

Youth & Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Meeting #2
Monday, February 11, 2019

Location: CB12M Office 530 West 166 Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present Chair Fe Florimon; Maria Luna; Gabriela Estrella; Curtis Young; Mary O'Shaughnessy, Jonathan Nunez-Formeta, Deborah Nabavian (new member)

Board Member(s) Excused: N/A

Public Member (s) Present: Liane Ramirez

Committee Member(s) Absent: Glennis Aquino, Assist Chair

Board Member Present

Public: Melody Cabral, Ericka Cao, Director, Humans & Harmony; Al Kurland/PAL/Teen Board; Olga Perez, President of MVP Lifeguards, Paul Raysor, Sugar Hill Neighborhood Association, Cynthia Carrion, Marble Hill Nursery School, Alexis Marnel, Morris Jummel Mansion; Paul J. Hintersteiner, Community Activist; Maceo Raysor, SHNA; Tatiana Mahoney, Representative of Inwood Academy Charter School

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fe Florimon at 7:10pm.

Discussion that took place as indicated below:

1. **Members of the Committee and the audience were introduced by the chair followed by the review of agenda items.**
 - New Board Member Deborah Nabavian has joined the Youth & Education committee
2. **Pre-K and 3K Dual Language video featuring Mayor Bill De Blasio, Chancellor Carranza at PS 128 was played.**
 - Chair Florimon who attended the event shared a post-video showing the announcement of the event- the first day of the new Pre-Pre-K and 3-K program. According to the information presented, 47 Dual Language programs will be available starting in the school year 2019-20 in NYC. The initiative will be available in many languages including Japanese, French, Hebrew and Haitian-Creo among others. The initiative has received overwhelming support from the community, especially from parents and educators.
 - There will be 21 sites of Pre K Dual Language available the borough of Manhattan in September 2019. Nine (9) of these sites will in Washington Heights and Inwood Community (School District 6)
 - Writing information containing supporters' testimonies was also distributed during the meeting. Ms. Florimon opened up the floor to encourage feedback from the public and the Committee.
 - Various Committee members shared their comments as well as a few members of the Public.
 - Cynthia Carrion explains the process and expressed her concern for her school Marble Hill Nursery School as it has been a challenging process for them with little support from the elected officials in that community. Says her school gets lumped in with Riverdale and Fieldstone which does not serve her community.
 - Member Curtis Young suggested the committee to remain vigilance about the effect of these programs in the community's organizations (e.g. CBOs).
3. **Chair Florimon proposed to switch item 2 (Committee goals) of the agenda with item 3 (Public Announcements) and address item 3 and the Committee agreed.**

- Tatiana Mahoney of Inwood Academy Charter School (Middle School-H.S. that currently operates out of Good Shepherd) provided a background on the school and informed the Committee that it will be moving the H.S. to 10th Avenue and Post Road. She raised the issue of speeding limits on 10th Avenue. She also expressed that the school is eager to partner with leaders in the community.
- Al Kurland from PAL informed the committee and the public about the music program that teaches at-risk youth music and pairs them with an NYPD police officer with musical talent and they collaboratively compose and perform a piece. The performance is on February 14 at 7pm at the PAL Harlem Center.
- Alexis Marnel from the Morris Jumel Mansion spoke about the various education programs that are free to the public including free field trips for schools, movie nights, gardening and art camps, free yoga and much more. She encouraged everyone present to share the word.
- Erica Cao from Humans & Harmony spoke about her organization launching a new summer program called Music Corps. More information can be found at www.humansinharmony.org. They are a 501c3 organization.
- Chair reported about the later discussion held at the Y&EC's Saturday meeting February 2nd. The meeting was held at the Gregorio Luperon H.S. to discuss the ongoing planning of the 4th Anniversary of the Youth and Police Partnership Walk and Resource Fair. The Planning Committee would like for the youth to participate in the planning in the form of a sub-committee, so their voice is heard and considered in the process.
- Board Member Curtis Young requested the floor to propose a resolution **"in Support of Continued funding for Bridge the Gap Social Worker."** The proposed resolution asks that funding for social workers that specifically service homeless youth in schools not be eliminated from the fiscal 2020 budget. However, after lengthy discussion Member Young withdrew his proposed resolution and agreed to further discussion.

3. The Committee adopted its goals for 2019

- Members collectively elaborated on their goals.
- Chair encourages the committee to consider the adoption of resolutions on important matters affecting the community, especially in area of urgent needs. The committee should consider at least seven (7) resolutions by the end of the year.
- She would like to see the Committee expand its relationships with other Community Boards' Youth Committees and relevant entities. She hopes to count with the assistance of Manhattan Borough President for guidance.
- The committee will follow on the following subjects:
 - ✓ Youth Mental Health/Emotional Learning (**Fe, Liane, Gabriela, Maria**)
 - ✓ LGBTQ Youth (**Mary**)
 - ✓ Summer Youth Internship Opportunity (**Glennis**)
 - ✓ Increase of Social Worker in school (**Curtis' Resolution**)
 - ✓ Homeless Youth (**Curtis**)
 - ✓ Community Relationships and Committee Resolutions (**Fe**)
 - ✓ Update for SD6 Public School Resources e.g. Laboratory for educational experimentation, research, and professional development (e.g. **Jonathan**)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34pm.

Prepared by: Public Member, Liane Ramirez Swierk