

Manhattan Community Board 9
Arts and Culture Committee Meeting
Monday, 07 June 2021

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members:

Co-Chair: Hon. Harriet Rosebud
Co-Chair: Hon. Daria Hardeman
Hon. Walter Alexander
Hon. Anita Cheng
Hon. Tina Lumley
Hon. Ilana Mercado
Hon. Jonathan Sinagub (prepared minutes)

CB 9 Board members:

Attendees:

Patrick Bradford – Classical Theater of Harlem
Carol Brown – Harlem Opera Theater, Board Secretary, harlemoperatheater@gmail.com, 718-775-6280
Joanna Castro – WHDC, Program Director
Jessica Chornesky– NY Kidfest
Yuien Chin – Harlem One Stop
Hon. Victor Edwards – CB 9, 2nd Vice Chair
Dr. Marilu Galvan – Centro Civico Cultural Dominicano
Naomi Goldberg Hass - Dances for a Variable Population
Padmore John – former Chair CB 9
Hon. Michael Palma Mir – CB 9 member
C. Kelly Wright – Harlem Late Night Jazz

Location: via Zoom

Meeting called to Order: 6:53 PM

Adopted Prior Meeting Minutes:

Adopted Agenda:

Presentations-

1. Artist News - News affecting the artist community, Hon. Tina Lumley & Hon. Walter Alexander
 - a. NYPL information not added to the data base
 - b. Artists organization prefer to receive information and distribute it with their own organization.
 - c. LinkNYC list of artists not accessible.
2. Voza Rivers- Harlem Jazz and Festival Updates (not present)
3. Zead Ramadan (WHDC) - Introducing Consultants for the Creation of a CD-9 Umbrella Arts org. - Michael Unthank & Sandra Garcia

4. NYC Kidfest Update - Jessica Chornesky

Committee Reports:

1. RKO Theater Project, Hon. Anita Cheng -
2. PSA Vaccinate, Hon. Anita Cheng -
3. **Presentations/Discussions:**
 1. Zead Ramadan, interim director, WHDC - Introduction of Michael Unthank, Sandra Garcia, arts consultants for the creation of Arts Organization in West Harlem.
 - a. Sandra Garcia, founder of NoMAA, Hispanic Arts Alliance, New Yorican Poets
 - i. created 501 (c) 3 and NOMAA bookstore
 - ii. For CB 9 wants to create something different
 - b. Michael Unthank
 - i. Involved with NYS Council for the Arts
 - ii. Harlem Arts Alliance
 - iii. Goal – to unify arts community in West Harlem & create a regrants program
 - iv. Local focus important to Collaborate & cooperate; facilitate conversations
 - v. Important to create digital survey to identify needs; community meetings to plan organization
 - c. Zead Ramadan
 - i. Conversations with the community #1; strengthen community arts world; create public forum(s)- aiming for July Public Forum, make organizationa reality in 6 months
 - d. Question from Community Board Member- What is the timeframe?
 - i. Response from, Z. Ramadan – 6 month process & 1 year to establishing 501(c) 3; provide regrant services within this time;
 - e. Sandra Garcia –
 - i. Create Busines Plan submit to artists both in English & Spanish
 - f. Question from Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – The first step is the Public session?
 - i. Response from Sandra Garcia – Develop out line of business plan and survey and meeting with different players
 - g. Michael Unthank – Survey coupled with meetings in July
 - h. Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – The Community would like a close working relationship with WHDC and the consultants to ensure inclusivity, new ideas and artists in various age groups; How do we reach out & address them ... the emerging artists?
 - i. Response from Michael Unthank – Outreach through community organizations
 - ii. Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – Start from the bottom-up approach; How is this organization going to be different?
 - iii. Response from Michael Unthank – More localize organizations; regrants & residency requirements – collaborate & communicate
 - iv. Dr. Marilu Galvan – Supports bottom-up approach to support artists
 - v. Michael Unthank – Approach similar to the Harlem Arts Alliance
 - i. Question from Hon. Tina Lumley – What is the process & What does this process look like – what are and with whom are the conversations?
 - i. Response from Zead Ramadan – Conversations with regard to the public forums will provide the direction of the work; inclusion of the many voices in CB 9 and everyone should
 - ii. be included in the process
 - j. Question from Hon. Anita Cheng – Will CB 9 be part of the decision making process when it comes to arts organization or just receive reports?
 - k. Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – We should have a “deep” conversation about the initial vision

- i. Response from Zead Ramadan – Giving form to the organization which will “stands alone”
- ii. Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – suggest a collaboration off-line with Sdra Garcia and Michael Unthank
- iii. Michael Unthank – appreciate the values unique to West Harlem; if the committee has any ideas or information regarding the community they should pass it along; is their directory of artists?
- iv. Co-Chair, Hon. Harriet Rosebud – We are concerned about the “small” artist organizations
- v. Co-Chair, Hon. Daria Hardeman – The artists’ list, the directory is not working
- vi. Hon. Michael Palma Mir – All panels & public meetings need to be bi-lingual; draft a resolution of Community Board approval for the direction of the Artist Organization

4. Announcements:

- a. Jessica Chornesky, NY Kidfest – Seeking teen to distribute flyers in Grant Houses, must be a resident of Grant Houses for event along Morningside Avenue from 115th Street to 116th Street on June 19th ; and, in Jackie Robinson Park on June 20th
 - i. Will email postcard and flyer to distribute; kids will be performing alongside professional performers from Harlem School of the Arts; there is a raffle for CB 9 kids; please contact nykidfest.org , 646-683-2454;
- b. Naomi Goldberg Hass, Dances for a Variable Population – Revival fesitival on June 19thth at Grants Tomb
https://www.dropbox.com/s/sburxtf1efcj58n/DVP_EblastRevival5-20.png?di=0 ;
Revival.com
- c. Patrick Bradford –
 - i. Prroduction of “Seize the King” runs from July 9-29 in Marcus Garvey Park; plese visit our website – www.cthnyc.org on June 15th to reserve your free tickets. Covid protocols will apply. pbradford@bradfordedwards.com ; 917-744-1225
- d. Padmore John – NYC Department of Health – “Health Voices” June 16th, 6-8 PM to discuss proposed sculpture; Artist exhibit at Zion Café, 18th Street & St. Nicholas Ave.
- e. Co-Chair, Hon. Daria Hardeman - Please and all announcements to:
CB9arts@yahoo.com
- f. COVID Vaccine PSA project – Hon. Anita Cheng – Up on NYCLink
- g. RKO Theater Project, Hon. Anita Cheng – Meeting with Zead Ramadan from WHDC regarding development; WDDC has not seen any proposals by developer; establish channel of communication with WHDC

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next Meeting Scheduled for first Monday (after Labor Day) in September 2021, 09/13, at 6:30 PM.

Location: Zoom

Meeting Adjourned: 8:32 PM