

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting #2

Monday, February 12, 2018

Location: 530 West 166th Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present: Glennis Aquino, Assist Chair; Maria Luna; Ayisha Ogilvie; Derek Peralta
Luis Tapia

Committee Member(s) Excused: Fe Florimon- **In attendance at the GWEC Public Hearing**

Community Members: Steven Camilo; Gwendolyn R. Chambrun; Susana De Jesus; T. Hall. ; Cheramie
Mondesire; Cliff; S. De Jesus; S. Harris; P. Capellen; R. Skinnev-O'Neill; Charlie Samboy; Benett M.; V. Raneli;
Karla Fish; Rose Anntermann; Philip T. Simpson.

The meeting was called at 6:11p.m by Glennis Aquino, Assistant Chair

7:12pm-9:00pm

Discussion that took place as indicated below:

1. In the face of the pending Inwood Rezoning initiative, led by the office of the Deputy Mayor for Housing and NYC Economic Development Corp (EDC), the Youth and Education Committee (Y&EC) invited the general community to learn about the aforementioned proposal and its effects on the School District Six (SD6). During the meeting two presentations were facilitated. The first presentation was delivered by representatives of the EDC, and the second presentation was facilitated by representatives of the Inwood Unity, and subsequently an open discussion took place in which members of the committee and the general public have the opportunity to ask questions and provide their feedback.
2. Representing the EDC, Mr. Samboy provided an overview of the **Inwood Neighborhood Plan**, which includes:
 - ✓ The Inwood library: If the plan is approved it will be temporarily moved from the present location until the construction is completed in two years. In addition, core services will be provided at temporary places.
 - ✓ EDC is investigating STEM education and other initiatives to increase youth and adult participation in the sciences and health. They hope to devise a strategy before the end of the ULURP process.
3. A presentation about the **"Inwood Rezoning White Paper"** was also facilitated by Mr. Philip T. Simpson. The subject of "Environmental Impact Statement" was at the center of their presentation. According to their presenters, the purpose of the draft Environmental Impact Statement is to inform public officials, including members of CB12, and the public about environmental impacts so that they can make a well-informed decision.
 - ✓ They believe that the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Inwood rezoning has massaged the numbers in order to understate population growth. The draft Environmental Impact Statement claims there would be 14,000 new residents in Inwood. That is based on the EDC only using about 1/3 of the potential development sites for its analysis. They also think at least 1/2 of the potential development sites should be considered and that the growth in population could easily be 20,000. The population growth, whether 14,000 or 20,000 or more, will have a large impact on schools in District 6.
 - ✓ Historically, the City has understated population growth in previous rezoning's, especially Long Island City and Williamsburg. Because of this underestimate of population growth, they asked that the City look at real-world results from other rezoning's to see if they were underestimating their population growth numbers for Inwood. They think this would be a common-sense analysis to

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perform. EDC said “No” they don’t look at real-world results from other rezoning’s. (see comment 1.53 in the Comments to the Final Scope of Work).

- ✓ The draft Environmental Impact Statement says that no new schools will be needed. However EDC’s own consultant believed going into the project that, based on prior rezoning’s, at least one new school would be needed.
 - ✓ Mr. Simpson also spoke about the noise impact that construction would have on four Dist. 6 schools in the Inwood community. EDC admits that noise levels inside IS 52 would be twice what they are now, for at least 34 months. That is 34 months where it will be very difficult to teach or learn. During any period of jack-hammering through bedrock – if the Library proposal goes through – the noise in IS 52 would be unbearable. Other schools that will be impacted by noise are Muscota, Amistad, and Paula Hedbavny.
 - ✓ Representative Cheramie Mondesiere also provided a handout with important data to Assistant Chair Glennis Aquino. She also described her own experiences as a teacher in overcrowded schools, teaching in hallways and closets. And she noted that classroom space is presently being warehoused for magnet schools. That is why the EDC can claim that there is unused capacity in Inwood’s schools, at the same time that actual classes are overcrowded.
4. During open discussion committee members and the general public expressed concerns in several areas including:
- ✓ The impacts on class size; lack of resources; and construction during school hours (member Ogilvie). She also stated that her biggest concern was that EDC has no idea and has presented nothing regarding education/new schools/overcrowding while expecting an influx of anywhere between 10k - 20k people depending who you ask, neither there is no plan to build new schools.
 - ✓ Member Peralta raised the question about the impact of gentrification would have on students where housing/homelessness is concerned. Additional questions also include
 - ✓ How long will it take to finish construction? Answer was unknown
 - ✓ How will the young people be affected? Answer: their investigating and looking to address locations for YMCA, Boys and Girls club.
 - ✓ And last, many members of the public asked other relevant questions and spoke to concerns from their experience and expertise.

There was not New/Old Business discussion

Inwood Rezoning Application Proposal (IRAP) Part II- THERE WILL BE NO PART 2 FOR THIS MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm