

**Meeting of the Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee
Held on December 14, 2017
Kingsbridge Branch Library,
291 West 231 Street
Pending Committee Approval**

In Attendance:

Marvin Goodman, CB8 - Chair, Libraries and Cultural Affairs Committee
Sylvia Alexander, CB8 - Libraries Committee Member
Martin Wolpoff, CB8-Libraries Committee Member
David Gelman, CB8
Tim Tureski - Spuyten Duyvil Library Branch Manager
Martha Gonzalez-Buitrago - Kingsbridge Library Branch Manager

Committee Members Absent:

Amy Joy Robateau, CB8 – Libraries Committee Member

The meeting began at 5:15 PM.

The chair read a note from Peter Pamphile, library manager of the Van Cortlandt Branch Library, indicating that the NYPL has finalized the purchase of the 5,800square foot building at 3882 Cannon Place and that the Van Cortlandt Library Branch will move to the new location by the spring of 2019 and that this will double the size of the library's capacity. The article indicates the other library branches for which NYPL has allocated money for capital projects, but none are in our community board.

The chair introduced Martha Gonzalez-Buitrago, Library Manager of the Kingsbridge Library Branch. This branch has the largest number of visitors of any branch in our community. Programs range from pre-school to senior programs. There is a conference room for special programs and for films. There is a large area of multiple computers for visitor usage. There is a special section set aside for the pre-school children, with miniature size furniture and play facilities. The library is on two floors, with the lower floor for the children's library. There is an elevator that goes between the two floors. We were given a calendar of events for December at the library. These include a teen advisory group, a read-aloud program for children ages 5 to 12; a toddler story time for 18 to 36 month old children; a pre-k for all informational program; several programs for teens and pre-teens, and a special pajama night program for 4 to 11 year old children. Computer basics and e-mail instructions are available in English and in Spanish. Writing workshops and poetry workshops and book discussions are held. The library is open for six days a week and is closed on Sunday. The chair noted that our committee has been requesting additional funding to provide for Sunday library services at our branch libraries, but none have yet received such funding.

The committee members were taken on a comprehensive tour of the library where we could see all the facilities where each of the programs take place. The book stacks on each floor are arranged by the categories of the Dewey Decimal System.

The meeting ended at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marvin Goodman, Chair
Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee