



December 13, 2016
General Membership Meeting Minutes

1. Announcements

- **Wednesday 12/14** - 6:30 p.m. - 28th Precinct Community Council meeting – at Touro College – entrance on West 124th Street (between 7th and 8th Avenues – 4th Floor)
- **Thursday 12/15** - 7:00 p.m. - 32nd Precinct Community Council meeting @ Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Community Center, 34 W 134th Street
- **Wednesday 1/4** – 6:00 p.m. - CB 10 Meeting - 2nd floor art gallery of the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building (163 West 125th Street)
- **Tuesday, 1/10** – Next LenoxFive 127th Street Block Association Meeting
- Membership Dues
 - If you haven't paid for the year, it's \$25 suggested donation per year. Katharina is here can accept cash, check or credit card.
- Guests and New Neighbors/Sign-in Sheet
 - Stewart #23 West – in the neighborhood for a year and a half.
 - Jared #1 West
 - Joelle #49 West
- We got an e-mail today from someone who wants to have a shredder come to our block. They can help to come and destroy hard copies of sensitive documents in order to prevent identity theft. There are times during the year when free shredders come, but if we have enough demand we may be able to make it happen one of these weekends coming up.

2. Treasury Report – Katharina

- \$1,910 in our operating budget on hand at the moment
- We are on track to close the year stronger than when we went in.
- 51 Members for the year, 4 new people signed up in November.
- Our year goes from January to January, but you can pay your dues whenever.
- Question: What do we plan to do w/ that money?
 - We spend on social committee, for block improvements like tree guards, paper supplies, website, and anything else that we think is necessary.
- Question: How about more tree guards?
 - Sanitation committee will be looking at installing new tree guards if possible
 - Committees can come to Katharina to see if there is enough money in the budget.

3. NYPD Neighborhood Coordination Officers - 32nd Precinct NYPD Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) Detective Pearse Canavan & Officer Peter Diviesti

- We spoke about a year ago when this project was initially launched
- The purpose of the program is to make sure the police are more involved w/ the community (such as coming to block association meetings, for example).
- They want to understand what the complaints are and how they and their team can help improve your local community.
- Each precinct is broken down in to sectors. The 32nd is broken into four (ABCD). Each sector has at least four cops on each beat. Each sector has consistent police presence to you can get to know your police officers.
- Question: How does it get divided?
 - It gets divided geographically, but its funny you mention is because we are seeing that Sector D had 2500 911 calls (But by comparison, Sector A had only 400).
- The commissioner wants more precision policing where we are getting feedback from the community.

- For example, we had a problem on one of our blocks where there was drug sales going on. We got speaking to the property manager who was sick and tired of it, and he didn't have an outlet. So we asked if we can have access to the cameras on the property, and through that we were able to watch the drug dealer and we made the arrest. He was not only dealing drugs but also had a gun on him, so it was a good arrest and shows that the program is working.
- On this block, a neighbor was saying that a homeless guy was sitting on people's benches and smoking crack. Someone let us know, we did a follow up and were able to take care of the situation.
 - In the past, this 911 or 311 call would have been lost. But with the NCO program we were able to take care of it.
- Question: We have someone in our building who is causing problems. How do we deal with a situation like this?
 - Please speak to us after the meeting and we can assist with it.
 - The more information we can get, the more we can help to police the block.
 - This particular building is in the 28th precinct, so we will have to work with the NCOs for that precinct.
- We are trying to get a focus group together for the folks on the corner who are urinating and defecating in public
 - The problem with it is that if you give them a summons it's not really going to fix the problem.
 - We want to get a focus group together to perhaps get more ideas to help discourage the behavior.
 - Question: Have you gotten together w/ the 32nd and the 28th and the business people in a 5 block radius. Maybe there is some way the businesses can help to come up with something. Perhaps the Deli on the corner can help.
 - Suggestion: we will try to schedule a meeting to have that focus group
- Lisa comment: please everyone needs to help the police and the community to get involved and work together, but there has to be leadership in all of this. These guys here are doing a great job, but there will be 9 million people living in NYC by 2018, and we have to keep working on all of our problems together. Come come to the CB 10 meeting with me. It has to be "we the people" not "I the politician."
- 32nd Precinct is now on Facebook. <http://www.facebook.com/nypd32pct> - DONT use this to make complaints. This is just informative to see whats going on around the community. Use the NCO numbers to work with us.
- We have a neighborhood grant up for January 23rd. You can get up to \$3,000 for a community garden, art projects, citizens committee awards, etc. We will hand out grant information at the meeting.
 - BEAS

4. Social Committee - Katharina

- 28th Precinct Toy Drive
 - Thank you for bringing toys
 - If you missed the drive this evening, you can bring straight to the 28th Precinct who is also having a coat drive as well which is running through January (outerwear ie vest, sweater, etc)
- Harlem Grown is also having a toy drive
 - You can connect with Tony Hillary for information on where to drop off the toys.
- Question: Do we have any ideas to do any volunteering? How about at the orphanage that is in the neighborhood? With volunteering we can do so much more than just giving money / gifts.
 - Yes, if you have any good ideas please e-mail us at lenoxfive127@gmail.com
 - Claudia volunteered to look into volunteer opportunities
 - Harlem Grown has a lot of opportunities for volunteering and they are on our block plus eight schools in this area: mentoring, volunteering, teaching, speaking etc, and they are consistently looking for volunteers.
- Harlem Grown Fundraiser / Gala update from Lisa
 - Thank you very much for coming. This year we had 250 people come in comparison to 150 from last year.
 - The auction table raised a great deal of money. We had a \$60,000 donation that got a \$50,000 match.
 - Harlem Grown is a real grass roots movement. This is one of the reasons why the farm has not gotten done as quickly as we had hoped. All plans now are focusing on opening the farm in the Spring 2017.
 - Board meeting coming up where more information and data will be distributed.
 - Visit the website to see photos and videos of the event and where you can volunteer.
 - Broadway Project also getting involved through Lisa and Butch
 - If anyone in this room has kids that don't belong to Harlem Grown, please reach out to Lisa and Butch for more information on how to get involved.
 - Question: What are the next steps for Harlem Grown and the farm project?

- We are stuck in the “governmental sink hole of permits.” We are cautiously optimistic that once those permits are approved, we have a pro-bono contractor who is willing to start.
 - Either way we are hindered w/ the weather until March.
- Membership report – Marilyn
 - 10% of the people who were at the Gala came from this block (27 people from our block). Thank you to everyone for coming and donating and we are so proud of everyone who came in.
 - We have one teenager who will be distributing gifts at the Toy Drive – if you have any new teenagers who want to volunteer who needs it for school credit please email us at lenoxfive127@gmail.com
 - We have one person who has volunteered to be a permanent distributor of flyers. We want at least four. Please help sign up!
 - Joyce has volunteered if she is not working
 - Donald has volunteered – dnstnly@hotmail.com
- Pass the Hat for the church
 - If you are able to donate for the church for use of the space for our BA meetings, please do. (Plate will be passed around).

5. Holiday Celebration!

- Enjoy the cookies and cake on offer! Enjoy the holidays everyone and we will see you next year.

The next LenoxFive 127th Street Block Association meeting will be:

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Email us at: LenoxFive127@gmail.com or Visit our Website at: LenoxFive127.org