Date 10-8-14

Meeting called to order at 6:41PM

Minutes and Agenda Adopted at 6:44PM

Attendees
Board members: Padmore John, Monica Dula, Catharine Abate, Feruze Zeko, LaQuita Henry, Excused: Jane Arendell
General Public: Prestohn Stahly, John DeCarvalho (Children’s Health Fund), Dennis Johnson (Children’s Health Fund), Vaughn Jackson (Fortune Society)

- Paul Simon and Irwin Redlener, MD founded Children's Health Fund in 1987 after touring the Martinique Hotel, a shelter for homeless families in New York City, and witnessing the conditions under which homeless children lived. The New York Children's Health Project launched with one "big blue bus," a state-of-the-art mobile medical clinic that would bring care directly to those children with the least access. Since that time the organization has grown to 23 programs and 2 affiliates in 18 states and the District of Columbia. The presenters specifically focused on CHF’s Healthy and Ready to Learn (HRL) program which places 2-full time HRL team members in each school site that they are partnering. Currently this is PS. 36. The site members consist of a School Health Coordinator and a Clinical Social Worker. They will keep us updated as they progress, with a 6 month then a year report of what have been accomplished and what other goals that they are looking to achieve. They have also requested that CB9 provide support as required, to ensure that their program message is spread as well as to encourage partnerships from community organizations. The Health Committee supported the program and indicated that we will provide as much assistance as we can.

- Catharine Abate and Feruze Zekop gave an update on the NRCERB meeting on Tuesday 10/7/14. Mario Bruno is the new Assistant Commissioner for Intergovernmental Affairs at DEP. There remains some issue as to the level of information the DEP is providing, and the commitment that they are providing to the services addressing our issues. We have a bit more commitment from DEP for personnel attending the meetings including NRCERB. Reports are also available online of data they are collecting. There still remain inconsistencies in the reports that DEP is posting of the data that it is collection. No deadline for Air Quality monitoring program.

- Guy Mitchell from the Attorney General’s office of NY is interested in getting further information addressing the reporting that is currently being conducted at RSP. A request has been sent out to facilitate an informational between the AG’s office and educated CB 9 public members who have been involved in addressing the Air Quality Monitoring Issues.
• A request had been made to determine whether City College can conduct comparisons of air quality monitoring. A letter from Councilman Levine’s office indicated that this will not be conducted as the information being collected by City College’s air monitoring is different from the one being conducted by the Berger Group. We are awaiting news of the ability of Columbia University Environmental program through the community benefit agreement to undertake this task.

• gave an update on the mosquito issue at the Riverbank State Park and the surrounding area. We currently have a letter from the Borough President’s office that have been forwarded to the NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection, Dept. of Mental Health and mental Hygiene, as well as other concerned agencies and elected officials including Councilman Mark Levine’s. RSP has indicated that they are currently working towards levelling and filling in the pot holes with gravel. The issue remains that RSP has the gravel to fill in the holes, but not the equipment. NYC EPA has the equipment, but the 2 agencies are unable to coordinate a cooperative effort to fill in the holes.

• Larvicide continue to be laid down at various place where water is stagnant on DEP grounds at RSB. Currently some of the potholes have been filled in via a temporary measure. It is expected that the potholes won’t be completely filled in until sometime next year.

• The Health Committee is reaching out to various organizations within the community to present on wprk they are doing in CB 9 that is health and environmentally related. Please contact Feruze Zeko of the health committee if you would like to hear a particular presenter. The upcoming presenter is Ms. Rita Green of the Central Harlem Alcohol Crisis Center is next month’s speaker.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17