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Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Committee
Wednesday February 15, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.
Bonifacio Senior Center
7 East 116th Street

***** MINUTES*****

Present: Holley Drakeford, Jose Altamirano, Candy Vives-Vasquez, Melanee Farrah, Xavier Santiago, Vincent Torres, Edwin Marcial

Absent: Carlos Diaz, Cinthia De La Rosa

Excused: Marissa Mack, Steven Villanueva, Celia Ramirez, Jesse Yang, Erica Jones

Guests: Curtis Archer, Tom Lunke (HCDC), Aura Flores (Speaker City Council MMV), Eileen Reyes Arias, Damon Rowe, Shawn McLearn (Placeful), Angela Rush-Jackson, Nicole Davis (Aarris AA), Vedesh Persand, David Hughes, Jessenia Cagle, (EDC), Ralph Perangelo (Hunter Rose Contractors)

1. Holley Drakeford called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.
2. Presentations & Discussions
 - i. Curtis Archer and Tom Lunke – Harlem Community Development Corp.
 - a. Discussion on HCDC and its services to the greater Harlem Community.
 - i. Business Services
 - a. NWBE State Certification and Fast track companies to NYC certification.
 - b. Land Development projects they participated in over the years in East and West Harlem and currently involved with the African Burial Ground project on 126th Street as well as the Victoria Theater Project.
 - c. HCDC Works closely with other institutional to coordinate economic development initiatives and opportunities including marketing, business development, small business lending and technical assistance.

- d. HCDC assists in strengthening and improve local socioeconomic, cultural, small business development, housing conditions, tourism and other strategic initiatives that attract human and capital investment. They also sponsor a weatherization program
 - e. HCDC will receive a \$20 Million Grant from Columbia University Grant to be distributed to the greater Harlem Community. Individual grants will range from \$20K to \$50K for community based not for profit organizations. The details on how to apply will be on the HCDC web site by March 1st 2017. www.harlemcdc.org or contact Curtis Archer at (212) 961 4100.
- ii. La Marqueta Capital Improvement Plan presented by . Eileen Reyes Arias, Damon Rowe, Shawn McLearn (Placeful), Angela Rush-Jackson, Nicole Davis(Aarris AA), Vedesh Persand, David Hughes, Jessinia Cagle, (EDC),Ralph Perangelo (Hunter Rose Contractors)
- a. Overview of the location of La Marqueta with retail market, incubator kitchens, refrigerated storage, garden center and La Placita including a historical narrative of La Marqueta and the significant role it's played in the East Harlem community.
 - b. The Capital improvement plan which will cost approximately \$7 Million will include the replacement of the walls on from 115th Street through 116th street and Park Avenue. The entrances to the Market on 115th and 116th street will be replaced with sliding open air doors which can be pushed down in the winter and fully opened during the spring, summer and autumn seasons. There will also be folding garage type doors on both sides of Park Avenue to permit access to vendors. Additionally, the perimeter will be functionally landscaped with improved bright lighting.
 - c. There will be approximately ten vendor opportunities with rents of \$35 per square foot. Hours of operation are to be determined.
 - d. Hunter Rose Construction will oversee the renovation and the anticipated construction timeline is early spring through the winter of 2017. Their goal is to award 30% of the construction work to East Harlem MWBE's. Work will be awarded to the lowest bidders.
 - e. If you have any questions contact Shawn McLearn at 646 413 8516 or shawnmclearn@placeful.org
- iii. A request for letter of support for Panda Pavilion by Edwin Marcial.

- a. The committee could not approve or disapprove a letter of support because there was no quorum and there was not enough information on the project to decide.
- iv. A review of the Preliminary Budget Register with decisions to taken on line items relevant to the committee was accomplished.