



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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**CICELY HARRIS**  
Chairperson

# Arts and Culture Committee Minutes

Monday, September 10th, 2018 – 6:30 PM

Start: 6:40pm End: 7:45pm

## Minutes

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building Second Floor Art Gallery – Gregory Javon Mills. (212-749-5298 iammaa@pipeline.com) Mr. Mills thanked CB10 Arts and Culture Committee for hearing his concerns. Mr. Mills is seeking the support of CB10 in the matter of the re-opening of the art exhibit space. Mr. Mills would like to CB10 to send a letter to Albany.

On June 12, 2018, Mr. Mills a letter to Amanda Boonhower (in NYS Legislative Office) requesting 3 concerns: 1. To re-instate the art exhibit. 2. What is the status of the artist being able to return to the space. 3. Is there an advisory board and if so who is on the board. There has been no response from the legislative office.

Mr. Mills has reached out to elected officials to gain their support. Senator Brian Benjamin (Mr. Mills met with his office August 27, 2018) and Council Member Bill Perkins have already agreed to support. Mr. Mills is still waiting to confirm Assembly Member Inez Dickens support.

This art exhibit in the Harlem State Office building is the only place to showcase artist work as well as show films, poetry and music. Wadleigh High School students also showcased their work in the space.

## Questions:

George – Is there a new manager in place at the Harlem State Office building? Yes – Eric Miller. There has not been any answers from Mr. Miller.

Current State of art exhibit – New floors were laid.

Currently the community space on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor was also closed.

Mr. Mills is concerned the community resources are being taken away. These community spaces were promised to always be available. x

Michael – Mr. Mills, when did you begin curating. Mr. Mills started in 1992.

Mr. Mills receives grants to help with jobs and trainings

82% of Harlem residents use the art space.

There hasn't been any press on this issue.

Amanda is now interested in calling this art space Special Events/Visitors Place.

Community Questions:

Is there anything I writing that this space is for the community? Senator Benjamin is looking for a document.

This seems suspicious. The building may be deciding not to use the space for the artist anymore. Maybe the problem is not Albany. In the past local decisions were made by Mr. Walker.

George – Mr. walker was for the local community

Shatic – You will need to completed the event form prior to every event.

Community – The process is fine with event forms. This is bigger than forms. Management has an idea on how things should run. However they can't change the community culture.

George – We need to find the structure and then come back to the table.

Joshua – We need to call the electeds. Michael will call Senator Benjamin, Assembly Member Dickens as well as Borough President Gale Brewer.

Shatic – All of the art was removed.

Mr. Mills said he called all the artist to come pick up their art.

The renovations started July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Mills was notified of these space issues around April Fools day.

Mr. Mills has also requested CB10 to host a town hall meeting at Touro College and invite electeds.

Joy – Harlem Arts Alliance

We are hosting a follow up event to the previous event: Deconstructing Black Theater. This follow up event is an advocacy event, for a local. The event will focus on The arts exhibit at the state building. Co sponsors are also – 100 Black Men and Jazz Mobile

This event is to feature thaters all over NYC. Sharda and Vy Higgins will be on the panel. There should be 3 woman pioneers in theater.

Event Day will likely be the end of October. George is waiting for a date confirmation with Harlem Hospital. We will mention this at the next general board meeting.

Space Works

Community member asked HAA if they are still supporting Spaceworks. HAA has distanced themselves from Space Words since their missions and visions are not in agreement. Spaceworks offered HAA money but HAA declined.

Announcements:

September 16, 2018 – African American Day Parade. Meet at 111<sup>th</sup> Street to get t-shirts.

There is a movie screening “Brother from Another Mother,”

George is being Honored by President Gale Brewer.