

**Executive Committee Minutes
Community Board 9, Manhattan
16-18 Old Broadway
New York, NY 10027
May 14, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:39PM. A motion to adopt the agenda and the minutes was moved and seconded. The Chairs report will be given at the general board. We have an intern, Julia who has been assisting with the senior forum which will be held at the new building 898 St. Nicholas Avenue. We have nine new members. Orientation was attended by seven of the new members. Monadnock has been put on alert as well as the new chair of the Boys and Girls club because of a report stating that there is an 82% rate of minority participation but those participants are not of this area. The Chair stated they would like 50% local participation. Dominique Jones is the Executive Director for the Boys and Girls club. Chris Watler is the new Chair of the Board for the Boys and Girls club. Ms. Jones will be coming to our June meeting. We are looking to have a written plan from them by the 22nd of the month. This month there was a topping off ceremony for the Cathedral project. They have a very diverse population of workers. Principal Readen from the Teachers College Children school death was a shock to us all. Our office staff was volunteered to help in any way. A proclamation was issued to her from the Board and was read by the Chair. It was presented by Joel Mentor at her service. Superintendent Reeve received a very intense letter from the parents. JI and her committee will be reaching out to the parents to help with this situation. Janus Property group came to see us because they were concerned because they became aware that the Board was not pleased with the mwb percentage and said that they will make some changes. They are to bring applications by the Board office and we suggested that they reach out to Derrick Haynes (BRICC). We suggested they have someone available, and someone who speaks Spanish so that they can interview locals who wish to be employed.

Treasurer's Report was included in our packet and the deadline for submissions of community board district needs statements is August. Committee Chairs were reminded to get it done by the June General Board.

District Managers Report

The report is included in your packet. The Manhattan Borough President's office announced the appointment of Diana Howard as our liaison. Thank the Committee Chairs for getting info on district needs statements to Ms. Prince. Leadership development series announced the series should be rsvp, list is included in your packet. AT has been very busy working with housing issues and working on the seniors housing forum. Broadway Housing Sugar Hill 898 St Nicholas Avenue 155th street on May 22nd. The Manhattan Borough President's office is having an open house on Monday, May 18th at 4:00PM.

Page Two

Committee Reports

Youth Education and Library committee is having a expo this Saturday from 10-2PM at P.S. 153 located at 153rd street and Amsterdam Avenue. There will be a food festival at 12 noon also in the building in the lunchroom held by the Hamilton Heights school. They are looking to start charter school program when space is available and were referred to the Land Use committee. We hope to have a festival in the fall. Dealing with new leadership due to the loss at TCC. Superintendent Ramirez of District 6 will be there to answer questions about what is going on in the district as he is new to the district. Eight supts. were replaced last fall
CHALK presentation, City College Child care Development center having issues with staying open. Two year renovation going on displacing children. Chair suggested writing a letter suggesting partnering with another center. Principal of Columbia secondary school is scheduled to make a presentation at the next general board. The school is part of the CBA. They are co-locating, will come to the Board to introduce herself and present some issues they are having.

Arts and Culture Committee will be having their multicultural festival on May 30th 2015.

Volunteers are needed. A study shows that ethnic groups are left out of funding. Lower Manhattan Culture Council attended our meeting. After Councilman Mark Levine intervened on our part, film has come to the meeting and are willing to work with us.

Housing a resolution in the packet regarding Morningside Heights. Scott Stringer's office began this resolution and now that he is comptroller it is stale. The Chair championed this issue and now it is being re-visited. If necessary a look at the previous reply from the B.P.'s office should be undertaken and information updated to this current resolution. Dan Cohen from the Housing Partnership spoke on the up-zoning of Broadway. They are now focusing on Board 12 not 9. Our last year intern Brian now has a job at the Borough President's office supervising interns. Preservation has always been very important to Board 9 and so we do not have large swarths of land for developers. The Chair stated that with additional housing and population the infrastructure needs to be up-dated to reflect the increases. The senior forum is happening next Friday. The Chair asked AT could we get more information on the up-coming hearing so that we could get a group from Board 9 to attend. Palante came to the Housing committee meeting they presented the committee with troubling information about the legal services that Columbia is providing and we need to address that. TK asked that the information be brought to him so that we can present it to the WHDC. TK related that we owe a debt to Carolyn Kent and Michael Adams for their hard work with preservation. AB stated that a lady who was referred to Palante by Mark Levine's office was dissatisfied with Palante.

Health and Environment PJ meeting with Professor Kenney from Columbia University (agreed to review the reports from Riverbank State Park) as that is his forte. He indicated that there are some issues with the report. He stated that they are meeting standards issued but that there are other gases that we should be looking out for. The report had a few inconsistencies and he would like to have a meeting with DEP concerning them. His only concern is for the community and he has been very helpful. Next step is to set up a meeting with DEP the committee and Professor Kenny. He would like to have a walk through. The last time Riverbank suggested a

Page Three

walk through and he would like that to happen to see what changes might occur during the upgrade. The mobile dental van did not show up and has to be re-scheduled possibly in June. JI so many school groups that pay to use Riverbank's facilities if there is not more of a response from Riverbank can we not suggest that through these groups get in the loop. They were supposed to give us a quarterly report and they have not been doing that recently. Website only has the latest quarterly report and not previous reports. Possibly get a study from the community on days that they can report a smell and coordinate that with dates on the report of higher levels.

Economic Development. AB reported that Savanna Bailey attended a meeting concerning a project under the Viaduct, June 9, July 11 and October 3rd. some sort of pop-up. A special meeting will be held next week concerning this event possibly Tuesday. She did attend an Arts and Culture meeting and has e-mailed Parks committee. A meeting between the District Manager, Uniformed Service, and our police department and Economic Development committee has to happen before this project can go further. The area precincts are not approving of some of the parameters concerning this event. Mr. Reader came to one of our meetings and he is a developer and is interested in designing programs for CB9 as a result of needs described in the CBA. Dr. Boateng came with the strategic plan for CB9 and he and VE of Strategic Planning had a meeting.

Parks and Recreation: JM we had several meetings, a meeting with Jim Kineman who provided us with these handouts with events and activities in the park for children and adults for the summer, and, one with Anthony Traverso who is responsible for the recreation part of Parks. This includes the mobile skate van and activities for any green space. It does not have to be a park it can be a group as long as they have advance notice. They activity list will be scanned and sent to the Board. Ms. Savonna Bailey attended a meeting with her resolution and we informed her that this committee would bring it to the whole body and see if it was appropriate. Jacob Schiff Park needs usage. It needs solid stewardship and a plan for usage. It is located on Amsterdam and 136th and 138th street. Letter to Steve Simon concerning a large hole which is inside the park and un-filled.

Uniform Services: Report back from DOT concerning questions raised before a letter of support for the M-60 is issued. Also waiting on Board 10's agreement before we issue an answer. The Chair stated that CB9 has gone on record stating that there are safety concerns which we feel should be addressed by DOT. Visibility on Broadway for pedestrians and delivery trucks and parking were discussed, parking regulation changes were items that were discussed. Chair asked did DOT say anything about Riverside Drive. TK responded "when there is a problem on the West side Highway, (2-3 times a week) then Riverside Drive gets clogged up and drivers go over to Broadway". The committee wrote a letter of support and thanks the DOT for its study and supports the perpendicular street at 116th st. and the triangle on Claremont, supports angle parking on south side of 120th street, redesign of 135th and Riverside.

Page Four

By-Laws and removal for cause

"If a member is disruptive and disrupts a meeting we have the right to bring that member before the members and call for removal for cause". We need to stop this behavior. Florest Forbes had to stop talking because the members were very disrespectful. Victoria Mason-Ailey was disrespected and AT apologized to her and Mr. Forbes. Groups do not have to come to the Board. Convent Avenue Baptist Church is doing an impact study to develop a church school on St. Nicholas Avenue and will be on Hamilton Terrace also. They have a developer and they may need a letter of support at some point and they will forgo coming before the Board. As Chairs of committee you do not have to acknowledge people who are disruptive and who do not act respectfully. When people begin to be belligerent we can have police officers at the meetings to escort them from the meeting. Resolution for public art is referred back to Arts and Culture Committee. AT will re-tool the resolution. AF: if indeed we are talking about the same rabble rousers what is it that we should do? The Chair answered we will talk about this on Thursday and state that if someone is disruptive we can vote them off the Board.

The meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Carole L. Singleton