



Chair's Report August 9, 2018 Executive Meeting

Argus Community Methadone Clinic

We continue to monitor the situation with Argus Communities and their impending Clinic at 730 St. Nicholas Ave. As of Aug 6, we understand that Argus has yet to submit its proposal to New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS). CB9 will also be looking to submit a letter to NYC DOHMH recommending that another location be used for this clinic.

1) OASAS and the State Government has been encouraging mergers and acquisitions rather than 'one-off shops' in non-profit social service organizations. Thus the choice for organizations is to close up or get 'swallowed' up. Smaller programs are squeezed out (i.e. the 'smaller programs' are usually those started by Harlem residents such as Phase Piggyback and ARC)

2) OASAS has also slashed the percentage of the grant that can cover administrative costs from 25% to 10%.

3) Argus, in order to survive, has had to 'acquire' other groups. Additionally, to reduce administrative costs they want to be able to service medically clients in their residences rather than take clients to other facilities to get their meds. OASAS, government and Argus want to see people get drugs in their living situation.

4) Our reaction to Argus was raised as an example of a crisis that they DO NOT WANT TO REPEAT. They claim that Espaillet AND CB9 were 'on board' re: an opiate clinic and it wasn't until we raised the issue that they reneged. The original proposal was 2 bottom floors opiate top 2 community space - a positive space for the community. They were SHOCKED by the blow-back. They said they do not want to repeat this kind of situation but to 'build bridges' and 'look at the concerns of the neighborhood'. They made a series of concessions to the community.

Legionnaire's Disease

The number of cases of Legionnaires' disease in Upper Manhattan continues to grow. The Health Department is now confirming 22 people have been infected. The cluster is affecting residents in Hamilton and Washington Heights. As of Tuesday, July 17th officials confirmed one person died from complications they suffered from the disease. Most of the people infected are over the age of 50. Symptoms include fever, chills, muscle aches, and a cough. More than 20 cooling towers in the area have been checked for Legionella bacteria.

planning efforts, such as the development of 197a plans or the vetting of the many ULURP applications that are regularly considered by community boards, are expensive and require both specialized expertise and detailed knowledge of a district. It also is problematic when the needs identified by one community board may be in conflict with the needs of a neighboring district or conflict with an approach favored by the Borough President. The competing points of view pose difficulties in any method of providing cost effective services that address the specific needs of a particular board. We have favored the approach of having a dedicated urban planner attached to each community board. We encourage continued conversation about how best to provide the required support including issues of supervision and budgetary control. We would like to acknowledge that significant progress has been made through the Manhattan Borough President's Office in providing training in areas of most concern to community boards. The Borough Presidents are required to provide training in certain areas but, in Manhattan, training is available in a broader variety of subjects essential to effective board participation. We encourage all Borough Presidents to develop training of the type presented in Manhattan and perhaps look to sharing resources to provide uniform curriculums.

4) Adopt other methods to ensure that Community Boards are representative of the communities that they serve.

We welcome this goal and hope to participate in identifying other methods. We urge that the Charter remain flexible to allow for such methods as they are identified and refined. Not all aspects of the organization and functioning of community boards need to be set in the Charter. Innovation must remain possible and implemented on either a city-wide or borough-specific basis.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments and commend the Commission on the **outreach the Commission has made to obtain community input.**

Arise Youth March 4 Our Lives Rally

The Hear Us Now Rally by the 121 participants of the 2018 WHDC's Arise! SYEEP youth participants is coming on Friday August 10, 2018 starting at 11:00am and ending at 5:00pm. The opening ceremony will start at about 11:30am. That is when we plan to introduce the WHDC board members, CB9, and CU people present. The event will take place at St Nicholas Park (135th St and St Nicholas Avenue). Let us know if you are able to make it.

The rally will focus on gun violence, opioids, and education. The youth will pose questions to elected officials and guest speakers.

Come and support them. They have worked hard to do this as a follow up to their participation in the March 24th national March for Our Lives in Washington DC that forty of them attended.

Manhattanville Family Day

The Manhattanville Residents Association would like to cordially invite you to our annual Family Day event on Saturday, August 11, 2018 between 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm at our Manhattanville Ball Field. The ball field is located at 130th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and Old Broadway.

I hope you will make every effort to attend our event. Please RSVP to Emma Barricelli, President at 917-860-0279 if you are attending.

We look forward to seeing you there. Come out and enjoy the day with us.

Grant Family Day

Family Day for Grant Houses will be on August 18th 2018. Please contact the Board Office for further information.

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Padmore John', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Padmore John
Chair