

# Public Meeting of the CB12M's Youth and Education Committee Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

### Meeting #7

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018**

**Location: CB12M Office 530 West 166 Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10032**

**Committee Members Present:** Fe Florimon, Chair; Maria Luna; Gabriela Rosa; Curtis Young

**Board Member(s) Excuse:** Glennis Aquino, Assistant Chair; Luis Tapia; Jonathan Nunez-Formeta; Mary O'Shaughnessy; Liane Ramirez-Swierk

**Committee Member(s) Absent:**

**Guests:** Dr. Rosa Yolanda Pineda, Executive Director –Cocolart; Hennecys Perez, Student; Dr. Lucia Alcantara, Futures Today

**Present:** Al Kurland, PAL/ Teen on Board; Mariel De La Cruz- Representative from the NYC Comptroller Office; Dr. Susana De Jesus, Director-EULCS; Ivan De Jesus, Representative from EULCS; Maritza Polanko, Presentative from IDI/ 10,000 Youth; Mark Handy, Tutor.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fe Florimon @ 7:08pm.

### Discussion that took place as indicated below:

1. Committee's members were introduced. New board members were warmly greeted and encouraged to share any thoughts on their decision to join the committee. The new members include ***Gabriela Rosa***, *Associate Director- Catholic Charities Inc- Bronx Community Center*; and ***Curtis Young***, *Executive Director, Artistic Noise*
2. A team of presenters composed of *Dr. Rosa Yolanda Pineda, Executive Director, Cocolart Co*; *Dr. Lucia Alcantara, Founder and President, Futures Today Consulting*; and *Hennecys Perez, Student*; came to the meeting to ask for the support of board to rename the “**Basketball Court**” located at West 186<sup>th</sup> Street, and the needs for physical renovation.
  - Over two decades ago several youth (college students) and the community with the assistance of the Park Recreation department created “**The West 186<sup>th</sup> Street Basketball Court.**” Although this site (Basketball Court) has remained open all these years, its physical condition has been deteriorating and it's no longer a safe place. According to Dr. Pineda, the place's structure is sinking and needs to be inspected.
  - A group of people between the ages of 14 to 60 started a bilingual petition process in support of the West Basketball Court's needs which includes:
    - Physical renovation and new programs for the West Basketball Court.
    - Connecting the site to High Bridge Park.
    - Naming the West 186<sup>th</sup> Street Basketball Court as the southwest corner of 186<sup>th</sup> Street & St Nicholas “*Marcos Navarro Way*”-
  - According to presenter, Marcos Navarro was known as a long time Inwood resident, tireless and committed community organizer, former member of CB12M and various organizations focusing in youth, education and housing. The team also shared a formal letter addressed to several committees' chairs including the *Y & Education Committee, Park & Cultural Affairs, and Transportation & Traffic Committees* formally requesting their support and describing the merit of such request.

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- Dr. Lucia Alcatara provided an overview of her path as a community resident and why she is supporting the cause. Student Hennecys Perez also spoke in favor of the initiative and encouraged the board to support their request, which have been so far highly support by the various entities in the community including St. Elizabeth Church.
- Committee member *Gabriela Rosa* suggested the team to contact Councilmember Rodriguez's office and Eddie Silverio at Catholic Charities for additional assistance; Maria Luna expressed interest in learning more about the project and may be able help with some guidance. The chair invited the team to attend the committee's Saturday meetings to bring community awareness about the project.
- Member *Rosa* also made comment about the pending legalization of Marijuana. She stated that relevant information pertaining to this subject needs to be shared (primarily) with the Youth through the schools and other locations serving the communities-e.g. in collaboration with the CB12M's Youth and Education Committee

## **1. The committee held its primary budget for the FY20**

- Chair and member Luna explained the budget process and board's expectations. A lengthy discussion took place as part of the committee's annual budget discussion, which is (primarily) based on the City agencies' responses in the booklet of the "Registry of Community Board Budget Requests"- FY2019- Manhattan 12.
- During the review the committee discussed the possibility to exchange the support of several old items for the newly adopted. Ms. Florimon encouraged members to support funding for much needed youth programs that may serve as a preventing measure to reduce violence e.g. school shooting, gang and bullying related activities in the schools. Also funding for D6 to address students with disabilities who are commonly in mainstream schools and classes. Chair highly encouraged board members to share their recommendation (s) at the next budget meetings.

## **2. Fall agenda was discussed and several ideas were proposed including:**

- Annual event in conjunction with the Aging Committee
- School's systems review
- Pending resolutions mirroring budget items
- Youth & Homelessness crisis update (part II); also board members were encouraged to share their ideas.

## **3. New/Old Business discussion**

- "Public Hearing on NYC's Lead's Challenges" to be held on September 17, 2018 @ 7:00pm  
Announced by *Mariela De La Cruz, Community Liaison, NYC Comptroller Office*
- Job Health Career & Network Fair- September 17, 2018. Announced by *Maritza Polanko, Director IDI and 10,000 Youth Initiative,*

**The meeting was adjourned approximately at 9:35pm**