

Manhattan Community Board 9 – Youth, Education and Libraries Committee
September 14, 2011 Meeting

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER- Wednesday September 14, 2011 at 6:35pm
2. ATTENDANCE - **Committee Members:** Carmen Morillo, Yvonne Stennett, Fathima Torres, Kyle Doyle, Winston Majette (co-chair), Judith Insell, and Joe Rogers, Jr. (co-chair). **Public:** Paolo Lorenzana (The Uptowner), and Jen Silverman.
3. ADGENDA APPROVAL – Approved.
4. MINUTES APPROVAL – No minutes.
5. PRESENTATIONS - No presentations.
6. REPORTS
 - Committee Roster Changes
 - Joe Rogers, Jr. is the new co-chair with Winston Majette.
 - Carmen Morillo and Judith Insell have not been reappointed to the committee. Both will petition for reinstatement.
 - 9/08/11 Executive Committee Meeting
 - Chair Rev. Morgan-Thomas may revise committee chair appointments. All changes regarding committee structure, including proposed committee mergers, must be voted on and approved by the Executive Committee.
 - Inez Dickens has given CB9 \$11K for community outreach and participation initiatives. Committees are encouraged to submit proposals to the CB9 office. Chair Rev. Morgan-Thomas will make the final decisions on protocol for distributing and allocating the funds. More details will follow at the General Board Meeting.
 - Chair Rev. Morgan-Thomas advised committee chairs to focus on the work of the board and to put aside personal issues, urging for an end to “backroom discussions.” We need to increase transparency. The Chair asked for our definition of transparency and suggestions on how to make our practices more transparent.
 - 8/29 Walkthrough Teachers College Community School (Temporary Site)
 - Kindergarten classrooms were fully equipped and had identical set-ups.
 - Participating YEL Committee members were briefed on the various afterschool activities, including robotics, critical thinking, and martial arts.
 - Parents and others seemed pleased with TCCS’s presentation.
 - More recently, a TCCS parent who attended the walkthrough told Judith that the classrooms appear to be segregated, either 100% white students or 100% minority students. Also, the parent was unaware of CB9’s involvement and the Board’s relationship with TCCS.
 - CB9’s School Leadership Team (SLT) appointee will observe classroom demographics and report back to the committee.
 - Joe will follow-up with the principal of TCCS to ensure a letter about the involvement and role of CB9 is sent out to all the parents along with an invitation to the committee meetings.
 - The SLT representative will create an email account where parents can email their concerns and questions about TCCS and/or CB9’s involvement.

- TCCS DOE application has not been filed with CB9 or the LDC, in spite of several written and verbal request by the committee.
 - Carmen will look for the application through online public records.
 - If the application is not found online, the committee will make another request in writing.
- School District 6 - Community Education Council
 - Fathima Torres, CEC 6 member, will circulate the School Performance Report.
 - The statistics in the report are questionable and may be misleading (e.g., some schools show improvements in student performance, which may relate to an influx of higher-performing students, not necessarily to improvements in performance).
 - CEC has a new structure whereby members are split into committees, including parent involvement, ESL, training, class size, and data.
 - Due to a scheduling conflict with CEC and the general board meetings, Fathima will temporarily resign from the Board but will participate as a public member of the YEL Committee.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Harlem School of the Arts is currently accepting online applications for its free arts program.
- DONAR's office is reopening after a summer-long renovation.
- The youth and gang/gun violence mural on 159th and Amsterdam Ave. has been completed.
- The registration period for the Community Impact GED program ended on 9/1/11.
- Grand opening of the Hamilton Grange Library Teen Center is on 10/25/11.
- NY Urban League is hosting its annual football game/scholarship fundraiser on 9/24/11.
- Harlem Hospital H.A.P.P.I. program is hosting college tours for 11th and 12th graders and is currently accepting applications.
- Harlem Chamber Players concert on 9/18/11 at Saint Mary's Church.
- Hamilton Grange reopening on 9/17/11.
- UN World Health event held at 163rd and Broadway on 9/16/11 at 12 p.m.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- Teachers College Community School – SLT Representative Selection
- 12/03 Youth Resources Expo

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 2011-12 YEL Committee Work Plan
- Response to Youth Violence at General Grant Housing and Throughout Community
- New Inez Dickens Grant (\$11,700) for Community Outreach – YEL Priorities
- P.S. 153/Hamilton Heights Academy – Response to Vandalism
- 10/25 Hamilton Grange Library – Teen Center Grand Opening – CB9 Role?
- Committee Presentation for 9/16/11 CB9 General Board Meeting

10. Adjourned - Wednesday September 14, 2011 at 10:36pm