

PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL
MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

December 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom Conference

Attendees:

Committee Members: Moses Esema, Joy Campbell Privaterre, Nick Fazio

Guests: Alberto Roldan – DCWP, James Middleton- DOH, Katherine Broihier – Kingsbridge BID, Gloria Torres, Rosilyn Denis

- I. Meeting Called to Order at 7:09
- II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved as Amended
- III. Chair's Report –
 - A. Nick Fazio reported on the snowstorm on 12/16. DSNY/DOT collaboration on snow removal around outdoor dining set-ups appeared to be successful. Establishments utilized the materials (i.e., reflective tape, snow sticks, sandbags, etc.) to ensure the integrity of the structures and that they were in compliance of DOT guidelines. There were no reported complaints made to the board office or ED committee members from the merchants regarding DSNY.
 - B. Fazio announced that he has a meeting with BOEDC regarding the future of Chase Bank at Knolls Crescent. He will report back to the committee at the meeting on January 28, 2021.
 - C. Rep. Espaillat held a call on 12/15 regarding the new PPP program that was included in the stimulus bill. The congressman's chief of staff, Anieri Batista, will be holding a follow up information session to help businesses apply for the funding. Nick Fazio asked the committee members to reach out to merchants to encourage them to apply. Additionally, he also asked for attendees to help to inform our local merchants about the resources that are available including the Bronx Small Business Development Center, the Minority Business Development Center, and SoBro. The board office will distribute pertinent information regarding the new PPP program.
 - D. It was announced the board office has entered most of the over 400 merchant contact emails, that were compiled by Sydney Collins, into the office's contact list. The ED committee thanked Tania Ochoteco, Pablo

Romano, and Ciara Gannon for their persistence and diligence in getting this accomplished.

- E. The ED committee again congratulated Orlando Kross for being awarded the Most Valuable Merchant Award and thanked Sergio Villaverde for making the presentation on behalf of Community Board 8.

IV. Street Vending in CD 8 –

- A. Nick Fazio asserted that there have been complaints from merchants regarding street vendors setting up near their storefronts and operating without permits.
- B. DCWP representative Alberto Roldan stated that the DCWP will be assuming all responsibilities for enforcement of street vending rules by January 15.
- C. Moses Esema asked what compliance measures would be put in place to enforce the current regulations.
- D. Mr. Roldan asserted that no specifics have been decided upon yet, but that fines would be component of the enforcement strategy.
- E. Nick Fazio asked if NYPD will have a roll in working with DCWP to help with enforcement. Mr. Roldan asserted that currently there is no specific plan for NYPD involvement but indicated that they could be called if DCWP could not handle a specific issue within the district. He also indicated that DOH will be still be enforcing regulations for green cart and other food vendors.
- F. Katherine Broihier from Kingsbridge BID asked if educational materials would be distributed to vendors and merchants. Mr. Roldan stated that there will be an educational component to DCWP's oversight of street vending, but no specifics were available at this time.
- G. Ms. Broihier asked about an enlargement of DCPW as an agency in order to handle enforcement duties. Mr. Roldan indicated that adding additional resources to DCPW is being discussed.
- H. Nick Fazio stated that the constituents of Community Board 8 should be presented with all necessary information for them to weigh in on what type of economic development the community wants for the district. He invited Mr. Roldan back to attend the meeting on January 28 and asserted that a representative from the mayor's office and DOH have been invited as well to discuss this issue further and update the committee on the implementation of agency responsibilities, enforcement changes, and strategies.

- I. Mr. Roldan also indicated that there are resources available from DCWP to help storefront merchants during the Covid-19 crisis. He will send the ED committee a list of programs and flyers for specific initiatives as they become available.
 - J. The extension of the Open Storefronts program until September 30, 2021 was discussed.
- V. Budget Item Proposals
- A. Nick Fazio asked the committee to present their ideas for budget items at the next meeting on January 28.
 - B. Discussion was held on what types of items the ED committee should consider and timeline for submitting proposals.
- VI. Outstanding Business
- VII. New Business –
- A. A proposal was made to rename the Most Valuable Merchant Award the Betty Campbell Adams Award. All committee members in attendance were conceptually in favor of the proposal. The committee will discuss the proposal at the next meeting on January 28.
- VIII. Adjourned:
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Fazio
Chair, Economic Development Committee