



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
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Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

**Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 13, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Board Office**

***** MINUTES *****

Present: Jose Altamirano, Adem Brija, Melanee Farrah, Judith Febbraro, Marissa Mack, Mahfuzur Rahman, Xavier Santiago, Jason Villaneuva, Steven Villanueva, Angel Mescain (staff)

Excused: Elsie Encarnacion, Nilsa Orama, Jeremiah Schlotman, Ryan Sheffield, Candy Vives-Vasquez

Absent: David Giordano

Guests: None

1. Call to Order

Due to absence of Chair Nilsa Orama, Vice Chair Xavier Santiago called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Steve Villanueva, seconded by Jose Altamirano and passed.

3. Discussions & Presentations

a. Committee discussion on Fiscal Year 2021 Statement of District Needs & Budget Requests

- Jason Villanueva stated that he had been in touch with all the Chairs and a draft of the Statement of District Needs would be ready for tomorrow, September 13 in anticipation of the public session on Tuesday, September 17, 2019. Since it is a draft, Jason stated that there will still be an opportunity to adjust edit or add to it. He will also create a report for the Full Board meeting regarding the number of all the request.
- Angel stated that he and Carly are working on the intro narrative for this month and will be compiled with everything else that Jason will be receiving.

- Jason stated that his committee had been talking about the process and that the office staff will be working on the content of the Statement of District Needs.
- Xavier asked the Chairs if any new requests were going to be added; Jose mentioned that there was a Public Safety concern regarding needles and that this might fall under Human Services but funding was needed because discarded needles are rampant. He mentioned that he has walked around various areas and you see discarded needles everywhere.
- Angel mentioned that Human Services brought the needle situation up again. He mentioned the pilot program in St. Mary's in the Bronx and that we should look into it. He also mentioned that NYHRE has been doing needle distribution and that they are willing to go out of their scope and have but there is no funding for this. He mentioned that they would do more with more increased funding.
- Jason suggested that requests should go to multiple agencies in order to try to get funding.
- Adem suggested that training should be given to Parks employees and that maybe landlords should be approached.
- Melanee mentioned that it might become a union issue when trying to train park employees.
- Jason mentioned that he saw an email speaking about gun violence and since David Giordano was not in attendance, mentioned that the Youth and Education sees this as a social and emotional issue.
- Jose mentioned that money to combat gun violence is one of the highest Public Safety requests and that for this committee it is more a criminal issue.
- Xavier mentioned that Ethel Velez from Johnson Houses would like to do a symposium dealing with youth violence.
- Jason mentioned that Diana Ayala has mentioned that there are monies available to combat youth violence that has not been tapped.
- Mahfuz asked about Eco Dev requests regarding unemployment and Melanee stated a request for additional funds for NYPL –Aguilar Library interior facelift and retaining the existing request for 7 day service. She also mentioned making a request of HPD of the use of income bands regarding how affordability is a challenge to sustain neighborhood residents. She also mentioned funding for cultural institutions.
- Angel mentioned the Satellite Workforce 1 Center that is part of the East Harlem Points of Agreement and whose East Harlem location is still pending.
- Adem mentioned needing a stop sign and traffic lights at 118th Street and Pleasant Avenue. Angel mentioned that he had mentioned it at the budget consultation with D.O.T and that it should be captured in the budget requests.
- Jose mentioned the Bronx bus redesign on 125th Street and he mentioned that one of the Public Safety committee request for a redesign and breaking up of the route north of 59 and 60th street back to our community through the congestion zone and this affects everyone but particularly the disabled.
- Angel explained more about the Bronx redesign and mentioned that the Manhattan community consultations regarding bus service redesign will occur next year.

b. Committee Chair Reports

- Xavier mentioned that Nilsa will be submitting her report in writing and he mentioned that she had made 98% of the events this summer and he had made 90% of the events. He mentioned that it was a first where we attended all of the events. He also mentioned that he was glad to see members at the events.

- There was no Treasurer report at the moment.
- Angel stated that last year CB 11 had been given a Council Initiative funding grant from the Council; he mentioned that all Community Boards were again given the same amount this year but were not allowed to use it as of yet due to another community board buying a car although it was a legitimate expense. The Council since then has given guidance regarding the use of those funds and he will be drafting something to share with the Treasurer.
- There was no Secretary report.
- Licenses and Permits Chair Adem Brija stated two things: that the committee has stopped doing conditional motions so any applicants who bring an incomplete application will be referred to the full board and that in an effort to reduce paperwork procedures have begun to be revised; for example, renewal applications that have no 311 calls will only have to submit a stipulation, 30 day notice and a questionnaire and must still post sign on the window.
- Landuse Chair Steven Villanueva asked if there were other suggestions for the community instead of 311 calls; Adem Brija stated that they suggested to a couple that had issues to come to their committee and make their complaint at the board and put them on the agenda. Steven asked Angel in terms of constituent services how we deal with issues that are not addressed; Angel explained that the Board works to help resolve issues but there are limits. The SLA has made it clear that obtaining a license is a right and that they take certain situations more seriously based on the board work, police documentation etc. Adem mentioned that if the applicant does not do what is memorialized in the stipulation, they are in violation of their license. Steven asked if the stipulation is legally enforceable and Adem stated that it is legally enforceable. Judith mentioned that the stipulation should be assigned to the resolution. Angel stated that is done.
- Public Safety Chair Jose Altamirano mentioned the bus redesign presentation. He also stated that the committee reviewed the Statement of District Needs. He mentioned that congestion pricing is an issue and that there are a lot of complaints. He mentioned that Phase 2 will be put into effect after elections. He mentioned that a resolution may be considered before then to document community concerns. He mentioned that removal of city benches at Taino Towers.
- Landuse Chair Steven Villanueva stated that a presentation from the Economic Development Corporation regarding an update the African Burial Ground and that they were going to issue an RFEI for a cultural operator. Their objective is to have a tenant established before selecting a developer. They will also have a 3rd party advisory group that is part of this selection process. There was also an ongoing discussion about the narrative portion of the Statement of District Needs. They also want to make sure of the relevancy of the language and of the current census data. He mentioned that there are no new capital requests but will divide their request in three. When a question came up of being on the Board at least one year before being assigned to the Landuse Committee, Chair Villanueva mentioned that new members were welcomed and that the Landuse committee benefits from having new members on the committee.
- Budget Chair Jason Villanueva clarified how to handle requests that may have been kicked back. He also reported on the meeting he had with Diana Ayala and certain committee requests. He also discussed the parking spot at Thomas Jefferson park that obstructs access to the park and the best strategy. He also mentioned the discussion with Diana Ayala regarding the 107 Street pier and the esplanade repair and needing the assistance of the Board to form strategy as the needed funds is more than what she is allotted as a councilperson; for the pier, there is an estimate of \$100,000,000 dollars. Angel mentioned that Jennifer Ratner mentioned there are funds for the Hudson River estuary and he will be doing research to see if there is a possibility for our side.
- When asked about the HPD consultation, Angel mentioned that HPD did not provide any answers to the 7 questions submitted and he was clear that they are to provide district specific

answers. Angel suggested that we speak with OMB and the Manhattan Borough President regarding HPD's absence and lack of cooperation.

- Vice Chair Xavier Santiago stated that the Housing Forum has been pushed back and the committee was waiting for confirmation of other participants.

c. Review of draft agenda for upcoming Full Board

- Review of the draft agenda was done and mentioned that the El Barrio Car Service application was going to be moved to new business.

4. Old Business-No old business

5. New Business

Licenses & Permits Committee

Street Activity Permits

a. De Colores # 496014

Block Party

September 15, 2019 (set up 12:00pm –breakdown 9:00pm)

East 104th Street between Lexington Avenue and Third Avenue

Applicant: Church of the Living Hope Nuno

Sponsor: Church of the Living Hope

A motion to approve the street activity permit for De Colores Block Party was made by Jason Villanueva seconded by Adem Brija and passed.

6. Announcements:

- Angel announced the annual back to school festival, Saturday 9.14.19 from 10-4 on 110th Street between Lexington and Park
- Melanee announced the African American Parade on Sunday, 9/15/19
- Xavier mentioned that Ethel Velez would like to have a youth symposium regarding gun violence and he also announced the Robert Rodriguez Senior event from 1-5pm at the Silberman School.
- Jose mentioned that he got his livery license renewed but that black car livery licenses do not come to the community board and he suggests that they do as they are doing the same work.
- Angel mentioned that the Elections Committee will be announced on Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Judith Febbraro, seconded by Jason Villanueva and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18p