

Community Board 12, Manhattan
General Meeting November 22, 2011
New York Presbyterian Hospital – Vivian & Seymour Milstein Family Heart Center -Myrna Daniels Auditorium –
173 Ft. Washington Avenue – Bet. W. 165th & W. 168th Street

PRESENT

Richard Allman	Michael Diaz	Elizabeth M. Lehmann
James J. Amodeo	George Espinal	Richard R. Lewis
Anita Barberis	George Fernandez	Elizabeth Lorris-Ritter
Wayne Benjamin	Ariel Ferreira	Maria Luna
James Berlin	Fe Florimon	Helen Morik
Isaiah Bing	Nicole Alexandra Foster	Edgard Nau
Rolando Cespedes	Mitchell Glenn	Angelo Ortiz
George Cruz	Leandro Hidalgo	Cheryl Pahaham
Manny De Los Santos	Melanie Hidalgo	Pamela Palanque-North
William Devlin	Ernest David Kach	Edith Prentiss
Aldemar De Jesus Diaz	Yosef Kalinsky	Harlan Pruden

EXCUSED

Edgard Nau
 Angela Sanchez

ABSENT

Frank Alvarez
 Leonardo Blackman
 Mireya Cruz-Diaz
 Julissa A Gomez
 Rafael Lugo
 Carole Mulligan
 Jose Polanco
 Robert A Reynolds

Chair Pamela Palanque-North convened the meeting at 7:00 PM, no quorum

Chair's Report

- The End to End for 99% rally that started from 181st Street down to Zucotti Park was an important cause and people did great work that day. There were no speeches.
- When CB Committees in the community go about the work of finding out what is the need level for social support services, discussion arises around the distribution of resources and how to give fair opportunity to more people
- There are substantial budget cuts throughout city and municipal agencies. This may mean a workforce reduction at the community board. We have a strong and wonderful committed staff. I am asking board members to help our support staff.
- There has been a significant transition of leadership at New York Presbyterian and in celebration of outgoing leader Dr. Irving Arkness of the Heart Center, CB12 gave him a Lifetime Membership, and two replacement leaders Dr. Corwin and Dr. Kelly were given Lifetime Memberships also.
- Two proposals that Chair North is interested in along with Zead Ramadan is bringing job certification training into this community
 - Fund & train hospital community health care workers
 - Columbia University Medical Center Allied Health Care which Sandra Harris is involved in
 - More training, more jobs mean more employed health care people from this community
- Reminder:
 - November 28th Borough President Event at Metropolitan Museum of Art
 - December 19th Community Leaders Holiday Party at the Cloisters. Invitations will be out, please RSVP and bring your friends.
 - Happy Thanksgiving, as there's much to be grateful for.

District Manager's Report

- Translation Service will not be available this evening
- There's a 2% reduction in the budget for each city agency including community boards
 - I am working with OMB to see if Community Boards can be spared
 - Attended Washington Heights Chamber of Commerce Meeting where City Council President was the Keynote Speaker and asked her if CB's could be spared from cuts as have been done previously, and she stated that she would do her best
- Amendment Applications deadline is December 12, 2011
- Dept. of Transportation
 - Informed DM that study on 164th Street & Edgecomb Avenue has been completed and will have new traffic signal by March 2012
 - Has completed conversion of Riverside Drive & Henry Hudson Parkway at 181st Street from a one way to a two way providing southbound access for motorist and cyclists
- Participated in the Occupy Wall Street march from 181st Street to Zucotti Park early this month and had fun doing it
- Resident complaint regarding Quick Park Garage located at 779 Riverside Drive has outrageous noise machine that one hears 24hours a day and she is requesting CB12 help.
- 33rd Precinct is working undercover operation to tackle prostitution and selling liquor to underage youth

- 34th Precinct has concerns with unlicensed vendors and DM referred to Vendors Task Force this summer, seniors are receiving threatening phone calls about their electrical service being turned off unless they purchase prepaid credit card
 - Another scam to citizens is advertisements on Craigslist for an apartment that is occupied when renter appears. If they want apartment, they must put up security up front, problem is the apartment is not available to be rented.
- Fire Dept. is advising everyone to be careful with candles and Christmas Trees
- Con Edison never call customers to mention that service will be cut off. Customer is always notified in writing.
- Service Station located on 116 East 124th Street between Park & Lexington Avenue, starting in January only
_____?
- Project Renewal (Men's Shelter) is asking CB12 to help donate clothes so their men can dress appropriately for job interviews

Quorum @ 7:33pm

Motion to adopt Agenda and Minutes

September minutes has corrections – cannot be adopted

The Dyckman Scholars –

- Ross Frommer introduced four students all residents from Washington Heights and Inwood as Dyckman Institute Scholarship recipients, and they stated that any student that has a strong academic record has a chance to go to Columbia. The tuition is \$58,000 yearly.
 - Senior, Christopher Davidson
 - Junior, Jason Tejada
 - Sophomore, Aury Garcia
 - Freshman, Karina Montenegro

Elected Officials' Reports

Sen. Adriano Espaillat

- End of year challenging as we have over \$300 million deficit remaining for this year and a \$3 billion deficit for next year
- We need to come together and organize around concerns that will be coming from Albany and looming cuts from the federal government with issues such as the millionaires tax. We are looking to rescind it.
- Next year will be combative as it was this year and the community will need to come forward and support some of these initiatives.
- Happy Thanksgiving to all and families; a healthy one; happy and prosperous holiday season.

Councilmember Ydani Rodriguez

- Did not plan to be arrested at OWS, as matter of fact he was to be at a meeting @ 8:40am
- He was pushed back by police with a baton and taken with eight others in Police Van, then left in van for 2 hours
- He was not allowed to speak to his lawyer
- He represents the 99% and was hurt by the P.O. 7188
- Encourage everyone to continue to support OWS, because whatever action this officer did, does not reflect the great work of the police department
- This movement is not only for working class people, but also for middle class and even those one percent who believe we need to bring more revenue to balance the deficit
- This movement is helping with important discussion; we don't have to agree with everyone
- We are moving close to living wage that allow workers to get a decent salary
- We have nominations tonight and we have to work to make sure we have diversity, because we have a great community and we have to make sure it is at all levels from Chair, vice-Chair, etc.
- Happy Thanksgiving to all

Councilmember Robert Jackson

- There should be a copy of my community legislative report
- Members of Congress and City Council Members came together to listen to issues and concerns at DC37 that impact employers and citizens of New York. It was a good briefing.
- Reducing alternate side of street parking one day a week is doable if scores are 90 or above
- Sent letter to CB about tennis court situation and doesn't recommend voting on this resolution

Assemblyman Guillermo Linares

- Has been working to reintroduce New York State Dream Act legislation along with Sen. Perkins
- Lt. Governor Robert Duffy came to the community for a site visit to view the George Washington Bus Station
- He viewed the total renovation area where 350 temporary and 400 permanent jobs are for our community
- His office was involved in the ceremony of the 10th anniversary on November 12th horrific tragedy of flight 587
- Wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving

Borough President Representative – Ingrid Sotulo

- Reminders :
 - If your term is up, you should have received a re-application form with a deadline of December 30th. If you don't know your term is up, check with Ingrid.
 - Those who are interested in joining the Community Board should also see Ingrid for an application
 - On November 28th the Borough President and Councilmembers will be hosting an event at the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 6 – 8pm. Please bring a guest.

Public Speakers Session turned over to George Fernandez

Public Speakers' Session

Dr. Richard Sloan-Exercise Study-Columbia Medical Center

- Here to speak about study funded by National Institute of Health "Why Exercise is Good For You"
- 12 week study which includes free membership to YMCA, free medical tests, must qualify, must be a couch potato and will have exercise coaches.
- If interested flyers outside called "Get Moving" – Columbia Research Team - 212.851.5595
- Happy Thanksgiving

Harmon Moats – WICKER Study

- Looking to collect general health information to create a data base that help doctors and researchers understand what people do, the environment in which they live and their health outcomes
- 12,000 interviews which will be door to door and link back to the person being studied
- Asking for assistance to get into housing developments in the community
- Contact: 212.342.1698, hlm9@columbia.edu

Eva Herandez – Youth Program/Toy Drive

- Youth Program at 165th street & Broadway providing services
- Want to collect 300 toys for foster parents with children in pediatric ward
- Sponsored by North Manhattan Deltas
- Contact: 646.912.0987

Angelo Ortiz – Unidos Coalition Community Assessment

- Update on Unidos Coalition Grant regarding underage drinking.
- Needs Assessment process has been done, awaiting DOE approval
- They are developing 4600 surveys at middle & high schools
- Organizing focus groups for their opinion of underage drinking issue in the area
- Asking help in developing community plan to bring before CB
- Contact: angeloo@inwoodcs.org, 212.942.0043x130

Angelo Monserrate – Inwood Hills Tennis Courts

- Representing Inwood Hills Tennis Association
- Considers tennis courts a valuable community asset
- More people are joining tennis community, therefore they would only endorse increasing number of courts, not decreasing them
- Understand that increase is problematic because of budget constraints, but want to endorse reconstruction of all 9 tennis courts and basketball facility

Eligio Reynoso – President, Washington Heights Tennis Association

- Those who oppose the two tenant under courts are not aware that these balls are for adults and kids
- New rules as of Jan 1st state that kids cannot participate since they learn faster using their own tennis courts
- Parks is bringing in fence, closing door on kids
- Asking CB to support resolution

Michael Ford – Inwood Hills Tennis Association

- Has worked with tennis program for past ten years
- This is important part of community and we need to take steps to the future
- Tennis courts are not regulation size as they need to be increased where there can be competition as players are at a disadvantage
- Strongly urge vote on this resolution that was passed at November Meeting

Danel Smith – Washington Heights Tennis Association

- Is a parent of the organization and has been with the program for seven years
- Ask vote on resolution

Christina Alphonso – The Cloisters

- Reminder: December 19th, Community Reception @ The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 6-8pm
- Exhibition "The Game of Kings" runs through April 2012
- Museum is open Mondays, December 26th & January 2nd

Steve Bekens – Inwood Hill Tennis Association

- Tennis courts have been in bad shape for dozen years
- Can't put this off otherwise it will never get done

George Espinal – President 34th Precinct Community Council

- 200 turkeys were distributed to neediest families in Washington Heights/Inwood in conjunction with Inwood Community Service
- Their holiday party is requesting unwanted toys in good condition to be brought to the precinct
- Toys will go to 75 youth who live within the poverty threshold in our community. They will be identified by our community partners
- Will be visiting five families with a Community Affairs Officer giving gifts to forge strong relationship with police in the community
- Contact: www.34precinct.org

Steve Simon for Vivian Ducat

- Riverside Oval Association has historical calendars with photos of Southern Washington Heights for \$10.

Carmen Acosta – Asociacion de Mujeres Progresistas

- Wishes everyone Happy Thanksgiving
- Want to thank Fe Florimon for her work with the Youth & Education Committee, especially where she has opened up another day for parents to participate in the process when it is convenient for them

Elizabeth Ritter

- The Cornerstone Chorale will give their fall concert on December 4th at Holyrood Episcopal church in several languages

Chair North brought forth The Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee

Fe Florimon - Chair
Obie Bing
George Cruz
Harlan Pruden

Chair Florimon explained nominating process:

- She will read names of persons nominated, then ask for nominations from the floor, if none nominations will be closed

Question:

- Is Executive Committee considered a standing Committee? Discussion ensued.

Chair – No nominations from the floor

1st Vice Chair – No nominations from the floor

2nd Vice Chair – Raybblin Vargas

Secretary – Tamara Rivera - declined

Anita Barberis - declined

Alyce Smith - accepted

Treasurer – Rolando Cespedes – declined

Edith Prentiss - accepted

Chair North asked CB to salute Cheryl Pahaham for the work she has done from budgets, personnel issues, to district needs, we must say thank you.

Committee Reports

Health & Environment – Steve Simon and Traffic & Transportation - Rabbi Yosef Kalinsky

- Resolution call upon DOT to reduce street cleaning days by one day a week since we qualify by having over 90% street cleaning record for three consecutive years. Discussion, then question was called. Vote: (f) 25 (O) 12 (A) 1

Traffic & Transportation – Rabbi Yosef Kalinsky

- Resolution to support DOT's new Bike Share Program. Vote: (F) 36 (O) 2 (A) 1

Called question – Vote: (F) 33 (O) 1 (A) 4

Parks & Cultural Affairs – Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

- Ft. Tryon Alpine Gardens. Vote: (F) 37 (O) 0 (A) 1
- Tennis Courts. Discussion, then question called. Vote: (F) 19 (O) 15 (A) 4

Economic Development – voted as part of an executive Session on 11/22/11

- Res. 1 (F) 10 (O) 1 (A) 1 Res. 2 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 3 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0
- Res. 4 (F) 10 (O) 0 (A) 1 Res. 5 (F) 5 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 6 (F) 9 (O) 2 (A) 0
- Res. 7 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 8 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 9 (F) 10 (O) 1 (A) 0
- Res. 10 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res.11 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res.12 (F) 9 (O) 2 (A) 0
- Res. 13 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 14 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res.15 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0
- Res. 16 (F) 11 (O) 0 (A) 0 Res. 17 (F) 10 (O) 0 (A)

Resolution for "Fair wages for New Yorkers Act" Vote: (F) 7 (O) 0 (A) 2

Resolution for "Reform of Policies and Practices, Investigations into Recent Police Actions" Vote: (F) 8 (O) 0 (A) 2

Jim Berlin informed CB how we will proceed with rest of resolutions since time has expired

- The Chair will declare an emergency meeting and the Executive Committee will vote on behalf of CB and CB will affirm their votes at our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm

Submitted by Alyce Smith 12/13/11

Minutes from Community Board 12 Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting
Monday, December 5, 2011

Committee Members Present: A. Barberis, J. Berlin, M. Glenn, E. Prentiss, A. Díaz

Excused: Y. Kalinsky, R. Allman

Other Board Members Present: Steve Simon

Members of the Public: Josh Orzeck (Department of Transportation), David Smetana ("AWS Supply"), Joe Ashkenazi ("AWS Supplies"), Jonathan Rabinowitz (Bike Upper Manhattan), Frank Hess (Assemblyman Farrell's Office), Lars Klove (Bike Up!), Megan K. Horton, Julio Batista (New York Presbyterian Hospital)

Meeting begins at 7:21pm, M. Glenn chairing.

Agenda Items

- NYC DOT – request for speed bump at Arden Street
- NYC DOT – request to make 157th & Riverside Drive a One-Way
- Request from AWS Advantage Wholesale Supply for installation of parking meter in front of their business
- Adjournment

Discussion of Agenda Item #1 (NYC DOT – request for speed bump at Arden Street)

This agenda item has been proposed in the past, but no one has appeared to discuss; item deferred until next month.

Discussion of Agenda Item #2 (NYC DOT – request to make 157th & Riverside Drive a One-Way)

This has been proposed and approved unanimously by the Traffic and Transportation Committee. Why is this being discussed again? Josh Orzeck: There is a disconnect regarding feasibility; a letter of support was requested as well as a resolution to support a feasibility study, which was granted, but the conversion was never proposed as an action.

The conclusion of the study examining signal timing, accident reports, traffic patterns, et al.:
Recommendation to convert, with additional changes to signal timing to be made if needed.

M. Glenn: Where is the study? Where are the precise results? Orzeck: Those are never actually handed out.

(Discussion of net effect of this change on maneuverability) Benefits include no longer having drivers going the wrong way when driving through the intersection to get around other vehicles.

Member of the public: A portion of the street adjacent to the proposed modification is already one way. There seem to be no down sides.

Vote on Resolution: Committee members: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining; Members of the public: 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining.

Discussion of Agenda Item #3 (Request from AWS Advantage Wholesale Supply for installation of parking meter in front of their business)

Joe Ashkenazi, General Manager and David Smetana, President of AWS, explained that clients cannot find parking in front of their store. Their sales include sheet rock and other large, bulky items, which pose challenges. Meters are being requested not for truck deliveries, but for temporary customer parking. Mr. Ashkenazi provided and described several photographs. The request is to have only three spots metered. It was noted that there is a driveway behind the business which is used for deliveries, but Mr. Ashkenazi explained that it cannot be used by clients because it would block deliveries which are made on an (approximately) hourly basis.

E. Prentiss: Is it possible to set a 15-minute parking limit for customers? J. Orzeck: We do not usually do this. Mr. Ashkenazi explained that they are not requesting a commercial parking limitation so as not to completely prevent local residents from parking there altogether.

J. Berlin: How long is the bus stop in front of the business? One photograph shows that some buses are articulated and therefore extra-long. Mr. Ashkenazi: The spaces being requested would not conflict with the bus stop, since they are all in front of the bus stop sign.

(Discussion re: timing.) Can the metered parking stop at 5pm? J. Orzeck: These signs usually go until 7pm or 10pm. Mr. Ashkenazi: This is only needed until 5pm, excluding Sundays. His employees, who live in the neighborhood, are complaining bitterly about this issue.

E. Prentiss: It would be helpful to know which specific buses are laying over in this area, which is producing additional congestion.

M. Glenn: How do we approach this request? J. Orzeck: A resolution can request that the parking division study the situation. J. Berlin suggested that the Committee pass a resolution requesting that this be studied and that the metered parking be set up if it is determined to be feasible.

Vote on Resolution (as described above): Committee members: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining; Members of the public: 3 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining.

New Business

Megan Horton, who works for Columbia University, is requesting traffic calming measures on Haven Avenue and 173rd Street and spoke on behalf of several parents of small children, like her. This intersection is dangerous because with Haven bending it is necessary to step out into the street to see if the path is clear, which is particularly dangerous with a stroller; although traffic volume is low, many vehicles are driven at high speeds. Ms. Horton co-wrote a letter with the Head Start Program located there, and DOT replied that there were too few cars and too few accidents involved to warrant installation of a stop sign.

J. Orzeck: The fact that there is a Head Start daycare center does not give this request the same weight as if there were a school there. Ms. Horton: There are many children crossing the street here because there happens to be a park there, as well.

A. Barberis: Haven Avenue used to be a two-way street and had to be converted due to the narrowness of the street; installing an island [as suggested by a member of the public] is impractical.

J. Orzeck: At the moment, there is a pending request for a traffic speed study at this location; if the location qualifies, speed bumps can be installed there. J. Berlin: J. Orzeck should check on the status of this pending request and report to the Traffic and Transportation Committee before the committee takes further action. A. Barberis: The curve at this location is not very pronounced, but it is difficult to see if there are cars coming. DOT should not consider neck downs before pursuing the pending study, since the street is already narrow enough.

E. Prentiss: Is it possible to install a no parking sign at a "T" intersection to prevent parking blocking a pedestrian ramp? There used to be a rogue (not DOT-installed) sign where 186th Street dead ends at Overlook Terrace, but DOT removed it.

J. Berlin read the resolution he wrote for the AWS parking meter request (Agenda Item #3). E. Prentiss: Should the bus layover situation be addressed? J. Berlin: This is DOT-related, so the MTA should not be addressed in the resolution.

E. Prentiss: Track season is here, which means many buses parked at every conceivable place. J. Berlin: In the past, the Track and Field Center has promised to enforce their own rules, which call for teams whose buses pose a problem to be disqualified. Ebenezer needs to be contacted by someone on the Committee to request forcefully that the Armory rules be enforced. The Armory folks should be invited to a Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting. E. Prentiss: The problem stems from team buses occupying bus stops or double parking with their flashers on, forcing all other traffic to stand still. A. Barberis: Has something been done to address the Columbia shuttle bus parking issue? Ms. Harris from Columbia University needs to be contacted to follow up on this.

Member of the public: In the Bronx, a residential neighborhood has had traffic calming measures installed throughout; can this be done in the Haven Avenue area? This seems possible, but what is recommended?

F. Hess: Why doesn't the George Washington Bridge have traffic officers assigned? During earlier planning efforts, Mr. Hess had requested this and it has never been done. J. Berlin: On the Fort Lee side, Port Authority law enforcement is allowed to control traffic, but in New York, they are not. F. Hess: Can a written request be made to have funds set aside from the GWB terminal project budget to address the traffic control situation at the bridge? M. Glenn: We can and should do this quickly, as the project begins in January.

(Discussion on which intersections should be covered.) Consensus: This should cover the full extent of the construction area.

Vote on Resolution: Committee members: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining; Board members: 1 in favor; Members of the public: 2 in favor

S. Simon: The Board should be briefed on the Port Authority construction project. This has been done, to a limited extent, but the Port Authority cannot be counted on to be responsive. J. Orzeck: A resolution should be submitted to the DOT. S. Simon: It should be sent to the PA even though they are not bound to act.

M. Glenn will write a resolution.

Committee adjourned at 8:42pm.

Community Board 12, Manhattan
Traffic and Transportation Committee
December 6th 2011

Resolution #1

Resolution in Support of AWS' request for metered parking to allow customers to pick up construction materials purchased from their business.

- Whereas: AWS (Advantage Wholesale Supply) requested metered parking in front of their business at 1662 St Nicholas Ave, and
- Whereas: Parking is necessary for the business and neighboring businesses to thrive, and parking should become available at 5 PM for the community. And now therefore be it
- Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan requests DoT study the feasibility of creating three metered parking spaces in front of 1662 St Nicholas, north of the bus stop.

Committee 5-0-0; Board: 0-0-0; Public 3-1-1

Resolution #2

Community Board 12, Manhattan
Traffic and Transportation Committee
December 6th 2011

Resolution regarding Traffic & Pedestrian Safety on/near West 157th Street by making W 157th St one way westbound, west of Edward Morgan Place.

- Whereas: Traffic is often backed up on the southbound lane of Broadway when the northbound Bx6 bus turns left on 157th Street on its way to Riverside Drive; and
- Whereas: Traffic congestion would be reduced and pedestrian increased if 157th Street between Edward Morgan Place and Riverside Drive be made one-way westbound; and
- Whereas: Pedestrian safety and traffic flow can be improved through a thorough understanding of the existing pedestrian and traffic patterns, signal timing and other factors; and
- Whereas: Pedestrian safety at the intersection of West 157th Street and Edward Morgan Place would be improved if greater attention is given to enforcement of traffic regulation; and
- Whereas: in December 2009, Community Board 12, Manhattan, passed a resolution requesting that NYC DoT do a comprehensive traffic and pedestrian study of the area (West 157th -158th Streets, Broadway – Riverside Drive); and
- Whereas: NYC DoT has completed their study of the area (West 157th -158th Streets, Broadway – Riverside Drive) and reported their finding; and now therefore be it
- Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan, is requesting that West 157th Street between Edward Morgan Place and Riverside Drive were made one-way westbound; and be it further resolved
- Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan, requests the 33rd Precinct increase enforcement of traffic regulations at the intersections West 157th -158th Streets, Broadway – Riverside Drive.

Committee 5-0-0; Board: 0-0-0; Public 2-0-0

Community Board 12, Manhattan – Traffic & Transportation Committee
November 5, 2011

Whereas: the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey is about to embark on a renovation of the George Washington Bridge Bus Station between W. 178th & W. 179th Streets; and,

Whereas: the renovation is much needed and greatly desired by the community because:

- retail spaces are currently not well cared for;
- the east side of Broadway between W. 178th and W. 179th Streets is a blank wall;
- the roof (3rd floor) of the “east building” (i.e., on the east side of Broadway), formerly public parking, is now unused except as a bus turnaround;
- the bus platform is very inefficient and gets backed up with only a few buses loading;
- the street level areas and main entrance are forbidding;
- buses now board in various places around the facility other than the main platform; and,

Whereas: there are many improvements planned for the Bus Terminal, including:

- a more efficient bus concourse, and consolidation of all bus service on one concourse;
- creation of an improved retail environment on the west side of Broadway;
- addition of a new retail area on the east side of Broadway;
- increased retail throughout the complex, including a supermarket;
- a public space for the community;
- brightly-lit, glassed-in entrances on Broadway and Fort Washington Avenue, which are attractive and provide greater visibility; and,

Whereas: there will be much disruption in the community during construction, including:

- a trailer to be sited on the east side of Fort Washington Avenue between W. 178th and W. 179th Streets, to act as the waiting room;
- elimination of underground access to the A-train for unspecified period(s) of time, forcing hundreds of commuters onto an already crowded streetscape;
- drastic reduction of street width around the terminal during construction to accommodate construction vehicles, impinging on free flow of traffic around the terminal and bridge, which bridge is the most heavily travelled bridge in the world, and already creates tremendous traffic on the surrounding city streets due to a complete lack of traffic enforcement; and,

Whereas: the current plan for 250 square foot community room space is inadequate not only in terms of size but also location in the building, as well as in lack of planned program; now therefore, be it

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan fundamentally approves of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ)’s program to renovate the George Washing Bridge Bus Station, notwithstanding specific recommendations regarding traffic control during construction and community use space; and be it further

Resolved: that CB12M demands that the PANYNJ fund traffic control agents (whether their own, the NYPD’s, or other) to be stationed at all corners around the construction zone, and ensuring smooth flow of traffic in the streets, into and out of the terminal, and on to and off of the Bridge, from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week; and be it further

Resolved: that the PANYNJ provide adequate community space in the renovated Bus Station, and fund a program to maintain and make available this space for the purpose of providing a home for the performing arts in Washington Heights.

Approved unanimously: Committee, 5; Board, 1; Public, 2.

**Economic Development Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

Committee Members Present: Nicole Foster, Ariel Ferreira, Edith Prentiss, Rolando Cespedes

Committee Members Excused: George Espinal

Committee Members Absent (Unexcused): Leonardo Blackman, Mireya Cruz, Melanie Hidalgo, Angela Sanchez, Ruddy Santana

CB12 Staff Members Present: Frances Escano

CB12 Members Present: Steve Simon

Community Members Present: Neil Weisbard; Franklin Pacheco; Manuel Vidal; Marilyn Rodriguez - El Capri Restaurant; Douglas Slayton - GWBBSDV; Fran Nalevaiko; Julio Brea; Gail Adiss; Brooke Shafman; Salma Lopez - Yummy Thai; Pablo Gomez - El Malecon Restaurant; Gisselle Cruz - Bijaru Coffee Shop; Jorge Peralta - El Provocon; James Lee - International Drink Group; A. Ramirez.

A. Welcome & Opening Remarks

B. State Liquor Authority Renewal Licenses

RESTAURANT WINE LICENSE

1. El Malecon Restaurant (4141 Broadway at the corner of W. 175th Street)

OWNER: Pablo Gomez

TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Dominican/Caribbean restaurant

HOURS OF OPERATION: 7 AM- 1:30 AM everyday

CAPACITY: 119

SEATING: 25-27 tables; 1 seat at the bar

SECURITY: 16 cameras (2 outside)

MUSIC: iPod

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Yes

STAFFING: 20 part time employees; 30 full time employees

PRECINCT: 33rd- No Objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT: No Comment

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

2. 1342 St. Nicholas Avenue Restaurant Corp dba El Capri Restaurant (1342 St. Nicholas Avenue at the corner of W. 177th Street)

OWNER: Manny Vidal Jr (representative); Marilyn Rodriguez (manager)
TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Dominican/Spanish food restaurant
HOURS OF OPERATION: 6 AM to 2 AM everyday
CAPACITY: 60 people
SEATING: 6 tables upstairs; 4 tables downstairs; 6 stools at the bar
SECURITY: 10 Cameras (2 outside)
MUSIC: iPod
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Front Door- YES; Bathroom- NO
STAFFING: 12 full time
PRECINCT: 33rd- No Objection
COMMUNITY COMMENT: It was stated that there was no adverse history for 30 years

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

3. Bijaru Coffee Shop Restaurant (4032 10th Avenue at the corner of W. 215th Street)

OWNER: Gisele Cruz (manager)
TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Small Spanish food restaurant
HOURS OF OPERATION: 6 AM- 12 AM everyday
CAPACITY: 16 people
SEATING: 4 tables (4 chairs each); 3 stools at the bar
SECURITY: 4 cameras (1 outside)
MUSIC: iPod
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Yes
STAFFING: 2 part time employees; 4 full time employees
PRECINCT: 34th- No Objection
COMMUNITY COMMENT: n/a

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

4. Pollo El Provocon Inc dba Provocon (1495 St. Nicholas Avenue between W. 184th & W. 185th Streets)

OWNER: Jorge Peralta (owner)
TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Food food establishment that primarily serves Spanish food and chicken
HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday- Friday 10 AM to 11 PM; Saturday-Sunday 24 hours
CAPACITY: 70 people
SEATING: 12 tables; 24 seats total; no bar
SECURITY: 16 cameras (2 outside)
MUSIC: iPod

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: There is a step at the front door. There is no way to ramp it. Bathroom is too small to allow wheelchairs inside.

STAFFING: 12 full time

PRECINCT: 34th- No objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT: n/a

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

5. Ceci Restaurant Inc (78 Sherman Avenue at the corner of Dyckman Street)

NO SHOW

VOTE: EDC 0-2-2 CB12 0-1-0 Public 3-0-1

A. Department of Consumer Affairs- Renewal Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafe Licenses

6. Broadway & 166th LLC dba Dallas BBQ (3956 Broadway at the corner of W. 166th Street)

OWNER: Neil Weisard (Lawyer)

TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: BBQ restaurant

HOURS OF OPERATION: Sidewalk Cafe 12 PM to 10 PM weekends

CAPACITY: 48 people

SEATING: 48 chairs; 12 tables

SECURITY: 14 inside (1 points outside to sidewalk cafe)

MUSIC: Music is not played outside

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Yes, however the bathroom is often used as storage for the restaurant

STAFFING: 150 employees (mostly part time)

PRECINCT: 33rd- No objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT: STIPULATION- must clear out the first floor bathroom so that it is always accessible

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

7. Hashi Sushi Fusion Inc dba Hashi Sushi (5009 Broadway at the corner of W. 214th Street)

REMOVED THEIR APPLICATION FROM THIS MONTH'S AGENDA and WILL RETURN IN JANUARY 12

D. State Liquor Authority New Applications ON PREMISE LIQUOR LICENSE

8. Vida LES LLC- TBD (1 Nagle Avenue aka 10 Hillside avenue at the corner of Hillside Avenue)

NO SHOW

****PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ESTABLISHMENT REQUESTED TO BE MOVED TO THE JANUARY AGENDA**

VOTE: EDC 0-3-1 CB12 0-1-0 Public 0-0-4

9. International Drink Group Inc dba TBA (4476 Broadway between Fairview Avenue & W. 193rd Street)

OWNER: James Lee (owner)

TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: This will be a restaurant/bar that serves traditional American food

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday-Friday 3 PM- 2 AM; Weekends 9 AM- 12 AM

CAPACITY: 62 people

SEATING: 18 seats at the bar; Community seating

SECURITY: 16 cameras (3 outside)

MUSIC: iPod

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Yes

STAFFING: 12-15 (combination of 12-15 part time and full time employees)

PRECINCT: 34th- No objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT: n/a

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

10. NYSTOG Import Corp dba Vacca Lounge (416-420 W. 203rd Street at the corner of 9th Avenue)

NO SHOW

VOTE: EDC 0-3-1 CB12 0-1-0 Public 0-0-4

RESTAURANT WINE LICENSE

11. El Caribe Restaurant Corp dba El Caribe Restaurant (1562 St. Nicholas Avenue between W. 188th & W. 189th Streets)

OWNER: Julio Brea(owner); Tanya Familia (owner)

TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Spanish restaurant

HOURS OF OPERATION:6 AM- 11 PM everyday

CAPACITY: 28 people

SEATING: 3 four seaters; 9 stool at the bar; 1 two seater

SECURITY: 12 cameras (1 outside)

MUSIC: No music

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Front door- Yes; Bathroom- No (too narrow)

STAFFING: 10 employees (8 full time; 2 part time)

PRECINCT: 34th- No objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT: n/a

VOTE: EDC 4-0-0 CB12 1-0-0 Public 3-0-1

12. 207 West Restaurant Corp dba Yummy Thai (4959 Broadway between W. 207th & Isham Streets)

OWNER:Salma Lopez (Owner); Franklin Pocheco (Friend)

TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT: Thai Restaurant

HOURS OF OPERATION: Sunday-Thursday 12 PM- 11 PM; Friday- Saturday 12 PM to 12 AM

CAPACITY: 50 people

SEATING: 23 tables; 46 chairs; 5 bar stools

SECURITY:8 cameras (1 pointing outside)

MUSIC: No music

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: Ramp is too steep at front door; Bathroom- YES

STAFFING: 10 full time

PRECINCT: 34th- No objection

COMMUNITY COMMENT:

VOTE: EDC 3-0-1 CB12 0-0-1 Public 3-0-1

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 1
Renewal- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, El Malecon Restaurant, has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a renewal restaurant license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about El Malecon Restaurant; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a renewal of the restaurant wine License for El Malecon Restaurant.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 2
Renewal- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, 1342 St. Nicholas Avenue Restaurant Corp dba El Capri Restaurant, has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a renewal restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about 1342 St. Nicholas Avenue Restaurant Corp dba El Capri Restaurant; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a renewal of the restaurant wine License for 1342 St. Nicholas Avenue Restaurant Corp dba El Capri Restaurant.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 3
Renewal- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, Bijaru Coffee Shop Restaurant has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a renewal restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about Bijaru Coffee Shop Restaurant; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a renewal of the restaurant wine License for Bijaru Coffee Shop Restaurant.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 4
Renewal- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, Pollo El Provocon Inc dba Provocon has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a renewal restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about Pollo El Provocon Inc dba Provocon; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a renewal of the restaurant wine License for Pollo El Provocon Inc dba Provocon.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 5
Renewal- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, Ceci Restaurant Inc, has duly notified Community Board 12 of its to file an application for a renewal restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, it is committee protocol to provide a negative vote for establishments that do not attend the duly advertised Economic Development Committee meeting; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **OBJECTION** to the State Liquor Authority granting a renewal restaurant wine license for Ceci Restaurant Inc.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 6
Renewal- DCA- Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafe
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, Broadway & 166th LLC dba Dallas BBQ has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a renewal unenclosed sidewalk cafe; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about Broadway & 166th LLC dba Dallas BBQ; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the Department of Consumer Affairs granting a renewal of the unenclosed sidewalk cafe License for Broadway & 166th LLC dba Dallas BBQ IF the establishment ensures that the first floor bathroom remains accessible at all time for patrons.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 7
New- SLA- On Premise Liquor License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, International Drink Group Inc dba TBA has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a new on-premises liquor license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about International Drink Group Inc dba TBA; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a new of the On-Premises Liquor License for International Drink Group Inc dba TBA.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 8
New- SLA- On Premise Liquor License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, NYTOG Import Corp dba Vacca Lounge, has duly notified Community Board 12 of its to file an application for a new on premise liquor license; and

Whereas, it is committee protocol to provide a negative vote for establishments that do not attend the duly advertised Economic Development Committee meeting; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **OBJECTION** to the State Liquor Authority granting a new on premise liquor license for NYTOG Import Corp dba Vacca Lounge.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 9
New- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, El Caribe Restaurant Corp dba El Caribe Restaurant, has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a new restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about El Caribe Restaurant Corp dba El Caribe Restaurant; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a new of the restaurant wine License for El Caribe Restaurant Corp dba El Caribe Restaurant.

**Economic Development Committee
Resolution # 10
New- SLA- Restaurant Wine License
December 6, 2011**

Whereas, 207 West Restaurant Corp dba Yummy Thai has duly notified Community Board 12 of its intention to file an application for a new restaurant wine license; and

Whereas, the Economic Development Committee, having met on December 6, 2011 to hear comments from the community, and the local precincts, heard no negative comments about 207 West Restaurant Corp dba Yummy Thai; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 12 offers **no objection** to the State Liquor Authority granting a new of the restaurant wine License for 207 West Restaurant Corp dba Yummy Thai.

Land Use Committee Meeting -December 7, 2011

Present: Anita Barberis , Asst Chair, Richard Allman, James Berlin, Obie Bing, Leandro Hidalgo, Tami Rivers, Steve Simon, Vivian Ducat, Public Member

Guests: Meghan Moore-Wilk, Director CUNY Dept of Planning, Dulce Bueno, NYC DOE, Erika Lindsay, Urban Planner-MBPO, Caroline Massa, Planning Fellow, Columbia Univ., Gail Addiss, Rita Gorman

Asst. Chair Anita Barberis called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Ms. Meghan Moore-Wilk, from CUNY in the Heights. explained the new unoccupied 15,000 square foot space at 5030 Broadway (between 213 and 214 Streets) will be designed, with classroom/seminar rooms, computer labs and administrative offices., so that CUNY in the Heights would be housed in a more modern, efficient and ADA-compliant space that it currently has at the Church of the Good Shepard. However, as this site is within a C8-4 General Services District, which does not accommodate a school, CUNY is requesting a Mayoral Override (which Steve Simon acknowledged is not uncommon) from this restriction. to permit occupancy by Fall 2012, which will probably be more like Spring 2014. CUNY offers credit bearing and certificate courses in both day, evenings and weekends and the lease would be for ten years with options to renew.

Committee members asked about the sidewalk interaction. In front will be a student lounge that will be fashioned like a Barnes and Noble Café. They are looking at anchor space next door to possibly turn into a Starbucks. There will be transportation to two other community colleges. Steve Simon asked for statistics on number of students served, and whether it primarily serves people from Manhattan. There was discussion about the equipment that is still in the building from when it was a telephone switching station. As construction is managed by the landlord and not CUNY, those costs will be paid for by the lease. Tami Rivera asked about the construction practices and the union-labor potential. Steve Simon pointed out that this location was suggested for a school in the past.

A vote was taken on the resolution developed by Steve Simon supporting this relocation and requesting the Deputy Mayor for Eco Dev to grant the Mayoral Override.

Results: Committee members : 8-0-0, Board members: 2-0-0, Members of the Public: 3-0-2

The resolution will be presented to the entire Board at our next General Meeting on December 15.

The second speaker of the evening was Columbia University Planning Fellow, Caroline Massa who presented a PowerPoint that she had put together of images she had taken around the neighborhood combined with points of discussion and directions for CB12 to take as it considers rezoning parts of the area. Her suggestions included discussion of waterfront access, of the many vacant lots she has noticed, of her desire to make Hudson View Gardens and Castle Village into Special Purpose Zones. She suggested that 181 street business corridor has the potential for higher buildings. She discussed a decking project that she was involved in with young residents of the towers over the highway. She made maps, that were highly commended by the members of the Committee, highlighting building heights in Washington Heights and Inwood Her recommendations for contextual zoning included: RG6 zoning with inclusionary housing bonus of 33%, allowing for 6 & 7 story buildings with qualifiers, R6B allowing 4-5 story Brownstones, R4B allowing for detached & semi-detached 2 story buildings(217th St and Special Purpose districts.

Erika Lindsey, Urban Planning from the Borough President's office spoke about an upcoming meeting with City Planning and gave out a printed sheet to help CB 12 Land Use members better prepare for that meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm Minutes taken by V. Ducat and reviewed by A. Barberis

Land Use Committee

December 7, 2011

Resolution Supporting the Relocation of CUNY In The Heights and the Mayoral Waiver of Zoning Required to Facilitate the Relocation

Whereas: CUNY in the Heights, the first City University of New York (CUNY) program ever based in Washington Heights-Inwood and a welcome addition to our community, was established in 2005 and has been utilizing rented space in the Good Shepherd School, 620 Isham Street; and

Whereas: CUNY in the Heights is a continuing education and professional studies program that provides both credit and noncredit classes well as certificate programs to adults and afterschool programs and summer camps for children; and

Whereas: A total of 24,783 people have taken advantage of these programs since 2005, including approximately 15,336 residents of Washington Heights-Inwood (60% of the total), according to CUNY; and

Whereas: CUNY is now proposing to relocate this program to a new site three blocks away in approximately 15,000 rentable square feet on the ground floor of 5030 Broadway between West 213th and 214th Streets (the former Verizon Building); and

Whereas: The unoccupied space at 5030 Broadway would be renovated to provide classroom/seminar rooms, computer labs, students areas and administrative offices so that CUNY in the Heights would be housed in more modern, efficient and ADA-compliant space than it currently has; and

Whereas: The layout of CUNY in the Heights new space will locate offices and lounge areas so that they has are in visual contact with the street and passing pedestrian traffic thereby bring more life and improved security to a somewhat isolated block and also will enhance the program's visibility and public profile; and

Whereas: Although the site is within a C8-4 General Service District, zoning that is intended for automotive and other heavy commercial uses and does not permit uses such as schools or residences, the area around the site is generally characterized by residential apartment buildings with ground floor retail stores; and

Whereas: CUNY plans to request a Mayoral Override of zoning to allow a school use within the C8-4 district to facilitate the relocation of CUNY in the Heights and is seeking Community Board 12-Manhattan's support of this request; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: Community Board 12-Manhattan finds that CUNY in the Heights is a beneficial and compatible use in this largely residential community as a positive educational program serving the residents of Washington Heights-Inwood and surrounding communities; and be it further

Resolved: Community Board 12-Manhattan supports the relocation of the CUNY in the Heights in the hope that the new site will enable the program to flourish and expand, and calls upon the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development to grant the request for the Mayoral Override.

This resolution was passed by the following vote:

Committee Members 8-0-0

Other CB 12 Members 2-0-0

Members of the Public 3-0-2

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – December 1, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Simon (chair), James Amodeo, Isaiah Bing, David Kach, Elizabeth Lehmann, Helen Morik, Raybblin Vargas, Beatrice Hall (Public Member).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Edgard Nau (excused).

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Fe Florimon.

GUESTS: Peter Gordon, M.D., New York-Presbyterian Hospital; Ana Jimenez-Bautista, International Family AIDS Program, Columbia University Medical Center; Gisselle Mejia, City Harvest; Shonitria Anthony, Columbia Journalism School; Jason Harle, William Rivera, Ashley McDonald.

Steve Simon, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. He stated that the first two presentations were scheduled for this meeting in observance of World AIDS Day.

1. **HIV services provided by New York-Presbyterian Hospital** -- Peter Gordon, MD, Medical Director, Comprehensive HIV Infectious Disease Clinic for the past 20 years (also the chair of the Quality of Care Committee, NY State AIDS Institute), gave the following presentation:

- NYC remains the epicenter of AIDS; earliest cases were in 1981; the epidemic is still alive
- 2500 people die every year in U.S. from AIDS-related complications, liver and heart disease
- 4000 are newly diagnosed with HIV every year
- 1/6 of all those infected with HIV live in NY State
- 20-30,000 not aware that they are infected; 109,000 living with HIV in NYC now; 50% not receiving care
- no mandatory reporting of HIV, only AIDS
- South Bronx has one of the highest rates in the U.S.
- African-American males have a 1/6 chance of being infected; epidemic among young black males
- problem largely involves teens and young adults now; young gay males are practicing risky sex and getting infected – two 20-year-olds tested positive at the clinic within the last week
- 6,000 babies were born annually with HIV years ago; last year only 13 babies in the entire country
- HIV infection rate in NYC is still 3-4 times the national average
- drug therapy today is far advanced from where it was previously: doctors can now prescribe a single pill instead of 20-30 pills that would have to be taken daily; emphasis now is on anti-retroviral drugs
- anyone diagnosed now can expect to live as normal a life as before the diagnosis
- NYPH set up a good treatment program; most patients receive Medicaid and EDAP
- clinic serves 1400 people who are HIV+, 30-35% from Washington Heights-Inwood, many from Harlem and South Bronx
- "none of my patients in recent years has passed away."
- the clinic has doctors, sub-specialties, social workers, etc. for adults and adolescents
- medical care management system – patients are escorted to community agencies that assist them
- 6 different grants augment clinical care
- AIDS clinical research unit is part of vaccine trials network; no single vaccine has been found, but there have been promising results; you cannot catch HIV from vaccine
- therapeutic approach – strengthen immune system without taking medications
- community programs make it easier for people to come into the clinic: Casa Washington Heights, run by the AIDS Service Center, is located nearby; also Alianza Dominicana's HOPE program does impressive work
- % of people in WH-I tested for HIV has increased
- 40% of those tested for the first time for HIV have AIDS; they are 2-3 times more likely to die
- the death rate is higher in Washington Heights health district (West Harlem-Washington Heights-Inwood) because people are not engaged in getting care
- Chelsea, a much less diverse community, has a high "health literacy rate"; more people are insured
- far fewer agencies in WH-I helping people with HIV/AIDS; issue came to this community later
- AIDS stigma still a problem
- patients selling their drugs on the street fairly common; drug addicts sell them back to pharmacies
- never met a young adult who wants to become HIV+, but some patients do allow their T-cell counts to drop so they can qualify for housing and other benefits – "sad commentary on our housing shortage"

S. Simon read aloud NYC HIV/AIDS Annual Surveillance Statistics for 2009 from the NYC Health Department:

- total number of HIV diagnoses in WH-I (including West Harlem): 154, 121 without AIDS, 33 with AIDS.
- total number of AIDS diagnoses in WH-WH-I: 123
- total number of people living with HIV/AIDS in WH-WH-I: 3,958
- total number of deaths: 59

The HIV diagnosis rate in WH-WH-I in 2009 was in the second highest category: 38.3-57.1 per 100,000 population. The HIV prevalence rate (PWA = people with HIV/AIDS) was also in the second highest category: 1.1-1.8% of the population. The death rate was also in the second highest category: 14.2-18.3 per 1,000 PWA.

S. Simon also distributed copies of press release issued by the Mayor's Office today announcing that HHC has tested more than one million New Yorkers for HIV since 2005 when the public hospitals and health centers began offering HIV screening as a routine part of medical care for patients 13 to 64.

2. International Family AIDS Program – Ana Jimenez-Bautista, Program Director, reported as follows:

- The program was founded by Dr. Stephen Nicholas, who worked at Harlem Hospital during the height of the AIDS crisis
- IFAP in the past has worked in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, South Africa and Russia
- Now focused on the Dominican Republic, working in La Romana in the eastern region
- Hispaniola, the island containing both Haiti and the D.R., has the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean. The eastern region has the highest prevalence in the D.R.
- Clinica de Familia La Romana was founded by IFAP, which recruits and sends Columbia medical, nursing and social work students there to get training. These students are then better able to treat patients here.
- The clinic provides a range of general medical services (not just HIV/AIDS) – pediatrics, teens, adults, sex workers – for 2,400 patients. It sponsors support groups for PWA. Also works with teens who are pregnant or already mothers.
- It has a unique collaboration with the D.R. government and its main hospital in the region, Francisco Gonzalvo Hospital.
- It sponsors Camp Hope and Joy, a week-long summer program for children with HIV.
- When mothers are treated, children are not born HIV-infected.
- Some employees and volunteers have HIV.
- IFAP relies upon donations.

3. New York-Presbyterian Hospital's plan to close five of its school-based mental health clinics – Helen Morik, Vice President - Government & Community Affairs, stated that NYPH operates 15 clinics in elementary schools throughout upper Manhattan, including WH-I and Harlem. The five to be closed – located at PS 28 and 115 in WH-I and PS 153, 123 and 133 in Harlem – are small, part-time clinics. Some are unlicensed; they don't have to be licensed because they operate on grant funds, not reimbursements. The grant has run out, and the funding has been lost – "this is the context we're operating in." The plan is to consolidate the clinics and move patients either to other nearby school sites or NYPH-based clinics. The five clinics serve 120 students ("not an outrageous number to be affected"); all 15 serve 400 students. NYPH also has comprehensive clinics in local intermediate and high schools with 33,000 visits last year – these clinics are much busier and are not affected. It's still not certain the five clinics will close; NYPH still has to notify the State Office of Mental Health (which also funded these clinics) and submit a closure plan. The clinics would not be closed until the end of the school year.

The committee discussed the issue and decided to recommend that CB 12 go on record requesting that the funding be renewed so that these clinics could remain open. The motion was made by S. Simon/R. Vargas and was passed by the following vote:

Committee Members	7-0-1
Other Community Board Members	1-0-0
Members of the Public	4-0-0

H. Morik continued her report on NYPH: the failure of the super-committee in Congress to come up with a budget cutting plan means that various programs now face automatic cuts starting in 2013 and extending over a 10-year period. The Medicare program will lose 2% of its funds. Graduate medical education may be spared.

4. **Update on City Harvest's Healthy Neighborhoods initiative in Washington Heights-Inwood** – Gisselle Mejia, Assistant Manager, reported that City Harvest is focusing on neighborhoods with diet-related diseases. For the past three years, it has been addressing food access in Bedford-Stuyvesant, the north shore of Staten Island and the South Bronx and seeking to answer the question: why are people finding it difficult to eat healthier? WH-I has been identified as a "food desert" because of the paucity of supermarkets and fresh food and the prevalence of obesity and diabetes. City Harvest is doing a community food assessment to determine food access issues, asking residents what they think the issues are and to assess the food outlets. She distributed survey forms. City Harvest also wants to bring more nutrition education to the community. It now distributes fresh produce free of charge to Dyckman Houses residents 2x/month. It was agreed that the committee chair should suggest that Ms. Mejia be able to make a presentation before the full board at a general meeting.
5. **Harlem Hospital Community Advisory Board** – R. Vargas reported that Harlem Hospital received the Leap Frog award as the most improved hospital. It is filling all the vacancies created on the medical staff following the termination of the affiliation agreement with the Columbia medical school. The hospital is having success recruiting doctors from all over the U.S. and internationally who want to come to NYC. The waiting period in the ER is down to four hours as the hospital focused on its delivery systems.
6. **Old Business** – S. Simon reported that the Remedial Investigation Report on the brownfield site at 4566 Broadway still has not been released by the state. He received revised information from the project manager at NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, who now told him that "minor concentrations" of contamination were found in two nearby buildings. At 4580 Broadway, north of the brownfield site, seepage evidently was found in a portion of the building. The DEC project manager said the brownfield owner will be directed "to take reasonable and practical actions to identify sources and reduce exposure," including the installation of a soil vapor extraction system by February/March. Contamination also was found at 19 Nagle Ave., where a dry cleaner had been located years ago, which the project manager told him about last month. The development plan for the brownfield site has been delayed because of the lack of financing.
7. **Mail** was reviewed. HHC is holding annual public meeting at Harlem Hospital on Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. R. Vargas said she would attend.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Simon

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
December 1, 2011

**Resolution Urging the Renewal of Funding for Five School-Based Mental Health Clinics
Operated by New York-Presbyterian Hospital**

- Whereas: New York-Presbyterian Hospital has been operating school-based mental health clinics in 15 schools in upper Manhattan, including Washington Heights-Inwood and Harlem, in a commendable effort to fill an unmet need; and
- Whereas: The medical professionals at these clinics provide vital and necessary services to a population that generally does not have access to mental health counseling and treatment, and as a result the students they assist are better able to adjust to school and to life in general; and
- Whereas: The clinics that have their costs covered by Medicaid reimbursements will continue to operate at ten schools: P.S. 4, 46, 48, 128, 132, 145, 152, 173, 187 and 189; and
- Whereas: The N.Y. State Office of Mental Health has terminated a \$249,000 annual grant from its Clinics Plus program that paid for the clinics at five other schools: P.S. 28 and 115 in Washington Heights and P.S. 153, 123 and 133 in Harlem; and
- Whereas: These clinics served 120 students who will be offered services at other schools or at the hospital itself, but it is likely that many if not most of them will choose not to go to another school or to a hospital setting to access these services; and
- Whereas: It is in the best interests of these students and their families, as well as the larger community, that these mental health clinics, which have proven to be so effective, be continued at their current sites; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved: Community Board 12-Manhattan urges the N.Y. State Office of Mental Health to reconsider its decision to terminate the grant for the school-based mental health clinics operated by New York-Presbyterian Hospital and requests that the local elected officials join us in seeking the continuation of this funding.

**Community Board 12, Manhattan Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee
December 6, 2011 (Hammer HSB, Rm 312)**

Committee Members Present: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Chair; David Kach, Assistant Chair; Michael Diaz; Mitch Glenn; Richard Lewis; Harlan Pruden; Zead Ramadan. **Guests & Members of the Public:** Chelcey Berryhill, Pratt Institute; Pat Courtney & Jeff Dugan, Volunteers for Isham Park; Jacob Morris, Sugar Hill Luminaries Conservancy; Tom Fugalli, Inwood Canoe Club; Betsaida Hernandez; Daniel Mercado, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation.

Ms. Lorris Ritter opened the meeting at 7:10 PM and welcomed the guests. Updates:

- The Committee's **November resolution** on the Grotto in Ft. Tryon Park passed the full Board, 30-0-1-1; the resolution on Inwood Hill Park's tennis and basketball courts did not pass, 19-5-4-1.
- In June the Committee passed a resolution opposing a proposed **public art installation at Plaza de las Americas** (W. 175th St.), which was approved unanimously by the full Board. That project is up for review by the Public Design Commission later this month (December 12th); Board staff will either testify at the hearing, or ensure that the resolution is shared with PDC.
- Attended a luncheon last week introducing the Smithsonian Institution's travelling exhibit, "**Freedom's Sisters**" which will come to the Malcolm X & Betty Shabazz Cultural Center next month. This excellent exhibit honoring 20 outstanding African-American historical heroines and living legends will open Feb. 4th, and will remain through African-American and Women's History months, will be free-to-the-public, and will include educational programming for school children. The Committee first discussed this exhibit at our May 4, 2010 meeting, and is pleased to see it finally coming to our community.

Sugar Hill Luminaries Lawn (SHLL): Jacob Morris (Director, Harlem Historical Society), Presenter

- This is a small, sloped grassy triangle at the southern end of Highbridge Park, facing Edgecombe Avenue at W. 155th Street. It was renamed "Sugar Hill Luminaries' Lawn following a resolution passed by CB12 in June '08.
- Mr. Morris proposes to turn SHLL into a gathering place and an amphitheater, with an arbor-like structure around the back of the seating area with each pillar of the arbor representing a luminary.
- The Committee and public present had several concerns:
 - Why is Black History singled out? The First Nations have long been ignored.
 - Concerns related to noise, both in terms of unwelcome noise/activity affecting surrounding residential buildings, and the level of ambient traffic noise which makes the venue inappropriate for performances.
 - How will the luminaries be chosen?
 - Will there be a program for the space? How will that be decided?
 - A pillared amphitheatre is very western/euro-centric; there may also be other designs that would be a better fit for the rustic outdoor setting and sloped lawn.
- Since this is not a funded project, and Mr. Morris is not authorized to fundraise for a DPR project, it was noted that the proposal is just a suggestion for one possible use of the space. Any plan would go through a public scoping process once capital monies were secured by the City for this public park. It was suggested that Mr. Morris also reach out to CB9 for their comments/input, and share their feedback w/ CB12 at a subsequent committee meeting.
- Additionally Mr. Pruden wanted more information on how the text of historical signage is determined, and if the text currently installed by DPR could be amended to include First Nations' presence and history in the area. [Chair to follow up with DPR.]

Proposal for Inwood Landmark District(s) – Pat Courtney (Volunteers for Isham Park) and Chelcey Berryhill (Pratt Institute), Presenters

- Presenters are representing a project whose goal is to define up to 7 Landmarked Districts in Inwood, as well as 2 Scenic Landmarks. These could be separate, or subsets of a larger district.
- Isham & Inwood Hill Parks are the proposed scenic landmarks, including a ginkgo tree in Isham Park that is proposed as an historic landmark. (NYC has two or three other landmarked trees.)
- There are many important examples of distinct architectural styles present in Inwood, created during its construction heyday, between 1910 and 1940.
- The recently designation of parts of the Grand Concourse (Bronx) as an Historical District may be helpful in the effort to designate such a district(s) in Inwood as many of the styles and several of the architects are the same in both areas.

- There was a discussion about the decrepit status of the William A. Hurst house, an historic (1912) structure abutting Isham Park, and its possible restoration for use as a welcome center, program space, comfort station and concession. It is owned by the adjacent church school, but currently is boarded up and unused. Mr. Pruden humorously suggested buying this property for a couple of beads, though there was general skepticism that the seller would be swayed by such an offer.
- September 28, 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of Isham Park. A celebration is contemplated by the presenters. This idea was warmly received.
- Next step for the people spearheading the landmarks designation effort is to take the presentation to the Landmarks Preservation Commission as part of a Request for Evaluation (RFE).
- The presenters have already met with the CB12 Land Use committee.
- No further steps are required at this time by the Parks Committee, though a future resolution regarding an RFE could perhaps be done jointly with Land Use due to the involvement of the two parks. The Committee and members of the public were grateful for the presentation however, which was universally regarded as thorough and interesting.

Announcements:

- DPR has a Request for Proposals available for a food vending cart (specialty or ethnic food) in the Anne Loftus Playground area of Ft. Tryon Park at Broadway/Dyckman/Riverside. The deadline is December 20th.
- The next meeting will be on Tuesday Jan 3rd, in the CB12 offices. The main agenda item will be reports from senior representatives of DPR and CU on the Dual Use Agreement for the Boathouse Dock at Baker Field.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mitch Glenn.

Community Board 12 Manhattan

Housing and Human Services

Meeting Minutes

December 1st, 2011 at 711 West 168th Street

Committee Members Present (3): George Fernandez Chair, Gabriela Rosa, and Richard Lewis.

Committee Member Absent (4): Mireya Cruz Diaz, Melanie Hidalgo, Carol Mulligan, and Alyce Smith

Guests (3): Leah A. Donaldson, NYC Department of Buildings, Marisol Rodriguez, Manhattan Times ©, Jason Harle.

Opening Remarks by *George Fernandez III, Chair*

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:14pm. The agenda was presented and an over view of the topics for old and new business was reviewed. He emphasized that a resolution called "A living Wage Act was passed in an emergency executive meeting in November and that we are not able to present this resolutions for discussion due to having a quorum.

Review of Emergency Declarations and Updates on Vacated Buildings: Guest speaker *Ms. Leah A. Donaldson, from the NYC Department of Building's Intergovernmental and Community Affairs division (DOB)* began her discussion on the process of emergency declarations (ED) and immediate emergency declarations (IED). She explained that an environmental control violation (ECB) violation follows from a building complaint and an inspection and that the owner is given a hearing date as well as a compliance date. Following an appearance at an ECB administrative court, if opted for, the owner is given a chance at this hearing to plead their case. There is considerable excess of cases from deferrals, related to the fact that the owner does not care or where there is a nonappearance. So a re-inspection occurs and another violation issued. An ECB violation may become an emergency declaration if a determination is made by an engineer that is it poses a sufficient threat to public safety.

In that case despite the issuance of an ECB violation the owner is given 15 to 30 days to fix the problem, else the city will hire a contractor through HPD and bill the owner appropriately. If the owner or managing agent impedes the work of the contractor the city has full powers to place liens on the property as well as impose heavier penalties and remedies such a police action. This escalating situation rarely happens since what has been documented is clearly a public safety issue. The DOB will continue to monitor the work during the 14 and 29 day periods.

Ms. Donaldson presented several worksheets showing the specifics of several emergency and immediate emergency declarations year to date for 2010 and 2011 in Community Board 12. Information is summarized in the table below.

Table 1.

2010 Declarations	18	2011 Declarations*	20
Emergency	9	Emergency	16
Sidewalk Shed	2	Sidewalk Shed	3

Bracing/shoring	5	Bracing/shoring	2
Demolition	2	Demolition	1
		Seal Building	1
		Shore Retaining Wall	9
Immediate Emergency	9	Immediate Emergency	4
Sidewalk Shed	4	Sidewalk Shed	1
Seal Building	1	Demolition	1
Install fence	2	Shoring/Bracing	2
Demolition	1		
Misc.	1	*Up to November 22 nd , 2011	

She also presented additional worksheets with building details as well on building vacates year to date for 2010 and 2011 in Community Board 12. Information is summarized in the table below.

Table 2.

2010 Vacates (Only 14 of 26 Lifted)	26	2011 Vacates (Only 2 of 22 Lifted)	22
Reasons for Vacates		Reasons for Vacates	
Illegal Single Room Occupancy (SRO)	11	Illegal Single Room Occupancy (SRO)	8
Structural Issues	6	Structural Issues	3
Occupancy Issues	5	Occupancy Issues	3
Fire-related Issues	3	Fire-related Issues	2
Egress Issues	1	Egress Issues	1

Please note that ten (10) partial vacates in 2011 were issued along Seaman Avenue, West 218th Street and Park Terrace West. All these vacates came from the same retaining wall that had issues. There were two (2) full department ordered vacates in 2010 (559 West 161 Street – an unsafe building and 157 Sherman Avenue due to damage from fire). There were three (3) full department vacates ordered in 2011 (552 Academy Street, 525 West 173rd Street and 511 West 166th Street - all due to structural issues, with the latter one occurring at the front entrance.)

There was serious discussion over the issue of single room occupancy (SRO) and illegal SRO's in individual apartments. Too often these structures have no egress, in case of a fire or are built without fire retardant enclosures. They often lack two means of egress, insufficient air/ventilation or windows. There are often no budding plans or blue prints for construction of the SRO's.

The committee made some recommendations for improving the agency's declaration and order to vacate process. These improvement involved communications to tenants and elected officials, where none currently exists. See the discussion part of these minutes. Chair of HHS committed recommended fostering a discussion and dialogue with the community in response to supporting DOB initiatives campaign "Living Safely" that speaks out against SRO's and illegal conversions and given the fact DOB findings of 2010 and 2011 on the top ten reason for the partial vacates were due to SRO's with in CB12M

which creates many hazards for tenants, landlords and the FDNY when needing to fight an apartment fire. Ms. Donaldson indicated she would bring these suggestions to her agency head.

Housing and Human Services Committee Survey – was discussed. Chair discussed the possibilities of an online survey and what would that look like. Members of the HHS committee and the public provided input; several formatting, grammatical, and stylistic changes were presented for consideration to be discussed in January meeting at another meeting. It was also suggested that data questions be consistent with the data collecting agencies. e.g., the US Census. One goal of this survey is to get a better and clearer understanding of community needs in regards to human services and to establish a better database for constituents that can be used for the budgeting process for future forums. Discussion followed on how to do this. There were suggestions to contact elected officials, CBO, and use CB 12 contacts an email blasts could be sent out and further networked or distributed by them. This was deemed a better possibility than asking those groups for their individual email lists. There was also a call to find better means of contacting our community more directly and continuously and through other engaging methods.

Discussion about HHS roles and responsibility to the community:

As part of the mission of the HHS Committee discussion centered on what was the best way to provide information to the community on the resources that are available to the residents of cb12m given all of the budget cuts. Chair spoke about how we as members of the board aware of the budget cuts and what services are available that may not be the case or other members of the community and that one of our roles is to keep the community informed. One suggestion for an engaging method was to host a community resource event in CB 12M with CBO's, elected officials city, state and federal agencies. There is a clear need to dovetail this event with the survey as well as to determine a date, time and advertising needed. There was some movement towards a March 2012 date and on Saturday the 9th but a time period was left unsettled.

Q&A. Ms. Donaldson distributed a bilingual flyer, "Living Safely" (*Vivir con seguridad*) that attempts to address the problem of SRO's. Some of the questions raised were: Is your family in the cellar? Do you get electricity from an extension cord? Do you lock your room with a padlock? The message was clear: illegal apartments can put you and your family in danger. So it recommends that residents have two easy ways to get out of their living space, have a carbon monoxide detector with good batteries, and to give a space heater a chance to cool down periodically. .It further recommends that "the City can immediately vacate unsafe and illegal apartments or rooms. Landlords can be fined up to \$25,000 and face other penalties. To learn more as about illegal spaces or to requests a Buildings Department inspection, the flyer suggests to call 3-1-1."

The problem with SRO's is kind of a conspiracy of silence. Members in an impoverish community are less likely to report an SRO or request an inspection for fear of landlord retaliation or the fear they may lose their living space and have no other place to go. They also fear they may not be able to afford decent or affordable housing. But this marginal situation may well become a serious threat to their lives or the lives of their family, friends, and neighbors. There needs to be some other proactive approach to help these populations. So given the possibility that there is a substantial under reporting of SRO's and in our community only bolsters the need for some kind of outreach by our community board for a community resource forum or survey.

Ms. Donaldson was asked about why are emergency declaration orders and owner's letters containing them were not given to tenants as well to insure some measure of accountability as well as allowing agency transparency? She maintained that her agency was not equipped to do this. And further stated that conclusion by suggesting that although the number of apartment units was known they had no information on individual tenant's names or what units they occupied. So as other city agencies do only the owner is contacted.

All committee members agreed this approach was not sufficient and needed to be immediately addressed. Chairman Fernandez suggested that the same letter be sent to owners be conspicuously posted in the affected building or property affected. Committee member Gabriella Rosa, who works for an elected suggested that they should be contacted at the same time the owners are contacted and their names should be so noted on the ED order and letter itself. It was the general feeling that the elected officials have a better means to contact individual tenants affected than the community board since there may be other underlying problems that need to be addressed as well.

Mr. Lewis HHS member suggested that the DOB should inform the bank, financial institution, or mortgage lender. Mr. Lewis made reference to a due diligent clause in the financial instruments where these institutions have the right to protect their investment and to insure the owner or mortgagee is maintaining the property in good order. Ms. Donaldson claimed that that may be the responsibility of the Department of Finance.

Given all these suggestions for agency change she took the position that she would advance the committee's concerns to her boss and get back to us on their implementation or progress.

Committee chair engaged the committee in a discussion that focused on the Mission of the HHS committee and the need for board members mindful of their attendance and duties as a member of the board and a committee. Chair went on to state that the committee cannot pass resolutions or conduct meaningful business at meetings without a quorum. For this committee that means 3 plus 1 attending meeting. The chair reminded all members that they must attend two thirds of committee and general meeting according to the bylaws to be considered in good standing.

Committee mail was read and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

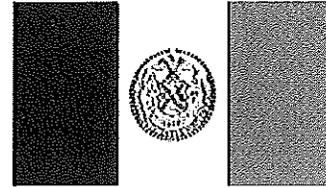
Respectfully submitted,
Richard Lewis



Community Board 12
Public Safety Committee

December 07, 2011 - 7:00 PM

Chair – Robert Reynolds
Assistant Chair – Angelo Ortiz



<u>Committee Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – Robert Reynolds • Assistant Chair- Angelo Ortiz <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Board Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair- Pamela Palanque-North • 1st Vice Chair – George Fernandez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DA's Office – Joselinne Minaya • 33rd Pct. – EO Capt. Benjamin Graham • 33rd Pct. – Community Affairs: Officer Robinson-Hewitt • Mr. Michael Jimenez (Inwood) 	34 th Precinct Deputy Inspector Barry M. Buzzetti, George Cruz, William T. Devlin, Michael Diaz, Richard Lewis, Carole Mulligan, <i>Public Member:</i> Dr. Michael Mowatt-Wynn

7:20 PM Chair called meeting to order:

33rd precinct Executive Officer Capt. Benjamin Graham stated looking at 28 day period shows light rise in crime city wide of electronic devices such as cellphones. These types of crimes tend to occur between 3-11 pm perpetrators in age range of late teens to early twenties. Committed by individuals in groups of two or more as crime of opportunity NYPD attempting to alert public to be aware of your surroundings and safe guard your property at all times.

33rd precinct made arrest in prior week of individual committing crimes of theft perpetrator admitted to having committed prior robberies. CB12 1st Vice Chair George Fernandez inquired about tracking leads online and CB12 Public Safety Chair Robert Reynolds inquired about tracking stolen phones electronically. 33rd precinct EO Capt. Graham stated that both methods can be used but cellphones must be turned on to track general location electronically.

Anti-Crime squad increasing pressure on pawn shops to catalog all items received to increase potential of locating stolen goods. A chain was snatched previously during the summer and this scrutiny allowed the pawn shop to detect a theft and contact local authorities which lead to the chain being returned to the victim. 33rd precinct EO Capt. Graham updated the Committee on activities and initiatives to prevent crimes. CB12 Public Safety Chair Robert Reynolds briefly asked about bomb threat suspect Jose Pimentel. 33rd precinct EO Capt. Graham stated that the arrest occurred in the 30th precinct. CB12 Public Safety Chair Robert Reynolds asked about gang violence and was informed that it is at a minimum.

CB12 1st Vice Chair George Fernandez inquired about underage drinking in the area. 33rd precinct Community Affairs Officer Robinson-Hewitt stated that due to a lack of clubs in the vicinity that it was not a prevalent issue. CB12 Assistant Chair Angelo Ortiz stated that there are about 17 on premise liquor licenses in the 33rd precinct and over 70 in the 34th precinct.

Mr. Michael Jimenez a resident of Inwood showed a brief video of an incident involving an arrest that was made and the interaction between the officer and the suspect. He further explained that his intention was not to attack the NYPD as he has friends who are NYPD officers but to bring light to what may occur during an arrest. In the video one undercover officer is displayed pouring bottled water on the wounds of a handcuffed suspect. Mr. Jimenez felt that the officer was degrading the suspect by ignoring his request for the officer to cease pouring water on him.

Mr. Jimenez stated that during an arrest the primary focus is generally on the suspect arrested and not the lack of professional courtesy of the arresting officers if they act outside of standard NYPD police policy and procedures. Mr. Jimenez asked Manhattan DA's Community Affairs Coordinator Ms. Joselinne Minaya about crime statistics and complaints of police brutality by individuals being arrested. She stated that accusations of police brutality would be the responsibility of a different unit or agency such as the Civilian Complaint Review Board. All such complaints would be presented to the appropriate unit or agency for review and response.

Mr. Jimenez expressed his concerns about the shooting of John Collado and stated that he felt it was an arrest that went bad. He also stated that the officer in the video was from the same unit as the officers responsible for the shooting of Mr. John Collado. Ms. Joselinne Minaya asked Mr. Jimenez who stated that the officers were from the same unit. He stated he was informed by the 34th precinct commander.

The CB12 Board Chair Dr. Pamela Palanque-North made reference to a resolution submitted to the Public safety Committee that made reference to addressing police conduct. She also stated that the context of the video should be taken into consideration. She asked Mr. Jimenez what he think could have been done differently.

He stated that officers should have a clearer understanding of the arrest process as it would help with the disparity between the police and how the public views them. Mr. Jimenez also stated on the record that his Mother was concerned about police retaliation against him for speaking publicly about his concerns. CB12 Board Chair Dr. Pamela Palanque-North informed Mr. Jimenez to please keep Community Board 12 abreast of any such incidents of retaliation if they were to occur.

The CB12 Public Safety Committee Chair Mr. Robert Reynolds informed Mr. Jimenez about the NYPD Police Citizens' Academy of which Mr. Reynolds is a graduate. He stated that citizens meet for 14 weeks and receive a condensed version of the documented training which NYPD cadets receive. This is done to educate the public as to what the NYPD is required to do during the course of their duties and that Mr. Jimenez should consider attending. As well as encouraging his neighbors to participate in the various programs the NYPD has available to the public. Mr. Reynolds also suggested that he would request pamphlets from the NYPD which indicate what your rights are as a citizen. He also suggested taking proactive steps in educating the youth about interacting with law enforcement.

33rd precinct Community Affairs Officer Robinson-Hewitt also made mention of the NYPD Explorers which is a program geared towards the youth which teaches team work, responsibility and discipline. CB12 Public Safety Committee Assistant Chair Mr. Angelo Ortiz mentioned the need for community policing whereas the citizens know who the police are and interact with them during the course of their patrols.

CB12 Board Chair Dr. Palanque-North stated her intent to contact 34th precincts Deputy Inspector Barry M. Buzzetti about having a NYPD roll call speaker address the Community. CB12 Public Safety Chair Robert Reynolds stated that he would contact the NYPD Community Affairs division about having the NYPD officer(s) responsible for police procedure & training to make a public presentation to the Community. CB12 Board Chair Dr. Palanque-North suggested putting together a workshop where this information could be made public i.e.: "What is excessive force?" She also spoke with Officer Robinson-Hewitt about different ways to reach the community.

CB12 1st Vice Chair George Fernandez discussed educating the community in an effort to help heal relations between the NYPD and the Community. CB12 Board Chair Dr. Palanque-North discussed Stop & Frisk and how prevalent it is in lower income neighborhoods.

Manhattan DA's Community Affairs Coordinator Ms. Joselinne Minaya affirmed that the Manhattan District Attorney's office, CB12, NYPD 33rd & 34th precincts will continue to work together to support the needs of the community.

She also stated that the Manhattan DA's office has partnered up with PAL, NYPD, DEA & Pro Hoops and started a free basketball training camp for ages 12-16. PAL Harlem Center 441 Manhattan Avenue (@119th Street) New York NY 10026 contact Amanda Aviles (212) 335-9771 or avilesa@dany.nyc.gov or your local precinct. There are NYPD volunteer coaches available. They are also looking to start a girl's volley ball team. Mr. Jimenez stated that he knows Ken Stevens Owner at Dyckman Basketball Tournament and would endeavor to contact him about the program.

8:45 PM meeting ended.

Robert Reynolds
Chair – CB12 Public Safety Committee

The Youth and Education Committee
Monday, December 5, 2011
711 West 168th Street, New York, New York 10032

Meeting Location: 701 West 168th Street, Room 312-A-B, New York, New York 10032

Committee Members: Fe Florimón, Chair; Manny De Los Santos; María Luna; Ángel Ortiz; Gabriela Rosa; Alyce Smith

Excused: None

Absent: Leonardo Blackman; Pastor William Devlin; Raybblin Vargas

Staff Member: Frances Escaño

Guest: Sadye L. Vassil, Community Organizer for Public Advocate Bill De Blasio Office

Public Members: Kathryn Anderson, Director, Centro Altagracia De Fe y Justicia; Al Kurland, Contract and Compliance Manager, Police Athletic League, Inc; Evelyn Suero, CEC-District 6; Marisol Rodriguez, Reporter, ManhattanTimes Newspaper;

Meeting called to order on December 5, 2011 at: 7:10pm

The Chair Fe Florimon welcomed and thanked everybody for attending the meeting, and introduced each member of the committee. Next, Ms. Florimon discussed the current agenda and proceeded by introducing Ms. Sadye L. Vassil, Community Organizer for Public Advocate's office Bill De Blasio.

- ❖ **Ms. Sadye L. Vassil** suggested that all participants join her for an open discussion on the topics of Co-Locations in public schools, parents and community engagement.
- Ms. Vassil Provided a brief background of her professional experience and asked the members of the committee and general public to identify themselves and their respective roles in the community.
- Co-Location in public schools is a growing problem for parents and students, which Public Advocate (PA) office is paying close attention to. The situation is placing many students in disadvantaged positions while possibly challenging their performance. Parents and students want to see more competitive schools in their community. PA office has called for a Reform on the subject of Co-Locations; however, the Reform is still pending.
- Parental involvement in education and community engagement are topics of major concern of PA office. Ms. Vassil stated that her office is working diligently to promote parental and community engagement in the area of education and other important matters in the

community. She also encouraged participants to share any concerns they may have. In response to Ms. Vissil's comments, the Chair explained about the recent event of the Y&EC, which is seeking to engage parents, youth for a proactive role in the community. Chair also welcomed PA's office possible participation in future meetings.

- **Member Manny De Los Santos** stated that his child's school lacks Parent Coordinator and viewed this as a problem, which may lack communication between parents and schools. His comment and other comments posted by Member Gabriela Rosa were well taken.
- ❖ **Ms. Kathryn Anderson, (PM)** thanked the Committee for allowing her to speak (briefly) about the mission of her organization and the programs available free of charge to the community.
- ❖ **Mr. Al Kurlan, (PM)** discussed some of the latest on DYCD's funds; education training and prevention programs; youth violence and courts; and pending campaign for future voters 16-17 years old to serve on the CB.
- ❖ **Member Angelo Ortiz** reported on available refunding for elementary public schools (ten PS) borough wide. He also stated that United Coalition is still accepting the youth alcohol campaign surveys and wants to encourage CB's members and the general community to participate in the survey.
- ❖ Under new business Chair reported that the Y&EC's event held on Saturday, December 3rd, was successfully accomplished. CM Ydanis Rodriguez spoke at the meeting, the local press was present and over twenty participants came to the meeting including parents from other borough.
- ❖ **Evelyn Suero, (PM)** stated that her organization is willing to provide space for the use of Y&EC's events.

Ms. Florimon thanked everyone for coming and reminded of the next schedule meetings on:
Saturday, January 7, 2012 at: 7:00 p.m (pending location).
Monday, January 9, 2011 at: 10:00a.m at the CB's office location (711 West
168 St)



Pamela Palanque-North, Chair
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEETING REPORT

SATURDAY, DEC 3, 2011

REPORTED BY:
FE FLORIMON, CHAIR



Overview:



Special Thanks:

Guests: Council Member: Ydanis
Rodriguez and Staff

CB12M Members and Staff:

Pamela P. North, Chair
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Committee Members:

Ariel Ferreira
Gabriela Rosa
Alyce Smith

Community Organizations:

Isabella Geriatric Home
Community Bookshop
Al Kurland, Police Athletic
League, Inc
David Weinred, TEP
Mr. Cesar Romero, Press Member

After a series of discussions among members of the Youth and Education Committee (Y&EC) pertaining to the lack of community's participation in the Committee's meetings, parental involvement in education, and a mountain of other educational concerns, it was decided that this situation merited close attention. A new initiative was organized by the Committee, which took place at the Isabella Geriatric Home on December 3, 2011. This Saturday initiative provided an opportunity for an open discussion for parents and youths to share their educational concerns. Although the origin of many educational concerns in the community may not be attributed to a specific cause, the Committee is trying to learn in detail about these problems and provide referral opportunities for corrective actions.

As a result of this new initiative, the Committee found various pressing issues and other persistent problems in the community. The following report provides a detailed encounter of the findings.

"A SATURDAY CALL TO PARENTS AND YOUTHS TO HEAR ABOUT THEIR EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS"

Meeting Report

In the presence of Committee Members: Fe Florimon, Chair, Alyce Smith, and Gabriela Rosa, and Ariel Ferreira, the following meeting was provided.

Chair, **Fe Florimon** opened the meeting and welcomed and thanked everyone. She then asked everyone to introduce themselves and briefly established the framework of the new Saturday initiative for parents and youths.

The purpose of this new event was:

- To initiate a new Saturday commitment that will give parents and youths in the community an additional opportunity to meet with members of the *Youth and Education Committee* and share their educational concerns.
- Promote and share the role and mission of the committee.
- To promote and support the relationship between the CB12/Y&EC and the community by bringing the community together.

The Youth and Education Committee's first Saturday initiative was successfully provided. Over twenty plus (20+) participants came to lend their support. Parents from other boroughs came to witness the committee's effort and provide their support. To familiarize the participants with the role, mission, and structure of the CB12M/Y&EC, several literatures were distributed including letter of introduction in English and Spanish, CBIM's Committee chart, and agenda items.

Why we are here and where are we planning to go? This was the first question posted on the meeting's agenda, which opened the meeting discussion. *"We are here for the parents, and the youths. We're here to hear their educational concerns. As a community of commitments and unified voice, we will go as far as our collective efforts, persistence, and determination take us on this journey."* This was the Chair's response.

Following Chair's response, **Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez** was introduced to the podium. CM congratulates the Y&EC for its new Saturday initiative. He shared a few words of wisdom and encouraged participants to support the committee's effort. CM also shared his willingness to support the committee's effort in the next meetings and/or activities that promote education.

Members of the Y&EC including Ms. Florimon, and Gabriela Rosa, and parents were interviewed by Mr. **Cesar Romero**, press member of local channel 35, and program director of "**Hechos Y Gente.**" The program is aired every Saturday at: 9:00pm. The Y&EC's meeting will be aired on Saturday, December 17, 2011, at 9:00pm local time.

Findings:

During the second phase of the meeting an open discussion was facilitated in which the following concerns were reported among participants including parents from other boroughs.

Pressing Issues

- Public School system not so public
- Larger class size
- Lack of funding for out- of- school-time (OST) programs.
- No accountability
- Lack of self-esteem and coping skills within youths
- Lack of parental involvement
- Youths starting late in the educational system
- Financial literacy

Parents' Concerns

- Testing Standards for ESL and Special Education
- Early and Late Lunch, (may affect students' performance)
- Co-locations, which limits space usage for other school's programs
- Lack of libraries in schools
- Services for ELL students
- Issues with enrollment registration

Youths' Concerns

- Students trying to get back into college but owe tuition
- Safety
- Teach for America

Few Solutions Provided

- ✓ Fully funded conflict resolution board – ran, operated, by and for youths
- ✓ Community supported bookshops- newly open facility in the community, free of charge.

Next, the Chair provided the next Y&EC's meetings schedule for 2012, and announced the possibility of several events including educational and entertainment events.

During the closing remarks, the Chair thanked everyone and gave special thanks to the CM Rodriguez and his staff; Representatives of several organizations; Isabella Geriatric Home; and Members of the Committee for their support.

Meeting ends at: 12:30pm