

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, CB #6 – MARCH 22, 2017

Members Present: Jannie Armstrong, Virginia Bird, Claudette Coles, Margarita Espinoza, April Hurley, Floretta O'Brien, Rosa Peraza, Wendy Rodriguez.

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Rodriguez at 6:45 PM.

The minutes of the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed.

Chairperson Wendy Rodriguez read to the board a confidential letter she had received on February 10<sup>th</sup> from Inspector General/NYC, Mr. Andrew Brunsdn. This letter was in regard to the use of a private city account from the CB #6 office to refer public individuals to a specific restaurant in our district. This was an action that the board was not consulted on, but one that was done independently. Wendy called the Borough President's office the following day to discuss the matter and to learn who the accusation was against, but she has not yet received a response. However, she is arranging a meeting between Tom Lucaina (representative of the Borough President's office), DM John Sanchez and herself to discuss this matter further and to formulate a response to Mr. Brunsdn's letter.

There was some discussion among board members about this matter, with the idea emerging that we should all work as a team rather than doing things on one's own. It was implied that the District Manager may have been the person who used the city account to promote a particular business. Wendy showed John the letter that was sent by Mr. Brunsdn when she made her weekly visit to the office, but he declared that he had already seen it and did not give it any particular importance. Further discussion centered around the fact that the chairs of the various committees should be respected for their roles and this seems to be blatantly ignored. Several instances were cited to demonstrate that this. For example, there was a presentation at the general meeting by Ms. Teresa Garcia concerning the Tremont BID. As April Hurley is the chair of the Economic Development Committee and has had several meetings with the Small Business Administration concerning the Tremont BID, she should have been contacted or been informed before the meeting of Ms. Garcia's presentation. Other instances cited to demonstrate this lack of communication and/or notification included the following:

- 1) Office interns: while it would be commendable to be able to pay them for their work in assisting the board, the executive board should be consulted for this.
- 2) The news item on CB 6's website which features and actually advertises for Roy's Restaurant (copy attached). While it may have been initially perceived as a way to announce the Tremont BID, the rule is that no individual businesses can join the BID; it

can only be the business or establishment owners. To exacerbate this particular situation, the restaurant is actually located on the ground floor of a building that has several outstanding violations against it. Had the chairpersons of the board or the appropriate committee been consulted, this error might have been avoided.

- 3) There is no recognition of board chairs at public or media events or promotions (e.g., Margie was not recognized at the It's My Park Day/Mace Ballfield event in the media, even though this is an event that she has spearheaded for years).
- 4) There is still a significant lack of communication between the DM and the executive board as far as consulting with committee chairs, items regarding presentations, media promotions and the hiring of office staff and assistants.

The disbursement of the surplus budget funds and items were discussed. After careful review, a copy of the attached revisions to the budget were suggested.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:15 PM.

The next general community board meeting is scheduled for April 12. The date for the next executive committee meeting has not been set since it is contingent upon the results of Wendy's meeting with Tom Lucaina and John Sanchez.

Respectfully submitted,  
Floretta A. O'Brien  
Secretary