

Manhattan
Community Board 9

Chair's Report

October 20, 2011

Meeting held with DCP and Co-Chairs of Land Use/Zoning for update on progress of the West Harlem Rezoning project as well as orientation for "New Chair". DCP will hold several forums/meetings and distribute information to board and community to prepare for the environmental impact study. Land Use Co-Chairs gave important points for upcoming meetings.

Discussion held at Landmarks Preservation Commission with Chairman Robert Tierney opposing the Calendaring of buildings in the M district which the board voted to have De-calendared. Chair Tierney indicated that LPC would be willing to remove all but three (3) buildings from the calendar.

Meeting held with representatives of St. John Devine regarding status of development and Land marking. Meeting to be scheduled with Chair of Landmarks Committee as well as 1st Vice Chair.

Clean Heat forum held at Lerner and George Bruce Libraries.

Attendance was very good at Lerner and dialogue was interactive.

Community members indicated that the forum was very helpful and hopefully building owners will be able to take advantage of Columbia University providing the infra-structure that can save them a great deal of cost.

Attended the Hamilton Grange Opening and tour, which was long awaited and turned out to be a wonderful event for families and children and all members of the community that attended.

Attended the Fredrick Douglas installation ceremony despite the rain it was a moving and inspiring event one which demonstrates the greatness that can occur when an entire village comes together to promote the good in our history.

The District Manager and I met with the Mayors Commissioner of Community Affairs to discuss the Mayors "Young Men's Initiative". The meeting proved to be an opportunity for the concerns of violence in our community to be address in a productive manner and as a result the Commissioner committed to reaching out to the District Attorney's office to encourage a "Gun Buy Back". We received a call the following week and were informed that the DA's office was in agreement and the date of October 22nd has been set. The location will be St. Joseph's Church. A flyer is being created and will be distributed ASAP.

Meeting Held with the Sisters of Charity to discuss the possibility of true affordable housing to be developed on a property that they own. If developed, the project will house families from this district having priority and paying one third of their monthly income for rent. They have been referred to Land Use.

Met with the Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer and District Manager regarding fiscal procedures and budgeting of funds received from Councilwoman Dickens.

Orientation and discussions held with several new members of the board which I plan to continue until I have met with all new members.