

Community Board 9

Chairs Report

March 8, 2012

Discussions with Touro College regarding strategies' to increase the number of Minorities admitted to the medical and dental school.

Because of the community service I have provided over the years and the diverse organizations that I belong to, I was invited to breakfast with Mayor Bloomberg along with eleven other "Harlem Stakeholders". I utilized the opportunity to present concerns surrounding the districts educational needs, lack of affordable housing and the plight of Hispanic and African American males. Spoke to the fact that community board's voices are not being heard with some of our city commissioners.

Met with Equity Residential Developers to explore the issues which have historically prevented the residents of our districts from being hire on sites that develop in our district. Our residents are lacking in the credentials that allow them to be hired on sites which are union and non union due to certain basic trainings that are available to them, however, they more often than not are unable to pass the exams due to poor reading and math skills. It has been determined that the majority of the young adults that are applying have less than sixth grade reading and math skill. The discussion concluded with their agreement to introduce to the board, the persons who established the apprenticeship program for Local 30 during the building of Metro Tech. We will have a presentation at our April General board meeting.

Meeting held with President of 125th BID to discuss the possibilities to brighten up the 12th Ave. corridor and to explore options that would increase lighting and promote additional traffic for the existing businesses.

Exploratory meeting with M. Jaycox to discuss his development of an agricultural camp in which youth of CB9 would be able to spend weekends during fall and winter and summers learning to grow their own food and understanding the principles of "Organic" farming and marketing.

Discussions with Commander of 30th Precinct around "Stop and Frisk" as well as mentoring program that he is involved with developing.

Attended the 30th Precinct Clergy Council and shared the importance of the local churches sending a representative to CB9 general board meetings. Reminded them of the obligation that we all have to give feedback as to the impact of the West Harlem Rezoning on their congregants.

Held initial meeting with the CB9 Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee which has the task of developing several service options which will be presented to the Board, and allow the Board to have options to suggest in the facilitation of the CBA.

Attended Plante Harlem open house and awards ceremony.

Attended community forum held by St. John Devine. I informed attendees that CB9 had not "signed off" on the project and that CB9 was present for exploratory purposes to receive information and look at the impact of the development on the community as a whole. St. John Devine is still developing their plan. Attendee's shared the benefits that the building would bring to the community and Close as well as the disadvantages.