

COMMUNITY BOARD 9 – MANHATTAN

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 2020

Attendees:

Thomas Ryder – Osborne Organization

Taylonn Murphy - TCMF

Ely Silvestre – Manhattan District Attorney Office

Derrick Haynes - TCMF

Jonathan Thomas – CB9
University

Barbara Catalano – Columbia

Brianna Struckley - M.A.D

Anjali Verna – M.A.D

The Strategic Planning meeting of October 2020 was called to attention by Chair V. Edwards at 6:45 p.m. The Chair thanked and welcomed all Board members and guest for attending the meeting. This was followed by introduction of attendees.

West Harlem Restoration Re-Entry Program

The first item on the agenda was the West Harlem Restoration Re-entry Program (WHRRP). Tom Ryder of the Osborne Organization provided background on the program and an update on recent activities including the Street Fairs on September 10 and September 12. Mr. Ryder explained that these were community outreach events for residents to become more familiar with the program and to provide back to school supplies, home cleaning supplies as well as PPE to attending residents.

It was further explained that WHRRP had made contact with 28 formerly incarcerated area returning residents and an additional 8 residents within correction facilities. Mr. Ryder also described what services were being provided from assistance with housing to job readiness and mental health services.

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Mobilization of the Diaspora (MAD)

MAD is a Columbia/Barnard University student/alumni led coalition demanding changes at both institutions. Anjali Verna spoke on behalf of the MAD group to provide an update. Anjali informed the committee that the University had considered some the demands that were presented to President Bollinger. The MAD group also wanted a community member to attend their meeting to which the University has thus far strongly resisted. Anjali also stated that the group wanted press the University to consider the demands that had been made around community issues, including housing, employment and health concerns.

Gun Buy Back Program

The Chair announced that a Gun Buy Back program would be held on October 17 at the Gospel Assembly church in East Harlem. Flyers for this event would be posted on the CB9 website, distributed to both Manhattanville/Grant Houses management offices and distributed by TCMF group. It was also noted that a request had been submitted to the D.A.'s office to hold a second Gun Buy Back event in West Harlem.

Get Out the Vote

The meeting concluded with a discussion on various ways to “get out the vote”, specifically focused around the younger voter in the District.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.