



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

Chairperson's Report for March 2014 **Catherine McVay Hughes**

It has been another extremely busy month for Community Board 1. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger than ever. I would like to report on the important issues and milestones that we have worked through with fellow board members, the CB1 staff, elected officials and government agencies. Thank you everyone.

Updates

- Seaport Working Group (SWG) – continues its discussion of the important issues to consider in the development of the South Street Seaport area. There have been presentations on various topics including the South Street Seaport Museum and its historic ships; Resiliency by the Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability; Geographic Scope (area of consideration vs. focus area), Elements of Scope; Zoning and Landmarks Public Review Processes, historical background on Seaport area by NYC Department of City Planning, maintenance arrangements and obligations by NYC Economic Development Corporation, and Upland property and Pier 17 Update by Howard Hughes Corporation (HHC). At the request of CB1, HHC briefed SWG on City and State regulatory steps required for approval of the redevelopment project. There is a new facilitator, Jonathan Martin, Ph.D. AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners) who is a full-time professor of Urban Planning in the Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment at Pratt Institute. The facilitator's role will be to help focus the decision and ensure that all participants and views are heard. SWG meets every Thursday and is being hosted by CB1's elected officials: Meeting #4 – NYS Senator Squadron (03/20/14), Meeting #3 – NYC Council Member Chin at City Hall (03/03/14), Meeting #2 – Borough President Brewer (03/06/14); Meeting #1 – Speaker Silver (02/27/14)
- NY Rising Lower Manhattan – projects that were developed over the past six months of public meetings were prioritized after the three Public Engagements Open Houses:
 - Emergency Preparedness (community emergency preparedness program, community recovery/resource centers and community-based organization capacity-building)
 - Residential and Small Business Resiliency and Education Program, Stormwater Improvements (stormwater capture retention study and pilot implementation, wetland creation)
 - Flood Mitigation and Coastal Protection (berming and deployable walls at Battery Park, targeted flood protection strategy for lower West Street feasibility study and coastal protection study for west and east side)

For more information: <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/nycrcr/community/lower-manhattan>

- Spoke with both PANYNJ and Durst Corporation about security breaches at 1 WTC

Meetings

- FAA Helicopter Symposium Meeting – with elected officials Congressman Nadler, NYS Senator Squadron, Borough President Brewer and NYC Council Member Chin; follow-up on ongoing noise and safety issues; requested an update from NYC Economic Development Corporation (03/24/14)
- US Coast Guard Meeting – with elected officials to discuss noise from ferry horns (03/21/14)

- Community Center at Stuyvesant High School – meetings with Battery Park City Authority, representatives of elected officials, Little League and other stakeholders to figure out how to keep center open, <http://www.batteryparkcity.org/Live/Community-Center.php>
- Lower Manhattan Bi-Weekly Community Meeting (03/04/14) – If you have a construction related problem, contact <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/contact/contact-form.shtml?routing=lm>
- LMCCC Transition meeting – With Senator Squadron and elected official representatives and NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) Lower Manhattan Commissioner Sanchez to work through transition of some functions of LMCCC to mitigate 90+ major construction projects (03/07/14)
- World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee Meeting – Affordable Care Act requirements apply to WTC Health Program (03/04/14)

Testimony

- NYC Council Government Operations Committee Hearing on Best Practices for Recruitment and Appointments to Community Boards (03/03/14)

Event

- The Seaport, A Place in the Making: Talks + Charrette, organized by [AIGA/NY Design/Relief](#) a participatory design initiative aiming to help the neighborhoods of South Street Seaport, Red Hook, and the Rockaways imagine a more vibrant future for themselves as they overcome the lingering effects of Superstorm Sandy; explores the potential of design in defining and expanding creative placemaking to positively transform communities. (Saturday, 03/22/14)
- World Trade Center Tour with Borough President Brewer and Silverstein Properties (03/19/14)
- Rat Walk in Tribeca – with Caroline Bragdon, MPH, Research Scientist, Veterinary and Pest Control Services of NYC DOHMH, ACE, Diane Lapson, Elizabeth Lewinsohn and Tamar Hovsepien (02/28/14)

Announcements

- Election for the Nominating Committee for the Election of CB1 officers is tonight – they will meet and shall report at the regular May meeting of the Board and shall put forward one or more members for each position: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. The committee shall actively encourage Board members to become candidates
- Each Community Board Member Applicant (renewal and new) will be notified of their appointment status by mail sent by the Borough President's Office on or before April 1
- Welcome Morris S.H. Chan who is our new Community Liaison from the Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer and we look forward to working with him
- Rat Academy co-sponsored with all elected officials – encourage everyone to attend the free training open to building and business owners, managers, supers and residents at Independence Plaza, 2nd floor, 310 Greenwich Street, 6-8pm on Thursday, April 17
- NY State Liquor Authority joint meeting with CB1, CB2, CB3 with Chair Dennis Rosen to clarify questions and issues involved with the review of liquor licenses applications and renewals – encourage all CB members and public members to attend at the New Museum, 235 Bowery, 6-8pm on Tuesday, May 6
- Due to the religious holidays the next full CB1 monthly board meeting will be Tuesday, April 29
- Thank you to Ruth Ohman, Mark Costello and Paul Viggiano for their contributions to CB1