



Community Board No. 10 - Manhattan

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SCOTT M. STRINGER
Borough President

W. FRANC PERRY
Chairman

Community Board 10 General Board Meeting Minutes June 2, 2010

Rules and order of meeting were announced by Franc Perry, Chairperson, Community Board 10 called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Community Board 10 Chairman Perry introduced the members of the Fredrick Douglas Academy Research and Ecology group on the incredible project they did at Harlem River Park. On behalf of Community Board 10 he stated to them how proud the board was. The students went onto introduced themselves and discussed the school and the project at Harlem River Park. The school is located on W. 149th Street and Adam Clayton Powell. 72% of the students are African American, 26% are Hispanic and the annual graduation rate is 98%. The school is located in Phase 5 of Harlem and the students are committed to make a contribution and the development of this area. Over the past few months they have conducted interviews with about 21 area residents regarding Harlem River Park. What was discovered is that the average age is 41 of those who have visited the park and the average age of those who have not visited the park is 29. The park is used everyday mostly in the afternoon and evening hours. The interviewees noted that the most common parks they visit are Harlem River Park and Central Park. Physical activities such as: running, playing handball, bike riding or just hanging out are common at this park. The most common suggestions/issues that were made by the respondents were cleanliness and the aesthetics of the park. They also suggested expanding the park to accommodate more physical activities. EPA studies were made by the students that included the air quality and the analysis showed that the area was below standards. The students then went onto design (with the help of respondents) and change the layout of the park in hopes of changing the ecological environment in the park. The students are asking for the support of the community to continue making the necessary improvements at the park.

Community Board 10 Chairman Perry formally recognized and thanked Mr. Calvin Solomon (formerly from the District Attorney's office) for his hard work and dedication to the Central Harlem Community.

Crystal McKay, Sergeant-at-Arms, reviewed appropriate behavior and protocol for community board meetings.

- I. **Community First**-Henrietta Lyle, Vice Chair opened the Community First segment of the meeting she then called upon:

Ernestine Temple from Assemblyman Herman D. Farrell's office announced that copies of the monthly newsletter will be available in the back of the room. Ms. Temple went onto salute the students from the Frederick Douglas Academy for their hard work and dedication on the Harlem River Park project. In addition, she discussed a screening that was held related to youth gun violence one of the Community Board 10 members spoke at this event and there were other Community Board 10 members that attended. Assemblyman Farrell wanted to thank again the community for their support and he looks forward to seeing everyone in September. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call Ms. Temple at 212.234.1430.

Maurice Cummings from Assemblyman Keith Wright's office addressed the on-going problem with youth violence in the community. He recently attended a news conference with Jackie Rowe Adams with Harlem Mother's S.A.V.E. and Reverend Williams. There was a recent incident where a fight erupted and teenagers were fighting with 2x4's. The press conference was to stress that parents need to take the responsibility of their children and be a parent and not a friend. They also need to get more involved in their children's social lives serve as positive role models. On another note, Senior's night at the Salvation Army was a great success and they are planning another event at the Salvation Army on 138th Street and Lenox Avenue on June 25th from 4:00 pm-7:00pm. There will be music, food and games and a great opportunity for our seniors to socialize. In July a benefits presentation for the residents and the community will be held there will be client representatives from NY State agencies to go over available programs. People in the community need help and they are also working with tenant associations to ensure that the information about the event gets out to the community. The date and location are confirmed. For more information please call 212.866.5809.

Lamond Mays of Councilwoman Inez Dicken's office announced that the Committee to End Abusive Policing will be holding a hearing on Wednesday, June 23rd at 6:00 pm at the Dempsey Center. This is an invitation for anyone who feels that they may have been harassed or abused by law enforcement and would like to give testimony. On Saturday, June 19th is the 17th Annual Juneteenth Celebration that will take place on 116th Street between 7th and Lenox Avenue. This event is to celebrate the Emancipation of Slavery. Harlem Mother's S.A.V.E. will be holding rally named "Community Youth Gun Prevention Summit." Jackie Rowe Adams will be hosting this rally based on a recent incident she witnessed. The event will take place on 113rd Street between 5th and Madison within the Lincoln House. If you love Harlem please come out to and show your support. Councilwoman Dicken's and her colleagues have introduced Resolution 243 calling upon Congress to enact the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act this will allow HUD to provide federal grants in urban areas and the funding would go to the community centers, senior centers, job development programs and hoping to fill in the financial gap the city and state cannot provide. Lastly in the month of June they hope to be introducing three new HDFC's. This is very important to the Councilwoman that Harlem residents own their own homes and stay in the community. The HDFC's will be located at: 30 W. 119th Street, 2401 5th Avenue and 163 Lenox Avenue.

Calvin Solomon from the Special Narcotics Prosecutors office thanked Chairman Perry for his kind words and announced that he had worked at the District Attorney's office for the past 18 years and six weeks ago he moved over to the Special Narcotics Prosecutors office. Mr. Solomon distributed flyers with a synopsis on what the office is about. He works with Bridgette Brennan who was appointed by five District Attorneys in New York County and is handling felony narcotic cases within the five boroughs. They currently do not have a community liaison, so Mr. Solomon will make periodic announcements at the CB 10 general board meetings. The office is establishing lectures, tours, and internships so that at the September meeting Mr. Solomon can give a report of what they will have to offer the community at large. Lastly, he discussed statistics of pending prosecutions within the confines of CB 10. Since January 1, 2010-May, 22, 2010 there were 92 felony narcotic cases within CB 10. The 56th, 28th and 32nd precincts had 28 cases that within the confines of CB 10 and 18 of those cases are individuals that were arrested within feet of a school.

Anthonine Pierre from the Office of Borough President Scott Stringer announced that a meeting was held on May 23rd at the Dempsey Center regarding a litigation case against the Pinnacle Group. It took five years for the case to go through the courts and they won the case. The judge ruled that it is now considered a class action suit. The Borough Presidents office is now working on determining which buildings are owned and

operated by Pinnacle to then contact the tenants, inform them of the class action suit and ask them if they are interested in becoming a part of the suit. A flyer will be available in the back of the room with contact information. A public hearing will be held on June 17th to discuss rent increases and on June 8th a meeting will be held at the Borough Presidents downtown office on the 19th floor to discuss how to handle the hearing on the 17th. Flyers for this event will be in the back of the room. Ms. Pierre wished everyone a safe and happy summer and asked for the community to come together to support Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E. and Street Corners on their efforts to ensure a safe summer for all in the community.

Lindi Pierce and Ruth Brooks (owner) of Simply Hair Salon announced the grand opening of Simply Hair Salon located at 40 West 116th Street in the Kalahari Building. The salon will be a “green” salon that will feature natural/organic products and they do not use harsh chemicals. Because they will be located in a “green building” they wanted to offer an alternative to Harlem residents.

Dr. Matthews Hurley Primary Care Internist at Harlem Hospital and President of the United Doctors Association announced that the issues brought up in the press for the past few days. These issues have been argued with HHC and Columbia is it is not a new issue. However, it represents a failure in providing the adequate resources that the hospital requires. Promises for staffing and electronic support never came and this has been on-going for several years. They are asking for the support of the community to provide the hospital with more Cardiologists, Urologists, Gastroenterologists, Gynecologist and Obstetricians. The CAB Advisory Board is currently working on a structuring plan and the doctors at Harlem Hospital would like to review these plans to provide their insights especially when it comes to patient care. Again Dr. Hurley asked for the support of the community so that Harlem Hospital can continue to provide the best care possible.

Gwen Kash Community Organizer with Community Pride discussed the resolution on the agenda tonight listed as a voting item called “Safer Streets Resolution.” Ms. Kash went on to say that Harlem has a problem with pedestrian safety. As she arrived to the meeting tonight she spoke with Ms. Barrett a Harlem Resident and Ms. Barrett stated to Ms. Kash that she “prays everyday before she leaves her home because of the traffic.” Here are some frightening statistics and findings: Adam Clayton Powell is very dangerous and about 15 out of every 100 cars that drive through there drive faster than 40 mph. Cars going at that speed are more often than not fatal. Speeding in New York City causes three times as many accidents as drunk driving and it is a problem that needs to get under control for the safety of everyone in the community. There is also a problem with not having enough time to get across the street. By putting a leading pedestrian interval this will give pedestrians more time to get across. Making the medians bigger (like the ones on Lenox Avenue) will help as well as extending the curbs at the crosswalks improving pedestrian ramps and installing speed bumps around the schools.

Patricia Williams, member of the New York Black Nurses Association invited the Board and guests to a free health forum that will take place on Saturday, June 26th at the Greater Harlem Nursing Home located at 30 West 138th Street. The focus of this forum is to discuss the elements of healthcare reform and how it affects you and the community. They will take a look at what’s happening now in the community especially the shortage of nurses and nursing educators. They want to encourage young men and women to consider the profession of nursing and to provide them with as much information as possible. They will also address the closing of hospitals and how it will affect the community and the loss of resources for the two hospitals in Harlem North General Hospital and Harlem Hospital. For more information regarding the event, please see the flyer in the back of the room. You can also contact them at New York Black Nurses

Association Grand Central Station P.O. Box 3635, New York, NY 10163 or by calling 212.517.1997. Ms. Williams emphasized that everyone should come out to the event to voice their opinions and to educate your self on the new health reforms.

Fred Wilson member of the Mother Clara Bus Depot Task Force announced that on Thursday, July 8th from 6:00-8:00 pm at the A. Phillip Randolph Senior Center located at 106 West 147th Street off of Malcolm X Blvd. they will be hosting a town hall meeting that will include the MTA. They are asking all of the Harlem Residents to please attend. One of the issues on the agenda will be air quality.

Keith Taylor Community Board 10 Member and President of the Doris Brooks Property Owners and Residents Association announced that in remembrance of our soldiers and with Memorial Day just passing the Doris Brooks Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 528 will be honoring PFC Brooks of the Fighting 369 Harlem Hell Fighters. PFC Brooks was the son of a civil war soldier was the first from the 369 to fall while defending this country and the first African American soldier to have a park named after him in New York City located on West 136th Street. There will be a rededication ceremony on Saturday, June 12th at 12:30 pm and would like to invite everyone to attend.

Jolinda Ruth Cogen thanked everyone for their efforts regarding the CERT Program. They had over 18 applicants and 12 of those applicants have passed and graduated from the program and the other applicants were placed on a waiting list. Central Harlem has the biggest graduation class in the entire city. Now Central Harlem has a CERT team that can respond to any kind of emergency. Lastly, the 32nd Precinct Community Council will be meeting the third Thursday in June before the summer break and elections will be held at this meeting and Ms. Cogen is running for reelection.

Famod Konned Community Coordinator for the Manhattan District Attorney's Office Mr. Konned is the new Community Coordinator and he wanted to introduce himself to the Board and guests. The District Attorney's office has established a new strategy unit called CSU and his colleague Tanya will be spearheading this program and the focus of this program is to develop a partnership with community based organizations. She wasn't able to attend this evening but she will be here at the September meeting with Mr. Konned to discuss this new program.

Julius Tajiddin of Preserve Harlem's Legacy announced that he is urging Harlem residents to take care of their health and to make it a priority. In regards to the Manhattan Borough President's report to the Charter Commission, he wanted to thank the President for an excellent report and he hopes that this will strengthen the Community Board's role on the local government level. The second annual Preserve Harlem's Legacy Awards has been postponed until the end of the summer and nominations are still open. On June 15th is the rent guidelines board hearing and the last vote is on June 24, 2010. Lastly, Mr. Tajiddin wanted to express his appreciation to certain individuals within the Harlem community for their work and dedication and they are: Dr. K. Samuels, Liz Brock, Juanita Thomas, CB 10 Chairman Franc Perry and a special recognition to CB 10 member Ms. Hazel Dukes.

Cordell Clare from State Senator Bill Perkins Office announced that legislation passed to lift the cap on charter schools. This is a very sensitive topic in the Harlem community and Senator Perkins is concerned about the charter schools transparency and accountability. Though the bill was passed there were some good things that were included in the bill regarding co-location, language with existing schools, that all of the children have equality in equipment, space facilities, language and giving the State Controller authority to audit. There were also a mandates stating that all of the schools serve children that are English language learners, that they serve children with special

needs and that they have parent associations. Lastly, in response to the recently proposed closures of senior centers, Senator Perkins is calling together the directors of the 13 senior centers that are proposed being closed within his district (northern Manhattan). Senator Perkins wants to determine how these cuts will affect the seniors regarding meals and other services the centers provide for them. This meeting will take place on Friday, June 4th at 4:00 pm in the State office building. There will be a town hall meeting on Thursday, June 3rd at 6:00pm at P.S. 28 located on 155th Street and Amsterdam Avenue and he is asking everyone to come attend for legislative updates.

Public Session:

- A. **Roll Call**-at 7:11 pm 36 Present 13 Absent 4 Excused
- B. **Motion to Adopt Minutes** - Minutes from Community Board 10 General Board meeting held on May 5, 2010 was unanimously adopted.
- C. **Motion to Adopt Agenda**- Agenda for the Community Board 10 meeting of June 2, 2010 was unanimously adopted with changes and deletions.
- D. **Chairman Report from Chairman Franc Perry**- Thanked all of the Community Board members for their hard work and dedication this past year. The Board and the community have continued to work together on issues such as stop lights on 135th Street outside of Lenox Terrace or getting some speed bumps. The issue was brought up last month regarding concerns of the Community Board budgets being reduced by 30%. The word from the Mayor's office is that budgets will not be cut, even though they have not been increased for the past 20 years. The office will continue to have two employees, along with volunteers and interns.

II. Business Session-

- A. Roll Call at 7:51 pm 37 Present 12 Absent 4 Excused

B. Voting Items-

1. Parks/Recreation/Transportation :

Resolution for safe streets/safe sidewalks

36 Yes 14 No Votes 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous

2. Economic Development:

- 1. Melba's Restaurant: Application for Liquor License
37 Yes 7 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 2. Bier International: Application for Liquor License Result: Passed
- 3. Hotel 124: Application for Liquor License
37 Yes 7 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 4. Azah Shrine 127: Application for Liquor License
37 Yes 7 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 5. Society Café: Renewal Liquor License
36 Yes 7 No Vote 1 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 6. Settepani: Unenclosed Sidewalk Café
37 Yes 7 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 7. Le Perle Noire: Unenclosed Sidewalk Café
38 Yes 6 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 8. Shrine: Renewal Unenclosed Sidewalk Café
Disregarded

3. Education Committee:

- 1. Resolution in Support of the Dr. Muriel Petioni Charter School
38 Yes 6 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
- 2. Resolution in Support of a New York City Charter School
Uniformed Land Use Review Procedure Resolution
38 Yes 6 No Vote 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous

4. Transportation Committee:

1. Judge Bruce Wright Place Street Co-Naming Resolution
39 Yes 1 No 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
2. Madam C.J. A'Lelia Walker
39 Yes 1 No 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
3. Jack Johnson Plaza
40 Yes 1 No 0 Abstain Result: Unanimous
4. The Respect for Our Historic Heritage Appropriate
Symbolic Street Signage Placement Resolution
41 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 9 No Votes Result: Unanimous

5. Nominations for Elections

Candi Halbert	nominated for Treasurer
Sayde Lee Vassil	nominated for Assistant Secretary
Crystal McKay	nominated for Secretary
Stephane Howze	nominated for 2 nd Vice Chair
Patti Jacobs	nominated for reelection 2 nd Vice Chair
Henrietta Lyle	nominated for reelection 1 st Vice Chair
Franc Perry	nominated for reelection Chair

III. ADJOURNMENT- Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephane Howze
Secretary, Community Board 10