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Morry Galonoy
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

September 13th, 2022

Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Attendees:

Thalia Karesia Batan, Chair
Anatole Ashraf
Akello Thomas

Absentees:

Kat Bloomfield
Gianna Cerbone
Stephen Cooper
William Garrett
Kenneth Greenberg
Benjamin Guttmann
Badrun Khan
Karla Perez
Ryan Smith

Guests:

Jinelle Thompson, MoMA PS 1
Elizabeth Masella, NYC Parks
Lauren DiLoreto, MoMA PS 1
Edjo Wheeler, Culture Lab

Community Board 2:

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Karesia Batan, Chair welcomed everyone to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee meeting.

Karesia Batan introduced Elizabeth Masella, NYC Parks and Jinelle Thompson, MoMA PS 1

- Elizabeth Masella, NYC Parks spoke about a public arts installation across from the Museum on the Greenstreet.
- This is the first public arts installation in a few years.
- All art work installed in the parks are insured by the exhibiter and maintenance is required by the exhibiter.
- Jinelle Thompson, MoMA PS1 talked about the art installation being displayed in the 46th Avenue Greenstreet. (*presentation attached*)
- The artist is Jumana Manna and the art piece is called Middle Ghost.
- The structure is made of ceramics, concrete, lime and pigments.
- This piece will be displayed for 11 months starting in September 2022.

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

- MoMA PS 1 will be having a display of Jumana Manna work in the museum through April 2023.
- Jumana Manna is a US citizen, Palestine background, but is currently based in Berlin.
- The presentation showed the site renderings.
- There will be signage near the sculpture explaining what the work is and explaining its ties to MoMA PS 1.
- It will not be lit in the evening.
- For future installations by independent artists not affiliated with an organization in this space; NYC Parks asked the artist to periodically check on their piece, most public art pieces are respected by the public and don't require maintenance.
- General liability insurance policies are \$1200 a year, some institutions may require more.
- For further information regarding public art installations visit: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/art-and-antiquities/temporary-guidelines>
- Karesia Batan asked how the feedback has been on the MoMA PS 1 mural.
- Jinelle Thompson replied that it has been all positive.
- A short discussion with NYCParks on using local Queens artists for outdoor space.
- Jinelle Thompson mentioned she will bring this feedback to the curatorial team at MoMA PS 1 regarding having local artists in public space.

Karesia Batan welcomed Ed Kim, the owner of Sunnyside Arts an artist supply store.

- The store is located at 45-18 Skillman Avenue
- Open for one week.
- Fine art supplies, classes, events, and gifts.
- Ed Kim wants the store to be an incubator for the artist. He welcomes teachers who want to teach at his store. They will be having a knitting class, cartooning, pop-up books, poetry workshop, figure drawing, drink and draw, paint and sip.
- Open to all ages.
- \$20.00 a session.
- Ed Kim is presently working on his website. The best way to reach him is via email at SunnysideArtsnyc@gmail.com
- The Community Board can support his store further by word of mouth, FB posts, and The Sunnyside Post article was great.
- Before opening this store, Ed Kim owned Sunnyside Plays where he worked for 4 years with children.
- Ed Kim gave the Arts & Cultural Committee a virtual tour of the store.
- Karesia Batan mentioned the Small Business and Local Economy Committee would also like to meet Ed Kim.
- Morry Galonoy, Chairperson of CB2 welcomed Ed Kim and his store to the community.

Karesia Batan welcomed a dance studio called Dance Matters NYC in Sunnyside that recently relocated to a larger space

- 3 room studio.
- Biggest programming is after school and weekends.
- Classical ballet-based studio but they offer everything from jazz, tap, hip hop, ballet training for kids from age 2 to adults.
- Adult classes have started.
- Residence dance programming will start on the weekends.
- Fine arts club will be opening soon on the weekends for young ones.
- Kids classes work on an hourly basis. Children ages 2-6 that take one hour a week pay \$105 a month which runs for the full 10 months. It is always discounted the more classes you take.
- Adult classes are in a drop-in basis. Right now there is a monthly offer of unlimited classes for \$99 a month where you can take all the classes you want. Drop in classes cost \$23.00. A ten class card is \$207.00.
- They do offer scholarships.
- The first three months of their opening will have a discounted rate being offered.
- The business side of securing the property was very overwhelming.
- Karesia Batan mentioned the Small Business and Local Economy Committee to the representative from Dance Matters NYC.
- The Arts & Cultural Committee can help support the studio by letting artist know about this space to rent.

Karesia Batan gave the committee an update on the efforts to put up a bulletin board at Windmuller and Noonan Parks.

- This issue was brought up at the various Budget committee meetings.
- Noonan Park is located in Sunnyside and Windmuller Park is located in Woodside.
- Both of these parks have groups that would like to promote events happening at these parks but there's no bulletin boards there.
- The Arts & Cultural Committee is trying to get support to get bulletin boards placed at Windmueller Park and Noonan Park but this requires a local organization to agree to help maintain the content of the bulletin board and to make sure it is not being vandalized.
- Karesia Batan mentioned that this is something she would like the committee to help work on. Karesia Batan reached out to the Parks Department contact for this request.
- Debra Markell Kleinert stated that this ask can be added to the Capital & Expense Report. If you can get a price of the bulletin board and an organization to be a maintenance partner, that would be helpful to the Parks Department.
- Karesia Batan stated there are currently two unused bulletin boards. One is in Sohncke Square, and the other one is in Memorial Plaza. Both are in Woodside about one block from each other. Would it be possible to relocate them to these parks?

- Debra Markell Kleinert thought this was a great suggestion. Karesia Batan will draft up a letter to send to the Parks Department.
- Friends of Noonan Park might be interested in maintaining the bulletin board in Noonan Park.

Old Business / New Business

- Hopefully at the next Arts & Cultural Committee Meeting there will be more committee members.
- There is a mural arts project call by the city. The deadline is in three days.
- The new operator at the kiosk on the waterfront in LIC called The Landing is Ottomanelli's, an old family meat business.
- They are also in charge of the picnic area and the event space.
- Karesia Batan had a few meetings with Ottomanelli's. The event space in the past had community programming with the Hunters Pt Parks Conservancy.
- The NYC Parks Revenue Department has now gotten involved with this large waterfront space.
- Ottomanelli's is trying to work with the community to keep the rental of this space affordable and keep compliance with the NYC Parks Revenue Department.
- Karesia Batan mentioned that she would like Ottomanelli's and Hunters Pt Parks Conservancy to come to a future meeting combined with the Land Use Committee to figure out a model to make sure that space can be benefited by the community without it being too expensive.
- In that area is also a Volleyball Court which has permitting challenges with the general public.
- Karesia Batan mentioned that the Arts & Cultural Committee want to work with NYC Parks so community organizations can have access to the power to Windmueller Park Stage. Apparently, the power is only available when NYC Parks has a presentation in that area. Discussion to be held with NYC Parks to allow permitted events run by local organizations to have access to the power. Karesia Batan mentioned drafting a letter to NYC Parks on how local organizations can have access to the power for permitted events.
- Plaxall, a plastics manufacturing family-owned business which has been in LIC for almost a century are closing their manufacturing business. There is now a large warehouse which will be repurposed. Karesia Batan mentioned she would like the Arts & Cultural Committee to have a meeting with Plaxall to see what the plans are with that space. Plaxall owned the Culture Lab space and allowed them to use that space for free.

Karesia Batan, Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kim Waber