

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

## Meeting Minutes

**Meeting #5**

**Monday, May 13, 2019**

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

**Committee Members Present:** Fe Florimon, Chair; Glennis Aquino, Assist Chair; Jonathan Nunez-Frometa; Maria Luna; Gabriela Estrella; Curtis Young;

**Committee Member(s) Absent/Excused:** Maria Luna; Gabriela Estrella; Deborah Nabavian; Liane Ramirez-Swierk

**Guest:** Presenters: Rachel Skinner-O'Neill, Representative from NYPL; Jared Fox Teacher, Erick Espino, Teacher, Rayner Ramirez, Volunteer, and Students (Denise Santana, Diane Arevalo, Jeremy Ferreras, Mayerling Lantigua and Susana Sieunarine)- from WHEELS.

**General Public:** Juan Alonzo, Community Resident; Al Kurland, PAL; Emma V; Zahmya Brown, Program Manager, America Scores; Ely Silvestre, DA Office; Ryan Derso, Artists; Daniel Watahan; Tom Waters; Shiloh Holley.

Morris Jumel Mansion; Carlos Vargas, YALD, Inc; Pedro Mejia; Lisa Henriquez, Kids in the Game; Marta Gomez.

The meeting was called to order by Curtis Yong, Acting Chair & Committee Member at 7:06pm.

### Discussion that took place as indicated below:

Members of the Committee and the audience were introduced followed by the review of agenda.

1. Rachel Skinner-O'Neill Rachel Skinner-O'Neill – Summer Reading at NYPL
  - Inwood branch will remain open throughout the summer
  - Theme this year is The Universe and Space; called “Blast Off”
  - The theme is to coincide with celebrating and to remember the landing of Apollo landing on the moon 50 years ago; the emphasis will be on Space Exploration
  - Rachel will head/run the “Get Going” (ages 0-8) activity which will involve exploring substances that might exist on other planets (moon sand and slime); this specific activity will take place in August
  - To kick off the summer NYPL will kick off with a concert 0-8 ages, but all are welcome
  - Will have official sign-up for summer reading (this is not system-wide); kids can feel a little more engaged; also identity theme (especially for students in high school); gifts/swag for babies-K5 to teens to high school reading
  - Yankees baseballs competition, win tickets by essay competition; provide 1-2 page essay on a book that's expanded the universe
  - Brochures and postcards provided among other gifts other gifts (such as glow-in-the-dark- bags)
  - Two Tech summer camps; one in July and one in August; 3-day morning camps
  - \*\*Hoping to screen “Hidden Figures” (a movie) and put together a scavenger hunt; NYPL provides something for almost every age group (0-12 age) other programs cover to age 18
  - This event will be the last at the Inwood branch
  - To sign up you must go in person and pledge

2. Teachers, Jared Fox, Erick Espino, and Rayner Ramirez, Volunteer and students: Denise Santana, Diane Arevalo, Jeremy Ferreras, Mayerling Lantigua and Susana Sieunarine, from the environmental class at Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School (**WHEELS**), located at 511 West 182<sup>nd</sup> Street (near Audubon Ave) New York, NY 10033 made a presentation under the title of “Photovision of our Community.” The presentation was based on a recent community survey conducted by WHEELS’ students focusing on the environment and health of the Washington Heights community. According to the presentation:
  - A survey was conducted during the “Car Fee Day” event on April 29, 2019.
  - The report concentrates on the present unhealthy streets conditions around their school’s vicinity that students and teachers face every day.
  - Students and Teachers expressed their concerns about the presence of garbage (e.g. lose cans, alcohol bottles, drug needles) everywhere on the sidewalk and on West 182 Street- near Audubon Ave.
  - Students want to create a clean area, free of garbage around the school’s vicinity- on west 182nd Street.
  - The school also wants to “build a green corridor connecting the 7 schools on 182 Street. This will be achieved by planting new trees where there are empty tree beds, replacing sick trees and dead trees, building tree bed fencing and planting native species plants in the tree beds.”
  - Students also spoke about the need of funding in the amount of \$35,000 to help materialize the project.
  - Chair Florimon, suggested to add the funding request on the Committee’s budget priorities for next year.
  - Assist. Chair Aquino, also provided suggestions on how get plant trees in the street to beautify their school areas.
  - The school (WHEELS) is also planning to build coalitions with the different schools, agencies, businesses and churches in the neighborhood.
  - Presently, the school is also collaborating with The Corner Project, BRC and WHBID to get them to participate in the green corridor.
3. **Announcements from the Committee and general public were made.**
  - Chair remaindered/encouraged everyone to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual event of Youth and Police Partnership Walk and Resource Fair in support of Youth and Police Building Bridges, to be held May 18, 2019.
  - Information tables available (free of charge) for organizations and students (k-12) to exhibit their artwork.
  - Chair also discussed the structure of the event and its stakeholders, as well as the needs for volunteers. Ms. Florimon also explained that unlike the event’s previous years, two different fliers were created this year. The official flyer (color pink) was created by the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct and the blue color was created by the committee and chosen approved by the youth. The latter provides the space to add the supporters’ logos.
  - The Pied Piper Children’s Theatre of NYC made an announcement about their coming event performance schedule event, Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m; Saturdays, June 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at 3 & 6:00p.m. ; Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:p.m. Tickets \$10 Children/Seniors; \$12 Adults General Admission. Location: Holy Trinity Church Inwood at 20 Cumming Street New York, NY 10034. All are welcome to attend.
  - Announcement from Morris-Jumel Mansion: Educator Open House at the Morris-Jumel Mansion; Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at 3:30p.m.-6:00p.m. Location: 65 Jumel Terrace (between 160<sup>th</sup> and 162<sup>nd</sup> Streets). Cost- Free Rsvp: [amarnel@morrisjumel.org](mailto:amarnel@morrisjumel.org) by May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - **The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.**