

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Chinatown Working Group Meeting**  
**November 4, 2019, 6:30pm, 275 Cherry Street Community Room**

**Voting members present:** Chinese Staff and Workers Association (Zishun Ning); Lands End Residents Association 2 (Mercer Jabul); Lower East Side Organized Residents (Antonio QueyLin); National Mobilization Against Sweatshops (Steph Kranes, Briar Winters).

**Also present:** Michael Cohen (Citygroup); rob hollander (Lower East Side Residents for Responsible Development); Evan van Hook (OCD, local gallery); Carrie Smith (Citygroup).

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Meeting called to order, 6:42pm, Steph Kranes (NMASS) facilitating.

OCTOBER MINUTES approved by all present.

**AGENDA:**

Letter on Homeless and Housing  
Meeting with Harvey and local elections  
Draft proposal on visualization  
59 Henry  
Multiple site ULURP

**LETTER ON HOUSING AND HOMELESS**

Briar Winters (NMASS): The coalition has signed on. How to distribute it? Should CWG sign on?

rob hollander (LESRRD): Is there any objection to CWG signing?

[None]

Zishun Ning (CSWA): Post it on the website.

Briar: Send to newspapers?

Steph: Copies to electeds?

Briar: Cory Johnson? I'll send it to Caitlin for advice on distribution.

Steph: Howard messaged us that he can't attend tonight but he'd like us to sign on to his East River Park Action letter.

**EAST RIVER PARK ACTION LETTER**

rob: I asked Howard to show me the signatures from NYCHA, but he hasn't sent them to me yet. I'm concerned because the groups that signed onto the letter are largely white and don't represent NYCHA. If he showed us the signatures, we could sign on. I'll ask him again.

Zishun: It was sent to organizations. CSWA signed.

Briar: NMASS also signed.

## MEETING WITH HARVEY AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

rob: I don't think Harvey knows the plan. Parts of the plan cover areas of his district. We should bring it to him.

Briar: Grace, who is running for assembly against Yuh Line, has attended a few of our meetings. Chris Marte is running for Council.

## VISUALIZATION PROPOSAL

Carrie Smith (Citygroup): The visualization can bring new interest to the plan and help electeds to understand it. We're thinking of beginning by presenting what could have been built in One Manhattan Square were the Extell building not there -- not only the structures but the possible uses. Then we'd look at each subdistrict or area within the plan and show what might be possible in each area.

rob: What about NYCHA? Showing new buildings in NYCHA would be controversial.

Michael Cohen (Citygroup): We'd have to have continuing discussion with you about how to approach each site. We could simply say that NYCHA would be protected.

rob: In Chinatown there are all these new hotels...

Michael: We can also show what has happened without the plan.

Antonio QueyLin (LESON): Important to show what could be done that would benefit the community.

Steph: Timeline?

Carrie: We can come back in December with more.

Michael: We could also look at the Henry Street site.

## 59 HENRY STREET

rob: The developer has gotten approval for a sidewalk pavement plan. I don't know whether that indicates that they are planning to trench their construction.

Briar: How do we alert the neighbors. Caitlin lives nearby. Host an event?

rob: MOCA is allowing space for community groups.

Zishun: It's better if there are people willing to take the lead.

Evan van Hook (local gallery): I saw it on a website.

rob: I think this building is something that Chinatown groups would be concerned about, especially groups that were part of CWG.

Zishun: Ask Jan to rejoin the CWG. We're reconnecting to some of the members that have become less active lately in CWG.

## MULTIPLE SITE ULURP

rob: The Chinatown group opposing the jail is filing a law suit on the grounds that it was illegal to have a single ULURP with multiple sites in four different boroughs.

Briar: Should we produce a statement?

Antonio: If the mayor can do this, he could do anything.

Zishun: Would the jail opposition group be willing to come to CWG?

Briar: They could use the CWG plan as what they'd rather have than the jail.

rob: I'll ask Jan to come to CWG.

Meeting adjourned, 7:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

rob hollander, CWG Secretary