

Community Board 9 Manhattan  
Chairs Report  
April 2014

Meetings held with Manhattan Legal Services to discuss service needs of district Seniors and assistance that MLS can offer. MLS was referred to CB9 Senior Issues committee as well as the Harlem Advocates for Senior's in order for them to participate in the Housing Forum that they sponsoring.

Attended Housing advisory meeting at the Harlem YMCA.

Met with Precinct Commander and Clergy to review safety strategies for the district and updates on crime in the area. The areas highest in crime in the past have seen tremendous drops in violent crime, unfortunately we have an increase in burglary which is being addressed. The WHEC will continue closing blocks throughout the spring and summer bringing resources and recreation to the families and youth in our district.

Met with Nancy Streim (Teachers College) regarding issues at the TCCS. The role of CB9 was explored as advocate and supporter. The continued representation of CB9 on the Leadership team was discussed at length and an additional meeting will be scheduled with the Chair of YEL with Principle Breeden to enhance the relationship of CB9 and TCCS.

I have attended numerous meetings with New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, to impact the legislation regulating the use of hand guns. As noted below we are beginning to see the fruits of our labors:

*New York, NY--April 16, 2014--New Yorkers Against Gun Violence welcomes yet another ruling upholding the constitutionality of the NY SAFE Act, this time by State Supreme Court Judge Thomas McNamara.*

*The lawsuit brought against the law claimed that NY SAFE infringes on individual rights and that Governor Cuomo exceeded his authority by issuing a 'message of necessity' that allowed a vote on the bill without the required three-day waiting period. Judge McNamara rejected both arguments, saying the plaintiffs failed to demonstrate unconstitutionality "beyond a reasonable doubt" and that the governor included "a recitation of his reasons for urging speedy passage."*

*Leah Gunn Barrett, Executive Director of NYAGV, said, "Once again, the NY SAFE Act has been ruled constitutional, this time by a state court. The law is being implemented and enforced and is working to protect people across the state from the scourge of gun violence which is why New Yorkers support the law by a two-to-one majority. Thanks to New York's strong gun safety laws, our state has the fourth lowest gun death rate in the nation."*

Have continued to collaborate with CB 10 Chair to promote vision zero and to encourage DOT to institute safety measures that will assist in eliminating the loss of life in our district and throughout the city, traffic safety is not only a public safety concern, but also a key health concern. Each year, traffic crashes kill more than 250 people in New York City, and seriously injure more than 4,000. Traffic deaths are the leading cause of injury death for children 1-14 years old and the second leading cause of injury death for seniors.

CB9 has continued to work closely with the Artist who designed the "H" for installation under the viaduct at 125<sup>th</sup> street and 12<sup>th</sup> avenue. Currently the installation is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> and is growing in momentum. This installation will illuminate the area and bring greater foot traffic to the Piers and the businesses on 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Continued discussions with Harlem Mothers Save and club owners to ensure implementation of safety procedures cited at the community meeting.

Meeting with Aloft Hotel to discuss ways in which they can be most supportive of our district. They will participate with the event that will be held by Sweet Spot (organization that promotes the Arts) on May 25 at the Piers which is take off of the Sunday Sermons that were held in Morningside Park. There will be a presentation by the organization at the June GB.

Meeting was held with MTA, 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct, and local businesses to collaborate for the Multicultural Festival to be held on May 31, 2014 on St. Nicholas Ave between 145<sup>th</sup> and 141<sup>st</sup> streets. Buses on St Nicholas will be detoured to Fredrick Douglas at 135<sup>th</sup> street and return to St. Nicholas at 145<sup>th</sup> street.

Monitoring progress of Board office space which is projected to be ready in early fall.

Discussions with St. Luke's post-merge had waned will be meeting with the new administration and Health Committee first week in June.

Received updates weekly from St. John Devine; Contracts are being signed, and the developer will provide a breakdown of MWBE in the next couple of weeks.