

MINUTES

CB9M ARTS and CULTURE Meeting – Monday, October 5, 2009 Broadway Housing ~ 583 Riverside Drive (corner of 135th Street) ~7th Floor PH

Meeting called to order at 6:45

Committee Members Present: Diane Wilson; Linda Walton; Vicky Gholson

Public Members Present: LaQuita Henry; Michael Palma, Stephanie Berry; Lee-Ann Pinder; Magali Damas; (Complete Attendance Sheets listing approximately 20 guests present faxed to office on October 23rd.)

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Introductions and Information Exchange – All present participated in brief exchange describing their affiliation and sharing info re timely events;

Meet the Artists -- focus of meeting was to showcase artists living and working in West Harlem. Artists featured included:

Stephanie Berry – Actress/Theater, Television/Arts-in-Education -- Ms. Berry performed a powerful and engaging excerpt from her Obie award winning performance in *The Shannequah Chronicles*, a play she wrote and starred in at the Ensemble Studio Theater as well as off Broadway;

Michael Palma – photographer; presented an outstanding sampling of his photos in a slide presentation and *Chashama* visual artists -- **Tara Parsons**, **Elaine Defibaugh** and **Marcela Carvallto** were among those featured along with **Vickie Fremont** in this moving slide presentation of some of their selected pieces;

Yosvany Terry – the Cuban-born jazz saxophonist and Jazzmobile artist-in-residence gave a rousing performance with his group.

Visitors on the guest list who are artists living and working in West Harlem included *Moses Ros* and *Luis Leonor*—the African/ Carriibbean/Dominican artist; *Judith Insell*, a jazz and classical viola player and *Jeremiah Burns*, artist, dancer and teacher;

Discussion/question and answer period followed each artist re how living/working in West Harlem has influenced their craft.

Other Business: LaQuita Henry spoke about organizing the artistic community of West Harlem to help revive the numerous vacant store fronts in our community; Darryl Hell of *Chashama* and *s6k* provided technical details re developing an Arts and Culture directory that will identify artists and cultural orgs specific to West Harlem; Dorothy Day Mentors

gave a brief overview and encouraged artists and those working in arts-related businesses to consider mentoring projects with youth.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Next arts and culture meeting scheduled for November 2nd at Broadway Housing
583 Riverside Drive ~ (corner of 135th Street) ~ 7th Floor Penthouse