



Church Avenue District Management Association Draft Annual Meeting Minutes

Thurs. Dec. 5, 2019
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Don Patron Mexican Bar & Grill
1217 Church Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226

Board Member Attendees: Jack Mann (Treasurer), Mahadya Mary (SBS), Eileen Mullaney-Newman (Brooklyn Borough President's Office), Steve Rogers, David Sheridan

VIP: Evan Burr (Brooklyn Borough President's Office), Councilmember Mathieu Eugene, Shana Melius (Rep. Yvette Clarke)

Other: See attached list.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Mahadya, seconded by Jack, and unanimously approved.

Introductions: Lauren welcomed the attendees and special guests, and introduced the staff and the board members in attendance. She thanked Ernesto and Maria of Don Patron Mexican Bar & Grill for hosting, and CAMBA, Con Ed, Prospect Gymnastics for sponsoring. She thanked Con Ed for sponsoring the position of Outreach Assistant to do in-person outreach with businesses. She also thanked additional sponsors MetroPlus Health Plan, Modern MD Urgent Care, Fidelis Care, and Bklyner.

She explained the door prizes from Alden Moves, Bobby's Department Store, Golden Krust, Prospect Gymnastics, and Wheated and encouraged everyone to enter the raffle if they haven't yet.

She introduced staff: Hope Moriki who helped pull most of the meeting together but was unable to attend, Sneha Goud, the outreach assistant, and Sara Kaojkaji who is helping tonight.

She explained the agenda of the meeting was voting on board members and minutes from last year's annual meeting, reviewing the unaudited financials for fiscal year 2019, discussing events on Church Ave, and opening the floor for discussion. After the meeting concluded, she hoped everyone would stay for the food and jazz from Manel Fortia band.

Council Member Eugene introduced himself and thanked all attendees and Lauren. He spoke about the power of working together to make Church Ave. more vibrant and encouraged people to come to him with problems. He congratulated Lauren on her work this year and mentioned how he helped with streetlights.

Voting: Lauren explained that the purpose of the Annual Meeting is to allow members to vote on matters pertaining to the BID's operation. She added that only members who have submitted a registration form by 5 pm on Dec. 2, 2019 could vote at this Annual Meeting. Lauren encouraged those present who were not yet registered to do so at this meeting, so they may be able to vote at future meetings.

Minutes: Lauren instructed everyone to look at the minutes from the last meeting. Mina made a motion to approve the minutes and Jose Castro seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Election of Board Members: Lauren introduced the matter of electing three board members in the Property Owner class. Lauren explained that to vote, BID members must be registered and can only vote within the class in which they belong. Lauren put forward the Board of Directors recommendations of Leon Mann of Bobby's Department Store, Fabiola Santos-Gaerlan of Honeydew Playhouse, and David Sheridan of Wheated.

Lauren noted that the BID is seeking a residential tenant to join the board and the requirements to become a member.

Amend Bylaws: Lauren noted that the Board of Directors has previously reviewed and approved the attached amendments to the bylaws in accordance with Article VI of the bylaws for compliance with the latest amendments to the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. Mahadya made a motion to waive the reading of the bylaws, seconded by Mina, and it was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Review of the Unaudited Financials: Lauren presented a summary of the Church Avenue BID's unaudited financials for fiscal year ending 6/30/19 that were in the packet. She explained that it is pending board approval, and no vote was required. She requested that specific questions about the document be addressed to her later in the evening.

Overview of Accomplishments & Priorities for 2019: Lauren gave the attendees a brief overview of the BID, and highlighted important changes over the past year.

She explained that since the BID assessment was increased, they could employ one

sanitation worker 7 days a week and add quarterly graffiti removal. There were two shop Flatbush ads in *Caribbean Life* before the West Indian American Day parade.

She spoke about the annual calendar the BID produced, which was distributed for free. She said in 2020 the BID plans to produce tote bags instead of calendars. She added that the BID had worked with the Flatbush Avenue BID to co-sponsor a Thanksgiving luncheon at the Kings Theatre along with Stop & Shop and the Academy of Hospitality and Tourism at Erasmus High School, and organized two free Santa events. Lauren noted past projects including the annual street fair, volunteer clean-up day, and three sidewalk sales. She indicated photos of these events were on the posters near the sign in table.

She discussed the upcoming ban on plastic bags in March and suggested a meeting for business owners to discuss implications.

Lauren talked about the bus lane changes implemented on Church Ave. She thanked everyone who called and circulated a petition against the bus lanes. She said the plan was implemented and still in place but that DOT noted the pushback from business owners. She said she is on a DOT committee to discuss changes. DOT wanted to do a marketing campaign for the businesses on Church Ave. Mina asked for more information about the marketing campaign.

Lauren explained the data to justify the bus lanes was taken by swipes on metrocards but the DOT perception is that Church Ave. is as crowded as other areas. She explained the city wants to increase bus use in all boroughs. Lauren said they told the DOT they need to tell BIDs sooner about changes and the survey circulated was only about deliveries.

Several people complained about the effect of the bus lanes. Rev. John Williams said it is very hard to go against the bus policy as individuals and everyone needs to band together and organize to make a difference. Ilia said it took 40 minutes to pick her daughter up from high school.

Sandra Walker said the bus lane ended where traffic ends and should have started at Nostrand Ave.

Jophrane Ligonde (co-PTA president of PS 139) said she was at a community board meeting and DOT told the meeting they are doing a one year test. She encouraged business owners to take pictures and video to show data to DOT.

Mahadya from SBS encouraged everyone to come to make an hour to come to quarterly meetings to make your voice heard. She said community members need to be involved before laws are in place because the changes are already decided by the time the city announces them.

Sandra Walker said she was told by BID when the changes were being made, not before.

Jophrane Ligonde said the ideal place is community board meetings where changes are made.

John Williams said we should have BID members on DOT committees.

Lauren discussed the assessment increase put into effect in July of 2018, which allowed the BID to add quarterly, overnight graffiti removal.

She announced that the BID was not informed about filming in advance but is looking for ways to get the city to work with local businesses. The BID got \$3,000 in donations from Netflix HBO for 2 shoots in Sep./Oct. to print a "Shop Church Ave." marketing piece. She thanked Carline from Metro Plus.

Re-election of Board Members: Lauren announced that Leon Mann, Fabiola Santos-Gaerlan, and David Sheridan in the Property Owner class had been re-elected to the board.

Adjournment: Mahadya made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Mina Marsow, and unanimously approved.

Minutes were approved.

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Title: