



Matthew S. Washington
Chair

George Sarkissian
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
1664 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10035
TEL: (212) 831-8929/30
FAX: (212) 369-3571
www.cb11m.org

Full Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 6:30pm
LAGUARDIA HOUSE
307 EAST 116TH STREET (BET. 2ND /1ST AVE.)
New York, NY

PRESENT:

Jose Altamirano
Olga Ambert
Frank Brija
Eric Canales
Hally Chu
Diane Collier
Hans Desnoyers
Brodie Enoch
Judith Febbraro
David Louis Giordano
Joseph Goldbloom
Diane Green
LaShawn Henry
Alvin Johnson
Jewel Jones
Amie Kyros-Petrucci
Keith Massey
Frances Mastrotta
Peggy Morales
Hector Nazario
Martin Garcia Orduna
Tatiana Orlov
Cesar Ortiz
Celia Ramirez
Xavier A. Santiago
Edward N. Santos
Nina M. Saxon
Cora Shelton
Alexandra Vasallo
Carmen Villegas
Matthew Washington
Martha L. Wiggins
Tasha Williams

ABSENT:

Chester Asher
Bobby Ayala
Laura N. Benitez
Ivan Caceres
Aurora Flores
Joann Lawson
Erik Mayor
Koyi Mchunu
Israel Miranda
Tony Rivera

EXCUSED:

Beverly Alston
Monica Brown
Willie Mae Goodman
Debbie Quinones
Derrick Taitt
Hilda Vives-Vasquez (Candy)

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Elsie Encarnacion
Cathleen McFadden
Yvonne Przybila
Dawn Sanders

SPEAKERS:

Adwole Oduye
Craig Thompson
Dimitri Gatanas
Patricia Herman
Alberta Morgan
Betty Waters
Denise Waters

GUEST:

Tom Lunke
Amy Kraft
Zanetta Addams-Pilgrim
Carmen Fernandez
Jim Greene
Dimitri Gatanas
Jason Babinsky
Adejose Rosario McKoy
Angela Dinadelle
Eugene A. Rodriguez
E. Scott Solomon
Von Micheal Hanton
Wendy Ferreira
Raymond Ferreira
Dawn Sanders
Nereida Colon
Patricia Herman
Carmen Vasquez
Monty Rean
Adwole Oduye
Iris Perez

GUEST:

Full Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 6:30pm
LAGUARDIA HOUSE
307 EAST 116TH STREET (BET. 2ND /1ST AVE.)
New York, NY

Pre-Registered Institutions, Groups and Individuals

Lewis Zuchman – SCAN LaGuardia – introduced Eugene Rodriguez who discussed Young Adult Internship program, which helps individuals aged 16-24 acquire job skills, job training, and work experience through participation in a 14 week program. Participants are monitored throughout. Program is aimed at “disconnected youth”, described as individuals in the identified age group who are not currently in school or participating in the job market. Mr. Rodriguez informed that the program is always looking for more job sites and welcomed community to suggest potential sites that may be interested in participating. Participants are paid a weekly stipend during their time in the program. Mr. Zuchman discussed his history as a “freedom rider” during the civil right movement and plans to have a 50 year reunion in Jackson, Mississippi this coming May. He discussed how important it is for young people to have places to focus their lives and options that offer alternatives for at-risk youth.

Adwole Oduye – Citizens Committee for NYC – help facilitate funding for support community-based improvements projects, and provide technical assistance to non-profit organizations to help them identify funding resources, to organize their organizational structure and operation plans. Applications for funding are available at their website and were distributed at the meeting.

Patricia Herman – Lincoln Houses TA president – informed board of Lincoln residents support for DOT’s proposed traffic safety improvements at intersection of 135th Street and Madison Avenue. Expressed hope that Board would support the proposed changes.

Craig Thompson – Eagle One Debt Solutions - introduced debt solution services offered by his company. Specialty helps individuals as it relates to unsecured debt. Discussed four programs offered including credit repair.

Cynthia Allen – Riverton TA – discussed her opposition to the proposed changes for the 135th Street and Madison Avenue intersection.

Von Micheal Hanton - Black Veterans for Social Justice – discussed his organizations intent to continue to operate the homeless veteran’s facility at 119th between 5th and Madison Avenues. Detailed programs to help veterans struggling with addiction.

Tom Lunke – Harlem CDC – discussed his support for the proposed safety improvement at the intersection of 135th Street and Madison.

Public Elected Officials

Elsie Encarnacion – CM Mark-Viverito – reported on two upcoming events, Citizenship Now which helps interested individuals with their citizenship applications. Lawyers will be on hand to provide assistance and event will be held at Union Settlement on Jan 22, 2011. The Las Octavitas event, co-sponsored with Comptroller John Liu, to be held at Taino Towers on January 18, 2011. Ms. Encarnacion also discussed the work of the Youth Violence Taskforce which aims at finding solutions for the escalating problem of violence among youth in East Harlem.

Yvonne Przybila – St. Sen. Jose Serrano – informed that Ingrid Sotelo has left the Senators office and will now be working with the office of the Manhattan Borough President. Yvonne will be filing-in in the interim. Informed community of office event and encouraged community to call Senators office with any complaints or questions. Referenced successes achieved during Senators term on the Cultural Affairs committee, including a record number of tourists visiting New York State. In response to Frances Mastrotta question discussed ongoing efforts regarding the East River esplanade.

Cathleen McCadden – Assemblyman Keith Wright – discussed plans to sponsor a youth event, plans to set up rotating sidewalk district offices as part of Assemblymembers' outreach efforts to engage east Harlem constituents.

Dawn Sanders – Assemblyman Robert Rodriguez – informed that she will be working as Mr. Rodriguez' chief of staff, and reported on his committee assignments. Also, informed that a installation ceremony will be held at the Museo Del Barrio on January 28, 2011. A district office had not been identified as of yet, but temporary contact numbers were shared, and constituent services were still being offered.

Special Presentation on DOT proposed plan for 135th St and Madison Avenue intersection

Margeret Forgione - Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation – along with Special Projects manager, Dalila Hall, presented plans for the intersection and adjustments to the same made in response to previously-voiced community concerns and suggestions. Discussed how proposed changes will improve safety for vehicular traffic and pedestrians. Ms. Forgione made special mention of the reversal of direction on the 135th service road, the reasons the directional change is necessary, and the number of vehicles that use the service road which enter the traffic grid versus those that use the road as a conduit to access the Madison Avenue bridge. Currently, studies show that approximately 250 vehicles utilize the access road on a typical day. Of those, 25 on average, were proceeding on to the traffic grid and local roads. The large majority were observed to move on to the Madison Avenue bridge. As such, it was judged that the trade off in terms of inconveniencing a small number of “cut-through” vehicles was justified when compared to the need to provide necessary safety improvements in the intersections.

Ms. Hall made a presentation utilizing an illustrated report distributed to those in attendance detailing the proposed changes to the intersection. Particular mention was made of the traffic conditions in the intersection and how they impact the safety of crossing pedestrians. The length of crosswalks as currently constituted was cited as particularly problematic for pedestrians trying to navigate the intersection, often in conflict with vehicular traffic. It was explained that

the extension of sidewalks into the intersection would help pedestrians cross the intersections more safely while also creating conditions that would slow vehicle speeds by creating tighter angles for turning vehicles. The positioning of crosswalks will also improve how visible pedestrians are to vehicles, thus avoiding the need for them to stop short to avoid hitting a pedestrian once they already built up speed; stopping short is seen as contributing to frequency of rear end collisions in this intersection. Discussed adjustment to the traffic signal phases to eliminate current traffic conflicts and inefficiencies. Changes will also be made to length and frequency of traffic lights so as to move traffic along more smoothly by reducing conditions that currently promote conflicts and aggressive driving. Ms. Hall informed that the DOT is willing to consider changing traffic along 132nd Street between Lenox and 5th Ave, which is currently one way, to two-way, if the Board were to make a formal suggestion to DOT. Ms. Hall also discussed plans for the installation of “countdown clocks” at the intersection, informing that the contract for 2011 had already been let which will result in these clocks being installed along the length of Park Avenue in East Harlem. The request to install them at the intersection has been made and the request is “at the top of the list” for 2012 installations.

In response to concerns about how emergency vehicles will be impacted by the proposed sidewalk extensions and traffic direction changes, Ms. Hall and Ms. Forgione explained that DOT had sought input from FDNY and OEM and was assured that the proposed changes did not pose any problems for them.

Motion to support DOT’s proposed changes for intersection of 135th Street and Madison Avenue with conditions, made by Martin Garcia, seconded by Diane Green and passed with Diane Collier, Judith Febraro, Celia Ramirez, and Carmen Villegas opposed, Lashawn Henry abstaining, and Brodie Enoch present/not voting.

Borough Presidents Report

Jaritzta Tavares – re-iterated time deadline for submission of applications for community board members. Announced she’d be leaving the MBPO for another opportunity and thanked all the East Harlem community for their help and kindness during her time with the MBPO.

Business Session

- Roll Call – Cesar Ortiz – Vice Chair
- Adoption of the Agenda - Moved by Frances Mastrota, seconded by Cesar Ortiz and approved unanimously.
- Approval of Boards Minutes - Moved by Jewel Jones, seconded by Frank Brija approved unanimously.
- Chairs Report – Submitted for information. **Motion to approve by Lashawn Henry, second by Cesar Ortiz, passed unanimously.**

- DM Report – Submitted for information. **Motion to approve by Lashawn Henry, second by Cesar Ortiz, passed unanimously.**
- Treasurers Report – Xavier Santiago discussed how report was formulated and reported on expenditures other than personnel. Detailed report on spreadsheet was shared with members. Particular mention was made of expenditure to purchase new network server. Funds for this expenditure were used from allocation to Community Board from Council Member Inez Dickens. Total expenditures year-to-date are trending less than previous year. In response, to question posed by Jewel Jones, Mr. Santiago discussed his hope that a report could be produced on a quarterly basis going forward. **Motion to approve by Cesar Ortiz, second by Andrea Vasallo, passed with Frances Mastrota, Lashawn Henry, and Diane Collier abstaining.**

Approval of Committee Reports and Action Items

SLA Sub-Committee

1. **Transfer L License for Freeland Liquor Inc., 2105A 1st Avenue, NY 10029 (“Applicant”)**

WHEREAS, Marceline Martin (“Representative”), appeared before the State Liquor Authority Subcommittee of Community Board 11 Manhattan (CB11M) on January 5, 2011, CB11M having jurisdiction of the premises in the license application process; and

WHEREAS, the hours of operation would be from 12:00 pm until 12:00 am Sunday through Saturday; and

WHEREAS, members of the committee were concerned about the hours of operation the hours of operation would be from 12:00 pm until 12:00 am Monday through Sunday; and

WHEREAS, members of the committee were concerned about the proximity of Public School 146 on 421 E 106th Street and St. Ann School on 314 E. 110th Street; and

WHEREAS, no members of the public were present to speak for or against the applicant; and

WHEREAS, based on the facts presented, the committee believes this application is in the best interest of the community; and

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the presentation by the Representative at this meeting and all other considerations, CB11M **supports the Transfer L License for Freeland Liquor Inc., 2105A 1st Avenue, NY 10029**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if the SLA application is different than the application presented to CB11M, then CB11M calls upon the SLA to deny the application.

Motion to Approve by Lashawn Henry. Motion seconded by Peggy Morales. Passed Unanimously.

2. **Renewal OP License for Fonda Boricua Lounge Inc. d/b/a F.B. Lounge, 169 East 106th St., NY 10029 (“Applicant”)**

WHEREAS, Robert Ayala (“Owner”), appeared before the State Liquor Authority Subcommittee of Community Board 11 Manhattan (CB11M) on January 5, 2011 CB11M having jurisdiction of the premises in the license application process; and

WHEREAS, the hours of operation would be from 5:00 pm to 4:00 am Sunday through Saturday; and

WHEREAS, members of the committee were concerned about the 4:00 am closing time specifically on Sundays; and

WHEREAS, no members of the public were present to speak for or against the applicant; and

WHEREAS, based on the facts presented, the committee believes this application is in the best interest of the community; and

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the presentation by the Owner at this meeting and all other considerations, CB11M **supports the Renewal OP License for Fonda Boricua Lounge Inc. d/b/a F.B. Lounge, 169 East 106th St., NY 10029**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if the SLA application is different than the application presented to CB11M, then CB11M calls upon the SLA to deny the application.

Motion to Approve by Judith Febbraro. Motion seconded by Cesar Ortiz. Passed Unanimously.

3. **Renewal RW License for Lechonera El Barrio Corp., 172 East 103rd St. NY 10029 (“Applicant”)**

WHEREAS, Cedano Novas (“General Manager”), appeared before the State Liquor Authority Subcommittee of Community Board 11 Manhattan (CB11M) on January 5, 2011 CB11M having jurisdiction of the premises in the license application process; and

WHEREAS, the hours of operation would be from 7:00 am until 11 pm Monday through Sunday; and

WHEREAS, some committee members expressed concern regarding the proximity of “The Will Be Done” Church on 156 103rd Street; and

WHEREAS, no members of the public were present to speak for or against the applicant; and

WHEREAS, based on the facts presented, the committee believes this application is in the best interest of the community; and

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the presentation by the General Manager at this meeting and all other considerations, CB11M **supports** the **Renewal RW License for Lechonera El Barrio Corp., 172 East 103rd St. NY 10029**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if the SLA application is different than the application presented to CB11M, then CB11M calls upon the SLA to deny the application.

Motion to Approve by Olga Ambert. Motion seconded by Tatiana Orlov. Passed Unanimously.

4. **New OP License for A&A Restaurant LLC., 3 East 115th St. NY 10029 (“Applicant”)**

WHEREAS, the applicants did not appear before Community Board 11 Manhattan (CB11M) to answer any concerns regarding this license or make a public interest statement; and

WHEREAS, failure to appear rendered the committee unable to make a determination to whether application was in the public interest or to determine the “bona fides” of the application; and

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that Community Board 11 Manhattan **opposes** the **New OP License for A&A Restaurant LLC., 3 East 115th St. NY 10029 (“Applicant”)**

Motion to Deny by Lashawn Henry. Motion seconded by Peggy Morales. Passed Unanimously.

Parks and Recreation

5. **Cesar Ortiz made a motion to provide a letter of support to the Urban Garden Center proposal for the composting grant being offered by the Manhattan Borough President and the Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board, with the condition that a qualified compost consultant being in charge of oversight of the composting process. The motion was seconded by Keith Massey and approved unanimously.**
6. **Celia Ramirez made a motion to accept Ramon M. Gonzalez as the Community Board 11 candidate to serve on the Randall's Island Sports Foundation Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Martin Garcia and approved unanimously.**
7. **Peggy Morales made a motion to send a letter of support to the Mayor's Office reflecting Community Board 11's position in support of the concept of institutionalizing play streets as a City program in PlaNYC 2.0. The motion was seconded by Cesar Ortiz and approved with Brodie Enoch present/not voting.**

Health and Human Services

8. **Diane Collier made a motion to write a letter supporting for the New York State Coalition for School Based Health Centers' advocacy efforts to maintain the current base line level of funding received from the New York State. The motion was seconded by Nina Saxon and approved with Eric Canales abstaining.**
9. **Ed Santos made a motion to write a letter of support for NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene campaign to reduce the consumption of sugar, sweet, beverages. The motion was seconded by Alexandra Vasallo and passed unanimously.**
10. **Olga Ambert made a motion to write a letter of support for Volunteers of America's proposal to operate and manage the City-owned veterans SRO located at East 119th street. The motion was seconded by Keith Massey and failed with 15 votes in favor, 7 opposed, and 8 abstentions.**
11. **Martin Garcia made a motion to write a letter of support for New Era Veterans Inc's proposal to operate and manage the City-owned veterans SRO located at East 119th street. The Motion was seconded by Keith Massey. Motion failed with 14 votes in favor, 6 opposed, and 10 abstentions.**
12. **Frances Mastrota made a motion to write a letter to the Department for Homeless Services requesting that Community Board 11 be informed and included when RFPs within our district are released and distributed by DHS. The motion was seconded by Cesar Ortiz and passed unanimously.**

13. **Brodie Enoch made the motion to accept the request to rename East 111th Street between 1st Avenue and the F.D.R. Drive renamed in honor of Councilmember Phillip Reed. Motion was seconded by Lashawn Henry motion passed unanimously.**
- **Motion to approve all committee reports made by Cesar Ortiz, seconded by Diane Green and passed unanimously.**

Announcements

- Cesar Ortiz thanked all for their participation in the toy drive and informed that selected Little Sisters, Friendly Hands, Operation Fight back, Holy Agony Church all received their share of gifts.

Motion to adjourn by Diane Green, seconded by Jose Altimirano and passed unanimously.