Car Free Earth Day on Sat 4/20 – 10am – 4pm
 - MTA hosting open house for Bus Operators
 - Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
 - Air conditioner or fan (applications now open for eligible applicants)
 - DOT starting resurfacing program in our district
 - Contact District Office to bring any issues that need resurfacing

4. WHDC..... Hon. Patricia Watler-Johnson
 - Report is included in the distributed meeting packet
 - Next meeting will be on 4/24
 - In-kind space benefits program at Columbia University
 - Submit form via WHDC
 - Arise program for 2024
 - Applications are now available
 - Community Benefit Grantees will be announced in May 2024

5. UMEZ..... Hon. Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas
 - Will meet in another week and a half
 - Microloan program is still open
 - Extended Hybrid Loan Program
 - <https://www.umez.org/business-investment-loans>
 - Gave grants to over 20 CB9 organizations
 - Urban League Training - <https://nul.org/jobs>

VI. Public Session/Public Hearing:

1. Public Session – 3 minutes each Speaker

- John McGregor – Bookstore for Harlem
 - Early planning stages for general interest bookstore
 - Worked in publishing and at an independent bookstore for 30 years
- Michael Iglesias
 - Al Taylor and Daniel O’Donnell supporting bill for affordable housing
 - Over 100 people were arrested at Columbia
 - Use of force should not have been used against students
 - Supports Alvin Bragg’s decision to not prosecute protestors
- 773 St. Nicholas Avenue (Vincent Lampkin 347-290-3345)
 - Used to run the pub
 - Had a fire, ordered to demolish the building
 - They want to do a park and garden for the community
 - Also, a mural along the construction fence
 - There is a memorial to the fallen firefighter.
- Carl Mahaney
 - Get bags of trash of the street and into containers
 - Lives across PS36 and saw the rats competing with the racoons
 - All stand to benefit from Trash containerization
 - In Support of trash containerization
- Neighbors for a Greener Harlem
 - Sanitation coalition between Morningside Gardens and Grant Housing
 - Issues with trash on the street
 - In Support of trash containerization
- Gretchen C.
 - In Support of trash containerization
- Mr. Okunde - an Attorney in Harlem Area
 - Entrepreneur – Uplift members in our community
- Glen McMillian (Columbia University) – speaking about mental health
 - Research study for anxiety and depression. Free services
- WeACT – Joyce Bialik
 - In Support of trash containerization

2. Elected Officials – 2 questions each

- Shawn Brannon (Mark Levine’s Office)
 - started on April 7th
 - sbrannon@manhattanbp.nyc.gov; 212-669-4519
 - Formerly of CB10
 - His predecessor, Tricia Shimamura, went to NYC Parks
 - Address the need of public restrooms – reached out to MTA
 - Volunteer Corps – go to manhattanbp.nyc.gov website
 - We currently only have 38 community board members active out of 50 possible members. Looking to select new applicants/members soon.
- Gabriela Carela (Shawn Abreu’s Office)
 - Participatory Budgeting Vote ended last week
 - Rat Mitigation Zones
 - Residential Parking – DOT is making an assessment

- Double Parked cars on 145th Street
- Miriam Hernandez (Danny O'Donnell's Office)
 - <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Daniel-J-O'Donnell/sponsor/>
 - Contact Office —> (212) 866-3970
 - Free Breast Cancer Screening Event - Sun 5/5 9 am - 430 pm
 - Elevator lobby building – movement from MTA and CU
- Joya Abbas (Assemblyman Al Taylor's Office)
 - <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Al-Taylor>
 - Will be voting on a bill to close illegal cannabis shops
 - Free Shred Event on 5/18
 - Hosting a listening tour
- Solomon Acevedo - (Public Advocate's Office)
 - <https://advocate.nyc.gov/>
 - Released Worst Landlord list
 - E-bike battery fires – introduce bill to provide storage containers
 - Jumaane Williams was recently arrested protesting the Real Estate Board of NY

VII. Action Items:

1. Ratification of LOS re: Proposed M100 routing changes and associated curb regulation changes on Saint Nicholas Ave between 124th and 125th Streets;
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by J. Martin-Green and seconded by P. Caldwell. No members objected. Resolution passes via Unanimous consent.
2. Reso re: The Installation of “No Idling” Signs in Truck Loading Commercial Zones within Community Board No. 9
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by T. Lumley and seconded by J. Martin-Green. No members objected. Resolution passes via Unanimous consent.
3. Reso re: Alleviating Illegal Parking and its Implications for Public Safety and Health on 145th Street and St. Nicholas Ave.
 - Stricken bullet point 2 on 2nd page
 - Added Daria's friendly amendment on the 3rd page
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by J. Martin-Green and seconded by P. Caldwell. No members objected. Resolution passes via Unanimous consent.

Liquor License New Application(s) & Retail Permit

4. Reso re: Little Street Lounge, 126 Hamilton Place, NYC 10031
5. Reso re: El Meson II Restaurant, 3517 Broadway, NYC 10031
6. Reso re: Michael Summerville aka Morningside Park Café, 353 W. 110th St., NYC 10027
 - Presented by C. Thompson. No objections from NYPD 26 or 30th Precincts. Passed UTS committee.

- Motion for unanimous consent was made by T. Lumley and seconded by A. Adams. H. Jason, P. Caldwell, A. Robinson abstain.
- There were no objections to unanimous consent from members present. New applications pass without any objections.

Liquor License Renewal(s):

7. Chopped Parsley, Inc., 500 West 146th Street, NYC 10031
8. 1600 Amst. Harlem Group, LLC, 1588-1600 Amst. Ave. NYC 10031
9. The Heights Bar & Grill, 2867 Broadway, NYC 10025
10. Dun Huang Upper West, 1288 Amsterdam Avenue, NYC 10027
11. Arts and Crafts Beer Parlor, 1133-35 Amst. Ave., NYC 10027
12. Jin Ramen Hamilton Heights Corp., NYC 10027
13. Sugar Café, Inc., 500 W. 145th St., NYC 10031
14. AC Weirton, LLC aka Uptown Bourbon, 3631 Broadway, NYC 10031
 - Presented by C. Thompson. No objections from NYPD 26 or 30th Precincts. No SLA violations present for above applicants. Passed UTS committee.
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by S. Wilson and seconded by I. Mercado. H. Jason, P. Caldwell, A. Robinson abstain.
 - There were no objections to unanimous consent from members present. Liquor License Renewals pass without any objections.

Corporate Change:

15. Bono, 3658 Broadway, NYC 10031
 - Stakeholder change – one partner buying out another
 - Presented by C. Thompson. Passed UTS committee.
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by S. Mortensen and seconded by C. Montuya. H. Jason, P. Caldwell, A. Robinson abstain.
 - There were no objections to unanimous consent from members present. Corporate changes pass without any objections.

Class Change:

16. 4 Brothers Food Market & Deli, Inc., 1712 Amst. Ave., NYC 10031
17. Sugar Café, Inc., 500 West 145th St., NYC 10031
18. CGI, Inc. aka Bus Stop Diner, 3341 Broadway, NYC 10031
 - Presented by C. Thompson. Passed UTS committee.
 - Motion for unanimous consent was made by S. Mortensen and seconded by C. Montuya. H. Jason, P. Caldwell, A. Robinson abstain.
 - There were no objections to unanimous consent from members present. Class changes pass without any objections.

19. Resolution re: Gaza and American Support of Israel

- Presented by Lydia Gerson
- We (tax paying Americans) are paying for the bombardment of Gaza.
- Friendly amendment(s) made to resolution
- Went to vote – 22 yes; 2 no; 6 abstain.
- Resolution passes

VIII. **Old Business**

- None at this time.

IX. **New Business**

- Brought by P. Caldwell
 - i. Fruit stand has expanded on 147th Street and St. Nicholas Ave.
 - ii. Need to check with City agencies (DCWP/DOT), if this is allowed
 - iii. Are they licensed? Permitted to be there? Vendor license must be displayed.

X. **Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned by Vice Chair Weinberg at 9:17 PM.

Please Note: The next General Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16th, 2024

Respectfully submitted by Solomon Prophete (Secretary MCB9)