

Community Board 12M - General Meeting January 23, 2007

Board Members Present

Anita Barberis
Wayne Benjamin
Isaiah Bing
Aidee Camacho
Kotie Cannon
Emilia Cardona
Martin Collins
Adam Eggers
George Espinal
Julissa Gomez
Ramona Gomez
Beatrice Hall
Andre Harris
Eduardo Hoepelman
Albania Jimenez
Mark Levine
Tony Lopez

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter
Jay D. Mazur
Rita McKee
Helen Morik
Carole Mulligan
Rafael Osoria
Edith Prentiss
Julio Rodriquez
Nelson Rojas
Ruddy Santana
Steve Simon
Bracha Statman
Gloria Vanterpool
Manny Velasquez

Board Members Absent

Jackie Rowe Adams(**excused**)
James Berlin
Sybil Dodson-Lucas
Vivian Ducat(**excused**)
Dr. Joyce HumberFaison
Fern Hertzberg
Jose Lopez
Maria Luna(**excused**)
Dr. Palanque North(**excused**)
Angelo Ortiz(**excused**)
Julio Peguero
Zead Ramadan(**excused**)
Cleofis C. Sarete
Aaron Scott
Janifer Wilson

Meeting was called to order at 7:15pm. Motion was made by Martin Collins, and seconded by Ruddy Santana.

Motion to adopt October 2006 minutes was made by Elizabeth Ritter and seconded by Edith Prentis with corrections on page 3. Motion to adopt December 2006 minutes made by Elizabeth Ritter and seconded by Rita McKee.

Chair Velasquez reported on the new executive committee member Julissa Gomez. Both Manny Velasquez and Assistant Secretary Kotie Cannon were sworn in as executive officers of the board.

Chair's Report:

Key items: still fighting for the school that was removed from the budget. M-29 line Con Edison hearing has begun. Chair Velasquez informed everyone that volunteers are needed for the Personnel Committee and Search Committee. He described the difference between both committee in terms of process and purpose. Eg: Personnel Committee (on-going) will deal with procedures review and evaluation processes vs. Search Committee will find eligible candidates.

CBO Presentation:

**Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2007**

Committee Member

Pamela Palanque North, Chair
Adam Eggers, Assistant Chair
Aidee Camacho
Kotie Cannon
Julissa Gomez
Andre Harris
Dr. Joyce Humber-Faison

Staff Attending

Jeffrey A. Laufer

Board Members Present

George Espinal

Guests:

Deputy Inspector Andrew Capul- NYPD, Commanding Officer 34th Pct; Captain Joseph Dowling, NYPD, Commanding Officer 33rd Pct.; PO Francisco Rijo, NYPD Community Affairs Patrol Borough Manhattan North; PO Tony Trinidad, NYPD Community Affairs 34th Pct.; Joseline Minaya, NY County District Attorney's Office; Annamaria Jones, Office of Councilmember Miguel Martinez; Rob Jones- Project Renewal, Clifton Hill- PRI/Fort Washington, Martha Beato, PA President MS 326; Don Duncan, Columbia University

At 7:15 pm, Chairwoman Mrs. North called the meeting to order and introduced members of the board and guests.

I. Precinct Reports

34th Precinct Report by Deputy Inspector Capul-

Inspector Capul reported on the year-end Comp. Stats for 2006.

- ◆ **Crime is down 8% overall, which is approximately 120 crimes. "Crime" is defined by the following seven offenses all of which are down, except for Murder. However, there is nearly a 50% reduction in persons shot. The 33rd Precinct ranks number 50 out of 76 Precincts in fewest index crimes; number 76 being the precinct with the lowest crimes.**
- 1. Murder- increased by one (1) from 10 to 9.
- 2. Reported Rapes down 4%
- 3. Robbery down 1.8%
- 4. Felony Assault down 16%
- 5. Burglary down 5%
- 6. Grand Larceny down 9.9%
- 7. Grand Larceny Auto down 9.2%

The 34th Pct., picked-up seven new experienced police officers who were transferred from "impact zones." Impact Zones are areas designated as areas in need of crime reduction by the city. Inspector Capul stated that though additional police officers are always welcome, we do not "need" them because our neighborhood is now safer and the quality of life is better than it has been in many years.

33rd Precinct Report by Captain Joseph Dowling-

Captain Dowling reported on the year-end Comp. Stats for 2006

- ◆ **Crime is down 5.15% overall. The 33rd Precinct ranks number 69 out of 76 Precincts in fewest index crimes; number 76 being the precinct with the lowest crimes.**
- 1. Report Rapes increased from 24 to 32, however they 14 of the reports occurred in 2005
- 2. Robbery down 7.2%
- 3. Felony Assaults down 1.4%
- 4. Burglary down 6.6%
- 5. Grand Larceny down 9.4%
- 6. Grand Larceny Auto down 7.2%

Captain Dowling did not report on the murder rate.

The 33rd picked-up eight additional Police Officers who come from impact zones; These Officers will work the day tour because they worked the day tour in the impact zones. However, Captain Dowling stated that the 33rd Precinct is down the net number of police officers in 2006 because the 33rd lost police officers to promotions, etc. Inspector Capul agrees with Captain Dowling that additional officers are not "needed."

Aidee Camacho inquired about an attempted rape that occurred in the 33rd Precinct zone. Dowling responded by stating that the case is still under investigation and that no further reports on attempted rapes have been reported since then.

II. Presentation: Internet Predators.

Annamaria Jones: Councilmember Miguel Martinez. is very concerned about the amount of registered sex offenders living in the neighborhood; as well as the internet predators lurking in websites such as Myspace.

Mrs. Pamela North is concerned with the cluster of predators located in Vermilyea and in southern parts of the district.

Joselinne Minaya from the Manhattan District Attorney's Office introduced our guest/presenter for the evening ADA, Jessica Troy, in Sex Crimes Unit. The Manhattan District Attorney's Office is very concerned with the dangers that some internet sites post. This presentation has been given to other groups.

ADA Troy stated that there is a huge almost frantic response to this phenomenon, but the best thing to do is to be aware. Websites such as Myspace work as an access point of sexual predators. Level two and three predators are deemed the highest risk. Ms. Troy believes it is important for the community to understand "clusters" or "sex offender groups" by going to www.Criminaljustice.state.ny.us or 1-800-262-3256 (toll-free information line).

Websites where predators can be found include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Bebo
- ◆ Myspace
- ◆ Adam4Adam
- ◆ Facebook
- ◆ Xanga
- ◆ Localhookupz
- ◆ Friendster
- ◆ Sconex
- ◆ Youtube

Thought these websites can be a tremendous resource, but it is potentially dangerous. ADA Troy stated that one of the seven people polled say they have been propositioned by someone online. Myspace is proactive in monitoring sexual predators or/and sexual solicitations.

Kids that express vulnerability run a greater risk of being targeted by internet predators.

Martha Beato, P.S. 326 P.A. President raised concerns regarding parents and the Department of Education inability to blocking these sites. ADA Troy stated that Congress is looking into giving schools ability to block these sites. Ms. Beato requests the Precinct/ADA and others to make presentation to schools. Joselinne Minaya will connect with Beato and Dowling.

ADA Troy's experience in Manhattan says she has never seen a case attributed to Myspace or any other site. TV shows like Dateline set up these meetings because chat-rooms are inflated by cops setting up predators. Captain Dowling stated that crimes related to the internet reported to the 33rd Precinct have to do with identity theft. There is not yet been a report concerning internet sexual predators. Capul stated that internet related crimes reported to the 34th Precinct also deal with identity theft.

ADA Troy stated that these websites pose additional risks, such as identity theft and college admission problems. Kids have been victims of identity credit theft. In addition, some colleges/jobs are looking at these sites. Questionable material placed on these sites could lead not being admitted to colleges, hired for employment, etc.

Annamaria Jones of Councilmember Miguel Martinez's Office is interested in bringing this presentation to parents through Town Hall meetings for 2007.

ADA Troy provided the following websites for safety tips:

Sites with Safety Tips for Folks

1. www.blogsafety.com
2. www.netsmartz.org
3. www.wiredsafety.org
4. www.commonssensemedia.org

It is also a good idea to set the sites as private and only include known friends in your circle.

February 1st at 5pm, Walk-thru. in Project Renewal. Public safety plans to have a conjoined committee meeting with Housing regarding same.

In March, the committee will meet before the 15th, either Tuesday or Wednesday.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Transcribed by Adolfo Cuevas. Reviewed by Julissa A. Gomez

COMMITTEE FOR THE CERNS OF THE AGING - MINUTES

January 9, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sybil R. Dodson-Lucas, Chair
Gloria Vanterpool
Nelson Rojas

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Fern Hertzberg, Asst. Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Deborah Blow

Public Member

John Kinney (absent)

Guests: Mary Jones Springer, Ethel Linder Stoll, Norma De Candido - Residents, Zamira Setaro-Con Edison Raphael Escano, NYC Comptrollers Office, Carol Ban-NORC-Isabella, Jim McNiff-Resident, Marilyn Pacheco-Isabella, Anabel Guerrero-Isabella Geriatric

Meeting convened at 10:10am, greetings to attendees and opening remarks Sybil Dodson-Lucas, Chair

Carol Ban of Isabella Geriatric/NORC defined "Naturally Occurring Retirement Community". She reported that the Aging population many times get neglected when they have lived in one place for many years (can become isolated). The criteria is a high concentration of Seniors (60+)

New initiatives: Heart NORC an Assistance Program for adults age 60% living in the heart of Washington Heights. NORC cited

- o Identified NORC in housing developments citywide including Starett City/Bklyn (Spring Creek), Co-op City, Pelham Parkway, NYCHA
- o A survey is required to prove that over 60+ of households meet guidelines
- o A study by Isabella can be initiated by request of CB Committee for the Concerns of the Aging or local elected officials
- o NORC programs are tailor made to the individual community

VISTA Apartments atop of Ft. George Hill Capstone research survey was conducted by NYU students with help/finances from city council members the Ft. George (3) houses were designated as a NORC. Services available include:

- o Social work visit
- o Senior care info for supers/porters
- o Organized trips
- o Banking facilitation

For people who do not live in areas where NORC exists they will need Medicare home care. Create a caring call circle of friends, follow up with committee members and board chair to implement.

Discussion was held regarding language barriers and how to bridge the cultural divide.

A resolution was proposed to reinstate funding for the Walk In Medicare Customer Service Center

Committee voted as follows:	In Favor	Opposed	Abstain
Committee Members	2	0	1
Members of the Public	9	0	0

Next meeting Group will work on developing a caring call circle for bi-lingual outreach to isolated seniors

Question & Answer - Men's Shelter/Project Renewal

- o Does it impact you?
- o This is not an ideal location for 200 mentally impaired/ambulatory clients
- o Area too congested for this kind of facility
- o High numbers of resident mentally ill should be drastically reduced

Mail was reviewed

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am Minutes respectfully submitted by Sybil Dodson-Lucas

PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES – January 09, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Zead Ramadan Chair
Emilia Cardona
Aaron Scott
Rafael Osoria

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Asst. Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Eduardo Hoepelman

GUESTS: Daniel Meyers Drip Drip Company, Martin Zapata, Drip Drip Company; Mark Handy, Inwood Canoe Club Joe Wojak, Inwood Canoe Club

Mark Handy and Joe Wojak from the Inwood Canoe Club attended our meeting to ask what will become of the Marina given the fact that it has been repossessed by the Parks Dept. Their concern lies in that their canoe club is on the Marina area on the south end, and their facilities (water and electrical lines) are affected by what happens to the Marina's facilities. They also wanted to know who they can expect as a new neighbor. Mr. Ramadan read a letter from the NYC Parks Dept received a day prior which stated that CB12M should expect a draft "request for proposal" (RFP) for the "operation of a marina and a restaurant" for our review and input prior to its publication. He also suggested to them that they write to the Manhattan Parks Commissioner, William Castro, copying our committee, expressing their concerns, so that it would be on record.

Martin Zapata and Daniel Meyers of Drip Drip Company came to our committee to inquire how they can reach out to the NYC Parks Department for permission to put their apparatus (a sort of flower "I-V" that drips on flowers periodically) in parks in our community. Mr. Ramadan suggested they contact Ms. Jane Schachet, Director of our Parks for the NYC Parks Department to see if this is possible. Staff was instructed via e-mail to make this happen.

The committee received a letter from NYC Parks Revenue Division stating that per our request, a 'food vending truck' would be removed from their concessionaire RFP list for Haven Avenue adjacent to Jay Hood Wright Playground.

Previous Chair M. Collins at the request of a constituent sent a letter to Verizon inquiring why a park has been fenced up on Arden & Sherman Aves. that is owned by them. The District Manager has been asked to make inquiries with Verizon as well and will follow up with the committee.

Per Julio Rodriguez' request, our committee discussed the Ft. Washington Homeless Shelter/Project Renewal situation. After lengthy discussion, we required more information from committees directly engaged with Project Renewal to help us better understand the situation and form our opinion.

Meeting ended at 9:00pm.

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING --- JANUARY 10, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair
Isaiah Bing, Asst. Chair
Martin Collins
Basilia Gomez
Beatrice Hall
Helen Morik

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Bracha Statman
Matthew Chachere (Public Member)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Pamela Palanque North

STAFF PRESENT

Jeffrey A. Laufer

GUESTS: Chief Larry Mittleman-FDNY Div. 1, Wendy Garcia-Man. Borough President's Office

1. The meeting was called to order by Steve Simon, chair. Basilia Gomez announced that she has been hired as a staff member by Council Member Miguel Martinez. As a result, she will no longer be a member of CB 12. S. Simon said he hoped that she would continue to attend the H&E committee meetings in her new capacity.

2. **EMS Response Time in the Washington Heights-Inwood Community** -- S. Simon asked Chief Larry Mittleman to answer a question from CB12 member Rita McKee: why did it take 24 minutes for EMS to respond to three calls to 911 on Nov. 27, 2006 that an elderly woman had fallen and was bleeding profusely at 447 Ft. Washington Ave.? The chief said it would not be possible to determine what happened in this case unless a formal complaint is made, which can be done by calling a 24-hour number at the FDNY: 718-999-7912.

In response to other questions, the chief:

- did not have any stats on EMS response times in our community and suggested we contact FDNY community affairs office;
- also suggested we contact FDNY community affairs office to get info about ambulance turnaround times at New York-Presbyterian Hospital's (NYPH) emergency rooms at 168th St. and the Allen Pavilion and the Harlem Hospital ER;
- said EMS ambulances serving our community are still being housed at Harlem after the base station was demolished to make way for the hospital's modernization project;
- reported that FDNY staff will be checking three potential sites on 146th St., 167th St. and 186th St. tomorrow for a new base station for ambulances serving our community;
- said all ambulances in the EMS system, including those operated by voluntary hospitals such as NYPH, are now equipped with GPS technology;
- interpreters for many languages are available to 911 callers without causing any delay in response time.

3. **Discussion on Fort Washington Men's Shelter** -- S. Simon read the notes from the last meeting when Ricco Cox, the shelter's Clinical Director, discussed its goals and operations, including the type of mental health services provided to clients. The committee was in general agreement that it did not make sense for the shelter to refer clients to Harlem and Metropolitan hospitals and elsewhere to receive mental health services and that it would be far better if these services were provided on-premises to make it easier for the clients to receive the services they need.

- The question was raised as to whether mentally ill persons could be required to take medication if they are found to be a threat to themselves. H. Morik said she would check with NYPH's legal staff and report back.
- B. Hall: How many clients are placed in supportive housing every year?
- P. North: Etta Graham, the shelter director, has said the average stay is 3 years and that many clients are ready to be placed but not enough housing is available.
- It was agreed that the CB should request a copy of Project Renewal's contract with the City to see exactly what services it is required to provide.
- P. North: sex offenders get on-site therapy

- M. Collins: clients should be forced to take medication; security should be beefed up, including patrols of surrounding area; air conditioning should be installed so clients might stay inside during warm weather instead of hanging around outside building; background checks should be done on clients' history.
- H. Morik: original plan called for only 75 of 200 total clients to be mentally ill.
- M. Collins: will check CB 12 files to find original announcement concerning shelter run by Project Renewal.
- I. Bing: questions whether a bus really takes 10 p.m. curfew violators to other shelters, says he never sees any such buses and that homeless barred from the shelter late at night just end up in the 168th Street subway station.
- P. North: clients are allowed to leave the shelter to smoke cigarettes at any hour since the law prevents them from smoking inside.
- Member alleged that clients also smoke marijuana and sell it while staff looks on, and was told to note descriptions and time of such incidents so they can be reported to shelter director.
- CB is planning to hold a public hearing concerning the shelter in the near future.

4. Update on Con Edison's Proposed Transmission Line and Substation Project

M. Collins reported 25 elected officials have endorsed the alternative route supported by CB 12, which goes along the Major Deegan Expressway, under Harlem River at 208th St and then down 9th Avenue to the substation site. Con Ed plans to take out 6 parking spaces at the Target/Marshall's shopping mall at W. 225th St.; the mall developer is threatening legal action.

I. Bing: Con Edison has yet to sit down with CB12 to discuss Environmental Management and Construction Plan for the substation site, including issues concerning drainage, stormwater runoff, etc.

It was agreed that the subcommittee would meet to formulate supplementary questions relating to the EMCP.

5. New Business – S. Simon distributed statistics compiled by DEP showing the top 30 "service requests" received from Community District 12 in August, October, November and December 2006 for discussion at next meeting.

6. Change in Regular Meeting Date – Since two committee members (Bing and Collins) are also on the Land Use Committee, it was agreed that the H&E Committee would switch to Thursdays. Simon said that Nancy Bruning wants to speak at the February meeting on a report she prepared for the Public Health Assn. of NYC: "Steps to Get New Yorkers Moving: Policy Recommendations for Increasing Opportunities for Physical Activity in NYC." Collins asked that Dr. Dixon Despommier be invited to March 1 meeting to discuss vertical farming proposal for northern Manhattan.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
S. Simon

Land Use Committee - Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2007

Committee Members Present

Wayne Benjamin, Chair
Anita Barberis, Asst. Chair
Isaiah Bing
James Berlin
Vivian Ducat
Martin Collins
Ruddy Santana
Aaron Scott

Committee Members Absent

Dora Maria Abreu

Board Members Present

CB12 Staff: Jeffrey Laufer

Guests: Ethan Cohen-City College Architectural Center, Wendy Garcia-Office of Manhattan Borough President
Scott Stringer, Nadezhda Williams-Preservation Associate, Historic Districts Council

1. The Land Use Committee ("LU" or the "Committee" meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
2. Nadezhda Williams, Preservation Associate, Historic Districts Council ("HDC") provided the Committee with information on HDC. Ms. Williams indicated that HDC is a private, not-for-profit advocate for historic preservation and works with community boards, community-based organizations and other stakeholders to advance the creation of historic districts. The Committee was advised that landmark designation process is long and that it is important to be persistent and to continue to touch-base with the Landmarks Preservation Commission ("LPC"). Ms. Williams also noted that it was exciting that CB12 was taking the lead in focusing on district-wide historic preservation concerns, the NYS designation process was somewhat faster than the NYC designation process and that CB12 might strategically seek to first obtain NYS designation as a means to support any request for NYC designation, there is a public education process that is an important part of building support for designation and in particular to dispel misinformation often associated with landmark designation. Ethan Cohen, City College Architecture Center ("CCAC") inquired about the potential advantages and disadvantage of historic designation and about resources for further study of preservation issues. Ms. Williams advised that LPC never orders a property owner to do work but that when work is proposed LPD will comment on and will have to certify the appropriateness of the work. The availability of certain grants to designated properties was cited as one advantage. Subsequent to the LU meeting Ms. Williams advised via email that landmark designation would also make the selling of air-rights easier and give more possibilities for this like being able to sell the air-rights across the street as opposed to just to an adjacent lot/property. It was also indicated that construction cost increases assumed to be associated with historic designation are often overstated and, as it pertains to interiors work / work not visible from the exterior, inaccurate. The NY Preservation League, the upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone and the Landmarks Conservancy were mentioned as potential funding sources. The NY Public Library and Landmarks West were also mentioned as other resources. Ethan Cohen reviewed the section of the district-wide planning study which focused on potential historic districts in CB12-M. It was agreed that Ms. Williams would be provided with a copy of the materials submitted to LPC requesting designation of the Audubon Park Historic District and that CB12 would seek to determine what material, if any, have been submitted to LPC with regard to Wadsworth Terrace Historic District.
3. The Committee discussed the shelter housed at the Fort Washington Armory as it pertains to land use, zoning and planning. It was noted that the shelter generally does pose any zoning issues – the shelter use probably falls under community facility designation. From a planning perspective, it was noted that if the shelter was not located in the armory it is possible that some other use more beneficial to the community might occupy the space. However, it was also noted that the shelter, and shelters in general, do meet a community – defined locally or city-wide – need and that, currently, the track and field center occupies more space in the armory than the shelter. LU concluded its discussion with the general agreement that the central issue pertaining to the shelter is the adequacy of the services provided, the facilities in which the services are provided and how both services and facilities compare with industry-standards for best/model practices. It was also the consensus of the Committee that the combination of the Public Safety and Housing and Human Service committees are best suited to jointly pursue this matter.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. Respectfully submitted by: Wayne A. Benjamin

HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 11th, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kotie Cannon, Asst. Chair
Eduardo Hoepelman
Jay Mazur

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Julio Rodriguez, Chair
Glenda Swanson Massa

CB 12 STAFF PRESENT

Jeffrey A. Laufer

GUESTS: Annamaria Jones-Councilman Martinez Office, Anthony Parson-25 Arden Street, Ricco Cox-Ft. Washington Men's Shelter, Leonis Brum-Resident, Renee Williams-Ft. Washington Men's Shelter, Carlos Infante-HRA

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Meeting called to order at 7:20pm with introductions from Assistant Chair, Kotie Cannon.

The meeting began with Annamaria Jones from Councilman Miguel Martinez's office reporting to the committee regarding the 421-A Legislation. She reported that 80% – 20% programs dealing with affordable housing has been implemented by the city. Those individuals who need to apply for this benefit must give 20% for those in need. This bill was signed on 12/22/06. Included in this bill is on-site affordable housing. Ms. Jones was not completely sure on the details, but will confirm. She states that 421A previously provided off-site provisions. This bill is for 96th Street, downtown and small portions of Queens and Staten Island. Right now Washington Heights and Inwood (including Sherman Creek) have not been included.

Dyckman Job Center

Mr. Carlos Infante, from the Dyckman Job Center reported that the new location will be 5440 10th Avenue at 216th Street. It is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2007. There will be a new program, called Monique and Fred, which is a new computerized program, which is much like the program the Department of Motor Vehicles uses.. He stated that caseworkers would be more accountable for their time. The Center Directors and Central Office will be able to monitor their progression. The old Center was approximately 69,000 square feet, while new Center will be 67,000 square feet and 14 stories high. The same services as before will be provided such as HIV services, food stamps and job or welfare services. The Center will also collaborate with community based organizations to provide food stamp applications. There will be no parking facilities open to the public, only to employees but Mr. Infante does not foresee parking being an issue as the A Train stop is near. He informs everyone that both Centers will be open until the transition is complete. There will be a reimplementation of the HRA Police Unit, which provide unarmed officers. So far, there are no plans for staff reduction but they are unsure of what changes will need to be made. Robert Dore will be their new Commissioner.

Committee Meeting Date

A speaker suggested that the idea of changing the committee's meeting date be discussed when there is a quorum.

Armory Hearing

Two members from Armory were present but reported that there is no new information to report. .Mr. Cox informed the committee about the enhancement of public safety issues.

Same Sex Resolution

Board Member, Jay Mazur has made research on this issue. He reported that there is currently no pending legislation in the City Council pertaining to same-sex marriage. Those present at the meeting feel that no further action should be taken.

The Teach In-seminar has been scheduled for March The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.
Respectfully submitted by Anglisa Almanzar, Reviewed by Kotie Cannon, Asst. Chair

YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 8, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cleofis C Sarete, Chair
Carole Mulligan
Jackie Rowe Adams
Angelo Ortiz
Maria Luna
George Espinal
Albania Jimenez

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Jose Lopez
Dora Maria Abreu

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Manny Velazquez, Chair
Pam P North, 1st Vice Chair

GUESTS: Roberto De La Rosa-Parent Advocate, Shannon Patrol-Muscota, Inwood School Project, Emily Horowitz-Muscota & CEC, Chris Jones-Washington Heights Academy Board, Carlos Rodriguez-DOE, Michael Muscota-SCA, Esther Schwalb -PB, Kendrick Ou-SCA, Richard Jorgensen-DF Gibson Architects, Emad Asaad-SCA, Miguel Martinez-City Council, Renato Mena-Off of M. Martinez, Bryan Davis-PA President Muscota New School, Robert Jackson-NY Council member, Wendy Olivo-Council member Robert Jackson, Elizabeth Fineberg-NY Public Library, Hector Vasquez-Resident, Vincente Villalba-Columbia University

Welcoming remarks Cleofis Sarete, Chair, convened at 7:20pm

Chairperson Sarete wished everyone a Happy New Year and provided the group with a review of last months meeting information. She then introduced invited guests.

Newly elected Chairman Velazquez of Community Board 12 introduced himself and welcomed the SCA, members of the community and elected officials Miguel Martinez and Robert Jackson for attending.

Guests from NYC Construction Authority presented their Plan for the new 600 seat school on 204 Sherman Avenue where the old St. Matthew's School;

Guest speaker

Esther Schwalb, PB-SCA commented on the City Environmental Quality Review Guidelines:

- Air quality
- Traffic patterns
- Air and noise environmental study

Additional comments by Ms. Schwalb were as follows:

- 600 student capacity
- Supported by a 48 member staff
- Air and noise considered
- Impact that school of that size would have on the community at large
- Response - no adverse impact on the community was found

Richard Jorgensen-DF Gibson Architects (600 seat school) 204th & Sherman Avenue

- Desire to make a beautiful school
- Pre-K 7-8 school; 2 classes per grade; 21 classes plus all of the support services
- Impact that school of that size would have on the community at large
- Response - no adverse impact on the community was found

Additional characteristics and features:

- Site is an "L" shape site
- Sub level - gym, cafeteria, kitchen on one floor
- ½ under ½ above ground – auditorium
- Auditorium capacity about 650
- 2 elevators (large) 3 stair cases
- Cafeteria sized for 200 students

Main Floor

- Entrance to building on Sherman Avenue – Lobby
- Early childhood playground (Pre K & K)
- Parent Community Room 3
- (Playground for older kids is on the roof)
- All classrooms are assigned to the center of the design
- 1st & 2nd grades 2nd floor
- 3rd & 4th grades 3rd floor
- 5th & 6th grades 4th floor
- 7th & 8th grades 5th floor

Science, Resource room for Early Childhood/Art room/music, library, special Ed rooms and small group rooms 760 sq. ft. are size of classrooms, Speech, ESL, tele comp suite

There were questions asked re: acoustics, PA system, lights and/gym Wireless internet in every school

- Construction will start about Sept or Oct. '07 and will take 2 years.

Respectfully submitted by Cleofis Sarete, Youth & Education Chair.

Economic Development Committee, Community Board 12 (Manhattan)
January 9, 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Julio Peguero, Chair
Tony Lopez, Ass't Chair
Julissa Gomez
Rita McKee
Angelo Ortiz
Ruddy Santana

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Janifer Wilson

CB12 STAFF PRESENT

Charles DeFino

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Manny Velazquez, Chair
Rafael Osoria

Guests: Owner of NYC Tapas Bar, Tony Trinidad-PO 34th Precinct, Francisco Guzman-735 West 172nd Street, Rodrez Dialiawtca-3861 10th Ave., Elizabeth Arizaga-Heights Vineyard, Kyun Ae Hong, Mazimillion Medina-Sonic 1 Tapas, Francisco Serrano-Caridad Restaurant, Martin Zopalte

New Economic Development Committee Chair, Julio Peguero, called meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Business entity "**ESTEKA**" reintroduced themselves to the committee. They stated that they came before the committee and were approved at the November, 2006 Economic Development meeting but no resolution went before the full board.

La Caridad #1 located at 2184 Amsterdam Ave. between 168th & 169th St. was represented by their attorney Francisco Serrea. He wanted to clarify that they were **La Caridad #1**, not **La Caridad #3**. He assured the committee that they have tight security on the weekend. A resolution was passed with six (6) committee members voting in favor, and with no objection from the community. *(Due to the confusion with Caridad location & Caridad owners, this entity was tabled until all information is clear)*

The representatives of **Penthouse Café** were not present and therefore the committee could not act on their application.

The representatives from **TJSBS INC.** requested that the committee come back to them later on in the meeting.

The Heights Vineyard II located at 4030 Broadway is applying for an On-Premise liquor license. Based on the letter, the attorney was going to apply for this license but according to their paperwork they have not applied. The committee decided they will come back to them later on in the meeting.

The representatives of **Moirá Carrol** were not present and therefore the committee could not act on their application.

The representatives of **Pipo Pool** were not present and therefore the committee could not act on their application.

Renewals:

Representatives of **Pollo Dorado**, **La Terraza**, and **3915 Grocery** were not present. However, the police precincts in the community at large had no known issues with these establishments.

Serie 1 located at 1985 Amsterdam Avenue. (Between 158th & 159th Street), is owned by Maximo Medina and Elizabeth Medina (husband and wife). Maximo stated that he has never owned a business before this one. He stressed that while the previous owner of the business at this location had many issues with the community; including staying open after hours which caused the police to get involved; this is going to be a completely different establishment. The restaurant's going to be 1250 square feet, and will include live jazz music and light background music. It will seat 60 people and will have a full kitchen and a 16 foot bar area. The restaurant plans to hire approximately 12 employees. Their scheduled to be open until 1am on weekdays and 2 am on weekends. They will be secured with 16 cameras in the lobby, backyard, and sidewalk. They will

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 8th, 2007

Committee Member Present: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter;

Committee Members Excused: Mark Levine, Chair; Beatrice Hall, Asst. Chair; James Berlin; Edith Prentiss

Staff Present: Charles DeFino

Guests: Carol Blagman, community resident; Ryder Pearce, DOT; Phyllis Smiaski, community resident; Johannes VonSecnandorff, community resident

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Although there was no quorum, the Committee could still meet for informational purposes.

1) Follow up to MBPO Transportation Committee meeting: Borough President requested priorities from each Board. Community Board 12's are as follows:

- W. 181st Street traffic, including buses, gridlock, enforcement, pedestrians and commercial activity.
- Inwood/Sherman Creek - DOT impact study (note item 2, below)
- W. 178th Street & Broadway: AM/PM rush at GWB and resulting gridlock merit traffic enforcement personnel
- Traffic congestion on Fort Washington Ave. from 165th - 168th Streets (medical center)

This segued into a lengthy discussion of various traffic hot spots in the community and the need for enforcement.

2) Sherman Creek traffic study: DOT representative Ryder Pearce reported that the contract has gone to the Comptroller and should be ready to go by late February or early March.

3) Newsstands on 157th/158th Streets: There has been no response to repeated calls, e-mails and letters to DCA. Assemblyman Farrell's office has become involved to try and get the issue resolved.

4) M98 and M4 bus routes: both items require discussion for possible resolutions in support of increased services and possible re-routing, respectively. In the absence of quorum, both items were deferred to the next meeting.

5) Taxi Stands: The District Manager and the 34th Precinct have been focusing on the problem of liveries using hydrants and parking meters as impromptu taxi stands. (This is a particular problem at 187th Street & Fort Washington Avenue.) The precinct has been issuing summonses.

6) Homeless Shelter/Project Renewal: This facility has little impact on the matters that come before this committee, other than the presence of homeless people on the A-Train. The Mr. DeFino has contacted the relevant agencies: NYPD has stepped up enforcement; MTA Homeless Outreach Services is aware as well.

7) Brief items of new business:

a. Carol Blagman, resident of 1380 Riverside Drive, regarding signage at RSD/181st Street at the HHP wall collapse: drivers do not pay attention, and the signage is confusing. Mr. Pearce noted that DOT has studied the area and indeed the signage is confusing. Several suggestions were made. Mr. Pearce assured that would continue to follow up regarding the signage, and also regarding the downed streetlight at SE corner of RSD/181st Street. There followed a brief discussion of when the HHP access ramp will re-open to traffic.

b. GWB bus terminal renovation/rehabilitation: The Port Authority has approved a developer. It is not clear if/when CB12 will be able to weigh in on the RFP or resulting proposals, although former CB12 Chair, Martin Collins and Land Use Chair, Wayne Benjamin have met with PANYNJ.

c. Phyllis Smiaski: asked about the partial collapse of portions of the ceiling in the 190th Street A-Train station, near the stairs at the northern end of the platform. Mr. DeFino will photograph the site and follow up with the MTA.

There being no further meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

COMMUNITY BOARD #12, MANHATTAN

DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET

January 18, 2007

Deborah Blow, Community Coordinator
Jeffrey A. Laufer, Community Assistant
Angelisa Almanzar, Comm. Service Aide
Julissa Gomez, Public Safety Chair
Lillian Perez, Senator Schneiderman's Office
Annamaria Jones, Councilman Miguel Martinez
Abbott Ruskin, Assemblyman Farrell's Office
Wendy Olivo, Councilman Jackson's Office
CO Joseph Dowling, NYPD 33rd Pct.
Dep. Inspector Andrew Capul, NYPD 34TH Pct.
Joselinne Minaya, Man. District Attorney's Office
Capt Edward O'Brien – NYPD Transit Dist. #3
PO Pabey – NYPD 34th Pct.
PO Figueroa – NYPD 33rd Pct.
Julio Batista, NY Presbyterian Hospital

Ben Colombo, DOB
Caroline Hilton, Regional Director - Pest Control
Sherri Taft Leonce, Man Boro Pres. Off.
Stephanie Harris-J. Hood Wright - NYC Parks & Rec.
Zamira Setara - Con Edison
Tony Brogdon – HPD
Ryder Pearce, Liaison - DOT
Etta Graham, Project Renewal
Clifton Hill, Project Renewal
Vianela Rivas – Washington Heights Library
Judith Rodriguez-Inwood Library
Manuel Figueroa-NY Public Library, Man Dist.
Genevieve Davis – Dept of Design & Construction
Carlos Infante, HRA

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Opening remarks from Deborah Blow, Community Coordinator to city agencies greetings for the New Year ahead.

Ms. Blow motion to adopt January Agenda - Ben Colombo, seconded by Capt. O'Brien.

Project Renewal

Ft. Washington Men's Shelter - Etta Graham

Ms. Graham reported stats: Clients: 3 united with families, 2 long-term housing, 1 community resident, 1 OMH, 1 SRO, and 2 Section 8 HPD. Ms. Graham commented that on January 17, they had their Advisory Board Meeting. Items discussed were as follows:

- o census
- o security enhancement
- o program updates

It was reported by Ms. Graham that there is a new Commissioner for the Department of Homeless Services, Mr. Robert Hess. The Department of Homeless Services which funds Project Renewal discussed a new initiative called the "100 & 100" campaign which started January 1 through March 31, 2007. This program will identify 24 shelters who have clients that have resided on their premises more than five years. One of its primary focus is to assist clients with immigration problems; lost documentation from their Country's which inhibits them from receiving HRA and SSI assistance. Certain documentation is imperative when applying for housing provisions, i.e. birth certificate, non-driver's license or a Vet (DVD214) I.D, if they are veterans. Seven clients on-site already have their HRA packages and most of their documents.

Clients who are identified as substance abusers must enter a long term rehab programs, at Creedmoor State Hospital, Daytop Village or the Manhattan State Substance Abuse Program. Every effort is made to ensure that clients are stable before they transition into a permanent housing environment.

Ms. Graham reported that the perception of most shelters is unfavorable, she encouraged that those who have an interest to come and observe Project Renewal clients' daily regimen. The facility has Art groups, Music therapy, Relapse groups, Individual groups, Dental Office, Primary Health Clinic, Psychiatric Services, Counseling Services and other Therapy groups. Age groups are from 18 – 80. For further information contact (212) 740-1780 Ext. 212.

Annamaria Jones, Councilman Martinez Office commended Ms. Graham on the tremendous efforts put forth by her agency.

NYC Transit Dist. #3 - Capt. Ed O' Brien, CO

He reported there was a decrease of 25% crime in 34th Pct. district, approximately 60 crimes for the year ('06). He stated that this percentage was the lowest average identified in the last 16yr history. Capt. O'Brien reported crime is down by 50% in the 33rd Pct. 17%vs. 34% since last year. In the 28 day period there were two crimes, both crimes closed out with arrests. Two individuals who live in the neighborhood were identified as drug abusers at W. 163rd St. & St. Nicholas where there were robbery pattern on trains.

Julissa Gomez introduced herself as the new Public Safety Chair and shared her concerns with homelessness on the A line. Capt O'Brian reported during the winter season there is more of an influx of homelessness in the subways, however, there is a task force in place on the midnight and 4am shifts, summonses are written, offers to provide shelter is always available.

NYC J. Hood Wright Park - Stephanie Harris

She reported J. Hood Wright has been having a huge success with the membership drive. The Park had an increase participation of over 4000% since 2005. Registration for seniors, adults and youth are on going. Computer classes have been extended to the community and senior population (212)927-1563. Ms. Harris reached out to the group for bi-lingual participation in tutoring evening classes. There After-school program is very active.

Ms Harris asked enforcement (33rd Pct.) to be vigilant in monitoring the drug activity in and around the park vicinity. She feels that the community must come together and find a way to engage the youth and teach them about the dangers of drugs use and selling.

NYPD 34th Pct- Commanding Officer - Deputy Inspector Andrew Capul

Deputy Inspector Capul wished everyone a Happy New Year. In the 28 day period 1 homicide occurred, down 17% compared to same 28 day period last year. There have been two shootings so far this year, (1) at the Dyckman Houses.

The Inspector reported, it had a banner year in the 34th Pct. Crime reduction was down in every major category except homicide. In 2006 crime was reduced by 8%. There were 40 less felony assaults than the previous year. There was also a reduction in shooting as well as grand larceny incidents. Arrests were up and criminal court summonses were issued.

There has been an improvement with parking enforcement, Inspector Capul reported that 1,481 parking summonses were written in the last 28 day period (616 were double parking violations). For the calendar year there were over 25,000 summonses written in 2006 and out of those 10,225 were for double parking. Inspector Capul reported that the Precinct received a new Executive Officer, Capt. Theresa Scudero (formally from the Counter Terrorism Bureau). He will be introducing her at a later date.

Q&A

How are the staffing levels in the precinct?

Inspector: Adequate, but we can always use more officers.

What can be done about several club complaints pertaining to crowd control and noise levels?

Inspector: The precinct has been battling clubs for a very long time. The problem is that some clubs start out as restaurants but don't flourish in an expected time frame. Soon the tables disappear, the music gets louder, they're open later and there is more alcohol being served. Many times the "restaurants" exceed head counts but it is their responsibility to regulate the crowds before and after the establishment closes for the night. They need to have a certain amount of bouncers responsible for checking IDs and keep crowds moving off premises. Inspector will continue to work on these issues.

On a personal note, Dep. Inspector Capul shared his sentiments on his working relationship with District Manager Charles DeFino and was sorry he was relieved from his position.

NYPD 33rd Pct- Commanding Officer - Captain Joseph Dowling

Captain Joseph Dowling reported that crime was down 5% in almost all categories. Shooting incidents and homicides were still up, also up slightly in rapes; 99% of reported rapes were statutory rapes (13yr old having sex with 22yr olds) CO Dowling commented that intervention in the schools has been very helpful.

Assaults are down 1.2% burglaries, 61/2%, grand larceny down 9.4%, and the theft of stolen vehicles decreased in the last 1/4 of 2006, down 7.2%. CO Dowling commented efforts with Bronx Precincts where known chop shops operate help reduce their cases tremendously, primary target cars are Honda Accords, Civics and Camry.

There has been an upsurge in juvenile delinquent crimes in the borough of Manhattan, robberies 174 vs. 119 last year. CO Dowling stated in networking with the juvenile crime squad specialist, his team is now able to use their techniques, and share with parents and youth on how unwarranted behaviors can be redirected. CO Dowling finds the parents to be very receptive to this outreach. In an effort to continue to preserve the quality of life issues in our neighborhood CO Dowling continues to crack down on graffiti vandalism. Commander commented precinct has a new Executive Office, Andy Vandrella. CO Dowling joins Deputy Insp. Capul, reiterating the good working relationship they had with Charles DeFino.

NYC District Attorney's Office - Joselinne Minaya

Stats for the 33rd & 34th Pcts. As of 12-01-06 – 12-31-06.

Trespass Arrests	39
Drug Arrests	75
Marijuana Arrests	257
Robbery Arrests	22
Gr. Larceny Arrests	31
Criminal Pos. Weapon	40
Domestic Violence	36
Total Evicts & Vacates	4

Ms. Minaya reported the Summer Internship deadline is in March 2007 instead of April. She also reported that the last Public Safety meeting was not well attended re: "MySpace", predators on the internet, in the future DA's anticipation is to have a better turnout. Ms. Minaya is looking forward to working with the Public Safety committee again and following up on another "gang violence" forum in the coming months. The DA's office also does presentations regarding "How you can identify gang related symbols" with your child, if anyone or organization would like to arrange for a presentation, please contact Ms. Minaya at (212) 335-9082. Staff will present at any time of the day.

D. Blow shifted gears to get a sense of alternative days to have the DSC meetings, all contingent on maximum attendance. The exchange was expressed due to the Borough Board meeting's which are scheduled on the same day. Mr. Laufer and Ms. Blow will poll the city agencies and consider what works best.

NYC Commission on Human Rights – David Lopez

Mr. Lopez introduced himself and provided a letter of introduction. He provided group with literature. His role is to conduct presentations on Human Rights Law, reasonable commendation for people with disabilities, housing protections under human rights law and immigration rights. Presentations also are done in schools and community based organizations. They also have a peer program; he can be reached at (212) 306-5077

NYC Dept. of Human Resources Administration - Carlos Infante

Mr. Infante - Government & Community Affairs (212) 331-3851 informed the group that HRA has a new Commissioner, Mr. Robert Doar, he hopes to visit all the Community Boards within the year to hear their concerns. The new Dyckman Center at 5440 W. 216th St. set to open Fall 2007.

Man. Borough Pres. Scott Stringer's Office.- Sherri Taft Leonce

Distributed literature.

NYC Dept. of Health/Mental Hygiene Pest Control Div. – Caroline Hilton

Ms. Hilton briefly reported that there are properties in question on Hillside Avenue, DOH/MH has done inspection, within 10 days, owners must respond, if not, clean up will begin – owner will be charged. Complaints will be tracked in data base, she indicated since winter is approaching it makes it difficult to treat the areas. Her contact numbers is (646) 672-2328.

Senator Eric Schneiderman - Lillian Perez

Ms. Perez reported that they will be hiring a new State Comptroller next month. She also expressed her concern of the lack of attention to clean up the entrance onto the W. 181st Street and Amsterdam Bridge. It is considered an eyesore and a haven for the homeless population. She reported there was a fire at that location recently and there is still burned wood and cardboard remains scattered about. Ms. Perez was adamant about expressing her concern to have the area cleaned up.

Jeffrey Laufer stated he would collaborate with the appropriate city agencies to resolve the problem.

NYC Housing Preservation Development – Tony Brogdon

Nothing to report.

Con Edison - Zamira Setara

Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Nothing to report

Department of Buildings – Ben Columbo

Mr. Columbo requested CB12 to identify scaffolding structures and sidewalk shed locations, then his agency would be glad to do a walk thru with inspector. CB12 will provide 5 outstanding complaints. Also agency would research data bank to see if there are other outstanding complaints that should be followed up. Tour anticipated for late March. Contact info at (212)-566-0018.

Ms. Perez spoke to a scaffolding site at W. 181st. and Bennett Ave. identified as an unsafe condition, where repairs are being made.

NYC Dept. of Transportation – Ryder Pearce

Ryder Pearce reported that there have been some lighting and electricity issues in some areas due to construction work on a pedestrian bridge. He also reported that lights along the Harlem River Drive have been restored from 155th Street to 179th Street and that the rest of the lights will be replaced within the next couple of weeks.

It was reported that there are outages at Ft. Tryon Park. Inspectors have visited the area to try and repair them. He informed group that W. 163rd Street and Edgecomb Ave. is getting a new Bus Shelter. Signage on W. 181st Street on the West end by the collapse wall was misleading motorists, it has been corrected. At W. 161st & Amsterdam, dangerous intersection conditions, where Amsterdam & St. Nicholas converge, DOT will inspect location for additional signage. Mr. Pearce reported that lights will be installed into the Dog Walk/Park behind George Washington High School; DOT confirmed with a letter that spot lights will be installed.

NYC Dept. of Design & Construction – Genevieve Davis

Ms. Davis reported that the estimated completion date for the 10th Avenue Project is August 17, 2007. The work is 75% completed and the time elapsed is 124%, the agency has received an extension. There is no parking signage as they are currently working on removing all no parking signs from 10th Avenue. DDC will be reducing the slope under the elevated trains at W. 207th Street to resolve the issue of trucks getting caught under the *elevated trains*.

When the 30 inch sewer and water main project commences, DDC anticipates much traffic congestion and concerns, many traffic diversions TA officers and flaggers, will direct traffic. Bus #12 might be scheduled for alternative routes or eliminated altogether depending on pedestrian safety. Lastly, Ms. Davis reported that Jimbo's Burger Palace on W. 207th didn't have a permit for their awning so they were instructed to take it down. Water shut down notices were provided to CB12 staffers.

Verizon Community Affairs - Sandy Wilson

Ms. Wilson introduced herself and provided group with her contact information, (212) 321-8349. She also informed group that there are computer training courses available.

NY Public Library Reports – Manny Figueroa

Mr. Figueroa reported that Fort Washington Children's Room has been renovated. They welcome children under the age of 12, or up to the 6th grade. The Washington Heights Library branch is located at W. 160th and St. Nicholas Ave. offering for younger children they have *lapsit* programs, puppet readings and teaching parents how to read aloud to the children.

The libraries are currently working on family programs for Saturday's. Inwood library has the same programs available. Toddler programs are available every other Tuesday at 10:30am and there are many other programs for children after-school at 4pm, including tutoring. On Saturday's they also have computer classes in the morning. Mr. Figueroa informed everyone that the Inwood Library is having a reoccurring issue of slippery and dangerous walking conditions on sidewalk due to car washing residues.

Ms. Blow thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30am

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Blow, reviewed by J. Laufer & Manny Velazquez