



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 9
MANHATTAN

Morningside Heights
Manhattanville
Hamilton Heights
Sugar Hill

April 24, 2023

Hon. Susan Donoghue,
FAICP
Commissioner
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation
The Arsenal 830 Fifth Avenue, Rm. 203
New York, New York 10065

Letter of Support re: Good Vibes in The Park

Dear Commissioner Donoghue,

At its regularly scheduled General Board Meeting held remote and in-person on Thursday, April 20, 2023, Manhattan Community Board No. 9 passed the following Resolution re: **Good Vibes in The Park** by unanimous consent with a vote of 29 in favor.

During our Manhattan Community Board 9 April 5, 2023 Landmarks Preservation and Parks Committee meeting, Ayo Alli (Ayoimotion), a Harlem resident, representing **Good Vibes in The Park (GVIP)**, presented an update on the organization and its community engagement. GVIP was founded in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. They are requesting financial resources from prospective donors and community support. Manhattan Community Board 9 values the mission and local initiatives of **Good Vibes in The Park**. This Letter of Support passed our committee by unanimous consent.

GVIP emerged during a time of heightened awareness involving inequality and racial reckoning in America, specifically as it relates to human rights injustices of racism and systemic inequities. The stark reality of the pandemic juxtaposed with the protests re-ignited by the murder of George Floyd made the need for affirming, curated and intentional safe-spaces centering around people of color a necessity and even more paramount. GVIP uses the outdoors, parks specifically, as a spatial context for program curation, and addresses the need for people of color to exist in spaces without constant profiling or repercussions. It is welcoming to all.

GVIP features guided meditation, mental health practitioners and a myriad of other wellness resources at the gatherings, conducted by specialists who have been providing community services in Harlem for a long time. Studies indicate high rates of worsening mental health

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throughout the pandemic, especially for people of color and depression rising over 10.4% for African Americans. Numerous attendees and community stakeholders have raved about GVIP's overall programming and many have listed the mental health and wellness services as their favorite part.

Additionally, GVIP features meditation, singers, poets, performances, visual arts, experiential activations, local vendors, and many other activities that contribute to its Juneteenth celebration at St. Nicholas Park which enhances the entire summer season at the park.

During its launch in the summer of 2020 and also in 2021, GVIP funded local artists and creatives to mitigate income loss due to COVID 19, by booking them to perform at GVIP gatherings. Moreover, the organization adopted a similar approach by using its platform to highlight local small businesses and directing its attendees to patronize them. Access to GVIP events is completely free and open to the public.

If you have any questions and/or further information is needed, please do not hesitate contacting me or District Manager, Eutha Prince, at the board office (212) 864-6200.

Sincerely,



Barry Weinberg
Chair

Cc: Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Brad Lander, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Cordell Cleare, NYS Senator, 30th Senatorial District
Hon. Daniel J. O'Donnell, NYS Assemblyman, 69th Assembly District
Hon. Inez Dickens, NYS Assembly Member, 70th Assembly District
Hon. Al Taylor, NYS Assemblyman, 71st Assembly District
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Member of the NYC Council, 7th Council District
Hon. Kristin Richardson Jordan, Member NYC Council, 9th Council District
Mr. Zead Ramadan, Executive Director, West Harlem Development Corporation



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April 25, 2023

Hon. Sarah Carroll
Commissioner
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
David N. Dinkins Municipal Building
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

RE: Letter of Support from Manhattan Community Board 9

200 Convent Ave., CCNY Wingate Hall
Community District: MN-9

Borough/Block/Lot: MANHATTAN/1957/ 200
Landmark: Hamilton Heights Extension- Historic Dist.

Work Type: Interior Alterations. Filling in existing openings at visible secondary facades. New door opening: primary facades

Docket LPC-19-33564

Permit Type: Status Update Letter dated March 7, 2019

Dear Commissioner Carroll,

At its regularly scheduled General Board Meeting held remotely and in-person, on Thursday, April 20th, 2023. Manhattan Community Board No. 9 passed the following Letter of Support re: **200 Convent Ave., CCNY Wingate Hall, Docket: LPC 19-33564** by unanimous consent with 29 members present.

During our Manhattan Community Board 9 April 5, 2023 Landmarks Preservation and Parks Committee meeting, Carl Stein, FAIA of elemental architecture llc, presented architectural design drawings of modifications to previously approved upgrades to the CCNY Gothic **200 Convent Ave., CCNY Wingate Hall** campus location. Manhattan Community Board 9 unanimously approved work at this location during its February 21, 2019 General Board Meeting.

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The applicant is proposing several modifications to the previously approved architectural drawings. The revised accessibility design supports precedence and the preservation of the character of the historic structure designed by George Post in 1907 relative to the other four Gothic Quadrangle campus buildings with prominent entrances either along the quad or at Amsterdam and/or Convent Avenues. Therefore this application seeks to relocate the entrance location from the approved southeast utility door to the center of the East/Convent Avenue facade at the basement level. This public entrance will be similar to the one at Baskerville Hall across the Quadrangle with a design that mimics original prominent Gothic arch entrances found on all the five Gothic Revival buildings. We appreciate that the proposed ADA compliant ramp at the new location is unobtrusive and compliments the historic character of the building. Furthermore, we support the conversion of glazed narrow windows into blind windows and minor modifications to the stone for the new entrance doors. This proposed modification will also allow the removal of the unsightly non-original concrete platform and stainless steel railings at the southeast utility door which will remain unchanged.

We unanimously support the long term maintenance issues that are being addressed, ADA accessibility for future generations and a design that aesthetically and historically is more appropriate. However, we request notification of any changes to the Docket Number, permit type and further amendments to approved work.

If you have any questions and/or further information is needed, please do not hesitate contacting me or District Manager, Eutha Prince, at the board office (212) 864-6200.

Sincerely,



Barry Weinberg
Chair

Cc: Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Brad Lander, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Cordell Cleare, NYS Senator, 30th Senatorial District
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Honorable Inez Dickens, NYS Assembly Member, 70th Assembly District
Honorable Al Taylor, NYS Assemblyman, 71st Assembly District
Honorable Shaun Abreu, Member of the NYC Council, 7th Council District
Honorable Kristin Richardson Jordan, Member NYC Council, 9th Council District
Mr. Zead Ramadan, Interim Executive Director, West Harlem Development Corporation



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Hon. Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Letitia James
New York State Attorney General
The Capitol
Albany, New York 12224-0341

Hon. Lucy Lang, Inspector General
New York State Office of the Inspector General
Agency Building 2, Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

Dear Hon. Hochul,

At its regularly scheduled General Board Meeting held remotely and in-person, on Thursday, April 20th, 2023. Manhattan Community Board No. 9 passed the following Letter of Support re: **340B Funding** by unanimous consent with 29 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

A statement of solidarity was released by the following groups from across New York State opposed to the 340B "carve-out." 340B revenues to safety net providers should be guaranteed for those organizations, so they can do their work of taking care of those who have nowhere else to go.

1. Manhattan Community Board 9
2. New York Cardiovascular Specialists, d/b/a Harlem Cardiology
3. Housing Works
4. Harlem United
5. Callen Lorde
6. Evergreen Health
7. Heritage Health and Housing, Inc.
8. COPE
9. Alliance for Positive Change
10. Argus Community

Hon. Kathy Hochul
April 25th, 2023
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If you have any questions and/or further information is needed, please do not hesitate contacting me or District Manager, Eutha Prince, at the board office (212) 864-6200.

Sincerely,



Barry Weinberg
Chair

cc: Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Brad Lander, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Cordell Cleare, New York State Senate
Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Daniel J. O'Donnell, Assembly Member
Hon. Inez Dickens, Assembly Member
Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, City Council Member
Hon. Kristin Richardson-Jordan, City Council Member
Hon. Andrea Stewart Cousins, New York Senator
Hon. Carl Heastie, Assembly Member
Hon. Letitia James, New York State Attorney General
Hon. Lucy Lang, New York State Inspector General
Hon. Gustavo Rivera, State Senator
Sandra Gale, JD, CIPP/US, Chief Executive Officer,
General Counsel and Chief of Privacy Heritage Health & Housing, Inc.
Amy Paulin, Assembly Member
Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Member
Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD, Commissioner Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Mr. Zead Ramadan, Executive Director, West Harlem Development Corporation



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April 26, 2023

Gaidi Finnie
Executive Director
San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art
555 Saturn Blvd Suite B#261
San Diego CA 92154

LOS RE: Proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" Augmented Reality Exhibit by San Diego of Fine Art

Dear Gaidi Finnie,

At its regularly scheduled General Board Meeting held in hybrid on Thursday, April 20, 2023, Manhattan Community Board No. 9 passed the following Letter of Support re: **Proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" Augmented Reality Exhibit by San Diego of Fine Art** by unanimous consent with 29 board members present:

This letter is provided by the (Manhattan CB9) in support of the "Harlem Walk of Honor" Augmented Reality Exhibit being proposed by the San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art (SDAAMEA). The proposed exhibition is a tribute to the forerunners and contributors who have made Harlem New York known internationally for its rich Black culture. From the beginning of the great migration north sparking the Harlem Renaissance to the events of 21st century this will provide yet another opportunity to capture the greatness of Harlem.

SDAIAJWA has used Augmented Reality (AR) technology, to bring the "Say Their Names" exhibit to New York in September of 2022. The exhibit is experienced entirely through an app downloaded onto the user's mobile device and does not involve a physical structure of any type. Since it is not a physical installation the normal elements of outdoor displays do not apply, and therefore should not require a permit. The viewing can occur anytime an individual is located at a specific site, with the ease of using their phone they have their phone with them to view it. It is important to note we believe this unique exhibit serves to complement the work of many organizations and institutions currently existing in Harlem.

Gaidi Finnie
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We appreciate the suggestion by SDAAMFA that a "Harlem Walk of Honor" Selection Committee (committee) be formed which would include representatives from New York institutions that will assist the project. The selection committee would be tasked with selecting the initial honorees and the locations. Once the exhibit is evaluated relative to viewership, ease of use, locations etc. and any revisions made (if necessary) the committee would review recommendations for subsequent additions. The elements that integrate an educational component are exciting. We appreciate the opportunities for local students to learn about those luminaries who held to build Harlem for decades. It is with the knowledge provided in afore referenced programmatic detail that the Manhattan CB10 enthusiastically supports the proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" exhibit as proposed by SDAAMFA.

If you have any questions and/or further information is needed, please do not hesitate contacting me or District Manager, Eutha Prince, at the board office (212) 864-6200.
Sincerely,



Barry Weinberg
Chair

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Hon. Shaun Abreu, City Council Member
Hon. Kristin Richardson-Jordan, City Council Member
Mr. Zead Ramadan, Executive Director, West Harlem Development Corporation