

# Business Development Committee Meeting Minutes

## CB12 Manhattan - April 4<sup>th</sup> 2017

Attendance: Jason E. Compton, Co-Chair, Glennis Aquino, Bruce Robertson, Public Member

Absent: Obie Bing, Jennifer Chung, Rud Martinez, Pamela Palanque-North

Excused: Jonathan Reyes, Chair

Meeting called to order @ 7:04pm by Jason E. Compton

### 1) Welcome / Opening Remarks

- Dr. Compton introduced himself as the newly appointed Co-Chair. Dr. Compton chaired the meeting

### 2) New Business

#### a) Resources and Jobs Fair – GWB Market/Mercado

- Discussed our desire to collaborate with Workforce 1, the MirRam Group and the Washington Heights Chamber of Commerce on a jobs fair for this project
- A jobs fair initiative will be pursued but is a bit premature at this time considering merchants are still being selected.
- Special note: Workforce 1 is divided into various sectors throughout NYC. The sector that handles the GWB Market is in the Bronx, not Manhattan.
- After speaking with the special guests (listed below) the following areas were listed as areas the CB12 Business Development Committee could assist Workforce 1, NYC Business Solutions and the Washington Heights Chamber of Commerce
  - Help in locating space for events
  - Recommending services that they could offer
    - These would be concerns that we hear from our community
  - Dividing our Jobs Fair into two parts
    - Part 1 – Resources event – Teaching people how to prepare for a “jobs fair” (ex. write resumes, how to prepare for an interview, etc.)
    - Part 2 – Jobs fair – Allow participants to use what they learned in part 1

#### Special Guests

Office of Carmen De La Rosa: Orlando (Chief of Staff) – *Summarized events at a recent Town Hall. He outlined the current concerns with union vs. non-union contractors. There is an overall delay as the non-union contractors cannot begin work until the union contractors are complete. The target date of completion was set at May 15<sup>th</sup> 2017. Additional issues were summarized including the concerns with background checks for contractors (\$500 and a 2-3 week waiting process). As far as jobs were concerned, he highlighted that they are focused on not only finding retail jobs for local residents, but management jobs as well.*

Workforce 1: Ulysses (Director) – Expressed interest in collaborating with our committee in a jobs fair. Potential advertising mediums were discussed (Craig’s List, Indeed, Local politicians, Newspapers, etc.) Additional resources were discussed and offered. A calendar of activities was submitted to the committee for review.

Washington Heights Chamber of Commerce: Heidi (Chair) – Discussed concerns merchants were having with the project. Expressed interest in the Part 1 and Part 2 idea of jobs fair.

**b) Small Business Recognition Process**

- This idea is in its final stages of development. The committee chair has created a small subcommittee that is completing the details of this process. An update will take place at our next meeting.

**3) Old Business**

**a) 2420 Amsterdam Avenue Hotel – Hiring Process**

- Reminder that the final BSA review took place – no updates on results
- Reviewed Letter of Commitment which was included in the board resolution
  - Looking to play an active role in the hiring process

**b) Business Enterprise Initiatives**

- NYC Business Solutions was in attendance and reviewed current resources that may be useful for our community
  - Compliance Advisor Program – group of supervisors that visit businesses before inspectors arrive to review legal concerns.
  - Lease Negotiation – Legal clinic offered 1x month
  - Additional resources – Bilingual services, Human Resource Services, CDL Licensing, Medical Assistance Training, Webtech Training, etc.
  - Contact information was provided for the following representatives.
    - Training – Maria
    - Financing – Lilian
    - Courses / Legal Assistance - Melissa

**c) Business Development Mission Statement**

Committee members had no concerns with the Mission Statement

Meeting adjourned @ 8:45pm