

**Manhattan Community Board 9
Arts and Culture Committee Meeting**
Monday, June 01, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members:

Co-Chair: Hon. Harriet Rosebud
Co Chair: Hon. Daria Hardman
Hon. Walter Alexander
Hon. Anita Cheng
Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero,
Hon. Ilana Mercado
Hon. Jonathan Sinagub (prepared minutes)

Attendees:

Cathleen Campbell – filmmaker/photographer
Martin Collins - Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance

Location: via Zoom

Meeting called to Order: 6:36 PM

Adopt Agenda: differed

Adopt Meeting Minutes: differed

Presentations/Discussions: none

Old Business:

1. **Artist Circle** – postponed indefinitely due to the Covid-19 health crises.

New Business:

1. Hon. Daria Hardman opened the meeting by say that the May 04 meeting with elected officials had a great turnout.
 - a. It was particularly important to hear from Congressman Adriano Espaillat regarding his 5 bucket plan. Bucket \$4 The Arts
 - b. There event was also recorded and can be made available.
2. Hon. Harriet Rosebud
 - a. Emphasized the importance to focus on the individual artist and the small businesses. There is a critical need to address this group which seems to be missing out on funding and information.

3. Cathleen Campbell discussed the process of creating a video on the artists of northern Manhattan.
 - a. Lower Manhattan Arts Council received funding for individual artists and one of the funds made it to artists in northern Manhattan.
4. Discussion pertaining to the proposed video on West Harlem artists;
 - a. "Gathering the Voices" of individual artists (2-10) and their experiences should be featured in the video (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
 - b. Video a possible bridge to other organizations, next step (Cathleen Campbell)
 - i. Include data on the lack of funding to artists in northern Manhattan.
 - c. Some issues to articulate:
 - i. Is this person likely to get loans (inconsistent record keeping, etc.)?
 - ii. What it is like for the individual artists?
 - iii. Should the artist in the video be an actor, directed, or tell their story simply?
 - iv. Perhaps craft 5 questions (Hon. Daria Hardman) and who, ID artists?
 - v. Perhaps 2 min for individual expression?
 - vi. What is the length of the video? (Cathleen Campbell)
 - vii. 2 ½ minutes (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
 - viii. We need to figure out format and get artists – perhaps can have video proto-type by end of the week. (Cathleen Campbell)
 - d. Set up date to exchange ideas and come up with opening questions for the video. (Hon. Daria Hardman)
 - i. One week – June 8th. (Hon. Harriet Rosebud) (Hon. Daria Hardman) have questions prepared.
 - ii. 10 seconds of experience mixed with broad data.
 - iii. Tell the real story People do not know the real story. (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
 - iv. Prepare trailer – intro. to be completed by the time the Executive Committee meets.
 - v. Select 2 artists (Hon. Harriet Rosebud & Hon. Daria Hardman)
 - vi. Week of June 8th produce trailer for 6/11 Executive Committee meeting.
5. Letter writing campaign
 - a. Campaign to have individual artists write letters, to raise awareness of the need to fund individual artists, to their elected officials.
 - i. Question should the letters have more or less structure?
 - b. Engage artists – need to speak out.
 - c. Origin of idea the business community, business model, collect letters to demonstrate that artists represent more than one vote. (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
 - d. Perhaps to create a template for the artists to follow? (Hon. Walter Alexander)
 - e. Try to consolidate efforts – letters & video ? (Hon. Jonathan Sinagub)

- f. Compile 40 letters make 40 copies to present to elected officials (Cathleen Campbell)
- g. Money should go to individual artists (Hon. Daria Hardman)
 - i. How do you get the money to the individual artists? How do they get paid? What is the vehicle to get the money to the individual artist?
 - ii. Set up an art alliance (Cathleen Campbell)
 - 1. % + to go to the artist
 - 2. Alliance/local organization as a pass through to the artist
 - 3. Existing organizations: Northern Manhattan Art Alliance, Columbia University, NYU – Stern, MBA types?
 - iii. Which organization? What is their track record? Who? (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
- h. Suggestions from Martin Collins (Northern Manhattan Art Alliance)
 - i. Look at all the existing groups – effectiveness, road tested, quality/value added organizations.
- i. Banks would require paperwork from artists – usually paperwork is difficult or no existent for artist to produce to receive loans or grants. Artists have work, most times, but do not have the necessary paperwork. (Hon. Daria Hardman)
- j. Advocate for rent relief (Hon. Harriet Rosebud)
- k. Letter of Support or Resolution (Hon. Daria Hardman)
 - i. Letter of Support for direct funding to individual artists.
 - ii. Support congressional action. (i.e. Congressman Adriano Espaillat's efforts)
 - iii. Need/idea/effort bigger than West Harlem include all Harlem Communities.
 - iv. Coordinate with CB 10,11, 12 (Martin Collins)
 - 1. CB 12 Exec. Committee meets on Tuesday June 9th.
 - 2. CBs draft or sponsor Letter of Support of CB9.
- l. A vote was taken to draft a Letter of Support to present to CB 9 Executive Committee:
 - i. Arts & Culture Committee members voted unanimously to draft the Letter of Supports and present it to the CB 9 Executive Committee.
- m. Sharing Resources & Events
 - i. CreativeCapital.org for grants and networking
 - ii. Northern Manahattan Arts Alliance – Virtual Uptown Arts Stroll/Open Studios
 - 1. Thursday, 6/6/20, 7:30 pm with Artist Cathy O'Keefe
 - 2. <https://www.nomaanyc.org/uptown-arts-stroll/>

Next Meeting Scheduled for first Monday in September, September 7th 2020 at 6:30 PM. Location TBDL

Meeting Adjourned: 8:36 PM