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Housing Committee Monday, November 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Community Board Office

***** Minutes *****

Present: Henry Flores, John Green, La Shawn Henry, Nilsa Orama, Xavier Santiago, Jeremiah Schlotman, Shawn Smith, Jemar Ward

Excused: Erica Jones

Absent: Emily Grajales, Jean-Pierre Kamwa

Guests: Liza Rodriguez; Richard Palacios; Shi Chong; Beverly Pabon

1. Call to Order – Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Schlotman called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

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

2. Informational Updates

- a. Update on East Harlem Rezoning and 11/02 community forum at Taino Towers: La Shawn Henry gave update on the substance and tenor of the Speaker's meeting. The informational handouts from that meeting were distributed to committee members and guests at the Housing Committee meeting. The handouts contained the modifications that the New York City Council will make to the DCP proposal, including a) reduction of the height and density on Third and Park Avenues; b) allowing higher density where we expect more affordable housing (like City-owned sites); and c) removing areas where vulnerable rent-stabilized housing is concentrated.
- b. Update on Third-Party Transfer: Xavier Santiago informed the committee that he has reached out several times to responsible HPD point persons regarding updates on HPD's proposed foreclosure upon a number of HDFC buildings throughout Manhattan but has received no update. There have been a number of letters from elected officials and governmental bodies advocating for a moratorium on the TPT program foreclosures, including CB11.

- c. Ideas on Know Your Rights workshop subjects and partners: The committee engaged in a robust discussion with the public regarding subject areas that repeatedly arise in the community and should therefore be addressed in know-your-rights workshops. Given the number of topics that could be covered, the committee will continue to move toward a program of a series of workshops on an array of common housing issues that arise in East Harlem.
- d. Announcement of first citywide community land trust: A collaborative of non-profit organizations, in partnership with the City, announced the first citywide community land trust, Interboro Community Land Trust. The organization also announced a \$1 million investment in the CLT from Citi Community Development, which is intended to go toward the construction of the organization's first 250 affordable housing units. Although this is the first citywide CLT, East Harlem-El Barrio Community Land Trust has been operating for years in the East Harlem community. Nilsa Orama updated the committee on East Harlem-El Barrio CLT's movement to its next phase of development of buildings and its use of commercial spaces to help subsidize the affordable residential units being constructed by the East Harlem-El Barrio CLT.

3. Presentations & Discussions

- a. Discussion on Committee community outreach efforts: The committee discussed an array of ideas to increase the Housing Committee's visibility in the community, which can lead to an increase in its effectiveness in connecting with community members and thereby acting as a resource for East Harlem in addressing housing issues facing our constituents. The ideas included, among others, "coffee & community" events, newsletters, text messaging services, televising/recording meetings through social media, etc.

4. Announcements

- a. Community School District 4 will host a Parent Information Session on MCE Credit Empowerment & Acadia Housing. Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 9:30 am at the East Harlem Multi-Service Center located at 413 East 120th Street (between 1st & Pleasant Avenues).

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Nilsa Orama at 8:02pm, second by Henry Flores, and passed unanimously.