

MCB9 Health & Environment Committee
MINUTES
September 12, 2022

The meeting started by Co-Chairs, Ms. LaQuita Henry and Dr. Edwin Torres at 6:40 pm.

Members present were: LaQuita Henry, Edwin Torres, PhD, Miriam Aristy-Farer, Heather Jason, Monique Hardin-Cordero, Monica Dula, Patricia Ramos, and Rev. Patricia Caldwell. Board Members present: Barry Weinberg, Lydia Gerson,

Issues to be discussed on the Agenda: Mental health issues that lead to Gun Violence, Domestic disputes that are led by mental health issues. MPV (Monkey Pox Virus), Polio, COVID-19.

<p>NYC DOHMH</p>	<p>Lead by Mr. Padmore John-what is the response and need of the community. What is happening at the community level?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polio-vaccines are being offered since Governor Hochul declared a State emergency which expands the network of vaccine administrators, adding EMS workers, midwives, and pharmacists. We encourage children and all that have not received their Polio vaccine to get it. Call 311 for a health care provider. How can DOHMH come to the community? CB9 has one of the lowest vaccination rates. Messages should be translated into different languages-multilingual messages. <p>Deborah Levine – CUNY SPH vaccine LC is happy to help CB9 with social media and community campaigns.</p> <p>Contact CB9 for messages, we have learned from COVID-19 that it is important for healthcare providers to build trust for patients to ask questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 How do we help people understand the effectiveness of vaccines to increase booster rates in the community. We must keep an eye out for Long COVID-19 • MPV-everyone is at risk, vaccines are available at City run hospitals, but must make appointments. • Currently only one community-based site available to get latest CoVID vaccine.
<p>Mental Health</p>	<p>Amber Moore (Office of CM Shaun Abreu) asked for ideas from communities on how mental health resources or how can mental health be integrated into our community. Currently, there is a syringe exchange and navigation assistance for those in need. In schools, we have afterschool, increase school counselors, and summer youth programs.</p>

Environment	<p>Louis Bailey from WeAct discussed environmental health legislation.</p> <p>Zero Waste Bill by 2030, a package of bills for waste justice has been on the desk of Speaker Adams, please reach out to her so that bills could get passed. <i>(continues next page)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker Adams 718-206-2028 or speakeradams@citycouncil.nyc.gov <p>Rat Action Plan- Rat Academy will be held on October 18 from 6 pm-8 pm, sponsored by CM Abreu and NYC DOHMH</p>
1727 Amsterdam Avenue	<p>Patricia Jordan (Chair, EBCC) stated that NYC Health and Hospitals will be renovating 1727 Amsterdam Avenue. Emma L. Bowen Community Service Center which is a tenant at the location will relocate to 520 W 135 Street while the renovation occurs. Currently, facility has 59,000 square feet but from the preliminary plans it looks like it will go to 32-31,000 square feet, but it might land to possibly 25,000 square feet (is this a reason for re-zoning). However, there will be less space, and more rent and there will always be an increase in the need for services. The plan for renovation was passed in 2019, however, Emma L Bowen Community Service has only received preliminary plans and CB9 was not informed. The CB9 Committee on Land Use is informed of the plans. Is there long-term sustainability for rent level, can it be sustained since Emma L Bowen Community Service receives funds from Medicaid & Medicare, and is there an affordable rent agreement? Anticipated reassigned 25,000 square feet is less than their current footage and will more cost in the future when they return to site.</p>
New Business	<p>The 142nd Street Dog Run has initiated fundraising efforts for waste receptacles to be placed on Riverside Drive between West 135th and West 145th Streets. They are seeking assistance from CB9, the NYS Assembly, and NYC Council.</p> <p>Nick Arture-NYSNA- unsafe staffing issues at hospitals will be discussed at the October 3 meeting. Hospitals serving CB9 Columbia Presbyterian and Mt. Sinai.</p> <p>On Friday, September 16 between 10 AM-3 PM Emma L Bowen will hold an Annual Health Fair at 1727 Amsterdam Avenue. COVID-19 vaccines will be available. Ms. Patricia Jordan will share the flyer via District Office.</p>

Meeting concluded at 8:50 PM.

See you all at next Committee Meeting: Monday, October 3, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Ramos