

Manhattan Community Board 9 Youth, Education & Libraries

September 8, 2026 YEL MEETING NOTES

In Attendance:

Hon. Deirdre McIntosh-Brown

Hon. Shaneeka Wilson

Alicia Barksdale

Denise Ford

Madison Ayala

Marquis Bell (virtual)

Theo Kronby (virtual)

Meeting Notes:

Welcome to new board members and welcome back to returning members! YEL has an almost entirely new team! Fortunate to have members return and new members who are familiar to the board and the community.

Community Presentation/Discussions:

- St. John the Divine - Marie Del Toro
 - Marie reported strong enrollment growth in their out-of-school programs, particularly serving children ages 8-12, with successful summer youth employment programs despite challenges with technology use (keeping Summer youth employees off their phones and engaged with the children)
- NYPL - George Bruce Library – Kate Marcus (Children’s Librarian) 518 W 125th Street
 - Kate announced that the after-school program at George Bruce Library will resume on Monday September the 14th [school age kids, 5-12 yo, 3pm - 6pm Mon-Thurs]
 - Upcoming library open house from October 10-19, including giveaways and snacks for ALL ages - adults and children and young adults. Free backpacks!
- Riverside Hawks - Coach Anthoiny Hargraves
 - Provided updates on Riverside's activities, including the recent hiring of an executive director - Aswan Amaris. Ongoing discussions with Riverside Church and TBD of their future status. Currently offering FREE tutoring, FREE high School test taking, SAT and TAC programs and of course Basketball Clinics! On Saturdays: Ages 13 and under starts at 4pm until 7pm. Ages 13+ 7pm - 9pm
 - Check riversidehawks.org for additional details
- Harlem Brain Ibrea foundation - Isabel Guzman
 - Announced their scholarship program for mind-body training and healing techniques. FREE monthly free classes on the fourth Saturday (register on EventBrite).
 - Open House on Saturday September 26: A day of community in a safe, healing, caring, space with a variety of energy healing activities tailored to you personally! 1pm - 5pm at their Harlem location (2233 Adam Clayton Powell Junior Boulevard, New York, NY 10027)

New Business:

- Administrative notes: procedures on being late/virtual - reminder to email YEL at MCB9YEL@gmail.com
- CEC5 and CEC6 attendance; Note taking responsibility for YEL.
- FY27 information