

CWG Minutes 6.7.21 via Zoom

Members present

Artists Space (Nia Nottage, Jay Sanders); Bowery Alliance of Neighbors (Mitchell Grubler); Chinese Staff and Workers Association (Zishun Ning); citygroup (Michael Robinson Cohen, Violette de la Salle); Downtown Independent Democrats (Richard Corman, Tom LaGatta); Lower East Side Preservation Initiative (Richard Moses); National Mobilization Against Sweatshops (Steph Kranes, Briar Winters).

Also present

Vittoria Fariello - Democratic District Leader AD65 Part C and Downtown Independent Democrat member; Sheila Kendrick (Save Central Park)

Minutes approved and meeting called to order 6:38pm.

Recap of CWG Week of Action: We were able to reach people in different ways and generate interest in outreach for Marte/CWG; citygroup's renderings were especially useful in humanizing zoning and how it can be used to protect the community so we want to do more of these types of events.

Meeting with Erin Hussein, CC Candidate in D2: She reached out expressing support for CWG and how important it is to unseat Rivera. Erin wanted to do outreach for both CWG and ERPA, and she wants to reach more NYCHA residents along the waterfront up to 14th St. Would be helpful to build a relationship with her beyond the election so we can connect more people with our platform in northern LES.

CWG Candidate Walk updates: Art Chang, Lindsey Boylan, and Brad Hoylman have all taken a public stand in support of CWG. Marc Levine has not taken a stand in support. We didn't walk with Kallos but he attended our press conference against the mega towers approved in Two Bridges. We're still trying to reach Maya Wiley.

5WTC affordable housing update from District Leader Vittoria Fariello: Quoting directly from Vittoria: "Tower 5 of the World Trade Center is to be built at the old site of the Deutch Bank building, just south of the WTC Memorial. The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC), in conjunction with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (which owns the rights to the land) put out an RFP for a building at the site. The LMDC announced that they accepted an RFP from a joint venture between Silverstein Properties and Brookfield Properties wherein they would provide up to 25% affordable housing, which is paltry and the community doesn't need any luxury units here. Since 9/11, the downtown community, under the leadership of Tom Goodkind, has emphatically advocated building 100% affordable housing at the site, with a preference for 9/11 First Responders and Survivors and their families, as well as artists." Direct quote from Briar: "the coalition currently forming around the 5WTC fight would like us to review their letter and to sign on in support as CWG. We will send the letter around so everyone can review and then we can discuss and vote in our next meeting. It should be noted that the 5WTC site is public land, so the issue connects with the CWG demand for 100% affordable housing according to the local AMI on public land, but the coalition currently in formation has not yet issued specific demands about affordability levels." June 18 rally; Chris is attending. Details TBA.

Reminder to plug into the election and get your friends and neighbors out to vote (early voting starts June 12th, Primary Day June 22nd)