

Economic Development Committee

Manhattan Community Board Nine

Serving the West Harlem communities of Morningside, Manhattanville, Hamilton Heights and Sugar Hill

Savona Bailey-McClain, Committee Co-Chair; Nicole Monegro, Committee Co-Chair; Jane Arrendell; Arnold Boatner; Kimberly Cameron; Nikoa Evan-Hendricks; Carmen Morillo

Committee Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2011

The meeting was called to attention at 6:30 p.m. by Committee Co-Chairs Savona Bailey-McClain and Nicole Monegro.

Present: Savona Bailey-McClain, Nicole Monegro, Arnold Boatner

Absent: Jane Arrendell, Nikoa Evans-Hendricks, Carmen Morillo

Board Members: Javier Carcamo, Kimberly Cameron

Guests: Ali Davis, Government and Community Relations, NYC Economic Development Corporation; Nina Sander, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater; Acacia Squires, Columbia Journalism School; Venesa Alicea, Emerging NY Architects; Misael Rojas, Emerging NY Architects

Presentation:

125th Street Streetscaping

Ali Davis, Government and Community Outreach representative, NYC Economic Development Corporation introduced herself to committee and guests. The streetscaping for West 125th Street will begin in early 2012. The delay involved State and Federal approvals. Ms. Davis then shared information on the Seawolf vessel coming to the West Harlem Piers. The Seawolf is a decommissioned submarine that would be at the Piers from September 15th through 23rd. Barnard College will have their students visit the majority of their stay and the 20th of September, only 20 residents will be able to tour the vessel with reservations from the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Ms. Davis introduced the Committee to Ms. Nina Sanders of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. In an effort to attract boat operators, NYCEDC has reached out to educational vessels as an alternative to ferry boats who are hesitant to come to West Harlem. The Clearwater is scheduled to come on October 22nd during their fall Pumpkin Sail Festival. There will be free dockside activities but the public sail trip is from 6-8 p.m. and cost \$50 dollars.

ENYA

Board member Javier Carcamo and Ms. Venesa Alicea, members of ENYA/AIA (Emerging Young Architects of the American Institute of Architects) presented details of their upcoming Design Competition for the old 135th Street Marine Transfer Station. "Harlem Edge- Cultivating Connection" is ENYA's 6th design and idea competition. Past competitions included Roosevelt Island in 2006, South

Street Seaport in 2008 and the High Bridge (Bronx portion) in 2010. The launch party is scheduled for September 27th at the Center for Architecture. For each competition, the organization ENYA chooses a client. ENYA selected Nourishing NYC (Please note: Manhattan Community Board 9 has not endorsed Nourishing NYC as a prospective tenant in the old Marine Transfer Station).

Discussion Items:

The Committee Co-Chair shared the details of the federal Urban Jobs Act of 2011. The Office of US Senator Kirsten Gillenbrand was most helpful and shared information on the bill. Perhaps the Committee may want to support a Letter of Support.

The Committee Co-Chair reached out to Trees NY and the NY Horticultural Society for a possible training program. The Young Urban Forester Program is a FREE afterschool program for high school students. It offers an introduction to forestry as a career option. For our adult residents, we are hoping for a training program that would embrace green infrastructure (ie.. Green roofs, solar panels, window weatherization). A full presentation will be given in October.

NYC Department of Transportation has a fairly new program for the summer. "Pop-up" cafés could be created in our district and it could be in response to the concerns of boat operators that we don't have enough restaurants, cafés, retail or attractions.

It was shared and discussed that the Governor wants to create ten regional economic councils throughout NY State. For NYC, the five boroughs will comprise one district. To receive funding is competitive and based on proposals submitted by November. Additional persons were added to the NYC council including Ms. Sheena Wright and Mr. Kenneth Knuckles. No one from West Harlem was made a part of the council but the Committee Co-Chair has reached out to Ms. Wright to have our concerns included.

The Committee is supporting two local restaurants that were spotlighted for the NY Wine and Food Fest. Dinosaur Barbeque and Hudson River Café are participating in two events. The Committee will e-blast the community to show that boat operators and fellow neighbors that we can support each other and that we want amenities.

New Business

The Committee will review the mission and budget consultations in October.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.