



## Chair's Report January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### **Community Art Space**

The West Harlem Community Benefits Agreement stipulates that Columbia University will provide an art space within one of the newly constructed buildings on the new campus. In the interim, Columbia has agreed to provide temporary art space in one of its existing buildings. To this end, a tour of a potential art space in one of Columbia's buildings was provided to me and several community stakeholders. This space would provide a stationary location for the West Harlem Arts Alliance and a working space for the CB9 Arts and Culture Committee. We await the next steps to finalize this process and make this vision a reality.

### **One Harlem Coalition**

In mid-December 1st, Vice Chair Barry Weinberg and I, along with members of the One Harlem Coalition, met with senior administrators at St. Vice Chair Barry Weinberg and I, along with members of the One Harlem Coalition, met with senior administrators at Columbia University. During this meeting we revisited several demands made of Columbia to offset the University's expansion into Harlem. Several of the demands were housing related:

- > creation of affordable housing units in current Columbia owned buildings and future constructed buildings
- > commitment of additional resources to assist area HDFC 's
- > extension of funding for attorneys representing residents in the CB9 area

We will continue to meet with Columbia and monitor the progress of these demands.

### **Farwell to Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell**

State Assemblyman D. O'Donnell attended December's CB9 General Board meeting, where he announced that he would not seek reelection for another term in the State Assembly. O'Donnell who served our community for the past 21 years was a former CB9 Board Member and has introduced countless for the benefits for all New Yorkers. We all wish our Assemblymen well in the next venture of his life.

### **CB9 Holiday Celebration**

A holiday celebration was also organized in conjunction with CB9's December General Board meeting. District Manager Eutha Prince spearheaded organizing the event, and her family pitched in to pick up and serve food, which we truly appreciated. Food for the event was donated by Westside Market, Dinosaur BBQ, Mofongo del Valle, and Costco, and it was truly enjoyed by all in attendance.

## **Thank You...**

A very **Special Thank You** to our District Manager, Eutha Prince and our Office Associate Hakeel Elliston for maintaining the office so well after the departure Madison Ayala for a new position in city government.