

**Youth Education & Libraries Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 10, 2010 - 6:30 P.M.**  
**Broadway Housing**  
**583 Riverside Dr – Basement**  
**Co- Chairs Vernon Ballard & Winston Majette**

Members present: Vernon Ballard, Winston Majette, Miriam Aristy- Farer, Tisha Jackson, Danielle Chase, Vicky Gholson,  
Public member: Joe Rogers  
Absent: Fathima Torress

1. Call to order 7:48
2. Adopted and minutes.
3. Presentation: Boys and Girls Club of Harlem (B&GC)- Gisele Shorter
  - a. Introduced herself as the Harlem born and bred Executive Director who holds a business degree and is pursuing a PhD at Teachers College.
  - b. Has been ED for 1.5 years and in that time has worked to refine and revitalize its mission and improve the quality of programming
  - c. B&GC operates four sites
    - i. ML Wilson Clubhouse 425 W. 144<sup>th</sup> Street
    - ii. Manhattanville Community Center Clubhouse 550 W. 133<sup>rd</sup> St
    - iii. Adam Clayton Powell Clubhouse@ PS 153'(146<sup>th</sup> & Amsterdam)
    - iv. Frederic Douglass Academy Clubhouse (135<sup>th</sup> & Frederick Douglas Blvd)
  - d. Serves 1200-1500 children annually, including 600 members with various after-school programs
    - i. Character and leadership development
    - ii. Education and career development
    - iii. Health and life skills
    - iv. Arts
    - v. Sports, fitness and recreation
4. Planned Parenthood, Camille Hartman, presented resolution for DOE sex education curriculum
5. PS 153 and Hamilton Heights school on DOE co-location proposal
  - a. PS 153 PTA Co-President lamented DOE procedure, said DOE boasts about success of the schools and then abruptly imposes changes; primary concern is that DOE fully engage due process and be amenable to reasonable suggestions.
  - b. Hamilton Heights Principal discussed some of the logistical and practical challenges to the existing split site between St. Catherine's Church (k-3) and PS 28 (4-5): tensions between schools, teachers schlepping between sites, undermines students sense of school

identity and esprit de corps; expressed a willingness to share and collaborate with PS 153 school leadership

- c. Sarah Morgridge shared historical background;
    - i. siting at St Catherine and PS 28 were originally envisioned as a temporary solution for HHS; expressed concerns about DOE's tendency to sacrifice cluster rooms for classrooms, in violation of it's own minimum standards. Suggested that if DOE implements the co-location plan incorrectly it could jeopardize PS 153's outstanding curriculum- including language, arts-intensive and gifted and talented programs.
    - ii. Stated capital plan utilization formula has historically misrepresented the District 6
  - d. Linda Wood-Guy said that DOE tendency is to disavow students residency, which allows enrollment to atrophy—which is how DOE will get both populations to fit within PS 153 within 5 years. Recommended looking to other school co-location.
  - e. Anthonine Pierre said that DOE's presentation to elected official on the co-location plan was lacking and that they seemed to be misrepresenting support. Stating the Councilman Jackson and each school strongly supported the move. When pressed on for facts, DOE's presentation seemed deficient.
  - f. General agreement that model schools should be replicated and that an effort would be made to assist the schools in the transitional period but also help to identify long-term solutions that would allow them to continue to thrive.
  - g. Officials recommended that each school prepare its own Educational Impact Statement and offered assistance; also recommended that school collaborate on a joint statement.
6. Girls and Boys Club rescheduled for March meeting due to a scheduling misunderstanding during snow storm. Will present on G&B Club programming.
  7. Discussion of CB9 co-sponsorship of its 3<sup>rd</sup> Teachers College Demonstration School forum (scheduled for March 4, 2010). After general confusion about the origin of the CB co-sponsorship (which was originally limited to two November forums). Determined to clarify with Chair Pat Jones and Vernon and Joe said they would attend. Will also prepare questions for Nancy Streim to clarify concerns about the school's mission, where it is in its application process, the process for fulfilling the CBA provisions and existing programs that TC has in CB9 schools.
  8. Scheduling Youth Council initial meeting met with problems touching base with Broadway Housing as venue. Recommendation to check into Operation Hope and CCNY's Shakkur Center as possible venues on March 16, 2010. Fathima, Winson and Miriam offered to help with flyer distribution.
  9. Continued general discussion of the Youth Guide and Town Hall meeting.
  10. Adjourned.
-