

Manhattan Community Board 9
General Board Meeting
December 19, 2019

Meeting called to attention at 6:44pm.

Chair's Report

Moment of silence for Tessa Majors, Barnard student murdered in Morningside Park. Community board working with 26th Precinct and DA and monitoring investigation because past high profile cases have led to scapegoating. Suspects include teenage boys. Some inaccuracies in media sourced to police. One suspect apparently interviewed without representation. Important to search for truth, not blame or retribution. Need for mental health resources provided to serve youth in area, and take action to heal. MBPO published editorial calling out cuts to after-school and weekend youth development programs. Don't believe everything you read in fast-moving reporting.

New criminal justice reforms passed in Albany this year take effect January 1. Make sure neighbors and others in the community know that.

Overcrowding in schools is a major issue despite reports of under-enrollment from DOE. Thanks to YEL co-chairs and committee for ongoing work.

Applications to CB9, including renewal for members whose terms are expiring, are open and due in January.

Meeting called to order at 7pm. Agenda and minutes adopted unanimously.

District Manager's Report

Lease for new office space has been signed, expected move on September 2020. Next General Board Meeting will be held at the Forum at Columbia at 125th and Broadway.

WHDC Representative's Report, Pat Johnson

Read WHDC statement on tragedy of Tessa Majors. Holiday celebration and toy giveaway.

MPBO, April Adams

Twenty-three board members are up for renewal. Religious facilities task force to address challenges that they face. At 701 W 135th, old Cobo building, DOT took responsibility for fixing sidewalk slabs, expected to come in new year.

Public Session

A Barksdale and C Agarwal, PUMP Harlem

A Spring 2020 SAT test prep program held on Saturdays and Sundays beginning Jan 4, 2020. Last years students raised their scores by 100+ points

Students are mentored and tutored for the tests and they take mock exams
The program is at 3333 Bway. Please spread the word. Website: pumpinitiative.org.

M McCray: Film screening of Harlem to Killmanjaro

A documentary supported by WHDC

Product of a digital media training program

Showing sked for 1/12/20 at 3:00 at Roone Arledge Cinema Lerner Hall 2920 Bway [116 Street]

Further info at Harlemeyes.com

Admission free

Elected Officials

CM Levine, Keisha Smith

Discretionary funding applications open Jan 2 until Feb 19.

AM O'Donnell, Angela

Holiday greetings.

State Sen Jackson, Hope, Community Liaison

Commends today's Inwood rezoning lawsuit ruling in favor of residents.

Action Items

Broadway Housing letter of support, 29-0-0-0 (Y-N-A-P)

Jin Ramen liquor license application, 31-0-1-0.

Treasurer's Report

Deadline for proposals to use discretionary money is COB Jan 31, due to Treasurer, DM, and Chair. Money must be spent by end of June. Money from last year held in not-for-profit will be reported on in February, awaiting input from Georgette Morgan-Thomas.

Chair co-signed letter of support organized by elected officials requesting federal subsidies for ferry service between West Harlem Piers and New Jersey, with stipulation of no physical modification to piers. Thanks to Maritta Dunn for sharing history.

Board members made comments and questions about adding ferry service to downtown, Baylander's unexpectedly long stay at the piers and the funds they are paying to park there, and potential for added usage of and improvements to subway station at 125th / Broadway.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.