

DRAFT Minutes
Chinatown Working Group Meeting
October 1, 6:30pm, 275 Cherry Street Community Room

Voting members present: 83-85 Bowery Tenants Association (Vincent Cau, Hau Lin, Shi Xiang Lin, Shu Qing Wang); Art Against Displacement (Francisca Benitez); Chinatown and Lower East Side Artists Against Displacement (Francisca Benitez); Chinese Staff and Workers Association (Samantha Ng, Zishun Ning); Lands End 2 Residents Association (Mercer Jabul, Tanya Negron); National Mobilization Against Sweatshops (Francisca Benitez, Steph Kranes, Briar Winters); Youth Against Displacement (Caitlin Kelmar, Steph Kranes, Zishun Ning).

Also present: Andrew Hiller (New York City Democratic Socialists of America); rob hollander (Lower East Side Residents for Responsible Development); Susan Yung (artist).

Meeting convened 6:45 pm, Briar Winters (NMASS) facilitating.

AGENDA

- Oct 17 EIS
- Human Scale event
- Meeting with Assemblyman Harvey Epstein
- Charter proposals on land use
- Fundraising
- Events and calendar
- Two Bridges outreach to small business
- Earth Wants You radio show/Call-in to Brian Lehrer/Paul diRienzo
- LESON on the flyer
- Announcements

Agenda approved with no objections.

MINUTES approved with amendment (the Long Island City Coalition update was from Jihye).

HEARING EIS

Caitlin Kelmar (YAD): Who can go and say what?

Francisca Benitez (AAD, CLAAD, NMASS): There is a link for comments to the DCP.

Caitlin: Has been sent out to groups.

Fran: As we did at CB3. 3 minutes each to speak.

Zishun Ning (CSWA): 120 Broadway at 10am.

Fran: Public was overwhelming against it.

Mercer Jabul (Lands End 2): Won't they record the public's dissent?

Zishun: But regardless will approve.

Caitlin: Protest day before to galvanize or the day of?

Fran: Before going in 9-10am. Then go in.

Zishun: Use it to mobilize. Rally? Press conference?

Vincent Cau (83-85 Bowery TA): The hearing time & place is difficult.

Caitlin: Press conference on Monday before. Held at 4pm, it will be on the 5pm news.

rob holland (LESRRD): Sunday is a low news day.

Tanya Negron (Lands End 2): Sunday 2 or 3 out of church. Residents are tired. If the message is the future of their children it will resonate. Visual of so-called affordability is not affordable. Scare them, wake them up. Your children will not be able to afford a public education. Bring in the moms and grandmas.

Caitlin Sunday the 14th 3:30 to mobilize.

Briar: At the Human Scale event on the 13th noon we can raise the issue. Rally the day of?

Caitlin: 9:30am.

Zishun: Press conference just for the press. Not a rally.

Steph Kranes (NMASS, YAD): Set for 9, rally at 9:30.

Fran: Need more written comments. At the CB there were only 15 written comments.

Briar: Who will say what?

Zishun: LESON will organize talking points.

Tanya: The more who testify the more impact.

Caitlin: We don't need to subdivide.

Briar: I will speak for CWG.

Tanya: Flyer with "I support CWG."

Caitlin: I can print it out.

Vincent: Press release?

Caitlin: I can write a press release.

Tanya: GOLES and CAAV are holding a town hall. We need to be present. Oct. 3. 6:30
286 South Street.

Briar will go. Mercer too and maybe rob.

HUMAN SCALE

Briar: We are a sponsor. Who will represent us?

Zishun: I can.

Caitlin: Re the hearing: sneak in a colored paper to the hearing: "No illegal towers."

Bring flyers to Human Scale.

HARVEY EPSTEIN

Oct 15. Monday. 2pm. 250 bway.

Steph: Get support for the LESON strategy.

Caitlin: Discuss the Clean Water act. Ask him for strategic advice.

Zishun: On the sewage issue, Cathy Nolan's sewage moratorium. Call the mayor or city agencies.

CITY CHARTER PROPOSALS

Brair: Find out about comment time? Rob will propose a draft.

SMALL BUSINESS OUTREACH AND TWO BRIDGES OUTREACH

Steph: We spoke to about 30 businesses in the area. English, Spanish and Chinese. Some successes and failings. They said towers are inevitable. We said illegal so not inevitable. We will go to court if the city approves the towers. They were shocked by the height, 100 stories. Some said they are willing to post flyers. Others want to do more. Three willing to speak at the hearing. Lorry Travers early supporter of LESON. Clandestino. LES Pizza, but might be busy. Wanted to talk about Chin. Beverly's on Essex. Very against towers. Developers talked to them. They want them to support them. They said no way. They want to work with LESON. They want as many petitions as possible. They took petitions and posted. And will testify and speak to friends. They are friends of AAD. We will ask them for more. I'll share the list of businesses and info. We'll cover Rutgers, Madison, Jefferson and East Broadway.

Vincent: We can talk to them again.

Steph: Eventually outreach to the enthusiastic and meet together and see if they can develop their platform. Oct. 7 we'll meet as a group at NMASS and go out as a group to speak strategy to the businesses. 1pm.

FUNDRAISING

Steph: Tanya said a lawyer cited a \$15,000 retainer fee.

Caitlin: This is a LESON issue.

Zishun: LIC coalition is connected with lawyers. AALDEF is interested in the lawsuit.

Briar: Beverly's might help fundraise?

Caitlin: They might have connections in the neighborhood.

EVENTS AND CALENDAR

Briar: I put up a calendar. Reverend Billy podcast, next Tuesday morning 9th. Fran and Briar will go. Outreach to Paul di Rienzo.

Susan: I'll schedule with him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andrew Hiller (DSA): We are trying to expand the rent laws. November 15 March against RSA from the Bowling Green Bull to Williams Street.

Meeting adjourned, 8:08pm

Respectfully submitted

rob hollander CWG Sec'y