

**Community Board 12, Manhattan**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**March 25, 2003**

**Members Present**

Jacqueline Aristy  
Anita Barberis  
James Berlin  
Emilia G. Cardona  
Martin Collins  
Mireya Cruz  
Fredericka Cuenca  
Walther G. Delgado  
Sybil R. Dodson  
Luis Facundo

Venecia Fernandez  
Leslie Foster  
Beatrice Hall  
Herbert Harwitt  
Joyce F. Holland  
Jose Lopez  
Elizabeth Lorris Ritter  
Maria Luna  
Benjamin Mantell

Renato Mena  
Helen Morik  
Marcos Navarro  
Pamela Palanque North  
Nelson Rojas  
Steve Simon  
Barbara Smith Ramos  
Sandra Wachspress  
Msgr. Gerald Walsh

**Members Absent**

Rafael Beaumont (Exc.)  
Abby Belkin (Exc.)  
Nelson Castro  
Rafael Escaño  
William A. Garcia  
Kirk Miller (Exc.)  
Norma Nadien (Exc.)  
Julio Peguero  
Ron Peterson (Exc.)

Zead Ramadan (Exc.)  
Glenda Swanson Massa (Exc.)  
Milagros Vicente (Exc.)  
Elouise Whitehurst (Exc.)

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The meeting was chaired by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Sybil Dodson, in the absence of Zead Ramadan.

District Manager's report was given while waiting for a quorum (see attached).

Chair's report was given by Sybil Dodson for Zead Ramadan.

**(7:30pm) PUBLIC SESSION** (in the absence of a quorum)

Michael Alvarez, New York Public Library – office moving from Inwood to 135<sup>th</sup> St. branch at Malcolm X Blvd. He will be representing four additional libraries in CB10. Will still attend CB12 meetings. Also spoke about proposed cut to libraries of 3.5%, plus possible request by NYS to cut 15%. This would translate into four-day-a-week service. Encouraged letter writing campaign to State and local officials; thanked Board for past support.

**(7:35pm) Quorum reached.** Motion to adopt agenda by Beatrice Hall; seconded by Fredericka Cuenca; passed unanimously by show of hands. Motion to adopt minutes by Martin Collins; seconded by Anita Barberis; passed unanimously by show of hands.

Edward Jurewicz, Community Resident – Super and apartment owner at 255 Cabrini Blvd. Has problem with skateboarding at intersection of 187<sup>th</sup> Street with Cabrini Blvd & Pinehurst Ave. Also has problem with noise from cabs congregating in the area. There has been no resolution to either problem despite petition, meeting with the 34<sup>th</sup> Pct. and calls to elected officials. DM will follow up and discuss with appropriate committee chair.

Edith Prentiss, NYP Community Health Council – Announced special community meeting on 3/27 regarding health cuts and impact on community. Distributed flyers; asked that people please spread the word and please attend.

Mariela Rueda, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. – update regarding services offered to the community, including applying for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit, opening bank accounts and other financial services. They also provide day and evening literacy, citizenship and ESL classes. Contact info is 212-822-8341; 76 Wadsworth Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Bob Isaac, Community Resident – Spoke on behalf of libraries, and of the dire consequences of proposed cuts. Urged everyone to write letters on behalf of libraries, which are being threatened by serious cuts. Offered to mail letters himself if people write them tonight.

Jane Jackson, New York Restoration Project – “Try On” Tryon Festival at Ft. Tryon Park on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 12-4pm rain date Sunday, 4/13. Many activities for kids – music, hayrides, stories, etc. and demonstration of birds of prey.

George Espinal, Community Resident – regarding canine waste on Payson Avenue. Asked for signage and enforcement. DM to follow up w/ DSNY. This topic generated much lively discussion, including a recommendation to contact Channel 2(800-CBS-2-NEWS) for a “shame on you” segment.

Arnold Gore, Community Resident: Urged board to consider adding to the resolution from joint energy Task Force and Public Safety committee to include language requesting that the Indian Point Nuclear Plant be closed.

Helen Morik, NYPH: has instituted availability of parking garage for overnight parking for area residents. Must live in neighborhood (10032, 10033, 10040); have NYS license and NYS registered car. May park 6pm – 7am weekdays and all day weekends and holidays, \$125/month. Key card will control access time. Also urged people to attend this week's health care forum, which is really a budget cut forum as these cuts are dire, and committee needs to learn about this and get active to lobby for restoration.

Leslie Foster, Isabella Geriatric Center: Health care cuts affect economic vitality of this community due to the number of health care institutions and jobs in this community. This also affects much-needed services on which the entire community depends. Rally in Albany on April 1<sup>st</sup>: 500 buses going, please attend, call Helen if you want to go on a bus. Please follow news, and get active making calls and writing letters to elected officials.

Ed Flynn, Community Resident: Praised Jim Berlin for his work as Parliamentarian. Praised board for posting resolution votes in minutes, and also for meeting offsite; please be mindful of Inwood. Also praised high quality of comments from members, which augers well for the Board.

Claudia Cruz, NYC Lupus Cooperative, and Community Resident: (212)289-9811. Spoke briefly about Lupus awareness and noted that her group is available for health fairs and other community outreach issues. Also noted that CB4 is having a meeting on Emergency preparedness, what is CB12 doing? Also talked about a new movie "Washington Heights" being released NYC on May 9<sup>th</sup>, which is by and about Washington Heights, and stars local people. In English and some Spanish (w/ subtitles). Asked about local venues for screenings in the neighborhood, possibly here in the CU Alumni Auditorium.

Cecil Corbin Mark WEACT: Planning conference Sat. 4/5/03 10am-4:30pm re: solid waste management and the possible re-opening of Marine transfer station. Experts in the areas of recycling and re-use as well as disposal will be attending, but community input also is needed.

Captain Wilcox, 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct, spoke re "Operation Atlas".

- working with 34<sup>th</sup> Pct for heightened awareness to George Washington Bridge.
- 24-hour "house of worship patrol" to cover mosques, synagogues and churches in every precinct.
- Critical response patrol for key sites (hospitals, bridges, etc.).
- Also 24/7 radiation detector unit (from counter terrorism unit) on patrol throughout precinct.
- Urged vigilance and awareness. Call counter-terrorism unit to report anything suspicious: 1-888-NYC-SAFE (652-7233).

Maria Luna: Why, and when, are National Guards posted at W. 168<sup>th</sup> Street subway station?

A: Increased presence, 8a-4p, at request of the MTA.

Marcos Navarro: Other stations?

A: 181<sup>st</sup> Street A train.

Pamela Palanque-North: Are there designated shelters for evacuation?

A: Yes, but specifics would be determined at the time by Mayor's emergency management unit. Sybil Dodson offered additional insights about CB12 involvement in this planning process. Difficult to say where evacuation sites might be; could fluctuate depending on the nature of emergency.

S. Dodson: Has 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct. staffing been reduced due to war?

A: Has an officer who is reservist activated to Kuwait. Another three who may be activated; depending on course of current military action in this war. Not clear if they will be replaced.

S. Dodson: Are you satisfied regarding the level of NYPD preparedness?

A: Yes; spoke about equipment.

Elizabeth Loris Ritter: Question regarding patrol vehicles on Riverside Drive and Henry Hudson Parkway?

A: Have stepped up enforcement.

Final comment regarding Armory and track meets: met with Dr. Sanders to discuss parking problem. The season is over but planning already is in place for next season. Thanked New York Presbyterian Hospital for opening up parking lot to buses.

#### **(8:30) PUBLIC OFFICIALS/ REPRESENTATIVES**

Carlos Rodriguez, Manhattan Borough President's Office:

- Invited CB members to attend upcoming meeting (3/26) with new Schools Superintendents for Regions 9 & 10 at 125<sup>th</sup> Street office.
- Praised the Board for recent resolution regarding maps and the exclusion of Washington Heights/Inwood. The Borough President is putting together a taskforce to address this issue.
- Upcoming meeting in April with Deputy Mayor regarding Sherman Creek.

Lilliam Perez, Senator Eric Schneiderman's Office:

- Thanks for the effort to keep the MTA token booths open.
- Spoke in favor of renewing rent control regulations.
- Also is fighting for restoration of budget cuts. Urged call-in efforts to the Governor to restore budget cuts.

S. Dodson: Asked to convey thanks for the Senator's work to fight token booth closings, and invited him to attend the next meeting.

A: He has to be on the floor Monday through Thursday, but will try to attend when Senate is not in session.

Steve Simon: Good work on token booths, but we still are losing 207<sup>th</sup>, 175<sup>th</sup> and 168<sup>th</sup> Street part-time booths.

A: We still oppose those closings too.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(7:37pm) Economic Development Committee, Martin Collins, Chair: Gave a brief update of the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding garage on West 184<sup>th</sup> Street & Broadway. Important and informative meeting, see packet for minutes.

Gave background of resolution: There is a serious disconnect between the State Liquor Authority and Community Boards, as revenues considerations at SLA seem to trump Community Board input, as SLA controls the flow of alcohol in communities. There were several friendly amendments which clarified the resolution and which the committee had accepted. S. Simon recommended this resolution be sent to all 59 Community Boards, all Borough Presidents and all Council Members. The resolution passed unanimously with 26 votes.

(8:50pm) Housing & Human Services Committee, Beatrice Hall, Chair: Resolution regarding rent stabilization / rent control legislation. Steve Simon offered a friendly amendment. Joyce Holland proposed removal of last bulleted item in final whereas; there was no second. Emilia Cardona stated her respect for Ms. Holland's issue, but noted that removal of the item would weaken the resolution. Jacqueline Aristy spoke in support of the amendment, specifically the final wording. The resolution passed 23-2-1.

(8:58pm) Public Safety Committee, Dr. Pamela Palanque North, Chair: Gave background on three-months' work of Public Safety Committee and Energy Task Force regarding Indian Point. Heard from citizen group "Campaign to Close Indian Point" in January; Entergy International representatives (who run the facility) in February; and summary discussion and independent research in March. After a lot of discussion, the Committee developed a compromise resolution which the Committee believes reflects the current status of Indian Point, and the needs for energy, for more info, and for a focus on safety. Ms. Dodson also spoke in support of the resolution.

Benjamin Mantell: Why didn't we use the resolution proposed by citizen group? (Also offered several friendly amendments as to grammar.)

SD: Did not fit spirit of what is possible. Can't just close with flick of a switch and instantly remove any possible threats.

Marcos Navarro: Proposed adding "...including the possible shutdown of the facility." to final "be it further resolved" clause.

SD & PPN: Not accepted as friendly amendment, as this does not reflect thinking of the committee after all evidence was gathered. Closure may be reasonable in the future, but not the right course for now; decommission is a 10-year process.

Helen Morik: Seconded Marcos' amendment; we should move to close.

Jim Berlin: Spoke against amendment. Plant produces 2000 megawatts of power. Proposed the addition of "enabling" to the relevant paragraph. This amendment was accepted as friendly thus moving to floor debate back to the resolution at hand.

S. Simon: Spoke against the plant and stated that if it were being built now, it would not have been approved. Cited various expert opinions in opposition to the location of the facility so close to NYC, with particular respect to vulnerability of a plane attack, and the safety concerns regarding containment of spent fuel rods.

J. Berlin: Spoke to the issue of spent fuel rods, as well as to vulnerability of the plant to plane attacks. Reiterated that we need the power the plant produces. Niagara Mohawk does not have extra available power, and even if they did we do not have the power lines to move the power here. Additionally, responsibility rests on us to conserve energy. We want the plant to run safely and we want it protected, but we need the power.

E. Loris Ritter: We should base our decisions not on politics of fear, but on good science.

Walther Delgado: Called the question; seconded by Mireya Cruz; passed by a show of hands.

Roll Call vote: resolution passes 16-11.

S. Dodson: Resolution will be forwarded to all Community Boards and City Council, noting that we likely will be visiting this issue.

P. Palanque-North: Noted that she attended the funerals of both NYPD officers killed on Staten Island. Also would like to write letter to NYPD from Public Safety Committee regarding protection of our undercover officers. Observed that similar shooting [during an undercover gun buy-and-bust operation] could happen in this community, due to prevalence of gun sales here. Finally, noted that the Committee is working on a two-page emergency preparation checklist, should be ready soon.

(9:35pm) Traffic & Transportation Committee, Jim Berlin, Chair and Committee for the Aging, Herbert Harwitt, Chair: Resolution regarding ferries and ADA access. No discussion. Resolution passed unanimously, with 27 votes.

Health & Environment Committee, Steve Simon, Chair: Refer to minutes.

Land Use Committee, Maria Luna, Chair: Putting together survey of businesses and residents on Audubon and Amsterdam Avenues. Asking for volunteers with survey.

Sybil Dodson: This is an important data gathering opportunity.

Joyce Holland: Asked questions regarding volunteer qualifications.

Emilia Cardona offered to translate survey

Youth & Education Committee, Sandra Wachspress, Chair: In absentia via Ms. Dodson: please review minutes.

## **(9:45pm) ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT**

### Councilman Miguel Martinez:

- Council previously restored \$10 million for senior services and \$14 million for meals-on-wheels, but senior services are a target again. Is visiting senior centers with Councilman Jackson to get information to seniors and to get them involved in advocacy re: cuts and services.
- Spoke about recent meeting at Isabella Geriatric Center attended by Mayor Bloomberg. Thanks to Leslie Foster for facilitating that meeting venue. The Mayor spoke about Education and Housing.
- The City should set own rent control guidelines, not be decided by NYS, since it's a local issue.
- Spoke regarding Army and that this is a "working class army" of minorities and immigrants. Wants to make sure that soldiers on active duty and their families have rights regarding housing, creditors, etc.

- Noted meeting 4/9/03 at Coogan's Restaurant. Urged action on plan, or we may be left behind from Mayor's proposed housing initiatives, the only major area of spending from Mayor. Praised HPD and MBPO for their work in planning and developing of Sherman Creek.

Maria Luna noted that the Land Use Committee is already discussing a 197A plan, and other planning options.

A: Good, please also take advantage of planning resources in community. We can give volunteers for your survey.

M. Luna: Good, please also send representatives to our meetings.

In closing – also regarding traffic on W. 181<sup>st</sup> Street, proposing public hearing on addition of bus lane, and possible removal of parking spaces to improve traffic flow, particularly during rush hours.

Martin Collins: Spoke regarding 197A Plan: we have met with urban planners regarding implementing 197A plan and possibilities of “contextual zoning” instead. They will be making presentation at the next Executive Committee meeting. This is a priority of this Chair and Executive Committee, and of this Board under the previous two chairs.

Joyce Holland: What's going on with bill regarding car alarms, and can it be moved along?

A: The bill is in committee

Councilman Robert Jackson:

- The biggest issue is the budget, and all the proposed cuts.
- Restructuring of Department of Education. Echoed importance of getting to know new Regional Superintendent.
- Holding a press conference tomorrow to mark the one-year anniversary of Intro 101 (lead paint bill) and the Council's lack of progress on this legislation. Follow the money to see who supports or does not support the introduction, where their campaign funds come from. Lead laws must be made tougher, for even one child poisoned is too much!
- A lawsuit to overturn the Council's change to the term-limit law was sustained. Expect it will be heard in Court of Appeals. We expect to win, otherwise Phil Reed, Margarita Lopez, Gifford Miller and Bill Perkins will have to leave office.
- Spoke with regard to solid waste management issues raised by speakers in public session.

E. Lorris Ritter: What is happening with the Campaign or Fiscal Equity?

A: The case is being heard in Court of Appeals on May 8<sup>th</sup>. I will be walking 150 miles to Albany, with town hall meetings along the way, to increase attention on this important issue and allow parents to “walk a mile for their child.”

S. Simon: Can we get copies of budget?

A: Yes – all public documents are shared with the public. Councilman Martinez and I will get copies to the Board.

Sybil Dodson: Noted illness of Norma Nadien, Elouise Whitehurst and Abby Belkin.

Helen Morik: Announcement regarding an upcoming meeting.

(10:10pm) Walther Delgado moved to adjourn; seconded by Emilia Cardona. no objection.

Respectfully submitted by: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 4, 2003

Minutes

Present

Martin Collins

Luis Facundo

William Garcia

Kirk Miller

Mireya Cruz

Absent

None

Excused

Rafael Beaumont

Renato Mena

CB12 Members Attending: Zead Ramadan, Chair  
Julio Pequero

Guests: Marino Jimenez, Maria Jimenez, William Fernandez, Byron Lassin Esq., Rose Santo,  
Sandra Diaz, Salvador Espaillat, Julio Alvarado

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The meeting started at 6:35 p.m.

Dyckman House Restaurant a/k/a Republi'K (114-116 Dyckman Street)

The owners Maria Jimenez and Marino Jimenez attended. They are making alterations to the premises to install a first floor bar. They reached out to CB12 to apprise them of the work. The details given at the meeting were sketchy. The committee asked for clarification. Owners suggested we contact their architect, Andre Diaz. We'll follow up at the April meeting.

El Viajero Restaurant (151 Nagle Avenue)

William Fernandez and attorney Byron Lassin attended. Mr. Fernandez is one of three owners along with his sister and Richard Hencke who will serve as general manager. Mr. Fernandez is the building owner where this stylish *nuevo latino* restaurant will be. Storefront has been vacant for several years. Applied to the NYSLA for an On-Premise Liquor License. Mr. Hencke is handling acquisition of DOB, DCA, Place of Assembly, and other permits. Occupancy is 150. They brought detailed architectural drawings to the meeting, pictures of the location, restaurant menu, and a business plan. Operating hours are 11:30 AM – 11:30 PM. They'll have 12-15 employees. Emphasis is on the restaurant. Parking may be a problem. No live music or jukebox. The committee recommended El Viajero for an On-Premise Liquor License.

Club Deportivo Dominicano of NYC (2008 Amsterdam Avenue)

Sandra Diaz and Salvador Espaillat represented Club Deportivo. The president, Pablo Urena, did not attend. The club is a not-for-profit that has served the Washington Heights community for 37 years. Currently has 235 members. Open seven days a week, six days to members only. They are applying for an On-Premise Liquor License. Question was asked on both sides of the table if a not-for profit club requires a liquor license. Also inquiry regarding the number of exits in the club was discussed. Both will be checked. Committee decided to follow up at the April meeting.

The committee passed a resolution addressing issues with the NYSLA.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Submitted by Martin Collins.

**HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – March 3, 2003**

<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>CB 12 MEMBERS ATTENDING</b>
Beatrice Hall, Chair	Barbara Smith Ramos	Sandra Wachspress
Ron Peterson, Asst. Chair	Jose Lopez	Maria Luna
Steve Simon		
Jacqueline Aristy		

**Deborah Blow, Community Assistant**

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Meeting convened at 7:15 pm.

Opening remarks, Beatrice Hall.

Reviewed Budget Ranking for Fiscal Year '04.

Committee discussed the cancellation of the two Assistant Commissioner's AnneMarie Hendrickson and Mary A. Bolton from the Department of Housing Preservation & Development (HPD). The chair spoke to Ms. Hendrickson on 2/28/03, she said that the RFQ was not out until April '03, and that there would be no designation done until she and Wendell Walters come and meet with the Housing Committee. Ms. Hendrickson again said that they will definitely be here for the April meeting. She stated that the 300 units equal 14 buildings.

The letter from Mary A. Bolton was read and it was determined that another letter would be sent to the Assistant Commissioner asking her to honor the commitment she made on 10/7/02.

The Housing Committee discussed the Rent Control/ Rent Stabilization Laws that ends June 15, 2003 and as a result a resolution was passed.

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted by: Beatrice Hall

## HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – MARCH 4, 2003

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair  
Sybil R. Dodson  
Herbert Harwitt  
Julio Peguero  
Barbara Smith-Ramos

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Abby Belkin  
Ivelisse Fairchild  
Ben Mantell  
Helen Morik

### PUBLIC MEMBER

Basilia Gomez

Zead Ramadan, Chairman  
Deborah Blow, Community Assistant

### GUESTS

Jeffrey P. Davis, Associate V. P.-Privacy Officer, Columbia University; Gloria Munoz, Supervisor/Crisis Counselor, Puerto Rican Family Institute; Joyce Marshall, Regional Director, MIC Women's Health Services; Geeta Palumbo, student, Columbia Univ. School of Nursing.

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**1. Opening Remarks** – Steve Simon, chair, reviewed the agenda and introduced the first speaker.

**2. Privacy Rights of Patients** – Jeffrey Davis, Associate Vice President-Privacy Officer, Columbia University, gave slide presentation on how Columbia is implementing Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), federal law passed in 1996 to ensure that people are able to continue their health insurance coverage with new employers and that privacy rights of patients with physical or mental conditions are protected.

Law becomes effective 4/14 for purpose of enforcement. All of Columbia's business associates (consultants, etc.) must sign contracts not to disclose Protected Health Information (PHI). Patients (excluding emergency patients) will receive notice of privacy practices at first contact with doctor after 4/14. Patient does not have to sign acknowledgment to receive service. Patients' rights include right to copy of medical records.

State law pre-empts HIPAA with respect to guaranteeing privacy rights to minors under 18. In NYS, minors (14-17) have a right to confidential treatment for services relating to abortion, birth control, STD testing, HIV/AIDS testing, mental health counseling. Need written permission from minor or minor's presence to share info. Physician can always decide not to inform parents if revealing the medical information would have a negative impact on the patient/physician relationship.

Privacy issue at CPMC recently arose when VIP was admitted to hospital, and numerous people abused their computer access to obtain privileged information on the patient's condition. There were 81 "hits" on patient's medical record: ½ from university, ½ from hospital. This was a gross violation of zero tolerance policy on looking into patients' files without authorization. As a result, 2 physicians are going before medical board, some staff were laid off 1 week without pay. Records of VIPs and employees admitted to hospital records now being flagged to avoid similar abuse; there will be an audit trail for every time someone looks at a record.

Privacy rules require Columbia to make reasonable efforts to limit the use or disclosure of PHI – only provide minimum information necessary. If information is lost, patient must be notified

All staff and medical students being trained on HIPAA rules.

No sign-in sheets should be used in specialty clinics where patient's condition is apparent, such as a fertility clinic.

Patient authorization must be signed for all clinical research. Recruitment must go through primary caregiver; patient must call researchers, not vice versa.

Promised to send CB12 a copy of privacy notice. Columbia will have a privacy hotline for patients' and staff's inquiries and complaints.



**3. Project Liberty** – Gloria Munoz, supervisor/crisis counselor, Puerto Rican Family Institute: Program began with 9/11 victims, has been expanded to cover trauma victims in general, including people suffering stress from loss of relatives. Services are free, mostly in Spanish. Discussed sheet, "Phases of disaster reactions." Group or individual counseling available, including home visits and site visits; also refer to other agencies. Location: 145 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., bet 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Maria Kumagay, team leader, receives referrals (212) 229-6913 or 6909. Alianza Dominicana also has Project Liberty program.

**4. Services at Charles B. Rangel Health Center** – Joyce Marshall, Regional Director, MIC Women's Health Services: Majority of clients reside in CB 12 area, even though center is located on W. 135<sup>th</sup> St. in NY-Presbyterian Hospital ambulatory care facility. Began as a demonstration project to show that prenatal care can affect infants. As partner with NYPH, all 7 staff (2 physicians and 5 midwives) have NYPH admitting privileges. Patients use Allen Pavilion & Babies Hospital; they choose their own doctor, similar to a private practice.

Program utilizes PCAP – NY State special Medicaid program for pregnant women that has a higher income requirement and covers babies up to 1 year and the woman for entire pregnancy period plus two months. Citizenship/residency status not an issue. Comprehensive health education, social worker services provided. Childbirth classes at Allen Pavilion.

**5. City's Responses to Community Board Budget Requests** – S. Simon distributed relevant pages from the Register of Community Board Budget Requests, showing the city agencies' responses to our requests for the preliminary FY 2004 budget. Our capital budget request for the expansion of the sewer line to the western end of Dyckman Street was not recommended for funding. The board's expense budget requests that were proposed by this committee and the City's responses (*in italics*) follow:

- 1) Hire additional street cleaning personnel for District 12: *The agency [Dept. of Sanitation] recommends funding this request in FY 2004, but at this time the availability of funds is uncertain.*
- 2) Increase funding for mental health programs in local elementary schools in School District 6: *The Department [of Health & Mental Hygiene] has been working with the Columbia University Dept. of Child Psychiatry to maximize the impact of that program. Increased funding will depend upon NYSOMH allocations.*
- 3) Hire additional staff for the Washington Heights Child Health Clinic: *Citywide personnel/program/equipment funds are maintained in FY 2004. Allocations are scheduled by the agency only after budget adoption.*
- 4) Increase funding for school-based health clinics: *The City funds 5 school clinics, for which funds will be decreased in FY '04. The State funds over 100 clinics in City schools.*
- 5) Hire additional air and noise enforcement personnel: *The agency [Dept. of Environmental Protection] will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.*

**6. Mail** – S. Simon reviewed the mail referred to the committee.

**7. Possible Change in Regular Meeting Time** – At the request of Ben Mantell, whose schedule has changed, an alternative date for regular committee meetings was discussed. Since both J. Peguero and B. Gomez said they could not meet on Mondays or Wednesdays, it was decided to keep the current schedule for the time being.

**8. Topics for Next Meeting (April 1)** – Presentations by Susan Illman of the Columbia University Center for Children's Environmental Health, Charles Corliss of the Northern Manhattan Mental Health Council and Cecil Corbin-Mark of WEACTION (on lead poisoning bill).

Respectfully submitted by S. Simon.



## YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 03, 2003

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandra Wachspress, Chair  
Milagros Vicente, Asst. Chair  
Maria Luna

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Emilia Cardona (excused)  
Norma Nadien  
Elouise Whitehurst

### PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT

Judith Rodriguez  
Deborah Cardona  
Michael Alvarez

### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Deborah Blow, Community Assistant

### GUESTS

Vicente S. Villalba, Community School Board District #6, Geftia Palumbo, Student, Columbia University, Angelo Ortiz, Inwood Community Services.

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Meeting convened at 7:35 PM.

#### Michael Alvarez- Regional Director – NY Public Library

Announced that Ms. Estella Freidman would be leaving the Fort Washington Branch Library after 37 years. The search for a new Head Librarian will begin by the end of March, beginning of April. The borough office is involved in the process as well as Mr. Alvarez.

Starting in July the Inwood Branch library will be going to 5 days from 6- probably will be closed on Thursdays.

#### Vicente S. Villalba of school District #6

Gave update on new redistricting- see attached map. Orders have been received to vacate 2 floors of district offices by June 30. It is not known where regional offices will be located. District #6 will be combined with District #3 and #5 – to make a regional section. He will have more information at our next meeting.

#### Angelo Ortiz- Inwood Community Services

Thanked Judith Rodriguez – Inwood Branch Librarian for providing space and resources to help in piloting the mentoring program. Mr. Ortiz also thanked Vincent Villalba of School District #6 for his assistance in implementing Project Soar in the middle of schools.

Project Soar: is a science- based project to reduce negative behavior such as teen pregnancy, alcohol tobacco and drug abuse, delinquency, violence and school drop out. The pilot sight was the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in IS52 and it has been very successful.

Milagros Vicente received a letter as a parent in SD#6 describing new regional divisions- see attached letter.

Maria Luna suggested sending card to Elouise Whitehurst from the committee.

#### Judith Rodriguez- Inwood Branch librarian

Announced all the programs at the Inwood Branch Library. Income Tax talks in Spanish & English. Health programs in association with St. Lukes Hospital. She invited the committee to hold one of its future meetings at the Inwood Branch Library.

Announcement regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Minority Recruitment Day on Saturday, March 29, 2003 from 8 AM to 4 PM at the Alumni Auditorium. This year's conference is entitled "Medical School: Challenges and Opportunities". Free admissions, breakfast and lunch.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

# PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 04, 2003

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Emilia Cardona, Chair  
Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Assistant Chair (excused)  
Rafael Escano  
Marcos Navarro  
Venecia Fernandez  
Glenda Swanson- Massa

## BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

Sybil R. Dodson

## STAFF MEMBER ATTENDING

Deborah Blow, Community Assistant

## GUESTS

Phyllis Smizaski, 802 West 190<sup>th</sup> Street, James Renner, CB12 Historian, Abbott Ruskin, Resident, Michael Fittellson, Manhattan Times, Ray Acosta, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, Rose Santos, WHIDC.

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Meeting started at 7:30 PM.

### 1. Opening Remarks:

Ms. Emilia Cardona referred to a breakfast with Mayor Michael Bloomberg that she attended that it was mentioned that a cultural center would be built at West 166<sup>th</sup> Street and Audubon Avenue. She further made reference to the possibility of contacting the persons involved in the Duarte Cultural Center to see if they want to be part of this effort.

### 2. Presentation:

Mr. James Renner, Community Board 12 Historian, spoke about the proposed designation of landmark status of certain areas of Community Board 12, such as:

- The former Negro burial ground that used to be at 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue between West 210 and West 212 Street and now relocated to Woodlawn Cemetery. He suggested placing a plaque where the burial ground used to be.
- Daughters of American Revolution
- Building on Amsterdam Avenue and West 186<sup>th</sup> Street.
- The High Bridge Tower at High Bridge Park.
- Bennett Park, Fort Washington Avenue and West 183<sup>rd</sup> Street, which should be a city, state and federal landmark due to its American Revolution status.
- The Seaman-Drake Arch, Broadway and West 215<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Renner will give us some information on the process for landmark designation and submit some papers on this issue.

Ms. Cardona suggested to present a resolution at the March General Meeting supporting the designation of the seaman- Drake Arch as a landmark. She also suggested to discuss the landmark designation of Bennett Park at the April committee meeting and to invite Friends of Bennett Park to this meeting.

The committee agreed, without objection, to present this resolution on the Seaman- Drake Arch as stated.

Ray Acosta, CB12 Parks's maintenance and operation manager, listened and answered some concerns on the area parks, such as:

- The maintenance and operations of the Tennis Courts at Inwood Hill Park.
- How the snow was not properly removed from Bennett Park.
- A less dangerous way of picking up the garbage in the parks, maybe larger trucks are needed.
- How the chips from the trees chopped down at the Cloisters are spilling into the road and the unnecessary removal of trees at Fort Tryon Park. It was suggested that the NYC Parks Department attend the committee meeting to respond to these questions.

### 3. Art Sale in the Park

Ms Lorris- Ritter explained how the NYC Council is introducing legislation to have a permit process to designate certain areas of NYC parks for sale of commercial arts, while artists are opposed based on their first amendment claim.

It was suggested to study first this City Council Intro- 127 to come up with a resolution in support at the April committee meeting. This should be item #1 on said meeting. Item #3 was tabled for the next month meeting.

### 4. Old Business:

Ms. Dodson suggested that the Daffodils should be planted in the parks again this year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 am.

Respectfully submitted by Marcos Navarro.