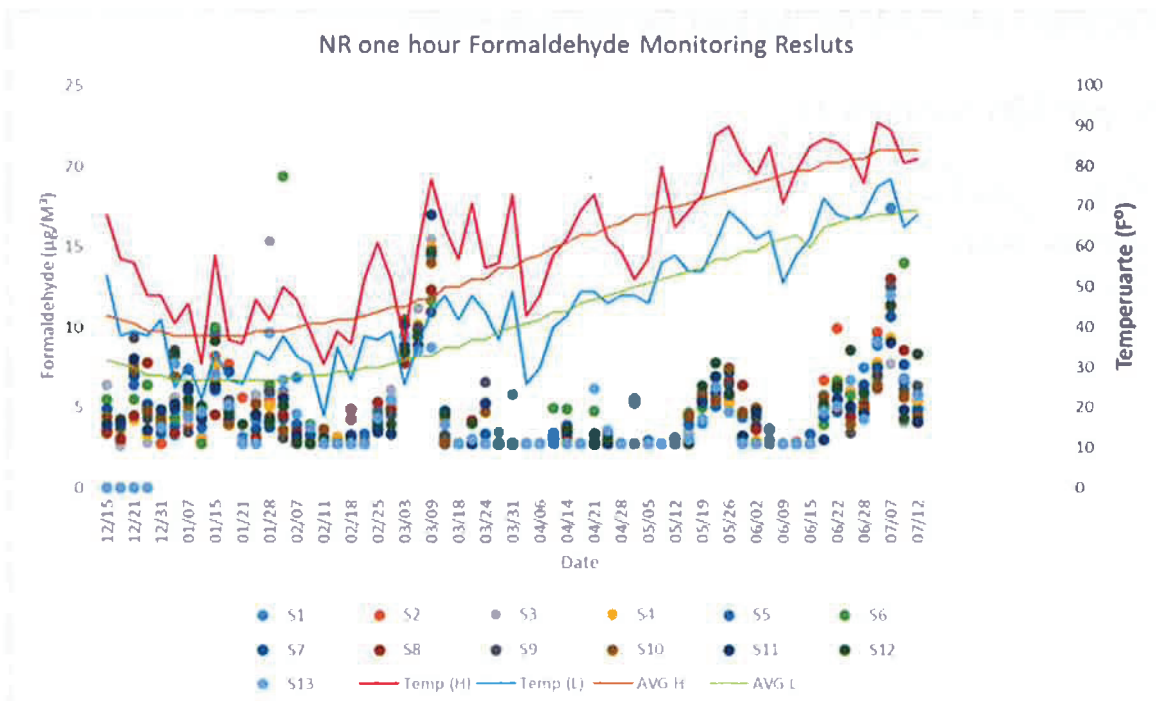


# CHAIR'S REPORT

## SEPTEMBER - 2016

Welcome back to the CB 9's executive board meeting. I hope you had a great summer. As our children go back to school, we are expecting a challenging yet gratifying learning experience at their schools. And this can only be accomplished by a school system that has a vested interest in each and every one of our children. By principals that provide strong and visionary leadership, and by teachers and other staff that treat and nurture each child as if they are their own. Similarly, we expect satisfactory housing that will not impede on our health nor on our financial stability. To ensure that these and many other social rights are not withheld for us, we as a community must be vigilant and vocal. Thank you for joining CB9 in taking care of our community.

To that end, we continue to receive reports from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on the status of the formaldehyde levels. The readings still remain within a normal range. Nonetheless, DEP has yet to provide a report on the reason behind the spike that occurred in late 2015. We understand the DEP is reviewing the documentation and will be providing a report on the cause and the subsequent collection of formaldehyde levels that have occurred over the past year.

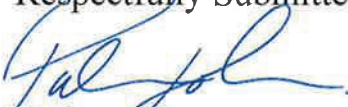


We are assessing the situation with the Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science, & Engineering, which increased access to space to allow a library and other teaching spaces such as labs to be installed. Convening ongoing meetings with interested stakeholders and especially the community is vital to rescuing this situation.

A building that CB 9 has provided significant support to, is finally reaching a completion in construction. The Boys and Girls Club at PS 186, with affordable housing above, came before the general body and committee meetings informing us on their progress and on the lottery system for the units. The units are under the auspices of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and we would like to know how residents from West Harlem made out in the lottery. Besides this issue, our housing committee spent much of the summer planning and meeting around the needs of the HDFCs in our community. One of the few remaining ways towards homeownership and building equity. HDFCs are facing a stiff challenge to remain financially viable and as anchor of neighborhoods in West Harlem in which they have had a long presence. Preservation is important.

As we begin the board session for another fiscal year, I am saddened to see that some of our longstanding members has resigned to balance other activities and goals, but I am also heartened by the committed individuals who remain within the community and looking to add their voices to the concerned who look for the best for our community.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Padmore John  
Chair