



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
215 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor—New York, NY 10027  
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**BRIAN A. BENJAMIN**  
Chairperson

**ANDREW LASSALLE**  
District Manager

## **General Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2016 – 6:00 PM**

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Harlem State Office Building

163 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Art Gallery

**Honorable Chair Brian Benjamin, Presiding**

### **MINUTES**

Chair Brian Benjamin opened the meeting.

#### **I. Elected Officials**

- Renee Woodbury representing the District Attorneys office of NYC. Domestic violence RFP
- Linda Jones-Janneh representing the District Attorneys office of NYC. Domestic violence event; Shine the Light in Harlem
- Nina Saxon representing the NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer
- Peggy Morales District Leader
- Adrienne Felton representing the NYC Public Advocate Tish James
- Giovanni Puello representing the MBP Gale Brewer
- Senator Bill Perkins
- Assemblymember Keith Wright

#### **II. Public Announcements**

The following community members made public announcements:

- Jangir Sultan: Archcare Senior Life
- Edwin Maxwell: NY Public Library
- Tara Rivers/Lena Dallas: Harlem Children's Zone
- Jared Sessum: Green City Force
- Earthly Jewels
- Dr. Kay Samuels
- Aram Marcelle
- Abena Smith President of 32<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Community Council
- Crystal McKay: NY Public Library
- Julius Tajiddin: Preserve Harlem Legacy
- Iesha Sekou
- Catherine Nixon
- Christina Curry: Harlem Independent Living Center
- Jason Clark: CB10- public safety committee

## **Public Session**

**1<sup>st</sup> Roll Call** Conducted by Assistant Secretary Michael Downie

**Minutes adoption for September 2016** Conducted by Assistant Secretary Michael Downie.  
General consensus to adopt the September 2016 minutes

**Agenda adoption for October 2016** Conducted by Assistant Secretary Michael Downie.  
General consensus to adopt the October 2016 General Board Meeting Agenda.

**Chairperson's Report** delivered by Chair Brian Benjamin

**District Manager's Report** delivered by DM Andrew Lasalle

## **Presentation of Voting Items**

**Parks and Recreation Committee:** Resolution for Colonel Charles Young Playground NYC Parks Renovation project

This Resolution, titled "Resolution for Colonel Charles Young Playground NYC Parks Renovation Project."

WHEREAS Colonel Charles Young Playground is located on West 143rd, West 144th, and West 145th Streets along Lenox Avenue/Malcolm X Boulevard to the Harlem River Drive in the Borough of Manhattan in Community Board 10; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Odessa Simms, wife, mother, grandmother and longtime resident of West 142nd Street, was tragically gunned down as an innocent bystander on August 16th, 2016 as she sat enjoying the use of her local park; Colonel Charles Young Playground; and

WHEREAS research by the Citizen's Taskforce on the Use and Security of Central Park found that there was a direct relationship between the level of the park use and the perception of security: the larger the number of visitors involved in positive activities, the more likely that antisocial behavior was deterred. The Taskforce linked recreational programs with improved security by suggesting that an emphasis on expanded recreation initiatives will encourage greater use and ultimately create a safer park environment; and

WHEREAS increased programming and effective enforcement of park regulations will promote greater safety and more optimal utilization of Colonel Charles Young Playground; and

WHEREAS permits for usage of the Colonel Charles Young Playground ball field will be issued by the NYC Parks Department with priority given to the athletic activity programs for local area youth; and

WHEREAS the multi purpose upgrade of the Colonel Charles Young Playground ball field to accommodate football, SOCCER, lacrosse in addition to softball will provide a local area option for school, youth, and little league sports groups for practice so they will not have to incur unnecessary expense or time to travel to remote areas outside of the community; and

WHEREAS the community met with Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Executive District Attorney Chauncey Parker and NYC parks Borough Commissioner William Castro and Representatives for Senator Bill Perkins, Assemblyman Keith Wright, and NYC Council Member Inez Dickens on October 8th, 2014 to discuss the upgrade of the Colonel Charles Young Playground; and

WHEREAS the community met with Manhattan Borough President Chief of Staff, Jessica Mates, Executive District Attorney Chauncey Parker and Partnership for Parks to follow up with discussion to identify funding for renovations of Colonel Charles Young Playground on July 26th, 2016; and

WHEREAS the community met with Manhattan Deputy Borough President Jessica Mates, Executive District Attorney Chauncey Parker and NYC Parks Manhattan Chief of Staff, Steve Simon, and Partnership for Parks to follow up with discussion of a feasibility study and design for renovations of Colonel Charles Young Playground on September 13th, 2016; and

WHEREAS the national football league (NFL) is in support of the advancement of this community based initiative to promote the increased level of physical activity among our youth through it's NFL PLAY 60 campaign; and

WHEREAS the proposed renovations and park design will upgrade the active play amenities, enhance the environmental qualities of the site and facilitate increased recreational use of the site; and

WHEREAS the existing comfort station will undergo renovations as a component of the project; and

WHEREAS the community based Friends of the Colonel Charles Young Playground will provide ongoing volunteerism, advocacy, programming, and general support of the park; and

WHEREAS improving public parks and open space is integral to livable communities and has a direct impact on the everyday quality of life for our residents, from fighting blight to facilitating physical activity and better health to our neighborhoods; now

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Manhattan Community Board 10 supports the City's efforts to upgrade, through renovations and new designs the Colonel Charles Young Playground.

### **Business Session**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Roll Call** Conducted by Secretary Christina Curry

### **Voting Items**

Resolution for Colonel Charles Young Playground NYC Parks Renovation project passed unianmous/unopposed with a vote of 31 in favor

### **Meeting Adjourned**