

**Community Board 12, Manhattan
General Meeting-April 24, 2012
Weissberg Commons Room @ Belfer Hall
2495 Amsterdam Avenue
@ corner of W. 184th Street**

PRESENT

Richard Allman	Ellen Kackman
James J. Amodeo	Yosef Kalinsky
Anita Barberis	Elizabeth M.
Wayne Benjamin	Lehmann
James Berlin	Richard R. Lewis
Isaiah Bing	Elizabeth Lorris-
Dulce Bueno	Ritter
William T. Devlin	Maria Luna
Aldemar De Jesus	Jay Mazur
Diaz	Helen Morik
George Fernandez	Carole Mulligan
Ariel Ferreira	Edgar Nau
Fe Florimon	Angelo Ortiz
Mitchell Glenn	Pamela Palanque-
Melanie Hidalgo	North
Michael Jimenez	Edith Prentiss
Ernest David Kach	Harlan Pruden

EXCUSED

Zead Ramadan
Yosef Kalinsky
Tamara Rivera
Gabriella Rosa
Victor Santos
Steve Simon
Alyce Smith
Christopher Smith
Gloria Vanterpool
Raybblin Vargas
Anina Young

ABSENT

Rolando Cespedes
Manny De Los Santos
Michael Diaz
Nicole Alexandra Foster
Julissa Gomez
Leandro Hidalgo
Ernest David Kach
Robert Reynolds
Angela Sanchez

The General Meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Pamela Palanque-North at 7:20pm.

Chair's Report

- Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
- This past Sunday on April 22, 1000 people attended George Washington High School for Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez' outline his major platforms developing more affordable housing across the district.
 - There is a petition for signatures that demand more affordable housing for this district
 - We have only received two affordable housing location projects in over a decade
- Attended MBP Borough Board Meeting this month where focus was on the Waterfront Rent Revitalization Project. This come out of the NYC Vision 20/20 Plan
- April 12 attended a luncheon with Provost of Columbia University and members of his administration to talk about programs the University has that affects our future.
 - Baby College with CB12 working with mothers who would attend a one to two day, three hour program with educators helping mothers become more familiar with the needs and interest of their children.
 - Certification to parent on some things in early childhood education and infant and toddler development
- Chair has been participating on CM Ydanis Rodriguez Task Force on Affordable Housing past two months and 1st Vice Chair and Chair of our Housing Committee George Fernandez has made a recommendation that we get a petition drive going so that we can present it to Commissioner Mathew M. Wambua.
- April 24th Commissioner Wambua will be hosted by Councilmember Rodriguez and they will be looking at the 6-9 sites that have been recommended by the Task Force that are suitable for housing.
 - Community will be invited to join them on that walk.
- Chair met with New York Restoration in Rome, NY that would like to start a youth rowing team in this district.
 - They will learn the art of rowing, water and boat safety
 - They are invited to come to the Board in coming months to speak about the program
 - They are trying to kick this off in August
- Chair did a cold call site visit with Chair of Concerns of the Aging for CB12, Gloria Vanterpool. We visited NY Presbyterian Hospital AIM Clinic to check the status of the aging patients that were being serviced after being transferred from 99 Ft. Washington Avenue.
- CB12 working with Department of Health, public officials, CBO, and supervisors of buildings to get aggressive about combating rodents in our area
- Chair had interview with reporter from the Daily News about 215th Street step and street renovation wanted status update
- Chair welcomed new members and asked them to stand up and said farewell to those who were very active on the Board
- Happy Mother's Day and don't forget to celebrate your mothers

District Manager's Report - Ebenezer Smith

- The rodent condition is the first item on this report.
 - Dept. of Health released a report that CB12 has a high indication of rodent activity in the whole entire Board of Manhattan
 - Along with the Dept. of Health and elected officials, there will be a series of seminars all over the district.
 - Looking for partners who will help distribute the information and preach "Gospel of the Rodent"
 - There is a link to a booklet in English and Spanish that can be downloaded, http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/pest/rodent_control.pdf
- Municipal Art Society annual Livable Neighborhoods training is Saturday, May 12th. Seminar at Pratt Institute from 9am-4:30pm, 144 W 14th Street
- High School Juniors and Seniors 2012 Summer Legal Bound Internship Program deadline is Friday, April 27th
- MTA #1 Dyckman is scheduled to open in July 2012
- CB12 is supporting Columbia University Bakersfield Summer Scholarship Sports Camp and applications are available here and deadline is Friday, May 4th

Quorum at 7:32pm and the agenda was adopted and minutes accepted

Guest Speakers

Captain Buzzetti, Commander of 34th Precinct

- Significant arrests around burglaries
 - The Vaseline burglaries highly publicized in the news targeted homes on the Westside; had individuals identify him; DNA confirmed
 - Kurt Vandel had about 20 priors before finally arrested
- Providing extra coverage of world issues such as elections in the Dominican Republic
- Operation Impact – 80 to 90 Police Officers on taskforce
 - Half will be working in summer at Wadsworth/Amsterdam in the 180's
 - Summertime events with clubs around Dyckman; will monitor congestion focused on motorcycle issues
 - Monitoring total days 110
 - Work to more heavily enforce traffic laws and parking violations
- Met with Parks @ Transportation Dept. with Marina a priority to create a plan to address traffic/people flow for when the Marina is opened
 - Total strategy still work in progress
- Asks the community to bring issues by contacting directly at 212.927.9445

Deputy Inspector Mullin – 33rd Precinct

- 1st Quarter, Jan-April reduction of indexed crime; 12 fewer victims crime
- Growing burglary and larceny crime @ 159th and Riverside Drive
- Fire escape window entry for electronics
- Borough Evidence Collection Team gathered fingerprints & arrested burglar responsible for six burglaries
- 157th – 164th Street between Broadway and Ft. Washington investigating burglaries
- Grand larceny crimes of iPhones/iPods being snatched from peoples' hands
- Addressing crimes at J. Hood Wright Park on 174th/175th Street
- Conducting safety trainings to community
- Would want people to record serials numbers of devices
- Encourages people to download apps to help recover stolen devices
- Robberies are at historic low; down 36% since same time last year
- School time robberies due to improved truancy programs; school officers visiting schools
- Stolen vehicles made significant arrests that have helped reduce stolen vehicles/car breaks
- Traffic accidents down 10%
- Struggling with bicycle accidents are conducting bicycle safety trainings in schools/community centers
- Noise complaints responded to calls
- High Bridge pool – 7 day staffing of police officers
- Lockers will be moved to more open space
- Recruiting more young people to the PAL

Elected Officials' Reports

Congressman Charles Rangel's Representative – Socrates Solano

- Applauded Assemblyman Linares for his efforts with the Dream Act
- House Republicans voted against Buffet Rule which would ensure millionaires pay their share
- Medicare/Medicaid in serious risk, billion in food stamps also
- Bush tax cuts exploded deficit and did not produce jobs
- Invest in those things that make our economy strong, small businesses, entrepreneurs and a thriving middle class
- Please visit Website (rangel.house.gov), Facebook (cbrangel) and Twitter (@cbrangel)
- Congressman is doing better and is back to work

Borough President Representative – Ingrid Sotulo

- Welcomed new Board Members
- New Members Orientation, Monday, April 30th, RSVP @ 212.669.8300
- Earth Week Extravaganza, April 29 from 11am-2pm 54 Nagle Avenue

Assemblyman Guillermo Linares

- Usually in Albany on Tuesday, Refer to the overview
- 3 billion gap was bridged
- Highlight some education funds restoration
- Livery agency was legalized
- Last week Taxi Limousine Commission approved legislation passed last year
- Focus on New York Dream Act – group walked nine days from Washington Heights to Albany
 - 60 sponsors (2) republicans (58) Democrats, Now up to Governor to enact, Senators must be contacted
 - Aims to pass legislation this session
- In office 10am-4pm Monday-Thursday, 10am-1pm Fridays

AssemblyMember Herman D. Farrell, Jr. – Frank Hess

- The Assembly is going to introduce a finance bill that will be of interest
- The Neighborhood Preservation Act that was passed in the 70's by Denny, Franz Leichter and Ed Lehner is about to be done away with by the Governor as he had removed it from the budget
 - Denny made a persuasive argument to the Democratic Caustic and to the Governor and the funding was put back in at a higher level of contribution by the Governor

George Fernandez, 1st Vice Chair is running the Public Speakers' Session

Public Speakers' Session

Pat Courtney & Jeff Dugan – Inwood Historic District

- Submitted "Six to Celebrate" a program to study historic districts
 - Submitted a record of each historic building
 - Buildings were grouped by years they were built
 - History of Land Use in our neighborhood
 - Julian Isham Taylor donated Isham Park in 1911 and opened in 1912 and is a Historic District
 - Church of Good Shepherd built on Isham land
 - Seaman Drake arch are being put up as historic district
 - Art Deco Historic District – Harlem River Ship Canal

Mr. X

- 4/25, 6/25 will be MTA Board Meetings at 347 Madison Avenue at 9:30am on 5th Floor
- Bus forum at 2 Broadway, 20th Floor

Edith Prentiss – Member of Transit Rider's Council

- Asking Transportation Committee to attend Transit Rider's Council Bus Forum @ 2 Broadway, 20th Floor, 5pm-7pm
- Had appearance before Appellate Court regarding Taxis.
 - Vans on street as yellow Taxis are not vans
 - Wants meeting packed

Mary Whittaker – lives on 218th Street

- Asking advice and counsel from CB regarding Bakersfield starting a 6am-8am football practice, new in the schedule
 - In communication with Dr. Murphy who is head of Athletics Dept. who stated “sorry for the inconvenience, but we feel this is in the best interest of the students”
 - Question whether this is a good neighbor policy
 - Communicated email to Harlan of Parks who sent email to Community Relations at Columbia
 - Would like some negotiation between Columbia and community

Gerard Dominique- Hashi Wine & Social

- Hashi bills itself as a restaurant and is providing live music outside scope of its license and is up for a liquor license renewal
- Oversaturation of bars and lounges with four bars in one residential building
- There are eight bars and lounges within five block radius
- This CB is comprised of two council districts and it seems one district overriding the concerns of the other district
- We have Dyckman Street syndrome
- When Board consider these things need to pursue the facts in planning

Mark Weis – Hashi

- Has a wall of glass doors the width of the establishment, and opened in warm weather, music at night, amps ramped up as loud as possible.
- Has gone down at 2am in the morning to ask them to turn them down and they have complied, but he shouldn't have to go down at that time of the morning
- Strongly recommend not renewing Hashi's license

Leah Holzel – 1825 Riverside Drive - Noise

- On Sunday, April 15th little league kickoff and in attendance was CM Ydanis Rodriguez and Robert Jackson and Adriano Espailat, State Senator
- Would like the same show of solidarity and public presence in the evening to walk with residence of Inwood on Dyckman between Broadway and the Marina to show an alternative to the menacing environment that takes place there.

Katherine O'Sullivan – Resident of Riverside Drive & Dyckman Street

- Doesn't mind that she can't sleep, doesn't mind the noise till about midnight , and totally sympathize about the overconcentration of liquor licenses
- Ask Board to not grant liquor license to the Tapas bar or new pizza operation
- Police not enforcing traffic laws, excessive honking, motorcycles without mufflers
- Getty Garage have too many cars parked, some illegally

Yajaira Mejia – Inwood Library

- May Program Conversational Languages, Tuesday & Thursday, 6pm-8pm practice English skills
- May & June, Free Spanish Intro to Computers, Mondays, 12:30pm-2pm

Banayz Taveraz & Amarlis Collado – John Collado

- Give update to those who marched with them when their Uncle was murdered seven months and eighteen days by Officer Timothy Connolly of the 34th Precinct
 - Feel officer has not been reprimanded, but promoted to Detective, moved and returned to 34th Precinct
 - Mr. Collado went to intervene what he perceived as his neighbor was being beaten
 - Mr. Collado was left on the street, kicked by other officers to see if he was alive
 - Feels mistreatment of Uncle and no immediate medical attention
 - Officer was found to be justified in discharging his gun
 - If community does not feel safe from law enforcers, how safe is the neighborhood

Katie Weaver –Dyckman Resident for 22 Years

- Live on Broadway & Dyckman
- Bars that turn into clubs after midnight still aggravate us and not allow us to sleep
- Police is called, but do not show up
- The thousand seat Marina is owned by Fernando Mateo
- Why doesn't CB not know who the principal is
- CB on the Westside that led the charge to close Papacitos, we want CB12 to do the same and respect the quality of life of its residents

Justin Haines –Dogs of Isham Park

- Number of dog owners of Isham Park representing dog owners of Inwood
 - March 2012 incident of dog off leash attacked dog on leash
 - Parks Department issued an order that all dogs to be leashed
 - Rights were lost due to change in policy without discussion
 - Between 9am-9pm dogs should be leashed
 - Isham Park has been the site of many crimes including tree hacking with axes
 - Dogs are less aggressive when they are allowed to socialize
 - Our rights have been lost without due process or notice
 - Seeking equality with neighbors to the south
 - This became personal because he didn't know his neighbors until he had a dog
 - Only have two dog runs and support Parks and Cultural Affairs Resolution to encourage park to designate Isham Park southeastern part to be an off leash between the hours 9pm-7:30am.
 - Have two petitions with 116 online signatures and 120 on the written

Dou Henderson – 21 year resident of Inwood

- Strongly disagree with those who are against Hashi
- Supports Hashi license and it is in a top shelf location. There is no place like it.
- Hashi is a place for elegant entertainment and has been there five or six times
- Should not be compared to other establishments
- Many people in neighborhood support Hashi license

Mary Anderson – YUM

- Sells fresh produce and is located at Isabella Geriatric Center
- YUM is introducing mini version of package for \$8 which is a small mix for sale

Cristal Robertson – Cardinal McCloskey Services -Bronx

- Looking for people in CB12 to become foster parents

Raybblin Vargas – Playstreet and Diabetes

- May 16th, Together On Diabetes-Help To Live Well at Isabella Geriatric Center, 9:30am – 11:30am
- PlayStreet Vive to Vida-Live Your Life will be open Tuesdays @ 170th Street bet. Ft. Washington Avenue & Haven Ave, July 10-August 14th
- Playstreet, Vive to Vida – Live Your Life, will be open Wednesdays 179th-180th street @ Pinehurst, July 11th – August 15th

Elizabeth Lorris-Ritter – Requiem

- Alto, Cornerstone Chorale @ HolyRood Church, 179th Street At Ft. Washington Avenue, Tickets \$12

Jeffrey Hornstein – Hashi

- Resident at 218th Street & park Terrace East
- Referred to previous presentation by Gerard Dominique
- When Hashi first opened he welcomed it with open arms, like the food and thought it was lovely
- Now see it as loud nightclub atmosphere, you can hardly hear yourself think
- They were uncooperative with the Board of Health inspection
- Does not want trend to start like Dyckman Street
- It's disturbing

Helen Morik – Invitation to meet New Director Stephen Corwin

- Invite everyone to come to breakfast Friday at The Winter Garden, Children's Hospital, 3959 Broadway @ 165th Street, 1st Floor

Terese Flores – Park Department – Volunteers Needed-Isham, Inwood Parks Restoration

- Looking for volunteer project in Inwood this Saturday, April 28th @ 2pm at least 130 people
- Bringing in compost, pruning the soil for the lawns, repairing some erosion problems and removing and cleaning up the park
- Google website for more information

- Terese.flores@parks.nyc.gov, 212.795.1388 ext. 306

George Espinal – President 34th Pct. Council

- Meeting tomorrow April 25th @ Ft. Washington Collegiate Church at 729 West 181st Street at 7:00pm
- Resolution to have more resources from other parts of the city because of the noise complaints about Dyckman Street, it will be released tomorrow
- Past 90 days 136 complaints
- Put pressure to reduce noise, crowds and traffic
- Manhattan North should provide backup support to help control crowds like Sky Watch Tower, plainclothes officer and officers like they have in East Harlem where they are standing on foot posts, like the beat cops

Dr. Pamela Palanque-North returned to Chair the Committee Reports and stated that there were 25 public speakers tonight which is a large large group, but when we think about the city charter and what we are here to do the stories are important for us to hear.

Committee Reports

Land Use – Wayne Benjamin, Chair

- Volunteers of Isham Park have been working for over a year on a study to explore options for designation of one or more historic districts in Inwood under program called “Six to Celebrate”
 - Have identified nine potential districts; Mt. Morris Park and Inwood chosen in upper Manhattan
 - William A. Hurst, only remaining private house of its size & stature; is in poor condition and to formally consider it as individual landmark structure
- 1st resolution asks Landmarks Preservation Commission to take seriously the hard work the Volunteers Of Isham Park have done and to formally look at the potential for designating one or more historic districts within the area of Inwood and evaluation of the Hurst House
- VOTE: (F) 36 (O) 0 (A) 1 (NV) 1 (conflict)
- Resolution #2 outgrowth of 1st resolution
 - Hurst House physically connected to the North American division of Seventh Day Adventist Church
 - To enter into dialogue to renovate space for community use
 - Friendly amendment accepted from Steve Simon adding “sealed off and unoccupied for decades”
 - The SDA own the church and why the Community Board is writing resolution to approach church
 - Liz would like to change outreach “verb” to contact and it was agreed to
 - George asked will CB be reaching out to other faith institutions to make their properties landmarks and it was stated that this property was vacant and not used
 - Faith based institutions have contacted the CB to inquire about seeking landmark status
 - VOTE: (F) 38 (O) 0 (A) 0 (NV) 1 (conflict)

Housing & Human Services – George Fernandez, Chair

- Welcomed new Board Members and encouraged them to come to H&HS Meetings
- Refer everyone to April 5th Joint Minutes of H&HS and Committee for the Aging discussed issues Intro 477 Tenants Bill of Rights, Accessible and Affordable Housing and SCRIE and DRIE
- Well attended by seniors and CBO
- Acknowledge Gloria Vanterpool who is Chair of Committee of the Aging and H&HS who helped with initiatives
 - SCRIE & DRIE Resolution #1; short of staff, disparity income eligibility, four to six months on new application to get a response, individuals not being granted services, seniors being pressured, landlords not receiving their tax abatements
 - Recommendation that the program go back to the Department of Aging, Finance Department does not know how to handle a service like SCRIE; City Council seems to agree. DRIE has always been serviced at Finance
 - VOTE: (F) 38 (O) 0 (A) 1
- Resolution #2
 - Chair & H&HS has been working with the office of CM Ydanis Rodriguez as well as other community based organizations to bring affordable housing to our community
 - The rent is too high and we need to get our fair share of affordable housing
 - Steve not convinced that lack of affordable housing is linked to drop in population since the last census
 - Need to take into account that this community was focus of additional housing preservation by the city administration back in the 70’s/80’s, able to prevent abandonment
 - Fire Dept. may develop EMS Base Station instead of giving up site for housing
 - Six city sites identified ask to put them in HPD or HTC funded targeted incomes

- Not city controlled, ask to work with private owners to inform them of public sector financing and other initiatives that are available to help promote affordable housing
- We are not asking for what we want and we should structure specifically to HPD for use of resources at its disposal
- Move to table resolution
- VOTE: To Table (F) 36 (O) 0 (A) 1

Traffic & Transportation – Yoseph Kalinsky

- Thank George for all hours put into his committee work, into the meetings and writing of resolutions
- One short resolution, 215th Street, Step Street
- In 2010 the DDC presented design for Step Street using single center-step scheme, community opposed
- CB12 recommended a scheme with two parallel sets of stairs, DDC presented a design to preserve the original parallel stairs and incorporates two landmarked lamp posts, new plantings, and built-in stone bike channels
- CB12 supports the new design and recommend it be implemented
- VOTE: (F) 38 (O) 0 (A) 0 (NV) 1
- PA work next 20 years on the GWB a lot of infrastructure work
- May be effects on community coming off the bridge and the traffic related to that
- Street co-naming guidelines to streamline the process
- HH Parkway a lot of work with signage
- Meeting to designate specific streets that can be used for bike lanes

Economic Development – Ariel Ferreira, Asst. Chair

- Not recommend
 - #5- not owner or employee, trying to purchase, 34th Pct. Documented selling alcohol to minors
 - #8&9- no shows
 - 10 – 34th Pct. Raised concern whoever rents space, owner is responsible for alcohol intoxicated patrons, also want to be notified when 110 or more people are on premise
 - 11 – 34th Pct. objected and will not support another full liquor license on Dyckman street
 - 13 – police precinct will reserve their opinion until they have a walk- through of the establishment
 - 16 – will review floor plan and have walk through then make decision, member of public spoke in favor of pizzeria
- Motion to amend #10 discussion ensued
- Amendment to resolution #10 withdrawn
- When is license up for renewal? Discussion will occur again, call the question
- #15 is a duplicate of #13?
- #13 - 3rd Whereas should say “and the committee has concern regarding over saturation of liquor licenses in that block
- #15 – take out 3rd and 4th Whereas
- VOTE:
- **1.** (F) 27 (O) 10 (A) 2 **2.** (F) 36 (O) 1 (A) 2 **3.** (F) 33 (O) 3 (A) 2 (NV) 1 **4.** (F) 35 (O) 2 (A) 2
- **5.** (F) 37 (O) 0 (A) 2 **6.** (F) 32 (O) 4 (A) 3 **7.** (F) 30 (O) 5 (A) 3 (NV) 1 **8.** (F) 37 (O) 0 (A) 2
- **9.** (F) 36 (O) 1 (A) 2 **10.** (F) 21 (O) 14 (A) 3 (NV) 1 **11.** (F) 36 (O) 0 (A) 3 **12.** (F) 26 (O) 9 (A) 4
- **13.** (F) 35 (O) 1 (A) 3 **14.** (F) 35 (O) 0 (A) 2 **15.** (F) 37 (O) 0 (A) 2 **16.** (F) 23 (O) 12 (A) 4

Youth & Education - Fe Florimon, Chair

- Y&E Committee will have an event on May 5th on High School Dropout at Isbella Home, please share this event
- Y&E Committee is supporting on Saturday, May 28th City College Holistic Health & Fitness Expo, located in The Great Hall of Shepard Hall
- Children’s Aid Society has asked Y&E Committee to support “Campaign for Children” when 47,000 children are at risk of losing their child care and after-school program
 - We are asking Mayor Bloomberg to restore \$104 million to the Administration for Children’s Services for child care and \$66 million to the Department of Youth and Community Development for after-school programs.
- VOTE: (F) 36 (O) 0 (A) 0
- Thank Steve for helping with editing the resolution and Angelo Ortiz for helping with flyer for May 7th Meeting

Parks & Cultural Affairs –Harlan Pruden, Chair

- Resolution #1 for reconstruction of the path and stairs and miscellaneous site work behind the Cottage and leading down to the HH Parkway within the southwest portion of Fort Tryon Park

- Council Member Robert Jackson allocated and funded this entire project \$784,000
- VOTE: (F) 34 (O) 0 (A) 0 (NV) 1
- Resolution #2 states CB12M requests that the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation Commissioner designate the southeastern section of Isham Park as designated off-leash area from the time the park opens until 7:30am and from 9:00pm until the park closes and for the New York City Parks and Recreation to attend regular community summits that will be organized by local residents who live adjacent to Isham Park
 - Coming off Park Terrace East, there is a circle, then a sidewalk. The sidewalk cuts through the park and you go to your left, it gets you down to Park Terrace East and if you don't you will continue around then go to Broadway and the other sidewalk where the memorial benches are and then there are stairs going down into Broadway, that is the area that the southeastern part of the park.
 - The rationale for this was to move any dogs away from the school and to the apartment buildings that are butt up to the park so it would be the furthest away from 215th Street
 - Friendly amendment "a southeastern section"
 - VOTE: (F) 33 (O) 1 (A) 1 (NV) 1
 - Harlan pointed out that he is only Native American serving on any CB in Manhattan and he thanks us for a nice home and he would like for you to come out rain or shine to Drums along the Hudson on May 20th in Inwood Hill Park, 11am -6pm. NYC is the home of the largest population of Urban Indians.

Public Safety – Angelo Ortiz, Assistant Chair

- Refer to the Minutes

Health & Environment - Steve Simon, Chair

- Refer to the Minutes
- John Jay Audubon Birthday Party, birthday cake, Riverside Drive @ 156th Street, and hear lectures on the history of the neighborhood

Isbella Report – Betty Lehmann, Director of Marketing & Communications

- Refer to the Minutes

Meeting adjourned at 11:00pm

Submitted by Alyce Smith/Raybblin Vargas