

**Affordability Working Team
Chinatown Working Group
March 12, 2009**

Meeting Minutes

Location: 49 Chambers Street, Room 709

Time: 3:00pm to 4:30pm

In Attendance: Mae Lee (Chinese Progressive Association); Brian Cho (Asian Americans for Equality); Rob Hollander (Lower East Side Residents for Responsible Development); Elise Brown (MFY Legal Services); Richard Lee (Asian Americans for Equality)

Elected Officials/Representatives in Attendance: Sandra Ung (NYC Comptroller)

Media: Jacky Wong (Sing Tao Daily); Lotus Chan (Sing Tao Daily)

1. First Agenda Item – Acting Chair Richard Lee recapped from the last meeting, starting with several of the questions raised aimed at setting the working team's guiding principles. The following is a list of tentative guiding principles determined by those in attendance:

I. To determine and use an Area Median Income figure that truly represents the residents of the area to determine affordability of housing.

II. To preserve the existing affordable housing stock.

III. To protect the rights of tenants, particularly the vulnerable residents of rent regulated housing.

IV. To create equitable housing that will truly be affordable to those of our community.

V. To explore the possibility of an affordable home ownership program outreach program.

These guiding principles are tentative, and the group looks forward to more input from other organizations of the Chinatown Working Group.

2. Second Agenda Item – The group discussed proposing a virtual repository of information and reports that may be of particular use to the working group; examples like the NYU Furman Center report, found here: <http://furmancenter.org/research/sonychan/state-of-new-york-citys-housing-and-neighborhoods>

3. Third Agenda Item –The Affordability Working Team discussed a need for

stakeholders to participate in the discussions and working team meetings.
The next Affordability Working Team meeting will be held on April 9th, 11:00 AM-
12:30 PM at 49 Chambers Street, Room 709.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.