



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 9
MANHATTAN

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CHAIR'S REPORT MARCH, 15, ~~2017~~ 2018

Women's History Month and National Walkout Day

The month of March is recognized as women's history month and we celebrate the month by recognizing all the women in Harlem and beyond who have made history in creating a vibrant community that we have today as well as those who continue to do so today. We also recognize, National Walkout day (March 14th) in recognition of the 17 youth that was killed in Florida. Gun violence hits home here in Harlem as well and we must begin to take an active role in ensuring that acts of gun violence, whether against 1 or 17 or more, must be stopped.

Columbia University Career Expo

Please spread the word about the upcoming Columbia University Career Expo. The expo will be held Tuesday, March 27th from 9am to 3pm at Alfred Lerner Hall at 115th Street, New York, NY. This expo would allow attendees to meet representatives from Columbia University, staffing firms, security firms, and construction management firms; attend job preparedness training; learn how to use Columbia University's employment website; and meet representatives from job skills training organizations.

Strategic Relationships with our Universities

City College

I have had the opportunity of meeting with the newly instated president of City College, Mr. Vincent Boudreau. Together with Housing Chair April O'neil, we participated on the president's radio show From City to The World. It was an opportunity to discuss methods of engagement between the university community and the larger community at large. Opportunities to determine what's the best way that the university can support activities around housing, urban design and community interaction with potential developers. It is heartening to hear that Mr. Boudreau is encouraging greater interaction between the college and the community board. There will be opportunities for increased engagement with City College through this initiative.

Columbia University

The Board Office is engaging with Columbia University in 2 capacities. With support from Dr. Robert Fullilove, we have engaged with masters of public health (MPH) students that are interested in supporting the mass incarceration initiative for the community bail program. The students will support the potential development focusing on the criteria around selection of candidates, evaluation of the program as well as grant writing for the funding of the program. Furthermore, we have engaged discussion with Prof. Jack Darby. An expert on environmental pollution, he will be

supporting a comprehensive look at the effect of traffic, congestion and pollution and ways to effectively address and mitigate the problem.

Budgetary Needs

Community Board 9 will be engaging with the Borough President's office to focus on supporting initiatives to secure increased funding for the following:

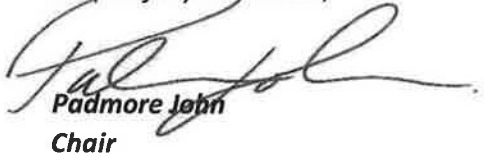
- Funding to provide two staff lines for the new Office of the Tenant Advocate
- Right Size human services: funding for nonprofits
- Funding to revamp the sexual harassment complaint process
- Funding to implement Right to Counsel:
 - bringing more zip codes online
 - ensuring that building wide organizing funds are not impacted
 - ensuring that all NYCHA developments are included in the services and included at Administrative Hearings, where most NYCHA decisions are reached.
- Community Boards
 - Increase funding to Community Board operational budgets
 - Cost of living increase (COLA)
 - Baseline funding towards technology needs:
 - BoardStat and Attendance Tracker
 - Web site development
 - Constituent database
 - Ability to handle new paperless system at DCP
 - Livestreaming capabilities
 - Baseline funding for land use consultants
 - Ensure adequate office space
- DOE
 - Funding to meet the operational costs of implementing DOE school integration and new enrollment policies
 - Fund new school seats throughout the Borough
 - Secure new school seats where rezoning efforts are underway to address future population growth (East Harlem Rezoning).
 - Address DOE's disparity of the space utilization formula
 - Securing technology in schools and creating CTE schools that provide training for 21st Century jobs
- Parks
 - Funding for sitting and maintenance of parks
 - Need for additional open spaces
 - Funding towards the entirety of the East Side Esplanade, particularly where hazardous conditions exist
 - Regaining Queensboro Oval for public use

- Housing
 - Need for affordable housing
 - Need for cameras at NYCHA
 - Investment in NYCHA infrastructure
 - Increase in affordability units in proposed and future NYCHA infill developments
- Hospitals
 - Adding admitting hospitals throughout the borough, especially in community boards with no hospitals.
- Funding for resiliency measures
- Funding for transit system including any costs that may be incurred in our neighborhoods as a result of congestion pricing
- Funding of libraries
- Funding for additional trash pick ups

Improving the Wireless Network in Harlem

We are looking forward to having further conversations with Columbia University and Silicon Harlem in their attempt to create a high-speed wireless network in the Harlem area. This would allow for greater technological innovation, addressing the digital divide by allowing greater interface of school and work applications via a wireless connection on smart phones; it would support workforce development in the tech area; as well as greater access to high speed nodes within Harlem. There is still a lot to be done to ensure that the residents of Harlem needs are front and center as this initiative is undertaken.

Respectfully submitted,



Padmore John
Chair