

## CITY OF NEW YORK

## MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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HENRIETTA LYLE Chairperson

CHRISTOPHER T. WOODLEY, Esq. District Manager

ANDREW LASSALLE Assistant District Manager **Health & Human Services Committee** 

Monday, December 17, 2012 6:30pm

Present: Hazel Dukes, Cicely Harris, Diane Henderson, Jennifer Jones, Donna Gill, Cheryl Smith,

Stephen Watkins, Deborah Yates

**Board**: Deborah Gilliard

**Excused**: Melvin Christian, Christina Curry, Stephanie Howze

Absent: Ibrahima Diafoune

## **Community Guests:**

Katherine Nickson, Community Member Jennifer Arellano, Columbia Student Robert Goldberg, Touro College Cheryl DelBridge, Touro College Professor

Merle Carroll, Mother Clara Hale Richard Thomas, New York AREA

Katherine Nickson, Community Advocate Christopher Woodley, CB 10 District Manager

Fred Wilson, Mother Clara Hale Community Task Force

The December 2012 Health & Human Services Committee meeting opened with comments regarding the tragedy that occurred in Newtown, CT on Friday December 14<sup>th</sup> including a moment of silence in remembrance of the lives lost. All committee members were introduced in addition to the new District Manager Christopher Woodley and all visitors.

Mother Clara Hale House Taskforce CB 10 Member/Parks & Transportation Chair Deborah Gilliard came before the Health Committee along with members of the Taskforce seeking guidance on how to address health concerns regarding air pollution risk associated with the converted bus terminal located on 146th between Malcolm X and Adam Clayton Avenue. Completion of the expansion and rehabilitation of the structure is scheduled for November 2013. The 4 story commercial building will include bus maintenance facilities, car wash and parking. [4 commercial stories is the equivalent of 10 residential floors]

A Phillip Randolph hosted a town hall community meeting, monthly meetings by the MTA and the development has been monitored by NEAC. The taskforce reports that although the MTA has published statements that there has been no evidence of adverse health outcomes as a result of demolition /construction Columbia University students have advised the Taskforce of negative test results. No details were discussed regarding the particulate levels or the timing or frequency of the tests. (Which particulates are monitored at bus depot, sulfur and nitrous oxide)

Assemblyman Denny Farrell should have the MTA testing results and these should be measured against LEAD requirements from the United States Green Building Council. Reports from REACT and Columbia should be attached to the letters drafted. The neighboring senior citizen center and day care center should be contacted to collaborate efforts of concern.

## <u>Chair Dukes & Committee Members advised the following action items:</u>

- Reach out to the community board involved with construction of the 2nd Avenue train station.
- Draft an environmental impact statement.
- Author a letter Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
- Contact the NYC Environmental Protection Committee (City Council)
- Draft a letter the NYC Dept of Health and Department Environmental Conservation requesting the incidence rates of vertigo, asthma, COPD and other respiratory diseases
- Contact Gerald Nadler, whom headed the federal air quality taskforce on the Cross Bronx expressway.
- Inquire the schedule of external monitors
- Request test results from Columbia University student
- Filter system to exhaust HEPA filter, how often are they tested.

## **NY Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (AREA)**

Richard Thomas, Director of NY AREA Councilman of the City of Mount Vernon came before that health committee to give a presentation on NY AREA. The presentation was developed with Dr. Matthew Cordaro. Mr Thomas explained that NY AREA was started in 2003 after the black-out as a non profit advocacy group with the mission of educating the consumer/public, government officials and private energy companies on the need for adequate sources and distribution of electricity.

Collaborating partners of NY AREA examine transmission, infrastructure, distribution, improvement needs including that of Con Edison, Long Island Power Authority, which own transmission lines. Indian Point Energy is a nuclear plant in New York that NY AREA also monitors.

Mr Thomas advised that there are plans for a transmission line in Harlem; the increased population density creates greater electricity demand. The EPA issued a new rule limiting regional emissions to 12 microgram, NYC is presently at 11.7. NYAREA does not support fracking state legislature.

Spirit of the Heart Community Leaders Forum Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc. 12/7/12 Honorable Dianne Henderson represented the Health Committee at the conference hosted by the black cardiologists association. Panelists discussed heart disease in addition to covering the following topics: Affordable Care Act, Patient Experience, Preview of ABC Documentary and Healthy Eating & Healthy Living Initiative. A health technology forum was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. CB 10 HHS committee is interested in partnering with the State Office Building, Columbia University and Harlem Chamber of Commerce for a Health Forum in April/May 2013.

## Renaissance Health Clinics – Community Advisory Board

Renaissance Community Advisory Board will meet jointly with the Harlem CAB for December 2012

Meeting Adjourned 8:25pm

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# \*\*\* NEXT MEETING: TBD \*\*\*

Several committee members will be out of town on Jan 20<sup>th</sup> for Inauguration