

**Meeting of the Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee
Held on Thursday, May 24, 2018
At the Riverdale Y
5625 Arlington Ave., Bronx, 10471
Pending Committee Approval**

In Attendance:

Marvin Goodman, CB8 - Chair, Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee
Sylvia Alexander, CB - Libraries Committee Member
Martin Wolpoff, CB8- Libraries Committee Member
Peter Pamphile, Library Manager, Van Cortlandt Library
Rebecca Barbier, Library Manager, Riverdale Library
Joyce Dutka, Curator, Gallery 18 Arts at Riverdale Y
Sharon Krinsky, Artist

The meeting began at 5:30 PM. The minutes of the April meeting were unanimously approved.

A SAPO application on behalf of the Bethel Community Church, for full street closure of Eames Place, between Clafin Avenue and University Avenue from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, on August 8, 2018. Although Mr. Jose Olivero, the listed event producer, did not appear, since this event is held each year at this time, with CB 8's approval, the committee voted for approval for this year also. The full day event features spiritual education, free distribution of beverages, health information and games and toys for children. Street vendors participate as well.

The chair introduced Joyce Dutka, the curator of Gallery 18. She is herself an artist, a member of the Bronx Council on the Arts, and is responsible for arranging these monthly art exhibits of local artists. She presented us with a brief history of Gallery 18 over the years, with photos and cut-outs of art works by artists from past Gallery 18 exhibits and with newspaper clippings from the Riverdale Press describing these works and the artists behind them.

Joyce then introduced Sharon Krinsky, the current artist whose work is on display. Sharon gave a brief history of her educational and artistic background and her current involvement in artistic endeavors. She then led us on tour of the 27 works on display. All are of mixed media, including acrylic paint, newspaper clips, bits of wood, and various fabrics in collage arrangements. Most works feature women only, with only one featuring a man. The materials all blend in well and very subtly, including all the color shades. We thanked her for the tour and applauded her artistic efforts.

A post tour discussion was held. The chair encouraged Joyce to expand her exhibitions to other sites as well, including our branch libraries. Rebecca Barbier, branch manager of the Riverdale Library, indicated that her library branch would be willing to exhibit the works of local artists, as would other library branches. The chair reminded the group of the committee's budgetary requests for the coming fiscal year, 2020, which includes the request for capital expenses to expand library services to seven days a week at the Kingsbridge Branch Library, which would be the first in CB8. Our top capital budget request was for the expansion of the Spuyten Duyvil Branch Library. The increase in the number of local schools and the vast increase in student population make this very necessary, and the land for this expansion, adjoining the library and owned by the City, is available. For all our library branches we need ADA compliance, upgrades in fire alarms, security systems and technology, including Wi-Fi.

Rebecca Barbier handed out sample letters that could be sent to the NYPL to encourage funding for these projects.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM. Our next meeting will be on June 14, 2018 at 5:30 PM. at Wave Hill. We will meet at the conservatory where we will be shown how the new plants are cultivated. We will be taken on a tour of Wave Hill grounds to see the multitude variety of plants growing in so many artistic ways.

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Respectfully submitted,
Marvin Goodman, Committee Chair