

COMMUNITY BOARD SIX: HOUSING HOMELESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE  
MEETING

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

NYU Langone Medical Center, 550 1st Ave, NY, NY, 10016 Smilow A CR

Committee Members Present:

Rajesh Nayar (Acting Chair)

Aaron Humphrey

Pedro Carrillo

Sarah Shamoon

Kathy Thompson

Pamela Vassil

Claude Winfield

Public Member:

Sondra Leftoff

Excused:

Aaron Humphrey

Mary Silver

Claude L. Winfield

Guests:

Elaine Tai – Resident

Jennifer Greer – Public Advocate's Office

Alana Sivin - Resident

6:40pm Meeting called to order –

1) Committee discussed Intro. 0960-2015, an Intro to create a safe construction bill of rights. Committee considered the costs which such a bill may incur as part of enforcement and considering it is part of the responsibilities of existing departments, did not see this as an additional cost upon taxpayers. Committee did feel that the resolution should have a suggested additional penalty which would increase fines daily for stop work orders which are not cured within 10 days of breach. Committee voted 6-0 in favor of drafting a resolution with the additional recommendation. Rajesh Nayar to draft resolution for Committee review.

2) Committee discussed Intro. 1556-2017, an Intro which would increase the penalties for tenant harassment. Committee discussed the need to have legislation to curb the increase in the homeless population and such legislation is a first step in ensuring tenants can remain in their residents without fear of being harassed through intimidation, withholding of services or construction harassment. Committee did wish to include a recommendation of placing a lien on the property for every penalty associated to tenant harassment to deter that landlords and developers from considering such actions against tenants. Committee voted 6-0 in favor of drafting a resolution with the additional recommendation. Kathy Thompson to draft resolution for Committee review.

3) Committee discussed a statement/declaration reinforcing New York City and New York State position with respect to undocumented immigrants. The statement/declaration is intended to address the impact that the widespread actions of the Federal Government are burdening state and city services including but not limited to law enforcement, housing, education, and

commerce. While it is understood the current Executive Order is being litigated, the Committee feels that Community Board Six must represent the ideals of the state and local government, reaffirming the lead position New York City and New York State has taken to open its doors to those who seek a new and better life. Committee voted 6-0 in favor a statement/declaration. Pamela Vassil drafting the statement/declaration.

4) Committee discussed the implications of the newly suggested 421-a legislation. Committee concerned that the program still does not address individuals who would fall under “Middle Class Income” (i.e. individuals making 50K-100K) and would like to live or remain in the city. Committee contemplating ways to address the needs of those individuals so that affordable housing contemplates all levels of income and does not penalize those whose income levels are higher than 60-80% Area Median Income.

5) Committee discussed Affordable Housing Project spearheaded by Sondra Leftoff and Pamela Vassil. Funding to engage outside resource to gather information for the statistics which would be beneficial to the Community District is the next step. Acting Chair to speak to Board Chair on this issue.

6) Sondra Leftoff attended Community Board 7 NYCHA task force and discussed level of interest Community Board Six may have on joining the task force. Committee discussed possibility of support in Community Board Six joining the task force as well as discussed the level of support for the community boards depending on the number of units within their respective districts.

3) Old/New Business: None

8:35pm meeting adjourned  
Minutes submitted by Rajesh Nayar