

Community Board 7 Monthly Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2023

Note: Since the quorum had not yet been met, Julio Peña III went to the Elected Officials/Representatives portion of the agenda.

Elected Officials and Representatives

NY State Senator Iwen Chu- *represented by Libby Silber*

- Introduced legislation regarding e-bikes to improve the safety of lithium battery storage, and mandating stickers on all newly purchased e-bikes stating rules of the road and riding safety.

Borough President Antonio Reynoso- *represented by Mon Yuck Yu*

- Community Board applications are due on February 15.
- Capital funding applications will be out in January.

NY State Assemblymember Marcella Mitaynes - *represented by Emmitt Mendoza*

- Nov 28th, we launched Clean Deliveries Act, to regulate last mile warehouses.
- NYSERDA workshops on Jan 10 and 11 regarding wind power.
- Mitaynes supports levying additional taxes on large private universities to help fund CUNY.
- Mitaynes opposes 30/60 shelter limitations.
- Mitaynes supports continuation of summer school lunch programs.

NY State Senator Andrew Gounardes - *represented by Francesca Lando*

- NYS Parks will have hiking program on January 1.
- John DeLooper requested an update on the Reconnecting Communities grant.

US Congressman Dan Goldman - *represented by Mayra Molina*

- Incoherent audio

Opening of Meeting

- Chairperson Julio Peña III announced a that a quorum had been reached an officially opened the meeting.

Roll Call

Adoption of Agenda

- Chairperson Peña amended the agenda to delete the Elected Officials report since that took place before we reached quorum and also to table the chair's report.
Moved to adopt as amended - *Pat Ruiz*

Seconded - *Sam Sierra*
Passed by unanimous consent.

Adoption of Minutes

Amended to correct the of the spelling of Senator Iwen Chu's name on the first page.

- Moved to adopt as amended - *Pat Ruiz*
Seconded - *Damien Andrade*
Passed by *unanimous consent*.

Public Comment

Steiner Studios

- *Katie Walsh* concerned that EDC may have misrepresented CB7's discussion regarding the Steiner Studios meetings.
- *John Santore* requested the Board return to the Made in NY campus issue. PDC approved all aspects of Steiner Studio and asked CB7 to take a vote, as a condition of their approval.

City of Yes

- *Alok Disa* from Earth Justice and the last mile coalition spoke about the need for last mile regulation and City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality. Proposal fails to address the entire distribution system, particularly the last mile mega distribution warehouses. Please comment on this when voting on COY and support the Clean Deliveries Act.

Family Hall Events Cabaret License

- *Belle Stone, Sarah Adams, Marcel Delgotta, Sheldon Moyer, Norma Wallace, and several other neighbors* oppose the liquor license application for "Family Hall" at 201 46th Street. The capacity is for up to 600 people and would be open until 2 AM. There is already a great deal of congestion without traffic controls at the intersection. The capacity is too great and will impact the cleanliness of the block and lead to disorderly conduct, security, and noise issues.

Antonio Whitaker from the Department of Sanitation - Put large bulky items out on regular trash day (NOT recycling day).

Committee Reports

Tabled from November:

- Steiner Studio Bush Terminal Park improvement plans.
 - Motion to approve - *Joan Botti*
Seconded - *Sam Sierra*
The motion passed: 37 in favor, with 1 voting present.
- Steiner Studio Sequel design plans

- We have not received Environmental Impact or Traffic studies.
- PDC voted to approve the designs.
- Based on Steiner Studio's data from the Navy Yard location, there would be 30 fewer trucks per weekday during a.m. peak and 32 fewer trucks during weekday peak pm hours when compared to average manufacturing statistics.
 - Motion to *disapprove* - *Damien Andrade*
 Seconded - *Sam Sierra*
 Roll call vote: 10-Yes, 25-No, 0-Abstention, 2 voting present. The board has taken no position.

Land Use/Landmarks Committee – *Diana Gonzalez*

- The Department of City Planning gave a presentation on the City of Yes Economic Opportunity.
- The committee will meet again on January 10, 2024 to continue the discussion.
- Diana stressed the importance of attending committee meetings to be able to conduct official business.

Parks & Environment Committee – *Victor Swinton*

- Reconstruction of D'Emic Playground located at 3rd Avenue between 34th Street and 35th Street. Quorum was not met at the committee meeting.
 - Due to proximity to high school, requests were made for more activities for teens like a skateboard park. Parks said there is not enough room in current design.
 - Motion to support - *Victor Swinton*.
 Seconded - *Cynthia Felix*
 Motion Passed
- New Yorkers 1% for Parks Campaign.
 - Motion to support - *Victor Swinton* Motion
 Seconded - *Damien Andrade*.
 Motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety Committee – *Cynthia Felix*.

- Family Hall Events, Inc, 201 46th Street Cabaret License. Approved in committee with stipulations including security plan and sound proofing, which have been met.
 - Approved in committee (with stipulations)
 Vote: 1 – Present; 12 – Yes; 23 – No
 Motion did not pass.

- Cannabis Application for Dispo/BK LLC located at 584 4th Avenue
 - Applicant did not appear before the committee as requested.
 - Committee moved to disapprove
Motion to disapprove passed unanimously.
- Four Cannabis Dispensary Applicants:
Green World 700 LLC – 700A 5th Avenue;
Jay Exotics NYC Corp – 4403 5th Avenue;
MP & AB Enterprise INC. – 584 4th Avenue;
Green World 585 LLC – 585 5th Avenue.
 - All applicants filled out Safety Committee’s questionnaires.
 - All applicants agreed to follow stipulations of OCM
 - All Applicants appeared before the committee.
 - Motion to approve passed in committee
Seconded - *Damien Andrade*
Motion passed via a hand vote

Second Roll Call

Transportation Committee – *John DeLooper*

- NYC Mayor’s Office of Climate report on Economic Justice questions are pending
- Third Avenue and BQE discussion conducted at last meeting. Vote on proposals will be scheduled in January
- Committee working to schedule meeting on IBX and Congestion Pricing
- Provide feedback on Red Hook Truck Study (study area includes portions of CB7) here:
<https://nycdotprojects.info/project-feedback-map/red-hook-transportation-issues-map>

District Manager’s Report - *Jeremy Laufer*

- Holiday Gift Drive - volunteers needed to help sort out the gifts.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- *Damien Andrade* introduced a motion for the board to write a letter of support for a ceasefire in Israel and call on Representative Goldman to support H.Res.786. There was no quorum present, so no official business could be conducted.

- *Pat Ruiz* requested that a Bylaws Committee meeting be scheduled in 2024.
- *Jerry Chan* requested that DOT and the Mayor's Office come before the board to speak about the new outside dining rules.

Public Comment

- None

Motion to adjourn - *Jerry Chan*.

Seconded - *Cindy VandenBosch*

Passed with unanimous consent