

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 9
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
MINUTES of April 03, 2023**

Committee Members:

*new member

Member	Present	Absent	Excused	Recorded Minutes
Co-Chair Hon. Daria Hardeman	X			
Co-Chair Hon. Jonathan Sinagub	X			X
Hon. Walter T. Alexander	X			
Juan Colmenares*	X			
Carlton Davis*	X			
Hon. Alex Hunter		X		
Hon. Tina Lumley	X			
Hon. Ilana Mercado			X	
Hon. Carolina Ramirez*		X		
Hon. Patricia Ramos*		X		

Attendees:

I. Call to Order @ 6:35 pm

II. Adopted Agenda

- Moved by: Hon. J. Sinagub, Seconded by: Hon. T. Lumley, unanimously approved

III. Adopted Minutes (@ next meeting)

IV. IV. Introductions

- Arts and Culture Committee members and attendees introduced themselves.
- Carly Wheeler, Stage Aurora NY - admin@stageaurora.org ,

V. Announcements

- Hon. Daria Hardeman - all electronic communication should be sent to the all 3 CB9 Arts & Culture contacts
 - i. DariaDaria@yahoo.com , Jonathan.Sinagub1@gmail.com , and CB9arts@yahoo.com

VI. Committee Reports

- **West Harlem Arts Alliance Update- <https://www.whaanyc.org> (WHAA) – Hon. Jonathan Sinagub (liaison) , Michael Unthank and Michael Palma**
 - Background-
 - Workshops, collaborating with local government and being an advocate and providing advice services for local artist and arts organizations
 - The goal is to put West Harlem on the cultural map to draw the attention of the city to redraw their maps to reflect the uptown arts in West Harlem
 - Currently WHAA is looking for an office location. Also they are seeking an office Manager. The job description will be distributed. They are speaking with Penelope from Columbia University regarding this matter.
- **Community Benefits Agreement Update – Hon. Daria Hardeman & Hon. Jonathan Sinagub**
 - Focusing on Section 8, Arts & Culture
 - The West Harlem Development Corporation was created to administer the funds, they do more than provide grants.
 - It is suggested that all members dive into the CBA to obtain an understanding and create questions. Some items are only available for 25 years.
 - There are different sections that are earmarked for funding such as in-kind benefits - local community organizations, technical assistance for artists and art organizations, living history projects and Harlem legacy projects
 - Feel free to contact Jonathan to add your questions to present them to the Strategic Planning Committee, Chaired by Hon. Victor Edwards chairs.

- **Aid for Artists (AFD) – Hon. Tina Lumley & Hon. Walter Alexander (Team Leaders)**
 - 3-4 email blasts sent out pertaining to grant opportunities in the arts field.
 - Those organizations present tonight please leave your contact info. So that we can add you to the email list.
 - Mentioned several opportunities which are still open:
 - Rep. Adriano Espaillat – Congressional Art Competition for High School Students – deadline 4/24.
 - JazzMobile at Aaron Davis Hall, CCNY – Jazz on Tap, Omar Edawrds – Friday, 4/14.
- **Hamilton Theater/RKO Taskforce - Hon. Dan Cohen, Chair of Taskforce & Hon. Ilana Mercado**
 - Hon. Walter Alexander will get in touch with Hon. Dan Cohen for an update

VII-Community Updates:

- **Martin Collins, Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NoMAA)**
 - Sign-up to receive NoMAA’s newsletter, become a member, calendar your own events & more on our website <https://www.nomaanyc.org/>

VIII-Presentations

- Gaidi Finnie, San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art, Email gaidi@sdaamfa.org , cell 619-253-8499 with Jay Van Buren, CEO, Membit Inc. (mobile app), jay@membit.co , 785-220-2344 (cell)
 - ‘Say Their Names’ Augmented Reality exhibition honoring the lives and memory of those lost to racial injustice last year in Central Park. Letter of Support from CB 10.
 - “Walk of Honor” proposed Harlem Augmented Reality experience, permanent, 1-2 min. clips; demonstrated the mobile app.; support from The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; aiming to launch fall/2023; seeking community suggestions for places to honor - which should include the many Murals in Harlem (Hon. Tina Lumley suggestion), Nicks Pub and Dakota Pippins, possible funding sources and locale partners, business support; possible sources mention – LinkNYC, CU CBA, WHDC, UMEZ;
 - Hon. Victor Edwards mentioned possibility of setting up a meeting with community representatives.
 - Hon. Daria Hardeman presented a “draft” Letter of Support (see attached) – unanimously accepted with appropriate edits.
- Jordan Carter, Harlem Stage, Education and Community Engagement Manager, jcarter@harlemstage.org
 - The Education Program seeks to augment cultural literacy, foster respect for ethnic and cultural diversity, cultivate young people to be future audiences, and engage families in the learning experience.
 - WHDC funded trips for seniors to go to productions.
 - Reaching out to make connections in the district: suggestions – Morningside Players, NYCHA Community Centers, Charter Schools, arts-based programs, potential partnering with Membit to create a augmented reality workshop.

IX. Old Business :

X. New Business:

- Hon. Daria Hardeman -announced that Voza Rivers, Harlem Arts Alliance, is seeking to launch a meeting with CB 9, 10, and 11 leaders to Launch an event to unify Harlem.
 - A collaboration with Jazzmobile with local artists staged on a flatbed truck – a moving stage.
- **Goals for 2022 -2023 – Daria Hardeman and Jonathan Sinagub**
 - Sharing institutional knowledge for example getting to know the by- laws and CBA especially since term limits were implemented.
- **Committee Secretary Appointment**
 - There is still a need for a secretary there were no volunteers therefore members volunteered to take minutes one member/one month

XI. Adjourn: at 8:08 pm. moved by Hon. Tina Lumley, seconded by Hon. Walter T. Alexander; unanimously adopted

Note: Next meeting will be held on Monday, May 1st, 2023, via zoom. Arts & Culture Committee meetings are held on the first Monday of each month

DRAFT Letter of Support

San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art 555 Saturn Blvd, Suite B#261
San Diego, CA 92154
Gaidi@sdaamfa.org

Re: Letter of Support for the Proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" Augmented Reality Exhibit - San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art

This letter is provided by the (Manhattan CB9) in support of the "Harlem Walk of Honor" Augmented Reality Exhibit being proposed by the San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art (SDAAMEA). The proposed exhibition is a tribute to the forerunners and contributors who have made Harlem New York known internationally for its rich Black culture. From the beginning of the great migration north sparking the Harlem Renaissance to the events of 21st century this will provide yet another opportunity to capture the greatness of Harlem.

SDAAMFA has used Augmented Reality (AR) technology, to bring the "Say Their Names" exhibit to New York in September of 2022. The exhibit is experienced entirely through an app downloaded onto the user's mobile device and does not involve a physical structure of any type. Since it is not a physical installation the normal elements of outdoor displays do not apply, and therefore should not require a permit. The viewing can occur anytime an individual is located at a specific site, with the ease of using their phone they have their phone with them to view it. It is important to note we believe this unique exhibit serves to complement the work of many organizations and institutions currently existing in Harlem.

We appreciate the suggestion by SDAAMFA that a "Harlem Walk of Honor" Selection Committee (committee) be formed which would include representatives from New York institutions that will assist the project. The selection committee would be tasked with selecting the initial honorees and the locations. Once the exhibit is evaluated relative to viewership, ease of use, locations etc. and any revisions made (if necessary) the committee would review recommendations for subsequent additions. The elements that integrate an educational component are exciting. We appreciate the opportunities for local students to learn about those luminaries who held to build Harlem for decades. It is with the knowledge provided in afore referenced programmatic detail that the Manhattan CB10 enthusiastically supports the proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" exhibit as proposed by SDAAMFA.