

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Chinatown Working Group Meeting**  
**December 2, 2019, 6:30pm, 275 Cherry Street Community Room**

**Voting members present:** Chinese Staff and Workers Association (Zishun Ning); Youth Against Displacement (Caitlin Kelmar).

**Also present:** Bob Angles (Democratic Socialists of America); Andrew Hiller (Democratic Socialists of America); rob hollander (Lower East Side Residents for Responsible Development); Grace Lee (resident); Christopher Marte (State Committee); Susan Yung (artist).

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Meeting called to order, 6:45pm, Zishun Ning (CSWA) facilitating.

November minutes approved by all present with no objections.

Agenda

Petition potluck and letter to de Blasio and Corey Johnson

Visualization project

59 Henry Street development

Updates

Outreach

Agenda approved with no objections.

Petition potluck and letter to de Blasio and Johnson

Zishun: More than 4500 petitions were gathered, so we're holding a holiday celebration sometime mid December. Sometime in January we plan to deliver a letter to de Blasio and Johnson demanding a meeting. There'll be a press conference for the delivery.

Caitlin Kelmar (YAD): Should be more than a press conference. Maybe a rally of about 100? The Coalition will coordinate.

Visualization project

Discussion postponed until Citygroup arrives.

59 Henry Street development

rob hollander (LESRRD): Their only current filing (for the pavement plan) was rejected by DoB November 8, just after our last meeting. No explanation.

Caitlin: We started a group of residents who live on Henry and Madison Streets. We started a research document, spreadsheet/flyer with what would be allowed under the

CWG Plan and what is currently being planned by the owners. We were going to talk to Citygroup to ask them to prioritize that visualization. Anybody want to work on that?

### Updates

Chris Marte (State Committee): City Council approved the four jails. United Neighbors below Canal is filing a lawsuit on the grounds that the city failed to follow the ULURP process properly -- there was no scoping hearing for the White Street location. The community advisory board was hand-selected; their meetings were not fully open to the public. They refused to provide full information on health and environmental impacts. We're holding an informational event next week with our lawyers and experts, sponsored by several groups including Think Chinatown, UA3, NYU Health Department. We're gathering petitioners, 4 or 5, no more than 7. The Lenape Center is interested because they believe the construction will disturb ancestral remains under the building.

Zishun: Would you ask Jan if he or the group would come to CWG?

Chris: We've been busy, but I can ask.

Andrew Hiller (DSA): Other lawsuits?

Chris: Yes, one from the Bronx with Ruben Diaz Jr. as one of the plaintiffs. The Queens group is interviewing lawyers. Our case is strongest because of the shifting of the site mid ULURP. We have a fiscal conduit. We raised \$30,000 with a goal of \$130,000.

### Outreach

rob: This item was to ask Jan to come.

Visualization project

Zishun: I'll contact Citygroup to see if they can attend next time.

Meeting adjourned, 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted

rob hollander

CWG Secretary