Alida Camp Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



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# The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8 Housing Committee Meeting Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center June 27, 2018 at 6:30 PM

# **MINUTES**

Please note: The resolutions contained in the committee minutes are recommendations submitted by the committee chair to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolutions are discussed and voted upon by all members of Manhattan Community Board 8.

CB8 members present: Alida Camp, Barbara Chocky\*, Anthony Cohn, Ed Hartzog\*, Rebecca Lamorte\*, Rita Popper\*, David Rosenstein, Russell Squire, Marco Tamayo
Members of the Public: Lee Chong, Haley Roeser (Councilman Powers' office) Kim Selway
Excused Absence: Loraine Brown\*
Unexcused Absence: Alexandra Harrington\*, Lorraine Johnson\*, *Bessie Schachter*^, *Posie Di Sesa*^
\*Housing Committee member
^Public Member

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

# 1. Update on September 26th Housing Forum.

Rita Popper began the discussion by outlining the proposed makeup and format of the forum. In addition to a moderator there would be five panelists – each panelist would be allotted 10 minutes to discuss or give opening remarks on their issue or area of expertise. Along with some brief welcoming remarks by the co-chairs and the moderator, the panelists' opening remarks would comprise the first hour of the two-hour program. The second hour would be Q & A with the audience and panelists.

An early suggestion for moderator was City Councilmember Ben Kallos. However, with Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer as a potential panelist, it was suggested that an elected official from the state would be better – to help round out the discussion as to potential legislative proposals and success. As such, it was suggested and agreed upon that State Senator Liz Krueger would be invited to be the moderator.

As to the panelists, it was agreed that the initial number of six was too high given time management issues and it was agreed that the number would be reduced to five. Among them, it was suggested and agreed that the Borough President, Gale Brewer, was an important person to invite. Additional panelists included members of the media – including potentially, Sally Goldenberg from Politico or Ginia Bellafante from the NY Times – a representative from HPD, possibly Vic Boc from the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD) – and Walter Roberts from Hope Community Inc.

With respect to issues and focus, Rita noted that truth needed t be brought to the subject and the public needed to know who the Mayor was talking to when he was talking about "affordable" housing. She noted the ongong housing crisis for mid and low-income families, where there are three families for one apartment. There has been an 11% increase in population and a corresponding increase of 8% in housing.

Among the questions and issues suggested were the varying vacancy rates for differing income levels; whether it is a good thing for NYCHA to leverage public and private money; current issues in the media and before the state; using the ULURP process to the community's benefit vs. as-of-right. It was suggested that a more detailed focus could be developed as the panelists are confirmed for the program.

In the interim, it was agreed that letters would be drafted for the Chair of the Board to send to the potential moderator and panelists. Kim Selway also introduced and distributed copies of her survey for Q & A at the forum. The committee then moved on to Old Business.

#### **Old Business.**

There was no old business.

#### New Business.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

### Ed Hartzog and Barbara Chocky, Co-Chairs, Housing Committee