



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
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Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

Executive Committee
Thursday, March 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Board Office

***** MINUTES *****

Present: Jose Altamirano, Judith Febbraro, Alex Kohen, Marissa Mack, Frances Mastrotta, Nilsa Orama, Xavier Santiago, Shantal Sparks, Candy Vives-Vasquez, Angel Mescain (staff)

Excused: Adem Brija, Holley Drakeford, David Giordano, Jeremiah Schlotman

Absent: n/a

Guests: none

1. Call to Order

Chair Nilsa Orama called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Xavier Santiago and was seconded by Frances Mastrotta. The motion passed.

3. Announcements

- a. Xavier Santiago announced that his project "Meme Girls" will be interviewing Gale Brewer.
- b. Frances Mastrotta announced that HPD has accepted developers for Jackie Robinson garden and Pleasant Village two. 5 gardens will be lost. Also, the gardeners from the Sendero Verde lot have been removed and bulldozing will start in the spring.

4. Discussions & Presentations

- a. Discussion on Statement of District Needs.

Xavier mentioned that he and Jason had their meeting and he and Jason have been the only ones showing up for the borough consultation meetings; he would like committees to start working on the new asks in June so that the requests could go in quicker. He also

requested that committees attend city meetings and that committees reach out to their respective City agencies.

Xavier mentioned that he has been talking with the MBPO office and they suggested that language can be added to the Bylaws regarding the Statement of District Needs and Budget that if the board cannot vote, that the Budget Committee can continue to do its work. He encouraged committee chairs to activate their members so that they begin doing the work needed.

b. On boarding Process

- Nilsa will reach out to the new members to have their input for the onboarding process; their welcome packet at the very least will include Roberts Rules of Order, Conflict of Interest, Parliamentary process and assigned mentors. She asked Angel to give her a copy of what was given to new members in the past.
- Marissa asked if anyone knew what was the process that the MBP office is following for current member review and Nilsa stated that the MBPO may just be reviewing current member applications and that the MBPO is definitely looking at attendance.

c. Attendance Update

- Board Secretary, Alex Kohen, stated that the attendance review steering workgroup has found that 16 people were not compliant with the attendance requirements as outlined in the current bylaws. He has sent out emails and has received questionnaires outlining the reasons from most of the members; he will follow up. He stated that at least one person will be recommended for removal. Jose Altamirano felt that the process was fair, very smooth and worked very well and praised the steering group for a well-done process.
- Alex mentioned that going forward attendance will be reviewed on a regular basis.
- Alex stated that the attendance workgroup will be meeting after this meeting. Alex stated that the board will be informed of the recommendations 72 hours before the full board.
- Alex stated that a persistent question about “excused” absences and that only excused absences as outlined by the City Charter should be recognized.
- Jose stated that when he was Secretary, the question regarding excused absences came up with the MBPO and they stated that although it is still an absence, they want to keep track that the member took the time to inform the Board.

5. Old Business

a. Website Biographies

At the present time, 21+ board members have not submitted their website bios. Angel mentioned that some members had sent in their bios but had not been posted; Nilsa stated that she will speak to the members with the outstanding bios.

b. Meeting Minutes

Nilsa stated that if meeting minutes continue to be an issue, we may need to change the date of the full board but that would necessitate a change to the bylaws. She stated that some members of the Executive Committee have been talking about the monthly calendar in general and committee meeting dates in particular to consider changes to help us work better.

c. Goals and Accomplishments-June 2018

- i. Nilsa stated that the committees need to outline their goals if they have not already done so; the committees must also report on their accomplishments in the June meeting. All accomplishments will be memorialized in the annual report.
- ii. Angel stated that he has begun working on the report but he needs the goals for the entire board. Nilsa mentioned the following goals to the Executive meeting:
 - o The update of the 197-A plan
 - o Strategic planning for the board to be done in the Executive Committee
 - o Increasing board competencies and skill sets-to include trainings, meeting and minutes management, as well as personal and professional development.

6. New Business

a. Thrive NYC

- Nilsa mentioned that she is contacting Thrive NYC to get a training for community board members. Thrive NYC is a mental health training that results in a certification. She feels it is important to participate and gain needed skills that can help us deal not only with the public, but within the board and in our private lives. She also asked the Executive Committee to think about other trainings and to suggest them.
- Nilsa asked all committee Chairs to work with their committees to review their mission statements and to ‘mindmap’ in order to help expand their current missions in order to help with agenda creation and to get informative presentations.
- Nilsa mentioned that committees with similar focus should work together and used the Land Use and Housing Committees as examples. She mentioned that joint meetings will be considered for presentations that hit more than one committee and the importance of not working in silos.

b. Topics as suggested by Executive Committee

- Nilsa mentioned that Executive Committee members are free to suggest topics and or concerns for addition to the agenda to ensure robust discussions.
- Shantal mentioned that CB 10 was doing legal clinics and CB11 has agreed to co-sponsor; CB 11 will be promoting these legal clinics. When asked by the location of the legal clinics by Candy, Shantal stated that it is at the State building but that we can consider locations in CB11.

- Jose stated that a goal of public safety is better connectivity to Randall's Island and wanted to add a "Water Taxi " ask to the Statement of District needs.
- Angel stated that he feels we need to promote the improvements we have made in terms of marketing within the board. He feels that the public recognizes the improvements but not the membership.
- He also mentioned that board members must apprise themselves of all available materials and need to buy in and be proactive. He encourages all members to read the minutes.
- Nilsa mentioned that 4 properties have been identified for landmarking and that the Land Use, Landmarks and Planning committee have not taken a position and that we have to be involved.

7. Adjournment

Xavier Santiago made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Jose Altamirano and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm