

Strategic Planning Committee Minutes

Monday December 16, 2013

Committee Members: Board Members: Public Members:

Victor Edwards – Co-Chair, Ernestine Welch None

Arnold Boatner, Catherine Abate

April Tyler

The meeting was called to attention by Co-Chair V. Edwards at 6:50 p.m. without the necessary quorum. Victor began the meeting by distributing a letter that he and Co-Chair Carmen Morillo had drafted a letter to be sent to all WHDC Grant recipients. The letter outlined the commitment of CB #9 to assist the Grantees in succeeding with their grants, encouraged the Grantees to reach out to the various committees and to attend the committees monthly meetings. Victor explained that attached to the letter would be the names and contact information for each committee Chair along with the dates of the regular monthly committee meetings. Catherine Abate stated she thought this was an excellent idea which was also echoed by Ernestine Welch.

The meeting continued with Victor discussing a meeting that he and Carmen had held with Columbia University's Victoria Mason-Ailey. He explained that the bulk of the meeting was regarding the "Growing Together" document that Columbia had distributed a few months ago. He continued by stating that he and Carmen informed Ms. Mason-Ailey that the community at large was unaware of many of the services and amenities noted in the document and this included a large number Community Board members. Arnold Boatner stated that he also was unaware of many of the services noted in the document and wanted to know just who was utilizing the services. Ms. Welch added that she knew that the shuttle bus was not be utilized because it seldom stops for the seniors, even when they were standing at the bus stop. It was explained that Ms. Mason-Ailey committed to examining others ways of promoting the various service and amenities that were currently being offer by CU.

Member Edwards continued the meeting by informing the committee of several updates to the CU community service website. He explained that some of the additions were items that the committee had previously been seeking, such as a listing of the students receiving the undergrad scholarships annually from Columbia. The CU website did not list the names of the students being awarded the scholarships but instead listed the number of students that received scholarships from each zip code. Everyone agreed that this was a good start but it was important to determine how many students actually were from CB #9. Victor explained that it was important for each committee to visit the website and examine the reports that were related to their specific areas so feedback could be provided to CU.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.