



Manhattan Community Board 9

Manhattan Community Board 9 – Youth, Education and Libraries Committee January 11, 2012 Meeting

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting unofficially began at 6:45 p.m. Quorum reached at 7:00 p.m. and meeting officially called to order.

ATTENDANCE - Committee Members: Alyson Gordon-Browner, Yvonne Stennett, Judith Insell, Tisha Jackson, Dr. Vicky Gholson, Joe Rogers, Jr. (co-chair). **Public Attendees:** Jen Silverman, Lily Smith (Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation), Karim Muhammad (Community Activist/Developer).

MINUTES - Approved four sets of minutes (September through December 2011).

REPORTS

- **Update re: Teachers College Community School – School Leadership Team – Joe**
 - Joe explained to community members how CB9 came to have a seat on the School Leadership Team of the Teachers College Community School.
 - The principal of the school initially submitted the school's Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) to District 5 without consulting with the School Leadership Team., but agreed to incorporate edits and respond to questions from SLT members. Joe submitted edits over the holiday break. The edits were ultimately reviewed by the SLT and incorporated into the second version of the CEP submitted to the District.
 - This first CEP is geared toward meeting the needs of TCCS's inaugural kindergarten class and includes supports for students struggling in reading and math, along with a range of afterschool programs, including martial arts, healthy eating, and music.
 - In response to requests from Joe and other SLT members, the principal has compiled a list of the services provided by Teachers College to TCCS. The principal was unable to provide the dollar value of those services, but this information may be obtained from Nancy Streim of Teachers College, who serves as the second community-organization representative on the SLT. Joe had reiterated at the December SLT meeting that the services TC is providing are in conjunction with the W. Harlem Community Benefits Agreement.
 - Committee members asked whether a full arts program will be available during the regular school day in addition to the afterschool offerings. Should meet the "DOE Blueprint" for classes in the arts.
 - TCCS is expecting word from the DOE as to whether TCCS will have a pre-k program this fall.
 - There will be a TCCS kindergarten application info session for parents at the George Bruce Library on Feb. 15. Joe asked YEL Committee members to attend and be available to greet parents and answer any questions related to CB9 or to the Committee.
 - Committee Questions:
 - When will the school be officially named?
 - What is the plan to expand to include grades 6-8, given that the W. Harlem Community Benefits Agreement calls for pre-k to grade 8?
 - TCCS is in conversation with the Arch Diocese regarding space issues and how to accommodate the middle-school grades.
 - What assurances do we have (or can we secure) that the DOE will not attempt to co-locate another school with TCCS at the St. Joseph's site?

- CB9 still has not received the school application that Teachers College submitted to the DOE for TCCS. YEL Committee should also request a copy of TCCS's application to the DOE/NY State for the pre-k program. YEL will request the report from the community engagement sessions that CB9 co-hosted with Teachers College in 2010.
- Guest attendee Karim Muhammed recommended looking into a potential site on Wadsworth Ave. in order to accommodate TCCS's middle-school expansion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NORTHERN MANHATTAN IMPROVEMENT CORP.
 - Young Adult Internship Program funded by DYCD is currently accepting applications for 30 youth for March. (CB9 and CB12) NMIC has a difficult time reaching CB9 youth. Current outreach strategies include flyer at NYCHA developments, libraries, etc. Working on creating a database of outreach contacts. Requested CB9's assistance with outreach.
 - Committee
 - Is NMIC willing to hire based upon new \$500 tax credit from NYS Dept. of Labor?
 - Suggested reaching out to CB9's Economic Development Committee and to the CB9 office.
- KARIM MUHAMMAD, Construction Manager/Developer
 - Opening a community center at Level Lounge (454 W. 128th Street). No liquor will be served. Mr. Muhammad has total ownership of building and has sponsors who have pledged to help with the center. Derek Hayes will provide basketball programs. Strategic plan under development. Center is not yet named and is not applying for 501(c)(3) status at this time.
 - Center will open in the next couple of months. Planned activities include sewing and cooking classes.
 - Mr. Muhammad plans to present at the February general board meeting.
 - Committee
 - Youth have been asking for such a center.
 - Center should consider participating in CB9's spring youth resources expo.

OLD BUSINESS

- Debriefed 12/10 Youth Resources Expo.
- Reviewed proposed letter of support for David Dinkins Charter School for Boys (submitted by school applicants).

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussed Spring and Fall 2012 CB9 Youth Resources Expos
- Discussed YEL Committee commitment and protocols (strengthening our service to the community for 2012).
- Status of educational equity and the impact of budget cuts on CB9 schools and youth-service organizations – *Dr. Gholson [TABLED until February 2012 committee meeting.]*
- Proposed recognition event for alumni of Harlem high schools – *Dr. Gholson [TABLED until February 2012 committee meeting.]*

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:30 P.M.