

Strategic Planning Committee Minutes

Thursday September 26, 2013

Committee Members:

Carmen Morillo – Co-Chair, Victor Edwards – Co-Chair, Arnold Boatner, Harriet Rosebud,
Linda Walton

Other Board Members

None

The meeting was opened by C. Morillo welcoming all attendees. C. Morillo continued by asking that the agenda and minutes be adopted, a motion was made to accept both.

Standing Committee Members:

The first item on the agenda was discussed - Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) standing committee members and the committee's they represented. It was noted that a committee member from Youth, Education and Libraries had not been assigned since Tisha Jackson stated that she would not be able to attend on a regular basis. V. Edwards informed the committee that he had reached out to YEL Chair W. Majette to provide a representative.

Linda Walton informed the committee that she was representing the Land Use & Zoning Committee for this evening but, didn't know whether she would be the permanent representative. Edwards continued by stating that he wasn't certain whether or not a member was necessary on the committee from Senior Issues and Uniform Service since the CBA/ GPP did not contained many items from these areas. He stated that he would discuss it with the Chair.

CBA/ GPP Follow-up:

C. Morillo noted that follow-up was required on the CBA from the following committees:

- Arts / Culture – use of CBA funds to:
 - secure space for local artist
 - for an endowment funds to support the arts
 - support initiatives involving a living history project and Harlem legacy

Member Rosebud stated that she would review these areas and report back to the committee.

- Landmark Preservation / Parks – V. Edwards requested that Member Boatner review section X (Historic Preservation) of the CBA to determine if there any items that required follow-up.
- YEL, Land Use / Zoning or Health / Environment - C. Morillo noted that these three committees had not submitted a summary to the SPC

Columbia Publication "Growing Together" –

- TCCS - Member Walton inquired about the status of parents of children at the TCCS having to pay for after school activities. Several members responded that as far as they knew parents would have to pay for their children to participate in after school programs. Several members stated that this was truly unfair to the parent and would discourage parents from enrolling their parents in the school. Kofi Boateng stated that he was working to see what could be done about this.

- Columbia Scholarships (40 per year) – committee members stated that they did not have any knowledge of these scholarships, how they are awarded or who has received them. A. Boatner stated that it would be good idea to obtain a list of students that have received these scholarships thus far.
- Shuttle Bus – Co-Chair Edwards stated that the “Growing Together” publication claims that since 2009 CU has provided shuttle bus senior and disable service for residents.

Several members stated that this was not the case at all and they hadn't heard of the service being widely utilized. Edwards stated that he has spoken with CU's Victoria Mason at a prior meeting about the bus shuttle and Ms. Mason claimed some issues were still being resolved. Several members agreed that additional bus stops and improved awareness was necessary for the community.

- Columbia-Harlem Small Business Center – H. Rosebud stated that she had never heard of this center and it would be helpful to her business as well as others if this was more widely publicized. She asked how the information about the center is publicized, how long has it been in existence? Harriet stated that she would visit the office herself to obtain further information

V. Edwards stated that this publication (“Growing Together”) was a great public relations effort but if all the programs did actually exist they did not appear to be widely publicized by C.U. C. Morillo stated that more out reach to the community was definitely needed by C.U.

In Kind Benefits

H. Rosebud inquired about the “In-kind benefits”, exactly how it works and how are they obtained. Member Walton followed-up by asking was anyone familiar with the process of utilizing the “In Kind Benefits”, is there any public awareness about these benefits and how are the benefits drawn down ? H. Rosebud and L. Walton both agreed that use of space at the University for performances would be a real asset to the community. C. Morillo stated that this area must be explored further with the WHDC. V. Edwards stated that he was aware of \$54,000 being drawn down thus far from the \$20 million, but was not aware of the details. L. Walton raised the question of how were the service charged and would/could it be done at discounted rate to the community.

WHDC Grants (cycle 1)

A. Boatner asked whether there was some type of report card for the Grantees through the WHDC which would indicate their success and impact on the selected area. C. Morillo stated that several Grantees had not met the goals. H. Rosebud stated that the Arts & Culture committee have either attended the Grantees meetings or had the Grantees attend the Arts & Culture meetings which have greatly assisted the groups in meeting their goals. H. Rosebud continued by stating that it should be mandatory for all grantees to attend at least one CB#9 committee meeting in their related areas. Member Walton disagreed with this idea and stated that it should be only voluntary for Grantees to attend the meeting. After much discussion members agreed that a letter could come from the WHDC with language stating that it's strongly suggested that Grantees attend a CB #9 committee meeting in their related areas. C. Morillo noted that there were several Grantees that have not met their goals and this must be addressed by the WHDC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. next meeting to be held on October 24, 2013.