



**Executive Committee Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday, August 14th, 2025**  
**6:30 P.M. (Hybrid)**

- I. Call to Order/Attendance:**
  - Attendance was taken by the 1st Vice Chair, Monique Hardin-Cordero. Attendance sign-in sheet collected by Eutha Prince. A quorum was met, and the meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by Chair V. Edwards.
- II. Adopt Meeting Agenda:**
  - Motion to adopt the agenda made by V. Alexander. Seconded by M. Hardin-Cordero. The agenda is adopted by the members present.
- III. Adopt Exec. Committee Minutes (from 06/12/2025):**
  - Motion to adopt minutes made by L. Henry. Seconded by T.. Lumley. Minutes are adopted by members present.
- IV. Presentations/Discussions/Updates:**
  - Harlem Rocket at the West Harlem Piers (Gary Johnson, Co-founder and CEO & Michael Preston, Co-Founder and VP of Govt. Affairs & Customer Service)
    - Launched out of Dyckman Marina
      - May 6th - Christened the Hazel Dukes (100-person vessel)
    - Tours on the Hudson
    - They want to operate out of 125th Street
      - Awaiting a floating dock and a gangway
      - had to spend their resources to get approval for the infrastructure
      - invested a lot of personal funds to get the infrastructure in place
    - Only currently running one tour a day
      - Continuing to the end of the season - October 15th
    - Received 500 resumes and conducted interviews
      - Hired 35 young people
      - Not able to give them the hours because they cannot do the number of tours
    - Access is limited from Dyckman Marina
    - Activate the waterfront in West Harlem
    - The Harlem Rocket founders are members of the US Navy League - they want to bring Fleet Week up to Harlem
    - Tickets
      - Adults \$40, Seniors/Children - \$35
    - Could not operate tours during the pandemic. Workforce and supply chain losses.
    - The main barrier is the cost caused by the delays
    - Dyckman will undergo renovations at the summer season
      - Can the infrastructure be reused at Harlem Piers?
    - The boat has a Captain and two deckhands (certified via US Coast Guard)



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Morningside Heights  
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Email: [info@cb9m.org](mailto:info@cb9m.org)

- need about 10 full-time staff members per operational shift
- Did not expect where EDC finally decided to put them
  - Have to deal with Army Corps of Engineers, SBS, EDC, Parks Department, and DOB to get temporary infrastructure in place
- They feel that permanent infrastructure should be expensed by the City so that it can be used by others too
- Councilman Abreu put in a \$150K allotment in the budget
  - EDC was not certain it could allocate it for a profitable business, and EDC indicated that the funds may not be enough to install the necessary infrastructure
- Looking into the Educational Component
  - Partnering with Schools and Summer Programs
  - Younger generations need to know about Maritime opportunities
- Discussion on: NYC Community Planning Fellowship
  - Updates from Eutha
    - We get one intern for the fall
      - a. We had one a few years ago with Economic Development
  - Housing and Land Use needs help
  - Could an intern pull open data to help all committees with the budget needs statement?
  - Could they help with the RKO theater efforts?
  - Asking committees for feedback...

## V. Reports:

### 1. Chair's Report ( Hon. Victor Edwards )

- The report is included in the packet
  - Introduction of New Co-Chairs
  - Chairing of Committees
    - Timely submission of minutes and resolutions
  - Meeting Community where they are
    - senior or community centers
    - libraries
  - Legionnaires' Disease Town Hall
    - 4 Deaths / 20 hospitalized / 92 cases
    - 12 cooling towers
      - a. Harlem Hospital
      - b. City College
    - Who does the detection?
      - a. Self-inspection
    - There should be a third-party entity checking
    - Resolution is needed
    - Senator Cleare is proposing a bill to provide oversight
  - NYPD Quality of Life Teams



- Invite them to the next meeting
- New board members (18)
  - buddy system
- Attendance
  - 4 people removed
  - quarterly reviews by J. Martin-Green, 2nd Vice Chair
- 1727 Amsterdam Avenue
  - ULURP was not originally done
  - Will be done now
- National Night Out Against Crime on 8/6
  - PSA6 gave out 75 bikes
- Newsletter team (1st Vice Chair)
  - Year in Review, pay homage to Carolyn, and a recap of the events
  - Signe is working with Broadway Malls about dedicating a bench in Carolyn's honor
- Tabling at Community Events
  - Goats - 2,000 people attended
  - Lanyards for branding
  - Consider a committee-wide forum in the Spring of 2026

## **2. Treasurer's Report ( Hon. Deidre McIntosh-Brown )**

- The report is included in the distributed packet
- Given by Eutha Prince
  - No expenditures. The new budget went into effect in July
  - Copy, postage, and cleaning service have not been paid for yet for July & August
  - Budget consultations will take place in the fall
    - Please add to the committee agendas

## **3. District Manager's Report (Ms. Eutha Prince)**

- The report is included in the distributed packet
- There is a new DOT Manhattan commissioner - Danielle Zuckerman
- Back to School Event
  - Thursday, August 28th, 2025, from 1-4 PM
  - Backpacks and supplies giveaway
  - Haircuts given
- Review calendars for committee meetings
  - Missing October 6th
  - Some days mislabeled
- Co-naming for April Tyler
  - Block with her HDfC is on 138th Street and Amsterdam Avenue
- Eutha will be on vacation starting Friday

## **4. BID Update (Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero & Hon. Chris Johnson)**



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- Informally met with Barbara Askins
  - Open to extending the scope of the Holiday Lights Parade
  - Go north of 125th Street
  - Having floats travel from further uptown and join the parade
    - expand to businesses and corporate sponsorships
  - Working on getting the Grand Marshall
  - Could kickoff expand - depends on the weather
  - Keeping 125th Street clean and the sidewalks
    - must powerwash more frequently
    - messaging campaign - take pride in our community
    - starts with the younger generation
      - a. Use the NYCLink kiosks
  - Spending \$75,000 for tree guards along 125th Street
  - Young folks from NYCHA or neighborhood schools to participate

## **5. Committee Reports**

- Arts & Culture
  - WHAA event - Ice Skaters
    - 450 West 126th Street
      - Upcoming Paint & Sip event
- Most committees did not meet during the summer months.
- Chair has decided to table committee reports for this month.

## **VI. Action Item(s):**

- 1. LOS re: IBREA Foundation and the Harlem Brain Expansion Proposal
  - presented by L. Henry (Health Committee)
  - Work with teenagers and adults - physical and mental health
    - work with our local schools
  - Motion for unanimous consent by D. Hardeman, seconded by W. Alexander. No objections or abstentions.
- 2. Reso re: Legionnaires' Disease - Cooling Towers
  - presented by L. Henry and C. Clarke (Health Committee)
  - need to update the existing draft of the resolution
  - Motion for unanimous consent by D. Hardeman, seconded by W. Alexander. No objections or abstentions.

## **VII. Old Business:**

- No old business was brought up during this meeting

## **VIII. New Business:**

- NY Black Legislative Task Force (Albany)
  - able to secure \$30 million - to help fund CBOs across the State
- As of June, Chris Johnson is now a NYS Democratic Committee Member



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**IX. Adjourn:**

- Motion to adjourn meeting made by D. Hardeman. Seconded by M. Hardin-Cordero. All committee members agree.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. by Chair Edwards

***Please note: The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 11th, 2025***

***Respectfully submitted by S. Prophete***