General Board Meeting Minutes

16-18 Old Broadway
New York, New York
September 19, 2013

There was not a quorum at the first roll call so we went to public speakers. Assemblyman D. Farrell spoke of the balancing of the budget. He spoke on the ramp at 153th street and Riverside Drive. He is trying to get Amtrak’s approval. Parks Department has a design. We need the support of Congressman Rangel and our new Mayor. The Congressman Albert’s representative gave a report on the President destroying Syria’s weapons. He spoke on the budget where cuts were being made to social programs. Also stated HPD must re-evaluate their budget and the Section 8 program. Stop and Frisk has no place here. Assemblyman Wrights’ representative, Kathleen gave out highlights of his newsletter. He wants more inclusion of women and minorities on construction. He opposes NYCHA’s plan for private developers on public land. A4874 was introduced. His office needs interns from the age of 15 and up to help. Dr. Gholson asked about the spruce up program in relation to the seniors. Ms. Rocker spoke on the 1.5 million to be distributed. She stated the Bronx, Queens, Staten Island and Brooklyn groups submitted proposals for this money and it is specifically slated for CB9. She has not heard from DEC regarding the funds, and no funds have been received. She asked the Assemblyman’s office to look into when the disbursement has not happened. The answer was that the money will be disbursed in the Fall. Chair: Those groups from other boroughs were showing info only. None of those groups are allowed to apply. Dr. Gholson asked do we have a projected date for the disbursement of the funds. Chair: A meeting is up coming on the approved grants. The Borough Presidents’ office gave a report on slow internet in terms of schools. Also, Shine a Light on Domestic Violence.

At 7:11 the roll was called and we have a quorum. The meeting was called to order. A motion to accept the agenda was moved and seconded. A motion to adopt the minutes, with corrections was also moved and seconded.

A presentation on the Streetscape project was given by Alejandro Baquero-Cifuentes and associates. NYC Economic Development Corporation was represented. BT questioned the signage issue.

Kofi Boateng, Executive Director of WHDC gave a report on the status of grants. Twenty nine of thirty one grants were approved totaling one million dollars. A grant ceremony will be held October 10, 2013. The second installments were awarded also. The WHDC participated in the Summer of Senior Service which CS participated in. It is the hope that this will be an on-going participation. WHDC participated in a stop the violence rally. They listened to gang members who spoke on need for education and jobs. There will be a retreat for Board members in November.
Our newest Councilman Mark Levine addressed the Board. He spoke on the new district lines which encompass all of CB 9 to 96th street. He also addressed the Morningside safety measure proposed.

The Chairs report was enclosed in the package. It included an update from the broker that the City approved the plan for the new Board office, located at 133rd street and Broadway. The Harlem Piers vessel event was a success and the Chair urged participation in the restaurant/boating initiative.

The Treasurers report was included in the package. Inez Dickens allocated 10k for this fiscal year to Board 9 projects. Committee Chairs should submit proposals to Eutha Prince for consideration

The District Managers report was included in the package. It mentioned the City of Water Day held at Harlem Piers and saluted the Arts and Cultures Committee for its participation. Budget consideration starts on October 7.

The Chair reported that 125th street has a Merchant Alliance. She urged the Economic Development Committee to cooperate with them. The Holiday lighting on 125th street will begin November 21.

Public Session:

Keyna Lee from Youth rap Justice Community/Justice Scholars. Grant Money for Children of incarcerated person.

Martha Wallace support for Safer living Neighborhood Association spoke on the need for safety around the Morningside Avenue.

Brad Taylor spoke on the Common Ground Festival an event to be held Saturday, September 22, 2013.

Theresa spoke on an Open House September 26, 2013; organize private middle school. Middle Passage School for life.

Alicia Barksdale spoke on the 18 year old's suicide and Mitchell Llama downsizing.

David Vassar Morningside Ave. Safety spoke on the traffic crossing at 123rd st, moving too fast, no safety island, dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists

Sylvia Hooper FDA Foundation Youth Forum, September 27th 7-9PM at the Harlem State Office Building Art Gallery on Foster parents challenges and the Foster Care System.

Detta Ahl Safety Improvements on Morningside Ave. Painted curb extensions 125th st. and Hancock Triangle
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Ann Rocker  NYSER meeting on October 1 5:30PM at 626 River View Terrace. Riverbank has been in existence for 20 years.

Melissa Hager came to present the signatures for Gracie Gold Way,

Victoria Mason-Alley Updated Columbia bus shuttle information and a GED program. The Newsletter contains much information that will be useful to community residents.

DR. Gholson complemented Mrs. Mason-Alley on the commitment of her agency.

Juan for Councilman Jackson’s office spoke on land marking, street co-naming in October James Wayne 150th st and Mildred Soto 152nd and Broadway and Willie Mays 155th and St. Nicholas Place also, Pat Jones Way.

Resolutions: Morningside Avenue Plan

Table  17 Yes

16 No

Grace Gold Co-naming

26 Yes

4 No

3 Abstain

118th Street Riverside Drive Bus Stop

Tabled

Harlem Boys & Girls Club

30 Yes

2 Abstain

Respectfully Submitted

Carole L. Singleton