



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY
BOARD No. 4
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Meeting Date	December 7, 2016
Meeting Time	6:30PM
Meeting Location	Mt. Sinai West 1000 Tenth Avenue Conference Room B
Audio Recording	LINK

DELORES RUBIN
 Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
 District Manager

December 2016 Full Board Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC HEARING/ PRESENTATION	There being no public hearing or presentation, the meeting began with the public session.
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Public Session	
Anita McDonagh	Ms. McDonagh praised the Board for its work throughout the years but then went on to voice her disappointment with the Board for having approved at its November meeting the liquor license application of the Rise Bar, located at 859 9th Avenue. Her main objection was to the extension of closing time from 2 A.M. to 4 A.M. She stated that the bar's claim that it is merely another neighborhood bar is false. Instead, she said, the bar is being run as a cabaret. She asked the Board to look closely at the SLA's 2014 decision on the Rise Bar before the next meeting where a new application by the bar will be taken up.
Neile Weissman	Mr. Weissman spoke of the need for wider bike lanes on the George Washington Bridge, which is the subject of Agenda Item 15. He noted that the \$1.9 GWB re-cabling and restoration project does not provide for widening bike lanes from the current seven feet to the federal USDOT standard. He asked the Board to reaffirm its support of the concept of expanding cycling infrastructure on the GWB to conform to federal standards.
Lisa Wage	Ms. Wager is the Director of Government and Community Relations at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She highlighted the school's sustainability initiatives, including its green roof installation that captures rainwater runoff and the reduction of its carbon dioxide footprint by 43%. She also mentioned the award that students won in a scholastic competition where they used biodegradable waste products to create woven clothing materials. The school offers several courses and workshops that focus on sustainability issues.
Tony Speciale	Mr. Speciale is the artistic director of the Abingdon Theatre Company, which is located at 312 West 36th Street. The company was organized 24 years ago, and has numerous productions to its credit, all of which are noted on their website http://abingdontheatre.org/ . He wanted to reach out to the community for support and to remind people that the company also offers free readings.
Denise Dickens	Ms. Dickens, the creative director of the Abingdon Theatre Company, introduced herself and stood by as Mr. Speciale spoke.
Kasson Colon-Mangia	Mr. Colon-Mangia is an intern with the Historic Districts Council. He announced a free monthly leadership clinic that will be hosted by Councilmember Ben Kallos on Thursday at 244 East 93rd Street. The conversation will include creating landmarks and historic districts, dealing with the Landmarks Commission and DOB and landmarks and zoning issues.

Remarks from Elected Officials and Representatives

<p>Andrew Lombardi for Gale Brewer</p>	<p>Mr. Lombardi mentioned the community engagement session that the BP held the previous night where other elected officials and members of the community met to discuss plans for the Port Authority Bus Terminal and other projects affecting the community. BP Brewer is in discussions with the MTA regarding the planned shutdown of the L Train. She wants to work with the MTA on setting up three community meetings to discuss the impact on the communities around 14th Street.</p> <p>Mr. Lombardi reminded everyone of the February 3rd deadline for Community Board applications and noted that they can be completed online as well as on paper.</p> <p>BP Brewer co-sponsored a bill with Councilmember Chin to reform the process by which deed restrictions are changed. The bill was passed by the City Council on December 6th and provides for more public notice and input regarding deed restrictions, including a public database created by the Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services. BP Brewer also co-sponsored a bill that would increase penalties for owners who violate site safety provisions on construction sites.</p>
<p>Robert Atterbury for Jerrold Nadler</p>	<p>Mr. Atterbury announced a Town Hall Meeting hosted by Congressman Nadler that will be held on December 19th about what to expect from the Trump Administration and the new Congress. It will be held at the NYU Kimmel Center from 6 to 8 P.M. The Congressman is a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee and, as such, is pushing for hearings to learn more about potential conflicts of interest of Mr. Trump. He is also working on a possible reform of the Electoral College system. Mr. Atterbury praised the Board for its work on the Port Authority Bus Terminal, also noting that the Congressman and his staff are also working to find new solutions for the new terminal.</p>
<p>Eli Szenez-Strauss for Brad Hoylman</p>	<p>State Senator Hoylman announced legislation this week that would require presidential and vice presidential candidates to submit five years' worth of tax records to the NYS Board of Elections in order to appear on the ballot in New York State. Failure to do so would also bar state electors in the Electoral College from voting for them.</p> <p>The Senator sent a letter to Governor Cuomo urging him to make his next commissioner appointment to the State Liquor Authority one who is a resident of New York City since most licenses granted by the SLA are for establishments located in the City.</p>
<p>Gabriel Dann-Allel for Richard Gottfried</p>	<p>Ms. Dann-Allel complimented the Board for hosting the community planning meeting on the Port Authority Bus Terminal. She mentioned the expansion of the medical marijuana program by the State Department of Health that incorporated the recommendations of the Assemblyman.</p> <p>She went on to note that her office has received a great number of calls about the incoming Trump Administration's changes to health care. She said Mr. Gottfried would continue to protect the rights of New Yorkers to quality health care.</p>
<p>Erica Overton for Linda Rosenthal</p>	<p>Ms. Overton noted that the Assembly Member's Airbnb bill was passed into law, allowing the City to go after commercial operators of illegal hotels. She confirmed that her office sent a letter in support of the Board's letter to DOT asking for better markings at the intersection of 12th Avenue and West 46th Street.</p>
<p>Matt Green for Corey Johnson</p>	<p>Councilmember Johnson held two community meetings where the aftermath of the election was discussed, noting that another one will be held at a future date. The Councilmember has allocated funds in the City's FY2017 budget to the nonprofit Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless. Known as ACE, the organization provides homeless men and women with job training and experience. MCD4 has three full time ACE</p>

	<p>employees who are dedicated to emptying trash bins and picking up litter along 7th, 8th and 9th Avenues. Mr. Green asked for community input on whether the program is working so that decisions on future funding can be made. He also announced a grant opportunity for public schools, neighborhood groups and NYCHA tenants from the Citizens Committee for New York City which awards grants of up to \$3,000 for resident-led groups in the City. Requests must be submitted by January 23rd and can be made online at http://www.citizensnyc.org/grants/neighborhood-grants . Matt reminded everyone of the monthly housing clinics held every month in the local District Office at 224 West 30th Street, with the next one occurring on Tuesday, December 13th at 5:30 P.M.</p>
Eric Holguin for Scott Stringer	<p>The Comptroller issued his annual report entitled <i>Making the Grade</i> which tracks the City’s yearly actual spending with certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs). The report covers 31 mayoral agencies plus the Comptroller’s Office and assigns letter grades to mark the City’s success in meeting spending goals. In FY2016 only 4.8% of City spending went to M/WBEs, down from 5.3% in FY2015. Nearly 80% of M/WBEs did not receive any City funds in FY2016. This resulted in the City getting marked “D+” for the year. The Comptroller has made a number of recommendations for improvement as part of the report, which can be found online at https://comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/making-the-grade/reports/making-the-grade-2016/ .</p>

Board Reports & Business	
Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	<p>The Agenda was amended to remove Item 1 and thereafter approved unanimously. The November minutes were approved unanimously.</p>
District Manager Report	<p>Jesse Bodine attended several meetings on behalf of the Board during the month of November, where he:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized and ran a school safety and construction walk through along West 44th Street where PS 51 and Beacon HS are located. Representatives from the schools, NYPD and DOT were present to review community concerns about the massive construction project consisting of four sites in the area. • Ran the Board’s first Office Hours Event with NYC Business Solutions personnel where two individuals were assisted in getting resources to start their own plant and flower shop. • Organized a Balsley Park walk through with a Parks Department street tree specialist to ensure that trees would remain and be maintained during restoration of the park. • Submitted the Board’s FY2018 Statement of District Needs and Budget requests. The Board office will share the City’s responses once it is received in a week or two. <p>Mr. Bodine gave special thanks to Patti Gouris for her work coordinating the Port Authority event the previous day.</p> <p>The Board office will be closed on Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd.</p>
Board Chair Report	<p>Delores Rubin described one of the behind-the-scenes activities that the co-chairs and members of the Board committees conduct. Informal meetings are often held with people who intend to appear before the Board or its committee so that they can get an idea of what to expect when they do appear. Recently, several such meetings had to do with Hudson Boulevard Park, which is now</p>

	complete. Others concerned the anticipated development at 646 11th Avenue, and, the replacement of affordable housing that was lost in the demolition of 500 West 28th Street by Related Cos. Members of the Board also met with the Mayor’s Feral Cat Initiative team to discuss community involvement with them and the plan to relocate cats to a planned new park on West 48th Street. Members also met with Merchants Hospitality regarding its plan to build a hotel on Hudson River Park. A very interesting and hopeful meeting was held with Brookfield Properties and Councilmember Corey Johnson to discuss a program that Brookfield envisions where school children will observe ongoing construction sites to correlate architecture with their learning of math and science principals.
Election of Board Officers	Christine Berthet, Chair of the Nominating Committee, read the list of members who were nominated for office, noting that all were uncontested. Each officer was elected by a unanimous vote.

Action Items	Motions, Amendments, & Comments	Result
Business License and Permits Committee (BLP)		
Item 1: Letter to SLA re 508-510 W. 42nd Street (11) – MHI 510 W42 Hotel LLC (Owner) and Cachet Hotel Group Limited (Manager) d/b/a Cachet Boutique and Eden Restaurant	WITHDRAWN	
Item 2: Letter to SLA re 548 W. 22nd Street (10/11) – Great Performances/Artists as Waitresses, Inc. and Hauser & Wirth, Inc	Items 2-7 bundled.	Passed Unanimously
Item 3: Letter to SLA re 689 8th Avenue (43/44) – 689 Eatery Corp. d/b/a Diamond Club		Passed Unanimously
Item 4: Letter to SLA re 316 8th Avenue (26) – KDL Hospitality LLC. d/b/a The Brass Bell		Passed Unanimously
Item 5: Letter to SLA re 363 W. 46th Street (8/9) – 363 West 46th St. Tavern Inc. d/b/a The House of Brews		Passed Unanimously
Item 6: Letter to SLA re 226 W. 23rd Street (7/8) – Chelsea Restaurant Owner LLC d/b/a El Quijote		Passed Unanimously
Item 7: Letter to SLA re 223 W. 19th Street (7/8) – 223 West Corp. d/b/a Rebar		Passed Unanimously
Item 8: Letter to SLA re 503 W. 43rd Street (10/11) – Green Egg, LLC d/b/a Canard		Passed Unanimously
Arts, Culture, Education and Street Life Committee (ACES)		
Item 9: Letter to SAPO re Letter to SAPO re Renewal of Street Festival Permit for Hell’s Kitchen Flea Market	Friendly amendments accepted.	Passed Unanimously
Clinton/Hell’s Kitchen Land Use Committee (C/HKLU)		
Item 10: Letter to DCP re 560 West 52nd Street Redevelopment	Items 10 & 11 were bundled	Passed with 31 votes in favor

	and amended.	and 3 present but not eligible
Item 11: Letter to DCP re 500 West 52nd Street Redevelopment		Passed with 31 votes in favor and 3 present but not eligible
Item 12: Letter to Irish Arts Center re Renovation Plans		Passed with 33 votes in favor and 1 present but not eligible
Item 13: Letter to DOB re Christ Church		Passed Unanimously
Waterfronts, Parks and Environment Committee (WPE)		
Item 14: Letter to Friends of Hudson River Park re Chelsea Waterside Playground Design	Friendly amendments accepted.	Passed Unanimously
Transportation Committee (TRANS)		
Item 15: Letter to PANYNJ re Complete George Washington Bridge Initiative	Items 15 & 16 were bundled and friendly amendments accepted.	Passed Unanimously
Item 16: Letter to City Council re Transportation Legislation		Passed Unanimously
Chelsea Land Use Committee (CLU)		
Item 17: Letter to CHDC re Mayoral Override for 464 West 25th Street Development	Minor amendments made by co-chair Mackintosh.	Passed with 33 in favor and 1 abstention
Housing Health and Human Services Committee (HH&HS)		
Item 18: Letter to HPD re Asset cap for affordable housing changes to HousingConnect		Passed Unanimously
Executive Committee (EXEC)		
Item 19: Letter to ESD re Proposed Supplement to the General Project Plan for the Moynihan Station Civic and Land Use Improvement Project		Passed Unanimously
Item 20: Letter to HPD re proposed changes to regulatory agreements for HDFC	Friendly amendments accepted.	Passed Unanimously

Meeting Resolution	
Adjournment	8:15 PM Meeting Adjourned
Next Meeting Date and Location	6:30PM January 4, 2017 Fulton Center Auditorium 119 Ninth Avenue (17/18)