



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor—New York, NY 10027

T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
District Manager

LGBTQ Task Force
Minutes

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 7:30 PM

215 West 125th Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room

Hon. Manny Rivera, Chair

LGBTQ Task Force Chair Manny Rivera began the conversation by introducing himself, new Task Force members and some main topics of discussion for the meeting.

Guest James Garcia discussed an upcoming East Harlem Pride event in conjunction with the Harlem Pride event taking place Sunday, June 21, 2015 from 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm at La Marquette on Park Avenue between West 115th street and West 116th street.

The next discussion centered on a meeting held with Community Leaders and Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer on LGBTQ issues and community and NYPD engagement.

Key Points from this discussion:

- How Black LGBTQ youth are being handled by NYPD
- Homeless Youth Outreach Centers
- The extension of the LGBTQ Community to from the village
- NYPD training for dealing with the LGBTQ community

The next topic of discussion was Atlah Missionary Church. Manhattan Borough President LGBTQ Liaison Jesus Perez spoke on the Atlah Church signage and how Borough President's office has taken steps to address this issue. On May 4th an Environmental Protection Board hearing was held without representation from Atlah Missionary Church. To date there are currently 5 violations (removed balcony, iron work, signage, installing fence, and replacing doors) totaling \$7500 with a letter of warning sent for a 6th violation which have been assessed to Atlah Missionary Church for changes made to the Landmark façade of the building. Another Environmental Protection Board hearing is scheduled for August 3rd.

The discussion ended with Jesus asking for members of the community to issue their own statements or testimonies regarding Atlah Missionary Church to him with the intent to be additions to the Borough President's letter in order to be a conclusive statement for the community.

The LGBTQ Task Force Mission Statement was given for review and discussion. After review the consensus was in support of the statement as a representation of the task force.

Lastly was a presentation and discussion on Metropolitan Hospital Center which is the only LGBT Health Center in the NYC Health & Hospital Corporation.

The Task Force reached a consensus having an LGBT Town Hall meeting on November 5th with two planning sessions scheduled for September 3rd and October 1st.

LGBTQ Task Force Members

Manuel Rivera - Chairperson

Brian Benjamin - ex officio
Kevin Bitterman
Michelle Booker
Deneane Brown-Blackmon
Daniel N. Clark – PT
Christina Curry
Hazel N. Dukes
Donna Gill
Cicely Harris

Marquis Harrison
Karen Horry – PT
John Lynch
Brandi North
Jennifer Prince
Austin Smith
Cheryl Smith - PT
Shanelle Washington

Note: PT = Part Time

LGBTQ TASK FORCE MISSION STATEMENT

Community Board 10 strives to create a culture that values and respects diversity and inclusion. To help make such goals a reality, the Community Board's leadership has integrated diversity and inclusion into the core of CB 10's operating procedures and structures.

Thus, the Community Board 10 LGBTQ Task Force will work, amongst other things, to address the reality of Harlem serving as the unofficial home and community for the largely African-American/Latino, and other LGBTQ and same gender loving members, and to fortify and build a continued relationship with their sizeable and growing population within Harlem.

Unfortunately, many LGBTQ members have experienced discrimination in public settings, which have not allowed for full expression and participation. Thus, this Task Force will provide a safe and comfortable setting for members of the LGBT community to speak freely and openly about issues and concerns they may be having.

The Task Force will also study the impact and significance of Harlem serving as the "home and host" to the African-American and Latino LGBTQ community, and prepare a report to the Chairperson of Community Board 10, and the Community Board. This report will also be shared with the Central Harlem Community.