



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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**CICELY HARRIS**  
Chairperson

**SHATIC MITCHELL**  
District Manager

**Arts & Culture Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, September 9, 2019**

Hon, Cicely Harris, Interim Chair  
Hon George Harrell, Vice Chair

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Cicely Harris, Seitu Jemel-Hart, Crystal Mckay, Tamara Martin, Michael Downie, Tiffany Reaves.

**Committee Members Absent:** James Archer, Deborah Gilliard, Eboni Mason, Stephanie Palmer

**Committee Members Excused:** George Harrell

The meeting began at 6:40 PM

**Agenda and Minutes:**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - Michael Downie announced his stepping down as chair. George Harrell will assume the position as chair.
- II. Discussion
  - Special Presentation by Julius Tajiddin
    - Tajiddin provided a sneak preview of his forthcoming performance, entitled, Songs of my Father. The piece will be about his father as a musician and trendsetter.
    - Tajiddin's father founded gospel singer Beverly Ann Gibson and thus a musical performance by the late signer was performed at the meeting and featured Tajiddin's friends/ community members. We then heard a YouTube clip of another Beverly Ann Gibson song.
    - Tajiddin is in the grant process and this performance was a requirement for the application. He will know by February 2020 if she will receive funding for the performance. The ideal location for the performance will be Phillip A Randolph Square or Marcus Garvey Park.
  - 125<sup>th</sup> Street BID – Art Door Presentation
    - Committee member Deborah Gilliard gave a presentation on the BID's new "art door" program. The program includes a \$10K grant to

be used to beautify select business owned freight doors near 125<sup>th</sup> St.

- Four (4) businesses have committed to be a part of the pilot program: 1) Marshall's; 2) Magic Johnson Theater; 3) Lane Bryant; 4) Children's Place
- The BID wants CB9 and CB10 to participate and support the program through:
  - Creating an outreach plan (helping to find young artists, CBOs, art students, etc. and developing a strategy to communicate the program)
  - Helping to refine applicant criteria and process
  - One person from Arts and Culture Committee to sit on judging panel
- The BID would like the program to be complete (i.e. doors completely painted) by the end of 2019.
- The doors will be holiday themed
- Questions/concerns from the committee:
  - Need to more clearly define the applicant criteria
  - What if \$10K is not enough?
  - What's the age maximum for the youth artists?
  - Can we get the non-winning applicants involved some way (showing of some of their work at a meeting)
- Voting: 100% yes to participate in program 6 Yes 0 No 0 Abstentions.

### III. Old Business

- Harlem Holiday Lights Float: Chairwoman Harris provided more information on the CB10 float
  - The Holiday Lights Parade will take place on Wednesday, November 20 at 6 PM
  - CB10 has paid for its own float. The cost includes a generator, a driver, and a truck/flatbed
  - The float has a 27 person limit, so there will be a sign-up
  - Discussion:
    - Need to create a design committee to lead the process. We can pay another fee to hire a design company to design fabricate the float for us or we can, as a board and community, do this ourselves
    - Will decide if having a separate hot chocolate station on the ACP Building plaza makes sense for the board this year
    - We need to decide on a theme for the float. An initial idea was to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance
    - We can work with George Harrell's contacts for a DJ to adorn the float

### IV. New Business - N/A

### V. Announcements

- Community Member Jessica Hornes spoke about her documentary, “Common Humanity?”, which explores gentrification and other race related topics. She asked to be put on the agenda for next month’s meeting. She will show a min. clip of the short film.
  - The purpose of the presentation next month would be to see if CB10 would like to host a screening and discussion of the film in the future. The board agreed to add her to the agenda next month
- Gale Brewer’s Office is hosting a literary event on 10/12. A representative will attend the next Arts and Culture meeting on 10/7 to provide more information

VI. Adjournment - the meeting was dismissed at 7:39 PM