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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Environment and Sanitation Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 6, 2021 - 6:30PM
*This meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom***

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 Community Board 8 Manhattan.

MINUTES

Resolutions for Approval:

Item 2a: Funding GrowNYC

Item 2b: Composting Dropoff Sites

Present: Ed Hartzog, Wilma Johnson, Craig Lader, Barbara Rudder, Cos Spagnoletti, Russell Squire, Marco Tamayo

1. DSNY Update - Melissa Yanni from DSNY gave an update on issues addressed at the last Environment and Sanitation committee.

- Corner litter basket service has increased in the CB8M district. The number of baskets in our district remains over 1,000, but the basket truck service has increased from ten to twenty per week, including two services on Sunday. Inspectors did find broken litter baskets, and either fixed or replaced them. It was agreed that these actions resulted in greater street cleanliness.
- Curbside Composting Program is resuming. In August, a form will be sent to any building who wants to be part of the program, and they will receive a brown composting bin with the pickup schedule. Individuals can deposit their scraps at drop off sites. Schools that have been previously part of the program do not have to reapply. One can compost all vegetable and fruit scraps, egg shells, bread, and food paper. Meat and bones are excluded.

2. GrowNYC has lost funding for composting at green markets. There is only one proposed drop off site in our district, on E. 96 St and Lexington Ave on Friday mornings. The following resolutions were proposed and unanimously passed:

Resolution 1

WHEREAS: The City has eliminated funding to GrowNYC and therefore eliminated drop off sites at green markets, and

WHEREAS: Drop off sites at green markets will encourage individuals to compost, and

WHEREAS: Increased composting is important for the environment, and

WHEREAS: Increased composting will minimize garbage disposal and therefore decrease rats and strewn garbage, Therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, CB8M urges City Council to reinstate necessary funding to allow GrowNYC to reinstate the composting scrap drop-off sites at green markets.

Vote: 7-0-0

Ed Hartzog, Wilma Johnson, Craig Lader, Barbara Rudder, Cos Spagnoletti, Russell Squire, Marco Tamayo

Resolution 2

WHEREAS: There is only one composting scrap drop off site on the most northern street of the CB8M district, and only on Friday mornings, and

WHEREAS: If there are more locations, it would be encouraging more people to compost, Therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that CB8M requests DSNY to provide additional convenient drop off sites throughout our district, at least one in the E. 60's, one in the E. 70's and one in the E.80's in addition to the E.96 St. site, and operating times of the sites should be coordinated such that at all times between early morning and late night, there is at least one site operating in CB8M.

Vote: 7-0-0

Ed Hartzog, Wilma Johnson, Craig Lader, Barbara Rudder, Cos Spagnoletti, Russell Squire, Marco Tamayo

3. Discussion on ABC's of Recycling - Examples of what can be recycled:

Metal. Wire hangers, alumni foil, pans. Metal caps and lids. Tools. Not electronics.

Paper. Cartons, drink boxes, papers, mails wrapping paper, pizza boxes (even with grease on it)

Rigid Plastics. Plastic bags are not included. Containers, lids, house wares, crates.

Glass bottles and jars

Disposable utensils

We were told that when in doubt, it is better to recycle. The recycling center will sort acceptable items.

4. Rats - There is a tremendous increase in rats. Some restaurants leave their garbage bags out too long, because of COVID, more residents are home and generate more garbage, there is less composting, and more diners are eating outside. It was decided that the Environment and Sanitation committee will hold a meeting on rat control.

Cos Spagnoletti and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs