

# Chairman Nicholas Himidian & District Manager William Rivera Youth and Education Committee Meeting **Minutes September 14, 2017**

Meeting Location: BRONX CB9 OFFICE

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Abnunoman Rahman, Harry Dunlap, Sharan Fernandez, Henry Pelayo, Nicholas Himidian

**Board Members Excused:** Chair of Committee Venus Williams, Committee Vice-Chair Nicole Washington,

Board Members Absent: Lisa M. Diaz, Felipa Manaiza

## Introduction

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- **B.** The Youth & Education Committee represents the community's interests with regards to education and programs that target the youth and acts as a liaison between community members and the NYC Department of Education including Parent Advocates, PTA's, Educators and Principals, School Safety, the Administration for Children Services, the District Attorney's Office, NYC Department of Youth & Development and local organizations and nonprofits

### **Guest Speakers**

## A. Samantha Hammer, Anti-Gun Violence

Ms. Hammer talked about program "Ideas 42" a non-profit organization in the city that uses behavioral science to improve programs and policies on a whole range of different issues. Ms. Hammer says she came to the Board to introduce herself as well as the program and they are working on developing a new project with the city on reducing gun violence and testing out approaches with the community.

### B. Jaynemarie Angbah, New director at Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club

Ms. Angbah the new director at Kips Bay came to introduce herself to the Board. Ms. Angbah states Kips Bay serves about 10,000 youth across the Bronx and specific programming are summer and afterschool programs. She also announced the "Day for kid's festival" which will be September 23, 2017 9am-4p.m. There will be different activities, drum corp., bouncy house, etc. Nicholas Himidian (Chairman) talks about Drum corp. being one of the best things for the youth. Great for college applications and can get them something to do. Chairman Mr. Himidian also suggests getting music grants.

#### C. Chairman Nicholas Himidian- "Science Barge" (Flyer Attached)

The Science Barge is a prototype sustainable urban farm developed by NY Sun Works and acquired by Groundwork Hudson Valley in October, 2008 to be operated as an environmental education cent. The Science Barge greenhouse, floating on the Hudson River, grows an abundance of fresh produce including tomatoes, melons, popcorn, peppers, eggplant, and lettuce with zero net carbon emissions, zero pesticides, and zero runoff. All of the energy needed to power the Barge is generated by solar panels, wind turbines, and biofuels while the hydroponic greenhouse is irrigated solely by collected rainwater and purified river water, this operating completely "off the grid." It is only fully functioning demonstration of renewable energy supporting sustainable food production in New York. It is now docked in downtown Yonkers just north of the Yonkers Pier.

Mr. Himidian (chairman) says we should really educate our youth and thinks they will really be interested in this and getting youth from all parts of the community to get involved.

#### **Old Business**

#### A. Backpack drive

- Mr. Himidian (chairman) says book bags have been purchased and there was a donation of \$1200 towards book bags which made it possible to purchase more.
- 100 Book bags were delivered to P.S 93
- P.S 106 and 127 backpacks will be worked on
- 50 book bags will be donated to Castle Hill Little League

#### Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 P.M.

Minutes Transcribed by CB9 Staff.

#### **OFFICE INFO**

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