

# Executive Committee Meeting

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**13 April 2023 / 6:30 PM / ZOOM**

## ATTENDEES

CB9 Staff - Eutha Prince, Madison Ayala,

CB9 Board Members - J.Adewumi, W. Alexander, D. Hardeman, M. Hardin-Cordero, H. Jason, P. Watler Johnson, T. Kovaleff, S. Prophete, J. Sinagub, C. Thompson, E. Torres, B. Weinberg, L. Henry, S. Mortensen, D. Johnson, M. Aristy-Farer

## AGENDA

- **Executive Committee Meeting Agenda;**
- **Executive Committee Minutes (03/09/23);**
- **Chair's Report; (will be shared at the meeting)**
- **Treasurer's Report;**
- **District Manager's Report;**
  
- **Committee Reports**
  
- **Nominating/Elections Committee**
- **Action Item(s):**
  - **Reso re: HPD Grant Program Revisions**
  - **Affirming CB9 Sign-On to letter regarding 340b funding**
  - **Amendment to the By-Laws Proposed by the Elections Committee and MBPO  
General Counsel**
  - **LOS re: Proposed "Harlem Walk of Honor" augmented Reality exhibit by San Diego  
African American of Fine Art**
  - **Reso re: "Cannabis" State Licensing and Permits Committee**
  - **200 Convent Avenue, CCNY Wingate Hall, Docket: LPC 19-33564**
  - **Good Vibes in the Park AYOINMOTION**
  - **Reso: re: New Grange, LLC - 1627-1635 Amsterdam**
  - **Hamilton Point Granary - 1635 Amsterdam Avenue, NY, NY 10025**
  - **Romcargio LLC - 1034 Amsterdam Avenue, NY, NY 10027**
  - **Picante Inc. - 3426 Broadway NY, NY 10031**
  - **Bono Trattoria Restaurant - 3685 Broadway NY, NY 10027**
  
- **Committee Minutes**
- **Flyers and Announcements**
- **April - 2023 Calendar**

## NOTES

- Quorum reached at 6:42 PM. The meeting was called to order by B. Weinberg.
- 16 members in attendance.
- Meeting Agenda was amended by Laquita Henry/Pat Watler Johnson and adopted unanimously by all members.
- Minutes from 3/09/23 were adopted. Moved by C. Thompson and Seconded by J.Adewumi. Minutes were adopted unanimously by all members.

### **Chair Report: B. Weinberg**

- Mayor has released the new 2023 budget proposal
  - <https://www.nyc.gov/site/omb/publications/finplan01-23.page>
- Up to CB9 to submit comments
- CB Members should review Preliminary Capital Budget
- Follow up with OMB to ensure our district projects are still funded - we need to fight and be VOCAL for our priorities
- City Council Budget Negotiating Team will respond to the Mayor's budget proposal
- Look at Geographic Expense Report for our district
- Non-profits and Schools should look into funding from Council Member Offices
- Review the Summary (Powerpoint)
- Review the Financial Plan Detail and Departmental Estimates
- Look at the DYCD budget
- Look at Budget Function Analysis (might be a good place to start)
- Direct funding as a community board is in the departmental estimates
- 1763 Amsterdam Avenue project
  - Letter of recommendation needed to the Dept. of Homeless Services
- Unlicensed marijuana smokeshops - DA sending letters to landlords of these spaces
- Grant from the Department of Energy - letter of support requested from CB9
- Nominate steering committee for connected cities
- Community Board Applications are open. Some members need to reapply.

### **Treasurer's Report: C. Thompson**

- No changes to the report at this time.
- Any committee chairs needing funds should send a budget and proposal to Carolyn, Jonathan Thomas, and Barry for review (a must-have component of outreach to the community)

### **District Manager's Report: E. Prince**

- Report included in the meeting invite
- National Park Service is celebrating the 200th Birthday of President Ulysses S. Grant
  - Military Honor in front of the mausoleum. A flyer with more details will be distributed.
- Dept. of Sanitation - Spring 2023 Recycle Event on Sunday 6/11 on 120th Street between Bway and Amsterdam
- Department of Environmental Protection offers a limited one-time amnesty to provide much-needed relief to all qualified delinquent customers struggling to pay their water bills. The program runs until 4/13.
- Harlem Chamber of Commerce along with local electeds and Columbia University, is hosting a climate and environmental justice forum on Sat 4/20 at 12 PM at the Columbia University Faculty House.
  - 3 members of CB9 will get special recognition for participating in a focus group
- Madison and Eutha met with DOT to identify large potholes in the area

### **Committee/Task Force Reports**

#### **Housing and Land Use Committee: S.Mortensen**

- Palante having a town hall meeting on 4/20 with local electeds
- Discussed resolution for 1753 Amsterdam Avenue - pushing the city to redevelop
- Tiffany Khan wrote an excellent resolution regarding HPDs First Down Payment Assistance program for first-time homebuyers
  - Need to make it more accessible to people
- CCNY Survey - asked us to fill out
  - Want us to continue working and partnering with them
  - Identify grants that assist the community
- 1727 Amsterdam Ave. will be discussed at the next meeting. Hopefully will get a walkthrough of the site.
  - We will need to put questions together beforehand.
  - Never did community health assessment for the project
- Vince Morgan is scheduled to come to talk at the next meeting regarding HDFC resources

#### **Parks and Landmarks Committee: H. Jason**

- Friends of Saint Nicholas Park is having their birthday event - Sat. 4/20 from 11 AM - 2 PM
- Harlem Youth Gardener Program starts 4/15. 24 slots are available - interviews going on now
  - 3 weekends in Morningside Park
  - 5 weekends in St. Nicholas Park
  - HARLEM YOUTH GARDENERS SPRING 2023 APPLICATION (AGES 14 - 19) Eight Weeks- April 15 - June 11, 2023 <https://www.morningsidepark.org/harlem-youth-gardeners>
- Riverside Park Conservancy - paid internships over the summer
  - Students interested in learning about horticulture and environmental justice
- Presentation from Whitnet Deardin regarding Summer on the Hudson - runs from May to October from 59th Street to the George Washington Bridge.
- Earth Day is 4/20 - there will be many events throughout city parks
- Jackie Robinson Day is on 4/15

- Bassia (former Board member) will be donating her book 17 Trees to the Community Board and distributing it in the way we want
  - Also, giving free copies to daycare centers, schools and libraries in our district
- There will be movie nights in Early May at Jacob Schiff
- 611 West 112th Street - a building purchased last year by Columbia
  - Possibly renovate it and turn it into undergraduate dorm rooms.
- Edwin Torres proposes a small free library available for kids in the board office.

**Economic Development/West Harlem Piers: Committee: J.Adewumi**

- Meeting held in person
- Robust conversation with Curtis Arthur
- Could not call the meeting to order. Co-chair was at a meeting with Mr. Preston. Not enough members attended in person. Some of the members have health issues.
- Discussion regarding in-person committee meetings vs. hybrid meetings
  - Chair says committees are currently able to meet virtually for as long as the Mayor's executive order lasts.
- Discussed Harlem Rocket Ferry Service

**Senior Issues Committee: W. Alexander**

- Proposes that we have an exec. Board meeting outside so that we could attend Uptown Night Market festivities
- Naomi Goldberg presented from Dancing for a Variable Population
- Heard from Jared Picas and Louis Bailey
- William Hamert from Harlem advocates
- Dr. Herbert Lowe and Daniel Jeremy Lopez from Columbia Dental presented and will also be providing dental screenings at the Senior Resources event.
- Flyers for Senior Resource Fair on 5/2 from 11 AM - 2 PM at CB Office will be distributed by District Office.

**Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee: D. McIntosh-Brown / S. Wilson**

- 7 presenters (many WHDC grants).
- Boys and Girls Club partnering with Apple to provide a 6-week coding class for middle and high schoolers.
- Liberty Leads (out of Bank Street since 1979) has out-of-school programs from 5th through 12th grade, primarily oriented at college prep, but also other post-secondary options (homework help, mentorship, college tours, etc.).
- Riverbank State Park empowerment fair in April.
- Next week, DYCD will be coming to speak about SYEP.
  - Many organizations are experiencing difficulty hiring people (due to funds and a lack of candidates with the right experiences/certifications).
- Science and Arts Initiative of New York (Harlem Science Gallery at City College) is working with a new gaming initiative at A. Phillip Randolph.

**Health and Environment Committee: L. Henry / E. Torres**

- S.2469 (Parker) / A.2655 (Hunter) — Energy Efficiency Equity and Jobs Act
  - Summary of Legislation - This bill will amend the public service law and the energy law to ensure that energy efficiency measures and jobs are equitably deployed in communities

of color and low-income communities. The bill will also allow the state to bundle environmental hazard remediation work, like lead and mold remediation, with energy efficiency upgrades. Moreover, EEEJA increases hiring opportunities in the green job economy for socioeconomically disadvantaged communities.

- Emphasis on Mental Health
- Another area of interest has been related to medical research and the encouragement of people in the community to participate.
- In May - the committee invited various groups and organizations to come back and give us updates.
- Spoke about the issue at the Auto Body shop on 132nd Street and the nauseous fumes that have an environmental/health impact in the area.
  - 8 different city agencies are following up
- Holding Mt. Sinai accountable for how they treat adolescents. They should have a representative (Arthur Janelle) at the next meeting.

#### **Arts and Culture Committee: J. Signaub / D. Hardeman**

- San Diego Museum - African American Museum of Fine Arts and we have a letter of support for them.
- Harlem Stage came to present regarding their programming.
- Issues regarding note taking - how should committees handle it
  - The chair recommends different members of the committee rotate the responsibility
  - Hard for the chair of a committee to run meetings and take notes
- Who can we talk to about the homeless and drug problem in our district?
  - We need to try and address this issue at Montefiore and Jacob Schiff parks
  - Other boards have a Human Services or Social Services Committee that oversees things like that
  - DHS is under housing, zoning, and land use.
  - We might need to have a sit down with reps from different city agencies
  -

#### **Uniformed Services and Transportation Committee: C. Thompson / P. Watler Johnson**

- Had a presentation from the MTA regarding the OMNY rollout
- Spoke about issues with double parking and traffic congestion
- Reviewed liquor license applications

#### **Strategic Planning Committee: V. Edwards**

- Followed up on elevator issue on 125th.
- MBA student advising is in the CBA.
- Reminded them of the senior dental van.
- Reviewed CBA portions with Zead Ramadan and WHDC's role.

#### **LGBTQ Committee: J. Martin-Green**

- Not present at this meeting

#### **Cannabis Task Force: M. Aristy-Farer / M. Hardin-Cordero**

- Continuing to collaborate with other Community Boards
  - [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/176F6w9XW0LjTAXnqWrWSvhO6V-fl1wui?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/176F6w9XW0LjTAXnqWrWSvhO6V-fl1wui?usp=share_link)
    - Working on a Letter of Comment to OCM
- Thursday 4/20 event will move to Tuesday 4/18. Columbia will host the event at the Forum
  - Partnered with Happy Munkey and 14 other vendors
- Look at Marine Transfer Station to cultivate legal dispensaries and provide Cannabis education
- Bringing awareness to the illicit places selling marijuana all over the city.
- Barbara Askins spoke extensively about the legal Cannabis dispensary on 125th Street
  - There is supposed to be a meeting with the Governor

#### **Election Committee: L. Henry/T. Khan**

- Other committee members - Tina Lumley, Ken Miles, and Annette Robinson
- Meeting on 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month
- March 8th was the first meeting
- Reviewing by-laws, final date to submit intent to run is Thursday 5/25 (please target 5/18)
- Encouraging board members to run for an executive position
- Sent survey out to all board members - got 39 responses
  - Most respondees have time constraints to run for an officer position. Issues making meetings during the day

### ACTION ITEMS

- **Reso re: HPD Grant Program Revisions**
  - a. Offers helping qualifying applicants with a down payment, to provide a forgettable loan of 20% of the total cost of the buyers.
  - b. It takes between 4 and 6 months for folks to apply to go through, and you know by that time quite often you have lost your chance on that offer of a home.
  - c. L. Henry moves for unanimous consent. M. Hardin-Cordero seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.
- **Affirming CB9 Sign-On to letter regarding 340b funding**
  - a. it allows healthcare providers to do is get discounts on their costs
  - b. Relative to what they then pay for their drugs, they use the difference between what they get reimbursed by Medicaid versus what they're paying to fund other services that provide health care in our community.
  - c. C. Thompson moves for unanimous consent. M. Hardin-Cordero seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.

- **Amendment to the By-Laws Proposed by the Elections Committee and MBPO General Counsel**
  - a. amendment to the bylaws proposed
  - b. intent to run letter need not include signatures, but must still include the names of at least 7 other current Board members who are supporting the candidate that could be
  - c. Need at least 7 people to affirm they are supporting/endorsing you to run.
  - d. Do we have a Parliamentarian? Chair can appoint one per the bylaws, but you know Robert, rules of order says that chairs make rulings on parliamentary procedure the chair's ruling can be appealed, and then if the body finds the chair should be appealed, they can vote to overrule the chair
  - e. S. Mortensen moves for unanimous consent. E. Torres seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.
- **LOS re: Proposed “Harlem Walk of Honor” augmented Reality exhibit by San Diego African American of Fine Art**
  - a. virtual reality augmented reality program where they will actually go through Harlem, assisted by the committee which will be chosen from organizations and stakeholders in the community and identify important places in Harlem
  - b. It will give history. There will be music. There will be information, you know, just all kinds of historic information about every spot, and there will be spots through Harlem this is a living exhibit, so it will continue to grow with the help of the committee
  - c. W. Alexander moves for unanimous consent. C. Thompson seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.
- **Reso re: “Cannabis” State Licensing and Permits Committee**
  - a. resolution that was shared with us by Community Board 5
  - b. basically asking the Executive Board if you want to pass something similar
  - c. giving guidelines for how businesses will operate in the community when they are legal.
  - d. being encouraged to do as a community board by the Office of Cannabis Management
  - e. Similar, to what's happening when one comes before our committee regarding liquor licenses
  - f. More time for input/feedback will be given to produce the final resolution for CB9.
  - g. next step is for us as a board, to consider how we want to handle those internally, and then to also pass a resolution calling on whatever agencies may be necessary to kind of like with liquor licenses.

- **200 Convent Avenue, CCNY Wingate Hall, Docket: LPC 19-33564**
  - a. previously gave them a letter of support
  - b. making a change to an existing application to change the location of the accessible entrance
  - c. Elimination of ugly railing
  - d. C. Thompson moves for unanimous consent. M. Hardin-Cordero seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.
- **Good Vibes in the Park AYONMOTION**
  - a. previously approved a letter of support
  - b. social gathering organization - emerged due to the heightened awareness involving inequality and racial reckoning in America, specifically relates to human rights injustices, so to use the parts as a safe space for people of color
  - c. They are requesting financial resources and community support
  - d. Juneteenth celebration in St. Nicholas Park
  - e. Not a 501C3, need a letter of support for funding eligibility
  - f. C. Thompson moves for unanimous consent. M. Hardin-Cordero seconds motion. The rest of the attendees approve moving this item to the 4/20 General Board Meeting agenda.
- **Liquor License Applications**
- *All of the following applications have been moved to the 4/20 General Board Meeting by Unanimous consent.*
  - a. **New Grange, LLC - 1627-1635 Amsterdam**
  - b. **Hamilton Point Granary - 1635 Amsterdam Avenue, NY, NY 10025**
  - c. **Romcargio LLC - 1034 Amsterdam Avenue, NY, NY 10027**
  - d. **Picante Inc. - 3426 Broadway NY, NY 10031**
  - e. **Bono Trattoria Restaurant - 3685 Broadway NY, NY 10027**

## NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time

## NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

- TBD - Thursday, May 11th, 2023



Motion to adjourn by C. Thompson and seconded by M. Hardin-Cordero, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted by S. Prophete