

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

March 21, 2017

Broadway Housing, 583 Riverside Drive

Attending Committee Members:

Victor Edwards – Chair, Deidre McIntosh-Brown, Laquita Henry, Alec Barrett, Harriet Rosebud, Signe Mortensen, Jose Torres

Guest:

Dean Morris – WHDC
Victoria Mason-Ailey

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

A motion was made for acceptance of the minutes and the agenda, both were accepted.

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all committee members and our two guests.

Item 1: Lack of Engagement by WHDC Grantees

- The Chair outlined the concerns of the committee regarding the lack of engagement by Grantees as noted in the recent letter to WHDC Director K. Boateng. All committee Chairs had agreed that this engagement was key to the community fully benefitting from the programs offered by the Grantees. The Chair stated that committee members wanted language that would make it mandatory for all Grantees to attend a minimum of one related CB9 committee meeting. Dean Morris proposed language that “Grantees would make themselves available at all times for invitations from CB9 committees to make presentations”. Despite the Chair’s objection committee members decided that this was a fair start for this process and the language was agreed upon by all in attendance. As a part of this process all Grantees would be provided with the contact information of the related CB9 committee and the Grantce’s information would be provided to the Board as the Grants were awarded during the year.

Item 2: West Harlem Development Corp. (WHDC) Updates

- D. Morris continued with announcements of upcoming programs at the WHDC: Small Grants applications, Summer Youth Employment Educational Program (SYEEP) and the Summer Senior Employment Program.
 - Mr. Morris explained that the new educational component for the SYEEP would consist of 1 to 2 days of instructions for the young people enrolled in the program. The details for this component as well as the actual worksites were still being arranged. He also reminded the committee that two CB9 members (Ken Miles and Joyce Adewumi) were project managers and should provide program details as the project moved forward.
 - Victoria Mason-Ailey was asked if Columbia University would consider being a worksite location for some of the youth in the SYEEP. Mrs. Mason stated that she would look into this request and follow- up with us.
 - Member L. Henry suggested that a financial literacy class be a part of the summer program to provide the young people early concepts of managing their own money.
 - Member McIntosh-Brown suggested having an “Educational Summit” that would involve all grantees who were awarded funding for educational programs.

(2)

Item 3: Columbia University Community Benefits Agreement (CBA)

- The Chair distributed a handout highlighting sections of the CBA where Columbia had made a commitment to provide assistance to CB9 in various areas. These areas included Housing, Economic Development, Arts, Community Facilities and Preservation. The Chair suggested that these resources had largely gone untapped and that committees should examine these opportunities for assistances with community projects.

Announcements:

Members Barrett and McIntosh-Brown provided an update on the DOE possible co-locating of TCCS students in P. S. 36, stating that the decision was on hold for the time being.

Member Barrett informed the committee of the Borough President's office Civic Fellow program.

Victoria Mason-Ailey reminded members of the upcoming application deadline for the Community Scholars program (Deadline - April 27)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.
Next meeting will be June 20, 20 17.