

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 19, 2017
583 Riverside Drive

Attending Committee Members:

Victor Edwards – Chair,
Harriet Rosebud, (Arts/Culture) Signe Mortensen (HLUZ)

Guest:

Luke Bailey

Meeting was called to attention at 6:45 p.m. due to a lack of a quorum.
A quorum did not exist therefore the minutes or agenda could not be accepted.

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the committee members and the guest. This was followed by an explanation of the purpose of the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) for the guest.

Discussion:

West Harlem Development Corporation

Guest Luke Bailey posed 2 questions concerning the WHDC. What representation does CB9 have on the WHDC and what monitoring mechanism is in place to monitor the CBA and the WHDC ? The Chair explained that there are 2 positions for representation on the WHDC from CB9:

1. Anthony Fletcher
2. Vacant (The second representative is to be appointed shortly by the Chair of CB9.)

The Chair then explained that the Strategic Planning committee has attempted to monitor the CBA agreement over the past 2 years but the WHDC doesn't have a dedicated staff person for this task. Member Harriet Rosebud and Signe Mortensen both acknowledged that a full time WHDC position to handle this task would be more beneficial. Member Rosebud stated that many of the WHDC Grantees are organizations outside of our community and there it is impossible to determine if CB9 residents are being served. The Chair stated that each committee Chair should review the WHDC Grantee list and invite the Grantees to their committee meetings, something stated he would be discussing at the next Executive Board meeting.

Promoting CB9

How can we raise awareness about CB9 and the role board plays in the community? An outreach effort could include the following:

- Reaching out to the large housing developments in the area:
 - NYCHA
 - 3333 Broadway
 - Morningside Gardens
- Hold Board and Committee meetings outside of the established locations to make them more accessible to varying neighborhoods with the district.
- Visiting and connecting with local schools, churches , senior centers and other community organization

Food Pantry

Guest Luke Bailey asked whether any thought had been given to organizing a food pantry through CB9. He stated that with the increasing number of restaurants in the area, there must be food that is going to waste each day. The Chair stated that CB9 was not currently involved in such an effort but that it is something that the Board could examine.

Recidivism

The Chair introduced the next topic on the agenda which was the issue of incarcerated residents returning to the community. He continued by stating that the zip code 10027 has the large number of inmates in the NY State prisons and this might be an issue for the committee to examine. The committee members noted several areas that can be difficult for recently released individuals to navigate: Housing/ Employment/ Health Care and Education to name a few. The Chair noted that this is an area that affects many of our community residents either directly or indirectly. The Chair stated that both Columbia University and Mount Sinai hospital have programs addressing this topic. Guest Bailey stated that he could connect the Board with someone who was currently involved with this issue.

NYCHA Forum

Member Mortensen reminded the committee of the upcoming NYCHA forum being held on 10.14.17 in conjunction with CB7. Flyers describing the forum were distributed and Signe explained the tentative format for the event and asked for possible volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.,
Next SPC meeting to be held on November 21, 2017

Respectfully Submitted
V. Edwards