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AMELIA ACOSTA, ASST. SECRETARY

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404
NEW YORK, NY 10017

Transportation Committee
12/3/18, 7:03 PM
NYU Langone Medical Center, 550 1st Avenue, Alumni Hall A

Meeting Minutes

Present: Sandra McKee, Chair; Gene Santoro, Vice Chair; Brian Van Nieuwenhoven; Lawrence Scheyer; Molly Hollister; Ann Seligman; Philip Napolitano; Matt Roberts; James Wilson; Claire Brennan; Kathleen Kelly

Excused: None

Absent: Amelia Acosta; Beatrice Disman; Ronnie White; Andrew Gross; Joe Parrish, Bob Cohen; Ray Knowles

Guests: Justin Wood, Transform Don't Trash; Greg Weiss, River School PTA; Oran Ebel, River School PTA; Jesus Perez, CB6 District Manager; Brendan Birth, CB6 Community Associate; Brian Lafferty, Borough President Brewer's office; Sara Newman, Council Member Powers' office; Asher Baumrin, Senator Hoylman's office; Stephen Grayson, NYU Langone; A.J. Diaz, NYU Langone; Vitaly Filipchenko, CB6 resident; Daniel A. Ferana, CB6 resident

Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda/Previous Meeting's Minutes

Chair McKee called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Larry Scheyer made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jim Wilson and passed.

The November minutes were adopted.

Committee Business

Agenda Item #1: Update from Transform Don't Trash NYC Campaign

Transform Don't Trash (TDT), an activist group campaigning to reform the commercial waste industry in New York City, reiterated its April 2018 presentation to the Public Safety and Environment Committee to ask for CB6's support for the forthcoming Department of Sanitation (DSNY) plan to reorganize private hauling in New York City.

Justin Wood, TDT's presenter, was on an expert panel offering recommendations to DSNY about approaches to this issue. Private hauling has become a prominent problem due to a variety of abuses within the industry. These include severe worker mistreatment, numerous crashes resulting in injuries and death, mixing separated recycling materials with regular trash, opaque pricing structure, and highly polluting vehicles. DSNY's current proposal divides the city into 20 districts, each of which would have up to three carting companies serving it. Requests for Proposals adhering to new, higher standards for carting companies would be issued, to both ensure pricing transparency and preclude the "bad actor" behaviors and inefficiency fostered by the current system.

Committee members and members of the public discussed objections to the DSNY plan by some of the city's large businesses. These include the possibility of increased costs and having to deal with multiple carters. Mr. Wood explained that the DSNY plan avoids increased costs that other cities like Los Angeles have faced by having up to three private haulers per district and suggested that many large businesses already use more than one provider. Since NYU Langone notified CB6 that it opposes the proposal, Mr. Wood reminded the committee that medical waste is not part of it.

Ann Seligman moved for a resolution of support. Molly Hollister seconded. The committee voted unanimously in favor. Philip Napolitano will write the resolution.

The presentation is included on the CB6 website.

VOTE: 11 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled

Agenda Item #2: Review of Safety Upgrades in the Vicinity of the River School

The River School is sandwiched between the Midtown Tunnel entrance and the FDR Drive. Its PTA Safety Committee asked CB6 for assistance in lessening the dangers this area's heavy, aggressive traffic presents daily to their grade-school children. Chair McKee and other CB6 members joined elected officials and their representatives as well as DOT representatives for a site visit and walk-through on 10/31. At the committee meeting, Chair McKee projected photos of existing conditions and lists of suggested remediations. These materials are attached as an addendum to the end of these minutes.

Greg Weiss of the River School PTA's Safety Committee amplified the dangers and possible solutions. After committee discussion, Molly Hollister moved and Ann Seligman seconded that the committee divide the complex issues spanning the FDR Drive into two resolutions that deal separately with issues east and west of the Drive. Both resolutions passed unanimously.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION ON EAST 37TH STREET AND EAST RIVER GREENWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS: 11 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled

VOTE ON RESOLUTION ON SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE RIVER SCHOOL: 11 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled

Agenda Item #3: Discussion Regarding Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Criteria for Abandoned Newsstands

DCA, which was supposed to discuss newsstand siting and abandonment with the committee, couldn't attend. Chair McKee projected the questions the committee had formulated, and suggested as a next step that the board office and chair write a follow-up letter to DCA, cc-ing Council Members Powers and Rivera, asking for more information, such as a list of newsstand sites within CD6, so the committee can proceed with its list of requirements for prospective newsstand applications within the district.

Old/New Business

Gene Santoro reported on the L train task force meetings in October and November. His full report, edited for brevity during the meeting, is attached as an addendum to these minutes. The committee discussed a few salient points: changes in bus stops for the M9 and M14 routes; the poorly managed and lengthy implementation of the L-related redesign of East 20th Street between 1st Avenue and Avenue C and consequent confusion and anger among Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village residents; and possible street-level sites for Metrocard machines, especially in heavily patronized businesses, so that commuters can get/refill Metrocards during the 15-month L shutdown.

Chair's Report

The committee will discuss e-bike legislation next month.

Adjournment

Molly Hollister made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ann Seligman and passed. Chair McKee declared the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Gene Santoro