



## COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Nilsa Orama  
*Chair*

Angel D. Mescaín  
*District Manager*

**Executive Committee**  
**Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Board Office**

**\*\*\* MINUTES \*\*\***

**Present:** Jose Altamirano, Denilyn Arciaga, Adem Brija, David Giordano, Jessica Elliott, Elsie Encarnacion, Melanee Farrah, Judith Febbraro, Nilsa Orama, Jason Villaneuva, Steven Villanueva, Angel Mescaín (staff)

**Absent:** none

**Excused:** Jeremiah Schlotman, Xavier Santiago

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Chair Orama.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Denilyn Arciaga and seconded by Steven Villanueva. The motion passed.

3. Discussions & Presentations

a. Review of draft agenda for upcoming Full Board

- District Manager Angel Mescaín reviewed the agenda with the Committee members and brought to our attention all action items; he mentioned the date change in #14 on the agenda. He also mentioned that Mount Sinai was coming to brief the Board on changes to their emergency room. He mentioned that a representative from the Census Bureau will also give a presentation. He reviewed the listed action items and stated that the Executive Committee will be reviewing the draft to the "Where we live" plan and that Committee responses

(pending-Economic Development and Culture Committee) have been incorporated into the response. The agenda will be amended to reflect a public hearing for comments regarding the Preliminary budget.

- Steven Villanueva had a question in regards to how often the Community Board can approve street renaming applications as he had heard that it was only twice a year; after discussion, it was clarified that the NY City Council votes on street renamings twice a year.
- Jason Villanueva brought up his concerns regarding street renamings and the possibility that in the future, negative information may surface. Angel mentioned all the documentation that is given for street renaming for consideration by the committee.
- Elsie brought up the public session and the amount of time allowed for the elected official representatives. Nilsa clarified that at the last Board meeting, she made an announcement regarding their most effective use of their time. She also mentioned that she had had pushback regarding curbing elected officials time from some people in attendance as the public session is where the community learns what is going on.
- David mentioned that at the public session, he tried to get the elected officials to answer his concerns and suggested that we can make a note of what we want answered and send to the liaisons for answering at the meeting.
- Jason mentioned that questions from the elected officials from the last cycle had not been answered and can forward to the committees again.

b. Committee Chair Reports

- Executive Committee Chair Nilsa Orama reminded all present that it is important to remember that we are the representatives of the community and that we are constantly being observed. She mentioned that at the last full board meeting, she received comments that some board members were doing other things as opposed to giving their full attention to the meeting. She also mentioned the importance of having robust agendas and mentioned that some of the other Community Boards plan their agenda at least two months in advance. She will be giving a list of topics that other Board committees may have discussed to the various committees in an effort to assist with agenda creation.
- Economic Development and Culture Chair Melanee Farrah mentioned the event currently being planned for May; this event will be in support of local businesses and the mobile van present at last year's event may be brought back; she mentioned that the event may be held at La Placita in La Marqueta. She also mentioned the Indivisible Harlem presentation.
- Land Use, Landmarks and Planning Chair Steven Villanueva mentioned that the developers for Lexington Gardens II "La Isabella" and Sendero Verde gave an update on both projects. They also were given a presentation on "Where We Live NYC" and discussed the FY 2021 Preliminary budget.

- Human Services Chair Elsie Encarnacion stated that she was stepping down as the Human Services Chair starting in March 2020. She mentioned the challenge of obtaining quorum and having regular attendance and the committee discussed several suggestions to strengthen that committee. Nilsa encouraged all Chairs to reach out to absentee members to ascertain if they are having issues based on schedule. She will be reviewing attendance with the Secretary to reach out to those members and reassign if necessary.
- Youth and Education Chair David Giordano spoke about the cross collaboration between the CEC and the Youth and Education Committee and the information that is being given at the CEC meetings can help inform the committee work.
- Public Safety Chair Jose Altamirano mentioned that the committee continued to discuss the committee mission and goals, the FY 2021 Preliminary budget and the Draft Where we live Plan. He also mentioned that there was a Department of Transportation Bike Share presentation and spoke about the two street renamings.
- Environment, Open Space and Parks Chair Jessica Elliott updated the committee on the presentations given at their meeting and the discussion had regarding the FY 2021 Preliminary Budget and the Draft Where we live Plan.
- District Needs and Budget Chair Jason Villanueva spoke about the budget and the liaisons to the Committee; Jose Altamirano asked for clarification as to how liaisons were appointed and the importance of the liaison reporting accurate committee budget positions to the budget committee. Jason also encouraged committees to start reaching out to the administrative agencies now regarding budget and district need concerns.
- In the absence of the Housing Chair Jeremiah Schlotman, Angel Mescain gave the update and mentioned L&M putting back developments into the affordable housing stock. He also mentioned that the former Manhattan Shelter Cluster sites would be made into permanently affordable housing units.
- Secretary Denilyn Arciaga mentioned the importance of giving the Board enough lead time to read the action items and minutes and asked that minutes be submitted by Saturday so that the Board can review. She also mentioned her concerns of losing quorum at the full board meeting when members leave before the end of the meeting. She will again begin the practice of noting “arriving late” “leaving early” and attendance may be taken at the end of the meeting.

c. Response to HPD’s Draft Where We Live Plan

- Review of the Response to the Draft Where We Live Plan was reviewed by the committee. Changes were suggested and incorporated into the response. The quorum was still maintained with the departure of 4 committee members. A motion to support the response to HPD’s “Where we live NYC” Draft with the incorporated changes was made by Steven Villanueva and was seconded by Jessica Elliott. The motion passed with one abstention, Jason Villanueva.

d. Response to Mayor’s Preliminary Budget for FY 2021

- At the suggestion of the District Needs and Budget Chair, Jason Villanueva, review for the adoption of the response to the Mayor’s Preliminary Budget for FY 2021 was tabled as the Economic Development and Culture Committee response was submitted at the Executive Committee meeting and was not part of what was before the committee. The Economic Development and Culture Committee comments will be added to the draft and will be reviewed as new business at the Full Board meeting.

4. Old Business

- Angel mentioned that he would not be at the Full Board Meeting but Assistant Manager Carly Wine had been briefed. David Giordano mentioned that there is a possibility that he would not be present.

5. New Business

- Response to Preliminary budget will be added as new business at Full Board.

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jason Villanueva and seconded by David Giordano. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.