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COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Committee
Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Bonifacio Senior Center
7 East 116th Street, New York, NY 10035

***** MINUTES *****

Present Holey Drakeford, Melanee Farrah Vincent Torres, Carlos Diaz, Erica Jones, Celia Ramirez, Jesse Yang, Xavier Santiago

Excused: Jose Altamarano, Cinthia De La Rosa, Steven Villanueva, Marissa Mack,

Absent: Edwin Marcial

1. Holley Drakeford called the meeting to order at 7: 15 PM

Xavier Santiago made a motion to adopt the agenda and Carlos Diaz seconded the motion.

2. Presentations and Discussions

- a. Update on Acacia La Promesa project

- i. Raul Rodriguez, Acacia Gardens a mixed-use development currently under construction located at 120th Street and Pleasant Avenue.
 - a. The site is behind schedule due to asbestos abatement and excavation on the site that was not originally planned.
 - b. Currently working with 60-85 families form East Harlem community. Providing credit counseling and application assistance to these families to insure they will be able to get first preference when applicants are selected to for the apartments in the development.
 - c. Hiring for construction positions is under way now that asbestos abatement and site excavation is completed. The Lantire construction company will partner up with By The Numbers a personnel recruitment consultant to plan special hiring events and track the employment success in meeting their employment. They will provide Osha training for new hires without experience. They are committed to increasing the skill set of the hires so they can be
 - d. career construction employees. Currently they have approx.. 15 individuals enrolled They in their level one plumbing training program and will continue to invest in long term career apprentice programs.
 - e. They will continue to reach out to individuals in the East Harlem community at the multifamily service center. They will have flyers handed out in the community for those individuals that are not computer savvy.

b. 126th Street Bus Depot Redevelopment and Burial Ground Memorial Project.

i. Members of the New York City Economic Development Corporation presented

a. This will be a mixed use development with a Living Memorial to honor deceased people of color buried there centuries ago. There will be a 15K square foot indoor museum and a 18K square foot outdoor space on the east side of the museum. There will be 300K square foot commercial overlay to this project as well as a possible 730 unit residential component.

1. NYCED has hired a consultant to estimate the cost of Memorial, how to finance the building and operation of the Museum which is presently not available.
2. The 300K square foot Commercial component of the has not been designed yet. The NYCED team is open to community suggested uses and they will be outlined in the CB 11 points of agreement.
3. The NYCED is proposing a minimum of 50% affordable apartments which is 365 Units with 143 units going to families and individuals that have incomes 20% to 30% below AMI. The number and size of the units has still to be determined.
4. There will be approx.. 2500 jobs generated by this project. 1500 construction and 1000 post construction. NYCED will engage Construct NYC to prequalify local smaller NWBE and have Hire NYC set recruiting and hiring standards as well as work with local work force partner.
5. Since there are no designs of the project and most of discussion has been of possibilities NYCED is hoping CB 11 and the speaker MMV to give reasonable feedback and solutions in negotiating points of agreement.

c. Discussion on DSNY Manhattan District 11 lot and cleaning Unit Headquarters relocation.

Each member of the committee is opposed to the relocation of this facility and feel insulted that DSNY is does not respect our opinion.

Vice Chair Melanee Farrah summarized our discussion and recommendations to be included with Land Use and Landmarks committee recommendations and presented to the board at the Full Board Meeting. Listed below is the preliminary draft.

Below are notes related to our discussion at the Eco Dev Culture Tourism committee last evening. The first list is a set of recommendations for consideration of the Executive Committee for inclusion in the resolution supporting and directing the forthcoming 126th Street development and African Burial Ground Memorial site.

- In addition to mandating affordable housing in the RFP, please specify a portion of those units are afforded to Seniors (Senior Housing)
- Reserve a portion of the 300,000sq. ft. space for indoor family recreation, akin to an indoor playground and/or obstacle course similar to Bounce U
- Ensure the RFP includes HireNYC requirements

- Reserve a portion of the 300,000sq. ft. space for a theatre reserved for local arts and culture, tied to and artist training space that supports children and Seniors
- A Supermarket must be included in this space to support the increase in populations, ensure access to affordable fresh food and stave off our existing food desert
- EDC must commit to engage with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Historic Landmarks (NHLs) program through the National Park Service, the NYS Division of Tourism, the New York Community Trust, the Empire State Development Corp, the New York Historical Society, the East Harlem Triangle, New York and Company and other entities they can identify to support the funding of the preservation of the African Burial Ground and the build out of the African Burial Ground Memorial
- EDC must commit to reviewing the [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966](#), and the [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act](#) of November 16, 1990 to determine if additional federal support is available for the establishment of the African Burial Ground and the build out of the African Burial Ground Memorial
- Define a Community Facility Use space that specifically includes a workforce development site - encourage

The second list is a set of recommendations regarding our effort to stop and/or relocate the DSNY facility scheduled to be placed across from the already in progress Proton Center. We would like the support of the Executive committee and the Chair before taking the following actions:

- Reviewing the past letters opposition letters and including updated information to compose a resolution stating the official position of the board against this project (this would include language noting the lack of investment in the community in comparison to the Soho facility established, the lack of consideration given to a less offensive modern garage, the number of children and families living in the area that have received little to no consideration in regards to the health impacts, increased congestion, impact on property value, forthcoming population increase with rezoning, increase of refuse related to population and that CB11 house a dump location for other neighborhoods
- Engage in a community wide 311 campaign against this initiative
- Compose an Op-Ed letter on behalf of the board underscoring the lack of consideration for lower income families by the city when facing tough decisions
- Outreach to Here and Now, Noticias, Arnold Diaz of Channel 11, DNA info
- Petitions to be circulated in Taino Tower, Jefferson, Wagner and Washington Houses and through the Next Generation program
- Recommendations of alternative locations already owned by the city: MEC at the eastern most portion between the 126th and 127th street block or the 131st property that is vacant and easily subject to eminent domain
- Recommendation for a consolidated facility and or a large enclosed garage.