Chair’s Report October, 2016

As the season changes we are getting ready for a variety of events and activities that are important to our Board.

I would also like us to remember the short life of Zymere Perkins, whose unfortunate death struck us so deeply and personally.

Together with the other Chairs in Upper Manhattan, we will work on a forum to help identify resources in the child welfare area and for residents to help spot potential child abuse.

This is a forum that should be happening all over the city but we wanted to start with Upper Manhattan. Too often, the children who are highlighted as being neglected are those of color. Shah A. Ally, Esq. Chair of Community Board 12 a Professor who teaches Family Law, will take the lead on the curriculum for the forum.

The Alembic Community Development, Boys & Girls Club of Harlem and Monadnock Development, LLC is invite the public to the PS186 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrating the opening of The Residences at PS186 and the new home for Boys & Girls Club of Harlem. This is a residence and community center that CB 9 has a long history of fighting for and we should all feel very proud for support the work to this end.

Manhattan Borough President Gail Brewer and her community affairs staff, headed by Lucille Sonjhai, is working with Board Offices in informing impacted community board areas about proposed site changes (and any poll site issues). Finding accessible sites in Manhattan has been challenging, but working with community boards continues to help meet those challenges. Community boards have been helpful in identifying potential voter poll sites, promoting new poll sites, recruiting poll workers and addressing poll site issues.

A full printed list of all of the poll sites scheduled for the November 2016 General Election will be available soon at our office or by visiting http://vote.nyc.ny.us. We will also pace this link on our site, (http://vote.nyc.ny.us/html/home/locator_updates.shtml) to find their polling site, including voter and accessible entrances. A drop down menu will provide information on upcoming elections and the voter’s political
subdivisions, i.e., Election/Assembly, Judicial, Congressional, State Senatorial, City Council, Municipal Court and Assembly.

The School at Columbia online inquiry/lottery form for admissions for the 2017-18 school year is now live and open. The deadline to submit is Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016.

Association of Black Educators of New York ABENY, Inc.'s Next Meeting Date is SUN. OCTOBER 16, 2016. Members of New York Black Librarians Caucus (NYBLC) Will Be Among the Attendees.

We continue to assess the situation with the Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science, & Engineering, which increased access to space to allow a library and other teaching spaces such as labs to be installed. Convening ongoing meetings with interested stakeholders and especially the community is vital to rescuing this situation.