

Jeffrey LeFrancois Chair

Jesse R. Bodine District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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February 2023 Full Board Minutes

_	The Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Full Board met at 6:30pm on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, in a fully virtual meeting format.
	The meeting was accessible via Zoom webinar and live streamed on YouTube. It can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58dcA6iSiPg

Public Hearing: Mayor's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

MCB4 Budget Task Force Chair Leslie Boghosian-Murphy opened a public hearing regarding the Mayor's preliminary budget for FY 2024. She explained the process for preparing the Community Board's Statement of District Needs, and explained the letter that will be voted on later this evening, which is the Community Board's response to the Mayor's budget as it relates to the Statement of District Needs. There were no speakers from the public about this issue, so the hearing was closed.

Public Hearing: MCB4 Comments on New York State Office of Cannabis Management
Regulations for Adult Use of Cannabis

Jesse Greenwald, Chair of the MCB4 Cannabis Working Group, opened the public hearing to get the public's input on the MCB4 letter to the NYS Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) (Item 25) regarding the proposed regulations for cannabis adult use, retail dispensaries and on-site consumption lounges. No one from the public signed up to speak on this topic so the public hearing was closed.

	Public Session Speakers
John Contreras (Chelsea Recreation Center)	 The Chelsea Recreation Center will host a paint night event on February 10. The event is free and families are encouraged to attend. The Chelsea Recreation Center also hosts free youth sports including soccer, floor hockey, and lacrosse, and membership is free under age 24.
Lisa Wager (Fashion Institute of Technology)	• There is a new exhibit at the Museum at FIT opening on February 7 celebrating the birth of hip-hop. There will a related symposium on the FIT campus open ot the public on February 24. The museum is free and open to the public Wednesday through Sunday.

Remarks from Elected Officials and Representatives

Tony Simone, Affordable Housing: State we need to become builders and creators of housing – not just for low Assemblymember income but for the middle class working folks, so they can live and work in our district. we also need to make sure that the tenants that already live here are protected, which is why I am fighting for good cause eviction and other protective measures. Penn Station: The current plan is unacceptable. It is a development plan but I'm fighting for it to be an infrastructure transportation plan. The current plan is too reliant on private development. We don't need 10 new office towers by Penn Station. Casinos I am philosophically opposed to a casino in Manhattan, so I will view any and all plans with skepticism. Olivia Glen-Congressman Nadler's office is continuing to learn and connect with constituents and organizations in our new district (NY-12). At the same time, we are helping Rayner, Office of Congressmember new elected officials transition into parts of our old district. Jerrold Nadler Congressman Nadler has been active in his new role as Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee. In DC this week, he has been working hard to constitute the Committee which includes naming Representatives to the Committee and assigning appropriate Sub-Committees. Now that Democrats are in the minority in the House, Congressman Nadler is using his voice to stand up against Republican overreach. He is fervently advocating against Republican attempts to cut social security and Medicare and their crusade to pass a national abortion ban. The Congressmember joined City and State Elected Officials from the East Side in expressing concern to the NYC Landmarks Preservation Committee on the placement of 5G towers throughout NY-12. Constituents can reach out to Olivia Glen-Rayner (Olivia.Glen-Rayner@mail.house.gov) with any concerns. Robin Frost. I joined the Mayor's Office last month. Mayor's Office of I understand that there are a lot of questions about the single adult asylum seekers Community who have been moved from the Watson Hotel to the Cruise Ship Terminal in Affairs Brooklyn; and about the families of asylum seekers that will be moving into the Watson Hotel. As of today, there are about 600 people who have been moved from the Watson Hotel to the Cruise Ship Terminal. There are still a couple of hundred people to be moved out of the Watson Hotel. For asylum seekers who have relatives or other connection with whom they can live, the City is being very diligent to provide transportation, including plane tickets, to help people relocate while they are waiting for the asylum applications. As for the conditions at the Cruise Terminal, there are bathrooms for every 15 people (a City standard), and lots of showers. There are busses running for free every hour to Barclays Center for people to access the subways, and the ferry is next to the Cruise Terminal and also convenient. Going forward, the Watson Hotel has been earmarked to provide housing to families of asylum seekers – not single adults. We have a great need for housing for families. Eric Bottcher, City I visited today the Brooklyn Cruise Ship Terminal where hundreds of single adult Councilmember asylum seekers were moved from the Watson Hotel. The Terminal is only a temporary site (only for 12 weeks) because it will be a cruise terminal again when

	 the cruising season starts. I continue to be impressed by the way that NY Health and Hospitals run their sites. Every elementary school in our District has enrolled students whose families are seeking asylum, but there are still shortages of Spanish-speaking staff. The schools have the money to hire, but Spanish-speaking educators are in short supply. We had a hearing recently on my resolution calling on the Department of Education to implement and fulfill its obligation to offer bike education classes in all schools, as they are required to by state law. The Mayor signed our legislation regarding single-use plastics. As a result, when anyone orders takeout, they will have to proactively check the box in order to have plastic cutlery included in their order.
,	• It was great to see so many of you last night in the crowd of more than 500 people who attended the annual State of the Borough presentation
	 who attended the annual State of the Borough presentation. Little known fact: Manhattan's population is up almost four percent compared to pre-pandemic. We must build more affordable housing, and we have identified 171 properties in Manhattan where such housing can be built. Many are owned by the City or by City agencies. We have a really successful, multi-agency, coordinated effort on 125th Street that we believe could serve as a model to address some of the safety concerns in Hell's Kitchen. This effort on the eastern part of 125th street has brought together the local police precinct, the Department of Homeless Services, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the DOT, the Parks Department, and the District Attorney's office. It has been incredibly effective at making that part of 125th Street, safer, healthier, greener than it's been in years. I am calling for this multiagency model to be replicated in Hell's Kitchen, because you face some of the same problems that we've been seeing on 125th and actually I've been speaking this week to DA Alvin Bragg, who was also extremely supportive of implementing this. We are working to create a Waterfront Protection Agency to address waterfront resiliency issues. Another climate resiliency measure we are supporting as a way to fight climate change is the planting of a million more trees in NYC. We are asking Community Boards to pass resolutions to support this tree planting goal. I hope that MCB4 will provide such a resolution! My office is also focused on composting. We want every single residential building in Manhattan to have composting pick-up. While that will take time to become a reality, I hope to see more of the orange composting bins that are on sidewalks in other neighborhoods come to CB4. They are locked and can be accessed with an app on your phone so that you can put your composting in them.

	Board Reports & Business								
Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Agenda Item 23 was sent back to committee and Item was tabled. The Agenda as amended was adopted unanimously. The January Full Board Minutes were adopted unanimously.								
District Manager Report	The District Manager gave the following update: • In-person meeting update:								

	 Currently the City E.O. for COVID-19 remains in effect. Per the board's determination we will remain 100% virtual until further notice.
	 The Current approved Street Fair/Block Party Schedule for 2023 is on the MCB4 Website.
	 Ongoing Construction Project Webpage has been updated.
	February Committee Schedule changes:
	O CLU Committee – Meeting on Tuesday, February 21th at 6:30pm due to Presidents Day Holiday.
	• Executive Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 22 nd at 6:30pm.
	O All other Committees will meet at their regularly scheduled time.
Chair's Report	The Chair gave the following updates:
	Working Groups\Small Meetings\Other Points of Interest
	Small Meetings:
	 CHLU & HHHS met with Related and CM Bottcher regarding rebuilding 500 West 28th Street for affordable housing.
	 MCB4 Penn Station Working Group members met with Congressman Nadler's Staff re Penn Station and Hudson River Tunnel Project
	 TRANS participated in the MTA West 28th Street Substation Construction Advisory Committee
	Construction Advisory Committee
	Working Groups:
	O NYU Capstone Project
	O Cannabis Working Group
	 Penn Station Area Civic and Land Use Project Working Group Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement Working Group
	Other Points of Interest
	February Executive Committee will be discussing the Casino proposals in and around Community Board 4 MCD4 will be destined Proposals Trade Forms
	 MCB4 will be starting a By Laws Task Force

Action Items	Motions, Amendments, & Comments	Result			
Business License & Pe	ermits Committee (BLP)				
Item 01: BLP Letter to SLA re 50 Hudson Yards, Floor 7 -Restaurant Associates LLC & Thompson Hospitality Services LLC	Approved	41-0			
Item 02: BLP Letter to SLA re 109 W 17th Street - Peoplehood1 LLC	Approved	41-0			
Item 03: BLP Letter to SLA re 338 W 46th Street – S'Aimer LLC	Approved	41-0			

Approved	41-0			
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WITHDRAWN	N/A			
conment Committee (WPE)				
Approved	41-0			
Approved	41-0			
Approved	40-0-1(PNE)			
Street Life Committee (ACES	S)			
Approved	40-0-1(PNE)			
Approved	40-0-1(PNE)			
d Use Committee (CHKLU)				
Postponed	N/A			
Approved	34-7			
g Committee (TRANS)				
Approved	41-0			
Committee (CLU)				
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Housing, Health and Human Services Committee (HHHS)											
Item 22: Letter to DOB & Owner Village Care Senior Living Facility at 510 W 46th Street on Vacate Order due to unsafe building at 503W 46th Street	Approved	40-0-1(-)									
Item 23: Letter to DSS, DHS & Mayor re 305 W39th Street, The Artel Hotel Notification	SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE	N/A									
Executive Con	nmittee (EXEC)										
Item 24: CLU&HHHS Joint Letter to ESD re Chelsea Bayview Building at 550 West 20 th Street RFP	Approved	40-0-1(Abs)									
Item 25: MCB4 Cannabis Working Group Comments on OCM Adult Use Cannabis Regulations	Approved	41-0									
New E	Business										
Item 26: Budget Task Force letter to Mayor re Response to Preliminary Fiscal Year 2024 Budget	Approved	40-0-1(PNE)									
Meeting 2	Resolution										
Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 10 pm											
Next Meeting Date and Location	6:30pm on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 Virtual Meeting										

As recorded by Roberta Barnett and Katy Stokes

VOTING KEY Y='ves N=No A=Abstain PNE=Present, not eligible A' = No vote ATTENDANCE KEY P=Present (IP v. V)	2 (Yards, Floor / - Restaurant Associates LLC & Thompson Hospitalisty Services LLC	iLA re 109 W. 17th blehood1	Letter to SLA re 338 W. 46th reet - S'Aimer LLC	to SLA re 626 10th Store B - Chef Jamiko	er to SLA re 690 9th	r to SLA re 1768th - MVLH Hospitality Group	r to SLA re 627 11th Try Alpha Inc RAWN	IYC Parks re e of Chelsea Park for	9. Letter to MBPO re Support for a Proposed Waterfront Oversight Agency	10. Letter to High Line re High Line Section 3 Western Rail Yards Reconstruction Project	11. Letter to NYPL re Support for Capital Project at Columbus Branch Library at 742 10th	12. Letter to DOE re Request for funding for tutoring and support services to families seeking asylum	13. Letter to Public Bathroom Task Force re Support for	Concept of POPS Zoning Text Amendment - Postponed to	14. Letter to LPC re 330 W. 42nd Street - McGraw Hill Building	15. Letter to PANYNJ re Mitgating impacts from Holland Tunnel closures	16. Letter to DOT re CarShare Permanent Program 17. Letter to DOT re 9th Avenue	sidewalk extension 18. Letter to MTA re Request to repair damaged grates in our	district 19. Letter to LPC re 413-435 Mest 14th Streat installation of	west, ratio succentrisation of the Canoparation of the Canoparatio	21. Letter to LPC re 428 West 22nd Street vertical and rear yard horizontal extension	22. Letter to DOB & Owner Village Care Senior Living Facility at 510 W. AGH Street on Vacate Order due to unsafe building at 503 W. 46th Street	DSS, DHS, & Mayor th Street, The Artel ation - Sent Back to	24. CLU & HHHS Joint Letter to ESD re Chelsea Bayview Building at 550 West 20th Street RFP	25. MCB4 Cannabis Working Group Comments on OCM Adult Use Cannabis Regulations 26. Budget Task Force Letter to Mayor re Response to Preliminary Fiscal Year 2024 Budget
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