



Newsletter

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE, MR. BARRY WEINBERG

There has been numerous complaints about increased crime due to lack of lighting in certain parts in our district especially in the parks which led to an increase of robberies, assaults, death, etc. in our community. Manhattan Community Board No. 9 (MCB9) for several years has been advocating for additional lighting, cameras and Parks Enforcement resource in Morningside, St. Nicholas and Riverside Parks. The board is committed to obtain funding to increase youth programs; extra lighting in our parks and enforcement to ensure peace and safety in our community.

Effective January 1st, 2020, the new criminal justice reforms will change how the criminal justice operates, specifically the cash bail will end for all misdemeanors and most non violent felonies. Many of the reforms are long overdue and will result in far lower cost both in term of public funds spent to house people in jail who have not yet convicted of a crime and far lower costs in the disruption of people's lives if they are detained due to lack of bail money. <https://www.westchesterda.net/media-center/in-the-news/6306-justice-reform-and-new-laws-explained>

Council Member Mark Levine has introduced Intro 1783-2019 bill to amend the Local Law 64 which requires landlords with affordable housing properties receiving City subsidies to register their units on an online portal for a lottery or else face substantial fines. The original bill included the Housing development Fund Corporations (HDFCs), which are private owner-occupied units that do not have the resources to list their units in a portal and respond to thousands of applications. The HDFCs would have faced devastating fines under the bill, the exemption in the new amendment is the only sensible course of action.

MCB9 in partnership with Columbia University and West Harlem Development Corporation held a Census Recruitment Day in Harlem, and over 20 people attended. The Census is still hiring and their goal is to have 10,000 to 15,000 people. For more information visit www.2020census.gov/jobs Please be advised that the application to become a board member is open, please visit the Manhattan Borough President website at <https://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov/applications-for-manhattan-community-board-membership-now-open/> I encourage residents to be involved and informed about social and political events in the community. Welcome Back !!!

Discover Seneca Village

Seneca Village was a predominantly Africa-American community founded in 1825 that existed in Manhattan before the City of New York built Central Park. It was located on about 5 acres (2.0 ha) near the Upper West Side neighborhood, approximately bounded by 82nd and 89th Streets. The village consist of 264 residents, fifty-two houses, three churches, a school, two cemeteries, numerous gardens, and several barns and stables.

Most of the residents owned their homes, making Seneca Village the largest community of African-American property owners at the time. Through eminent domain in 1857, residents were forced to leave to prepare for the creation of Central Park. To learn more about the history of the village, please visit www.centralparknyc.org/senecavillage or visit www.centralparknyc.org/tours

*"Peace begins with
Tolerance and Respect for
everyone" - Unknown*

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West Harlem Grant Making Program

West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC) is a recipient of funds contributed and to be contributed by Columbia University (CU) under a 2009 Community Benefits Agreement (CBA). The CBA contains several categories of commitments from CU. One of these is a Benefits Fund of 76 million payable in partial payments over 16 years that began in 2009.

The grant-making program aims to support activities that benefit West Harlem by using funds pursuant to the Community Benefit Agreement (CBA). The Strategy is to address the needs of West Harlem community through projects in collaboration with non-profit organizations and institutions. The organizations and institutions should meet specified or negotiated measurable goals within the WHDC vision in order to receive funds. The funded projects must be located in, or provide services to Manhattan Community District 9 (MCD9) in West Harlem from 110th Street to 155th Street South to North, and Manhattan, Morningside, St Nicholas, Bradhurst, and Edgecombe Avenues, East to West to the Hudson River.

In 2015 WHDC Board prioritized, supported and funded the following categories: Affordable Housing, Education, and Workforce and Economic Development to rectify the prevalent issues of public school failures, rising unemployment and limited skills, and the increasing housing costs and homelessness. WHDC's Board decided to shift from a two funding cycles per year to one cycle Community Benefits Grant Awards.

The application process is open to all non-profit organization incorporated in the state of New York, USA. If not incorporated in the state, the applicant organization must provide a certificate to do business in New York. The organization must be physically located and providing services in MCD9. If not located in MCD9 but be able to demonstrate the provision of services MCD9 over or at least a year (12 months). All organizations must have a non-profit, tax-exempt status recognized by the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

For more information about the Grant Making Program, application criteria and grant application process visit : <https://westharlemdc.org/grants/> or email to nfo@westharlemdc.org

Filming Production Companies in District 9

The Manhattan Community Board No. 9 (MCB9) has received numerous complaints about the film production companies filming in the district. The CB9M Task Force of Film and Television worked diligently and investigated the issues affecting the residents. The Task Force found out that the production companies occupy large spaces in the area, taking up parking spaces, and blocking access to schools. This has been going on for several months now and has severely impacted the residents and businesses in the community. It has caused stress, and disturbances to the daily lives of residents, patrons, and businesses in the area. The stress and turmoil are evident when there is dense scheduling of productions in the same adjacent area. In so doing this subjected a variety of issues to the residents by film crews such as:

Failure to comply with rules and regulations dictated by the Mayor's Office of Film and Television

Occupying of spaces not designated by valid permits and invalid permits

Invalid permits and filming outside of permitted times

Parking in curb cuts, large trailers parked on narrow streets near schools, blocking the site line for safely crossing streets, especially for children

Noise pollution in school zones, while productions shoot and place craft services table on the same blocks as schools

Placing of high flammable substances such as fuel tank trucks near playgrounds, schools and residential blocks.

Due to the above complaints and concerns from the community, the Manhattan Community Board No. 9 Executive Committee acting on behalf of the Full Board passed a Moratorium unanimously to Commissioner Anne del Castillo, NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment stated "Manhattan Community Board 9 is writing this letter to request that a six month moratorium be imposed on filming in the area East of Amsterdam and North of 135th Street, specifically encapsulating 135th and Convent Avenue, 140th to 142nd Edgecombe Avenue, 150th to 155th Street Nicholas Avenue, 140th to 146th Convent Avenue, 140th and 146th Amsterdam Avenue, including the streets between these avenues, and the entire extent of Hamilton Terrace.

The Manhattan Community Board 9 Task Force on Film and Television continues to work diligently on this issue and would like to meet with Commissioner del Castillo to put a process that ensures that no area in the city receives the oversaturation and that the community and film crews can mutually benefit and work together in harmony.



The “Trash to Treasure” MTS

The Marine Transfer Station of the New York City Department of Sanitation (MTS) has been closed for decades and has become an eyesore in West Harlem. MTS is located at West 135th Street and the Hudson River and was the only 24 hour waste transfer station in the five boroughs of New York City. It attracted more trucks and garbage than any other such facility in the City. Throughout the years Manhattan Community Board No. 9, elected officials, grassroots organizations, and community members urged the city to take action on redeveloping the site. The community had several town hall meetings and their vision and recommendation for redevelopment of the site was economic development, water-related, food security, sustainability, and environmental opportunities.

The redevelopment of MTS will be a great opportunity to develop a multi-use facility that demonstrates a model of community-based planning that benefits the community and enhances recreation at the Hudson River for all New Yorkers. Through all envisioning town hall meetings the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY), the Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) have all failed to make any progress in restoring the pilings that support the MTS and its access ramp and have refused to allocate funding for such a project.

The MTP Investment Group presented a proposal to Manhattan Community Board 9 for redevelopment of MTS with private funding to include educational facilities, restaurants, and waterfront access. The proposal is in line with the purposes related to those outlined in the final report of the community visioning process. For that reason, MCB9 is requesting DSNY, NYCEDC, and DCAS to conduct Request For Proposals (RFP) process that would allow interested parties to propose plans to redevelop the marine transfer station into a community resource according to the *Guidelines MTS Development and Community Proposal* stated in the “Trash to Treasure” report briefing the results of the community visioning process.



Taylon Murphy / Derrick Haynes - Credible Messengers
When shots rang out in the Grant Houses hallway on September 11, 2011, killing an innocent young girl, it took more than the life of a promising young basketball star it took the beloved daughter of a determined father

Those shots forever changed the lives of several families and also began a father's journey to keep the memory of his daughter alive and to save other youth and families from experiencing a similar tragedy

Due to trouble sleeping and spending hours at night making a list of the problems that he saw in the community such as violence, poverty, and Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder (PTSD), Taylon Murphy established the Tayshana “Chicken” Murphy Foundation. With the help of family and friends, the foundation created the Ball N Peace Showcase, an annual basketball tournament in honor of her daughter. The Ball N Peace tournament attracted more than 200 inner-city children to compete on the same courts where Tayshana once learned the game of basketball. The Tayshana “Chicken” Murphy Foundation collaborated and partnered with WNBA’s New York Liberty and the Michael Jordan Tri-State All-Star Classic to host the tournament’s all-star game in Harlem.

Taylon Murphy continues to provide youth support programs and collaborates with other organizations with similar goals to serve young people in several communities. He met Derrick Haynes, a Harlem activists, high-school basketball coach and a juvenile counselor who is involved and well-known in Manhattanville. In 1972 Derrick Haynes’ brother, Eli Haynes, Jr. was killed at the Grant Houses Development due to gun violence. Haynes developed, provided and demonstrated behavior modification techniques, and initiatives for violent juvenile offenders while maintaining custody, care, and companionship within a secured, and structured environment. Through a partnership, both Murphy and Haynes worked tirelessly in defusing tension and gun violence, between Grant and Manhattanville Housing Developments youths by providing youth programs in Manhattanville.

Both Taylon and Derrick approached Manhattan Community Board No. 9 and requested assistances with youth programs in the areas and to utilize the office space to hold meetings. In October the Tayshana Chicken Murphy Foundation was selected for the *West Harlem Community Restoration and Reentry Project*. This program is coordinated through the Manhattan District Attorney's office, is a direct result of the large scale arrest made in 2014 at Manhattanville / Grant Houses and the surrounding area. The Tayshana “Chicken” Murphy foundation along with the Osborne Association and the Central /West Harlem Youth Opportunity Hub will provide the following services and more to the community including:

transitional services to residents returning home from the 2014 arrest, address trauma and promote long-term healing among residents, and sustain the reduction of violence in the community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Community Board 2020 Application to become a community board member is open and available online at manhattanbp.nyc.gov. The application must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. January 21, 2020. For more information call the Manhattan Borough President's Office at (212) 669-8300
- U.S. Congress Member Adriano Espaillat presents State of The District on Thursday, January 30th, 2020 at the George Washington High School Auditorium, 549 Audubon Avenue from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Rsvp is required at RSVPEspaillat@mail.house.gov or by phone at (212) 497-5959
- Assembly Member Al Taylor presents a series of workshops on Criminal Justice Reform on January 25th, February 22nd, March 1st, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 P.m. at St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 43 Macombs Place. For more information call (212) 234-1430
- The Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance presents a "Call For Submissions" for West Harlem, Washington Heights and Inwood Artists. The deadline is on February 24t, 2020. For more information visit art-stroll.com
- Manhattan Legal Services offers a Free Housing-Related Legal Services for residents of Community Board 9 on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 5:p.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

Street Storage: When parking is not otherwise restricted, no person shall park any vehicle in any area, including a residential area, in excess of seven (7) consecutive days.

Call 811 before you dig: Ever wonder what the different color markings on the ground mean? Wonder no more and keep information below for easy reference

White - Proposed Excavation

Pink -Temporary Survey Markings

Red -Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit & Lighting Cables

Yellow -Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum & Gaseous Material

Orange -Communications, Alarm, Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit

Blue -Potable Water

Purple -Reclaimed Water, Mitigation & Slurry Lines, Radioactive Material

Green - Sewers & Drain Lines

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NOTE:

Our General Board meetings occur on the third Thursday of every month at Castle Gardens located at 625 West 140th Street (**unless otherwise noted**) [between Broadway and Riverside Drive] For the full monthly calendar of our scheduled meetings, please visit our website at: www.cb9m.org

TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Please send an email of your contact information to: info@cb9m.org or hzita@cb9m.org

