

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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CICELY HARRIS Chairperson

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# General Board Meeting Minutes February 5, 2020

## **Community Announcements**

**Julius Tajiddin** – Lenox Terrace don't be dismayed because the city planning committee has voted to support the changes at Lenox Terrace. Going to City Council stronger and they will prevail. Harlem Hospital plan to demolish the women's pavilion. Petition on change.org type his name for the full explanation and petition. The first nurses residence for black nurses to be torn down. We want fairness. No proper notice.

**Founder of WARM – Stephanie McGraw** – Mayors Office Report to combat domestic violence 2,897 reported cases within the last year and 3214 of those calls were in CB11 reported domestic violence cases. Looking for space, capacity building and proposal writer. Numbers in this district are alarming. 140w140 Street is where they operate now.

**Donna Gill – Commissioner NYC Civic Engagement Commission** – 2018 announced a Charter Revision Commission to review and make recommendations to revise the NYC Charter. In November of 2018 the NYC voters approved a proposal to establish the commission with 50 members who are appointed by the Mayor City, Council and the Borough President. Its purpose is to increase civic participation in order to build public trust and strengthen local democracy. The Commission has established a proposed methodology for poll sites and are having a public hearing on February 18 at 4pm at 1 Centre Street on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor Landmarks and Preservation Room. Monthly meetings that are open to the public.

**Crystal McKay – Supervising Librarian 125th Street branch** located on 125<sup>th</sup> between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues. Community Board 10 Arts and Culture and Education, Youth and Libraries Committees have partnered with local Libraries in the Harlem area for Black History Month. Visit your local libraries for a list of the available programs this month.

**Street Corner Resources – J. Dufis** the Education and Employment Specialist at Street Corner Resources. We work with youth to help reduce violence in our community on 145. We are a Cure Violence Program. Increase in stabbings and shooting in our community. Responded to three people who were shot. 129 days no shootings and 226 days without homicides. We were able to take one of our youth participants to college at Herkimer College, one student is attending BMCC and we are enrolling youths into agency programs. Appreciate the love and support from the community. Every Wednesday from 10am-2pm we are in front of the Harlem State Office Building. The Peach Café is every last Friday of the month.

#### **Elected Officials Representatives**

**Calvin Solomon – Special Narcotics** – There is a handout on the chairs that is in support of Governor Cuomo's proposed ban on all fentanyl derivatives. We will be lobbying the state legislature to have this made into law.

**Isiah Jenkins – Mayor DiBlasio's Office** – Newly appointed Manhattan Borough Director. He is here to introduce himself.

Nina Saxon - Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office

Last week the NYC Comptroller announced his Universal Housing Plan. Thank you to the CB10 members who attended. Eliminating 421A and creating a land trust. Nina wants some feedback from the community, if you have questions about the plan please let Nina know. If you need any of the Comptroller's team to attend a meeting around this subject let her know. MWBE University classes will soon be available in NYCHA soon, how you can do business with the city. Trailblazers Black History month Brooklyn February 12 at LIU. Lastly every year the NYC Comptroller's office has a flyer for paid summer internships for college students, graduates or law students. Wants young adults to apply for this opportunity. <u>nsaxon@comptroller.nyc.gov</u>. 646-245-4114.

## Jacque R. Community Coordinator from the District Attorney Cy Vance Office

Saturday Night Lights program five boroughs seven sights in Harlem funded by the DA Office. Three opportunities high school resume workshop 2/18 at the downtown office during spring break at downtown office. Come and get guidance to help and craft resume. Gun violence prevention fellowship, anyone that has been in contact with gun violence you are eligible. High School internship program all are paid opportunities. Work with different staff throughout our office. Encourage people in our community to apply.

#### Nina White – Al Taylor's office

Newsletter – criminal database event how to seal your records. Second annual heritage event this Friday, 12-2pm. Hate crimes on January 24 a transgender women was attacked on the subway. Continue to promote peace. Less than 40 days to make sure that Harlem is being counted. It will determine our lives for the next ten years. NYPD can without prior notice add your name to a database if your name was given by a reliable source and other reasons. This is a discriminatory practice.

#### Michelle Booker Congressman Espaillat

Greetings from the Congressman. Feb 3, was 150 anniversary of the ramification of the 15<sup>th</sup> amendment. State of the district where over 500 people attended including CB10 chair Cicely Harris. Funding to the district 12M for head start for children's aid society and west Harlem community organization. 1B in medical research we have over 11 hospitals in our district. Many people who applied for our congressional academies over 39 applications 19 nominations out of the office.

#### Keith Lillie – Councilman Perkins

Councilman approved 3 bills . Macomb's library has opened. Thank you to the community for making that happen. Councilman Perkins is standing with the tenants at Lenox Terrace. Councilman Perkins office will be a pop up office where the community can come in and complete their census. Black History Month screening of Just Mercy, at Magic Johnson theatre, inviting students from all over the district viewing on Monday Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. Discretionary funding applications are on the web, Feb 18 is the deadline. Participation budget voting March 28-April5. Plastic bag ban begins March 1.

#### **Cordele Cleare – District Leader**

City Planning Commission approved the Lenox Terrace proposal with very few changes that the community has presented. Tomorrow there is a rally in front of Lenox Terrace at 470 Lenox Avenue at 5pm. Rippling affect this will have on other developments in our community. Last day to register to vote is April 3 if you plan to vote in the presidential election. Michelle Obama

Democratic Club is partnering with Brian Benjamin and Inez Dickens during the Black Caucus weekend to do a workshop on domestic violence. Friday is national black HIV awareness day.

### Natalie Espina Manhattan Borough President's Office

Reminder the application deadline is Feb 14 to apply for the community board. Solid waste advisory board applications are due February 14. Plastic bag ban takes place March 1. Very successful Harlem Renaissance 100 kickoff joining with the Harlem Cultural collective and 40 organizations at the Cathedral of the Saint John the Devine. Black history event at MIST Harlem.

## **Presentations**

Public Health Lab NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Pauline P. Office of External Affairs NYC Health Department - if you have any direct questions regarding the demolition of the building please contact Harlem Hospital. They are coming in after Harlem Hospital had already made plans as part of their modernization plan to demolish the building.

Assistant Commissioner for Facilities Planning - Sheila Benjamin

Darren Taylor Disease Control Assistant Commissioner

Currently located 455 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue across from Bellevue Hospital. World's first bacterial 1892 laboratory. Provides a variety of testing. Outgrown the space. No longer suitable for modern testing cannot bring it up to standard the building is too old. Strict protocols following federal and state guidelines.

**Board Questions** 

Karen Horry –Q - What kind of outreach has been done to the community so that any fears can be alleviated? A -Current lab also in a residential area. Never had any incidents. Strict community engagement. Outreach to local politicians as well as the Community Board and the Health Committee at CB10

Crystal McKay – how did the Health Committee feel, asked to Hazel Dukes Chair. Asked them to come to the general board. We have a physician on our committee who helps us understand from a medical position. We have respect for those that have gone before us we stand on their shoulders. We will have a meeting with Harlem Hospital on behalf of CB10 on next steps for that building.

**Public Questions** 

Q - You can win respect from the community by keeping the building on that site and save the shell and build inside. Or tear the current building down and build in the same space.

K Samuels – the lab downtown needs to be replaced. What we want is different from what the department of health is doing. Where is Madam Commissioner she should come to speak to the community she services. We want to bring those services uptown. But it should be done differently. Harlem Hospital did not speak to the community in regards to demolishing those buildings. We don't get notices around things that are happening in our community. What are the politicians doing about this? Who has spoken to you about our concerns? We need a community wide meeting to let them know what our feelings are about that building. Rene Harrison long time Harlem resident – Not asking the community nothing. The commissioner needs to talk to the community about what we want.

**Cordell Cleare** – why up here in Harlem, how many jobs, what are the jobs and what are the salaries. Not comfortable with the answer that there has never been a leak at the other location. You need to take the time to educate us on that. Received a phone call that a community person could not walk down 136 street they were told it is private property. What is the status of that.

A – Harlem Hospital is still under the control of the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation. The Health department has not blocked off anything. The demolishment of the building is not the Health Department plan. It is HHC plan part of the modernization plan from years ago. Under NYS jobs are done under the safest as possible. Not researched based not growing things, clinical testing. Employ 200 people technical jobs, have a program where we bring in students to study for board exams. Work with a training program and bring in HS students. Shortage of medical technologist. Work with HS and middle school in Harlem auditorium for community to use for programs. Reach out to middle and HS schools to teach about what they do. Brother Tarik something positive to bring to our community – contracts minority participation in those projects. Aligning us to those MWBE minority certified jobs. Who do we see to get involved?

### Shana Harmongoff – State Senator Brian Benjamin's Office

Senator back in Albany – community influence legislation honoring the formally incarcerated through State IDs. Issue non driving IDs for incarcerated New Yorkers as they prepare to be released. Second gentrification tax bill a home buyer pays property tax according to the market value not the assessed value.

### Public Advocate - Jumaane Williams

Feb 18 hosting a Bail Reform Forum with CBOs. 6:30-8:30 at Touro College.

Borough advocates were an important initiative for the Public Advocates Office.

Census- all must be counted. A neighborhood in Brooklyn was the lowest count in the country ten years ago.

Lisa Downing asked what the Public Advocate is doing to change the UULURP process.

JW – This administration has put forth mandatory inclusionary housing unfortunately it was approved and it is the worst legislation. Pay attention to rezoning in all neighborhoods around the city.

Carlene Pinto – Lenox Terrace – do we have your support to lobby Councilmembers against this bill.

JW – Your Councilmember does not support the Lenox Terrace proposal.

Greater Harlem Coalition – Shawn Hill Vice President of the Harlem Block association Dr. Carolyn Brown and Severia Firmly support and respect those struggling with addiction. We are opposed that our neighborhood gets more than our fair share of these facilities in our communities. Hazel Dukes stated that we stand 100% with this initiative to limit these facilities in our neighborhood.

# **Chairpersons Report**

Paper Challenge hosted by the Manhattan Borough Presidents Office we won third prize so we were allotted \$2000 dollars to donate to a CBO of our choice. We \$1000 to Willie Morgan keeps the Harriet Tubman statute, and \$1000 to Harlem Grown. Ceremony will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Raquel Vazquez and Stephen Johnson for their service, they resigned from the board in January. They will be missed.

Attended the Borough Presidents forum in Morningside Harlem regarding how we are protecting our young people. Led a discussion group with young people to discuss what we can do in our community. Thank you to Board members who came out to support. It is a conversation that we need to continue checking in on our students and their parents. It is our duty to connect with at least one young person and to connect them with a program they may need.

### **District Manager Report**

Announcements -a new policy instituted by the Harlem State Office Building. We no longer can leave a sigh in sheet at the front desk. Everyone must sign in at security. Community members who what to sign up to speak may want to arrive earlier to sign up.

Thanks and congratulations to Safiya Mann Vice Chair of Public Safety = CB10 first Re Entry Forum

As of Jan 21, we now have 2 college bound seniors from Eagle Academy working until June 16 they are receiving compensation and high school credit towards graduation.

Labron James stopped by the Harlem YMCA to provide free citi bike memberships.

Jan 22 CB10 was selected as the third place winner for the Paper Challenge.

Jan 29 Manhattan Borough President Community forum. Chair and District Manager facilitated a discussion. There were six points discussed, park improvements, youth engagement, public safety, unifying community, implicit bias and identify resource gaps. Over 250 people attended. Feb 3 Olnick organization gained approval from the City Planning Commission to construction 5 new buildings despite the Manhattan Borough President and community objections. They voted 11-1 with one abstention in support of the project. NYC council next and final to deliberate as part of the process. Council members will have 50 days to vote on the project will begin in a land use sub committee.

# **Committee Reports**

# **Election Committee Nominations**

Board members received information on resignations on the two board members. We do have two resumes in the folders for the Treasurer none for Assistant Secretary.

Keith L. Taylor, Sr. and Joshua Clennon for Treasurer

Nominations from the floor for Asst Secretary

Karen Ann Horry for Assistant Secretary nominated and accepted 10 votes

Shanelle Washington for Assistant Secretary – nominated and accepted 5 votes

Kevin Bitterman Assistant Secretary - nominated and accepted 15 votes

Treasurer – Joshua Clennon 19 votes Keith Taylor 12 votes

Assistant Secretary – Kevin Bitternam - 15 votes

Ballots available in the Board office for review.

# Health & Human Services Letter of Support: Harlem Hospital Women's Pavilion

Michelle Booker presented – Letter of Support in Commemoration of the Harlem Women's Pavilion. Has been around for 85 years. The Public Health Lab will offer new opportunities to the community for our students. The Lab will have a Harlem express for STI testing for same day results. Building a community space for CBOs to host and have meetings. Health Committee voted in favor of the letter.

Vote – Yes 29 No 3 Abstention 0

# Land Use – Letter of Support: Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza

On January 20<sup>th</sup> the Malcom Shabazz Development Corp came to Land Use looking for a Letter of Support. Looking to develop the site where the African Mart currently resides at 116<sup>th</sup> Street. They want to build two nine story towers with 109 affordable units and units for formally homeless persons. Ask the board to support this project. The mart will be temporary located a

few doors down on the same block. At completion there will be permanent space in the new building. Committee voted 8 yes no abstentions hope for the Boards support.

Vote – Yes 31 No 0 Abstention 0 Recusal 1

### **Transportation/Historic Preservation & Landmarks**

Cicely Harris presented

Lamont "Big L" Coleman Street Co-naming West 140 street and Malcolm X Blvd. Significant in hip hop. Passed away in 1999. Very important to people in our community. Voted 9 in favor 0 opposed in committee.

Vote – Yes 31 No 1 Abstention 0

Macombs Dam Bridge Bus Stop Letter of Support – the Community and Assemblyman Al Taylor are in favor and the committee voted 9 in favor and 0 opposed. Safety and lighting concerns. Proper signals, enforcement and demarcation on the ground.

Vote – Yes 32 No 0 Abstention 0