

CB9M Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Location: Broadway Housing - 583 Riverside Drive, 7th Floor

Attendance:

Committee Members Present:

Brad W. Taylor (Chair)

Savona Bailey McClain

LaQuita Henry

Public Members Present:

Jen Silverman

Members Excused:

Carole Singleton

Guests:

John Herrold & Margaret Bracken, NYCDPR

Alejandro Baquero, NYCEDC

Michael Palma, Montefiore Park Neighborhood Association

Basia Nikonorow, Montefiore Park Neighborhood Association

Jannie Green, Friends of Morningside Park

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to attention at 6:40pm and called to order at 6:35pm with a quorum in attendance.
2. **Adopt Agenda:** The agenda was adopted unanimously on a motion by S. McClain. seconded by L. Henry.
3. **Adopt Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meeting were not available
4. **Presentations:**
 - *NYCEDC - Update on concession for excursion boats at the West Harlem Piers Park.* Unfortunately NY Water Taxi citing economics has indicated that they will not be able to provide service at the Piers this season. The Committee expressed their real disappointment with this decision, noting that this means that these piers will be without excursion service for the whole season and the negative impact this will have on the economic development which is being undertaken along our waterfront.
 - *NYCDPR - Rebuilding the Stairs to St. Clair Place.* NYCDPR presented their plans to rebuild the historic step ramp connecting St. Clair Place with the upper level of Riverside Park. This project has been a priority of CB9 and is funded through a discretionary allocation by Council Member Inez Dickens. The Committee expressed their thanks to the Council Member and DPR for moving this project forward. The Committee voted unanimously to offer a letter of support for the project noting our concerns about traffic conditions at the foot of the ramp where pedestrians will be crossing in front of traffic exiting the northbound highway. and asking that DPR work with DOT to provide traffic calming measures at this intersection.
 - *NYCDPR - Summer Programming at the West Harlem Piers Park.* Riverside Park Fund and DPR will be sponsoring a number of activities and events in the park this Summer.
 - *Montefiore Park Neighborhood Association.* The association is proposing a number of projects in and around the park in the near future including a mural on an adjacent retaining wall, a Play Street on Hamilton Place bordering the park and is collaborating with the West Harlem Art Fund on a project to display art in local businesses that helps promote the farmers market. Given that the Play Street will be on the weekend and thus not interfere with the farmers market, the Committee supports the idea of a Play Street and asks the association to take this to the other relevant CB9 Committees.
5. **Action Items:**
 - *Reso re: DPR Policy on Barbecue Areas in Morningside Park.* The Committee heard from Jannie Green regarding a potential change to one of the barbecue areas in the park. The Committee voted unanimously for the resolution calling on DPR to maintain this area as is.
6. **Old Business:** none
7. **New Business:** none
8. **Adjourn:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm on a motion by B. Taylor seconded by L. Henry

Respectfully submitted by Brad Taylor