Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Committee  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.  
Colon Plaza, 55 East 115th Street  

*** MINUTES***

Present: Carlos Diaz, Holley Drakeford, Melaniee Farrah, Marissa Mack, Edwin Marcial, Celia Ramirez, Xavier Santiago, Steven Villanueva, Candy Vives-Vasquez, Jesse Yang,

Absent:

Excused: Jose Altamirano, Vincent Torres, Erica Jones

Guests: Beverly Pabon, 2 E. 127 TA; Bruce Lincoln, Silicon Harlem; Jennifer Stiles, Founder Entertainment; Francisco Diaz, TBA, Inc; Celeste Frye, Public Works Partners; Miladia Flores, 116th Block Assoc.; Jennifer Maldonado, ECF; Mahfuzur Rahman, CB11; Jon Vogel, Avalon Bay Communities

1. Call to Order – Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Drakeford called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Edwin Marcial made a motion to adopt the agenda which was seconded by Xavier Santiago and passed unanimously.

2. Presentations & Discussions

   a. Silicon Harlem update
      Bruce Lincoln
      i. Silicon Harlem’s will be engaging small businesses in East Harlem to be part of a citywide internet network which will store their data and protect their information from spyware and other threats.
      ii. Silicon Harlem has a summer intern program in which they teach 20 teens in grades 9 thru 12 how to develop software applications and write code.
      iii. They will additionally pay interns to work on the network being developed for small businesses in East Harlem.
      iv. Any further questions reach brucelincoln@gmail.com.
b. Governors Ball Music Festival

Jen Stiles, Festival Director of the Founders Entertainment provided an informational presentation about local hiring opportunities at the Governors Ball Music Festival which will be held on Randall’s Island from June 2-4, 2017.

i. Last year they employed 42 individuals that work a total of 600 hours.
ii. They will use local work force organizations to recruit individuals for this years concert and pay $12 per hour. Interviews will start in April.
iii. They will work with the 25th Precinct to identify 100 individuals to participate in a community service program that has the teens work for not for profits in East Harlem and receive tickets to the concert as a reward for the services they provided.
iv. They also have a program for vendors to get booths at the concert. They will be interviewing possible vendors in April. The fee for the booths start at $800.00 and can increase according to the size of the space and amenities needed

c. ECF East 96th Street – Coop Tech Project

Jon Vogel of Avalon Bay Communities provided an informational presentation on the employment, contracting and commercial aspects of a proposed mixed-use development project to be built at 321 East 96th Street.

i. AvelonBay is proposing to build a 68 Story residential building which has yet to be designed. Additionally, three schools Co-Op Tech, Heritage and Park East High schools will be built. The Marx Brothers park will be renovated and expanded. There will be two floors of commercial space totaling 44,000SF and a supermarket built as well.
ii. The cost of the project is $950 million dollars and will be funded by ECF bonds. There will be 1000-1,200 jobs of which 400-500 will be new hires which will be union and non-. They have committed to 35% of those jobs to East Harlem residents. They are committed to paying prevailing wage for all services which start at $40 per hour. They will be 35 to 40 post construction jobs of which a minimum of 50% will go to East Harlem residents.

Steven Villanueva made a motion to support the project with following non-negotiable conditions:

- AvalonBay commit to 35% local (zip codes 10029, 10033, 10035) hiring of union and non-union East Harlem residents at minimum prevailing wage ($40 P/H) or more depending on skill set and experience in all construction positions which will include 50% of
all new hire post construction positions to be filled by local East Harlem residents.

- **AvalonBay will maximize and allow local East Harlem MWBE and LBE organizations to receive 35% of the construction contracts.**

- **AvalonBay will provide internship opportunities, property / project management training as well as skillset enhancement to local East Harlem hires.**

- **AvalonBay will present a systematic hiring program which allows a quarterly review of the progress of the organization achieving the goals stated by CB11.**

- **AvalonBay will assist small business in sustaining their operations with below market rents and counseling services if needed.**

- **AvalonBay will specify the exact number of residential units being built by category and size.**

- **AvalonBay will provide access to the Marx Brothers Park for local East Harlem residents on scheduled weekly basis as to avoid conflict with the school programs.**

This motion was seconded by Xavier Santiago and all members present were in favor.

3. New Business

4. Old Business

5. Announcements

   a. The Fire Department will be recruiting for new fire fighters with the hiring process to begin in April.

   b. Julio De Burgos will be performing a play named the Five Seasons this weekend and next.

   c. CB11 will hold a public hearing on the proposed ECF East 96th Street project during its Full Board meeting on March 21, 2017. The community board review will also vote on the related land use applications during this meeting.

   d. The 125th Street Library will be awarded $20 Million to renovate and retrofit its current location.

6. Adjournment

Xavier Santiago made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Steven Villanueva and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.