

**Community Board 12, Manhattan
General Meeting Minutes – March 23, 2004**

Members Present:

Mason Almeida	Sybil R. Dodson
Jacqueline Aristy	Rafael Escaño
Anita Barberis	Luis Facundo
Rafael Beaumont	Peter Ferrara
Wayne Benjamin	Leslie Foster
James Berlin	Beatrice Hall
Aidee Camacho	Joyce F. Holland
Kotie Cannon	Mark Levine
Emilia G. Cardona	Jose Lopez
Martin Collins	Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

Maria Luna
Jay D. Mazur
Renato Mena
Helen Morik
Pamela Palanque North
Julio Peguero
Zead Ramadan
Barbara Smith Ramos
Julio Rodriguez
Nelson Rojas

Rose M. Santo
Cleofis C. Sarete
Steve Simon
Socrates Solano
Dago Suarez
Bienvenido Toribio
Milagros Vicente
Sandra Wachspress
Homer Young-Kennedy, III

Members Absent:

Mireya Cruz
Walther G. Delgado
Glenda Swanson Massa (exc.)
Kirk Miller (exc.)
Gloria Vanterpool
Msgr. Walsh Walsh (exc.)

Meeting called to order with attainment of quorum at 7:15pm.

Welcome and opening remarks: Zead Ramadan, Chair, thanked NYPH for providing space to host the meeting.

(7:17pm) Adoption of agenda & approval of minutes: Chair noted that Street Activity Permit Task Force resolution is tabled due to recent arrival of comments and revisions from Mayor's Community Assistance Unit (CAU). Motion by Homer Young Kennedy III to adopt agenda as amended; seconded by Rose Santo; no objection. Motion by Emilia Cardona to approve minutes of 02/24/04 general meeting; seconded by Benny Toribio; no objection.

7:18 Chair's Report: Zead Ramadan

- Created a Web Page for Community Board 12: www.cb12m.org, which contains calendar information, contact information and minutes. Thanks to Mason Almeida for his expertise and advice.
- Submitted testimony to City Council Education Committee in support of finding a suitable space within the community for Gregorio Luperon HS.
- Breakfast welcoming new Columbia University President, Lee Bollinger.
- Gave update on Audubon IV project on many changes to the plan due to the work of CB12. Thanks to Steve Simon and Wayne Benjamin for their work. Received verbal assurance that all 25 points mentioned in the resolution will be addressed, and will make sure that these are legally binding. This will only happen if as many people as possible attend City Council's Land Use meeting (initially set for May 20th; subsequently rescheduled to April 27th) to advocate on behalf of the community.
- Economic Development Chair and District Manager met with the Taxi & Limousine Commission and livery cabs to bring in better education as well as fairer, more uniform enforcement.
- Sherman Creek Interagency Task Force will report to the community on the January charette, on March 31st @ 6:30pm at PS/IS 176.
- Mediated a dispute between NYC DPR and a local friends- of- parks group regarding plantings in Isham Park
- Nominating Committee will be chaired by Beatrice Hall; will announce committee composition next month.
- Baker Field (at West 218th St.) is included in the NYC proposal for 2012 Olympics for field hockey. A ferry site is proposed as part of the new mass transit facilities.
- Spoke about recent trip to the Dominican Republic to the town of Hiana, in a trip sponsored by the Lions Club, Washington Heights BID, and Manhattan Borough President's Office. 91% of the residents of Hiana are over the limit for lead poisoning, due to a battery destruction plant. For the last five years, this annual trip has helped develop a connection to the town and widely to distribute aid on ongoing basis.

Presentations:

(7:33pm) Roger Montesano, Director, Office of Community Affairs, and Ada Terry, Director, Fire Zone, New York Fire Department re: Fire Safety & Education: Started a program with retirees to supplement fire safety education, outreach and public relations efforts. Fire Zone is a not-for-profit fire-safety learning center located in Rockefeller Center. This is a high-profile venue, but they also go into communities for outreach and education. They are piloting a program to work intensively in a single community board. Although CB12 does not have the highest rate of fatal fires, it was chosen due to recent fires. Announced several upcoming fire safety education events and trips to schools. In response to questions, it was noted that CERT members are welcome to join in training; and a flyer regarding the dangers of in-home storage of gas-powered motor scooters will be included in outreach.

(7:45pm) Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation and corsages to Elouise Whitehurst, Abby Belkin and Norma Nadien for their many, many years of service on this board and dedication to this community: "For your unfailing commitment to the Washington Heights/Inwood community, for encouraging leadership through example, and for uplifting the lives of the citizens of Washington Heights/Inwood through years of dedicated service to Community Board 12 Manhattan." Abby Belkin spoke fondly of her memories of working on the board and appreciates the thanks of the board; Jim Berlin and Zead Ramadan presented the certificate. Elouise Whitehurst noted that she still is active in the Dyckman Houses and hates to leave CB12, having enjoyed time on the board. She regrets that her health does not permit her to continue to serve. Sybil Dodson arrived in time to praise Ms. Whitehurst as "her heroine." Norma Nadien was unable to attend due to ill health; Sandra Wachspress accepted the certificate on her behalf, praising her place at the forefront of the fight for youth and education.

(7:57pm) District Manager's Report: Gregoria Feliciano. Written reports and complaint log in Board Members' packets.

- Highlighted District Service Cabinet agenda and reports by agency representatives on specific items
- Track and racing season is over. We will start now to work on next year regarding idling buses, traffic issues which continue to be problem.
- Echoed Zead Ramadan's comments regarding TLC seminar; hopefully this will be replicated boro-wide and citywide. This is very exciting; it's the first time this service has been offered.
- Working with Department of Sanitation regarding situations of garbage in privately-owned lots on Overlook Terrace, Hillside and Fairview Avenues, and other location. With regard to any possible construction at Overlook Terrace, the DM had no specific information.
- Gave updates on crime statistics in the 33rd and 34th Precincts.
- DSNY re-hired laid-off workers, and is hiring an additional 100 people.
- Recycling is back; gave pick-up information.
- Department of Parks & Recreation is recruiting teenagers for summer lifeguard jobs. Department of Housing & Preservation Development is hiring lead-abatement inspectors.
- Department of Transportation is putting in a traffic light at the corner of Cooper Street and West 207th Street
- Announced other upcoming events in the next month.

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter noted that the increase of traffic lights in Inwood is largely due to increase in traffic, which is due in turn to increase in tolls on the Henry Hudson Bridge. Martin Collins asked about pavement striping in the 33rd & 34th Precincts; Ms. Feliciano will forward requests to precincts. Aidee Camacho asked for clarification of new recycling rules. Maria Luna offered a complaint regarding idling of buses at 179th Street near George Washington Bridge and at Armory, as well as noise at DOT Safety City program. Zead Ramadan noted that matter of idling buses already has been referred to the Traffic & Transportation Committee Chair, observing that the W 179th Street issue is largely due to Bronx buses.

(8:18pm) Public Session:

Michael Meagher, Inwood Resident: Complaint about public parking lot at Fort George Hill. Has been complaining for years and there has been no progress. Also, complained about neglected stairway at Broadway and Fairview, and ensuing and dangerous conditions.

Samuel Dorfman, Resident: Complaint regarding W. 181st Street A-train Station, specifically in the tunnel at the 184th Street exit to Overlook Terrace. There is subway garbage and homeless people. Subway manager is unresponsive. Mr. Ramadan referred the complaint to the Public Safety Committee. Jacqueline Aristy pointed out that homeless people have relocated to subway from Overlook Terrace, which has been cleared.

Homer Young Kennedy, Inwood Community Coalition: Spoke in support of public libraries. Urged public action and support.

Leslie Foster, Isabella Geriatric Center: Save the date: 5/11/04 for Edward McFadden Scholarship Award dinner and presentation, beginning at 5:30pm.

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Cornerstone Chorale: Looking for basses and tenors for Beethoven C Major mass on May 23rd. Gave contact information.

Suzanne Wilson, NY Junior League: Starting horticultural and improvement projects in Highbridge Park. Working the last two weekends in April and first three weekends in May 9:00am to 4:00pm; providing breakfast and lunch. (212) 288-6220, ext. 266 for information or playground@nyjl.org.

(8:40pm) Elected Officials' Reports:

Liliam Perez for State Senator Eric Schneiderman: Senator Schneiderman has been working at the forefront of legislation on rent control and minimum wage, two major issues for this community. Also acknowledged and thanked community activism regarding the Karen Boat Café; the Senator is working with the State Liquor Authority on this issue.

Roxanne Dodds for Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields: Reported on MBP's recent trip to the Dominican Republic. Noted Ms. Fields' opposition to the Mayor's 3rd grade retention policy and Borough Board's passage of a resolution decrying this new policy, and urged the Youth & Education Committee to consider passing a similar resolution. Going through renewal and new member appointment processes, and is hoping to complete that by next week in time for April 1st appointments.

(8:53) Resolutions & Committee Reports: Zead Ramadan presented a Youth & Education Committee resolution in support of New York Public Libraries on behalf of Sandra Wachspress, who had to leave early. The resolution passed unanimously (36 votes).

Committee Reports:

1. **Aging – 04/20/04**
 - ◆ Presentation by Detective Billy Hughes of the 34th Precinct – Re: Con Games
 - ◆ Presentation by Carlos Infante from Human Resources Administration re: NYS Roll-Out for SSI recipients (Food Stamp Program)
2. **Economic Development– 04/01/04 at Yeshiva University (Belfer Hall), Amsterdam Ave. @ W. 184th Street**
 - ◆ Review Business License Applications @ 6:00pm
 - ◆ Presentation by Tom Strumolo, Greenmarket Director, regarding Inwood Greenmarket Project
 - ◆ Informational Meeting: Re: W. 181st @ 7:30pm with Business Improvement District, Local Merchants & Business Organizations
 - ◆ Informational Meeting: Re: Next Uptown Arts Stroll – Thursday, April 15, 2004 @ 6:00pm

Martin Collins gave update on Uptown Arts Stroll, including opening reception at Highbridge Park co-sponsored by the Department of Parks & Recreation on Wednesday, June 9.
3. **Health & Environment – 04/19/04:** Presentation by Maria Zoquier of the Washington Heights-Inwood Gene Project Coalition. Steve Simon announced event in Highbridge Park on Thursday, April 8, 2004 to celebrate spring.
4. **Housing & Human Services – 04/12/04:** Presentation by Carlos Infante from HRA, re: update on the Dyckman Income Support Center.
5. **Parks & Cultural Affairs – 04/01/04:**
 - ◆ Presentation by Mathew Day from New York Pass – Re: Tourism Publication
 - ◆ Informational Meeting: Re: Next Uptown Arts Stroll – Thursday, April 15, 2004 @ 6:00pm
6. **Public Safety – 04/21/04:** Presentation by Andrew Case, Outreach Coordinator, Civilian Complaint Review Board. Dr. North gave update on CERT, police presence and increase in security to high alert in NYC. Also, announced upcoming meetings with precincts regarding police sensitivity and public complaints.
7. **Traffic & Transportation – 04/12/04**
 - ◆ Presentation by Adrienne Taub, Assistant Director, Gov't & Community Relations, and Trevor Denny, Construction Manager, MTA, regarding installation of ADA elevators at W. 168th Street station.
 - ◆ Resolutions in support of 100 key subway station accessibility; in support of the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighters Assistance Act; and to amend the resolution passed on the 10th avenue project.
 - ◆ Results of January public hearing on W. 181st Street traffic congestion.
8. **Youth & Education – 04/19/04**
 - ◆ Presentation by Gregory Weston of New Heights: "Starting or Building an afterschool program" (pending confirmation).
 - ◆ Presentation by Willy Cho, Director of SCORE, an academic confidence building after-school program (pending confirmation).
 - ◆ Update on finding space for Gregorio Luperon High School.
9. **By-laws – 04/13/04:** Continued discussion on proposed by-laws changes. (Meeting off-site.)
10. **Joint meeting of Land Use and Community Planning Task Force – 4/14/04.**

(9:04 pm) Adjournment: motion by Maria Luna to adjourn; multiple seconds; no objection. **NOTE:** The next General Meeting will be held at Columbia University's Armand Hammer Health Sciences Building's 4th Floor Auditorium. (701 West 168th Street; entrance on Ft. Washington Avenue). All meeting venues are ADA-compliant.

Respectfully submitted by: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Secretary

**HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2004**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Beatrice Hall, Chair
Barbara Smith Ramos
Jacqueline Aristy
Steve Simon

Mireya Cruz

Deborah Blow, Community Associate

GUESTS

Michelle Macklin, Director-Manhattan Anti-Abandonment-HPD, Ethelin Jenkins-HPD-DAA,

The meeting was called to order at 7:55pm by B. Hall, chair. The chair welcomed Michelle Macklin, Director-Manhattan Office of Anti-Abandonment for HPD and Ethelin Jenkins back to the committee.

Michelle Macklin stated that all of the building owners or realtors on our list had been sent three letters pertaining to their property, but there had been no response to the letters or phone calls. 540 W. 156 St. (poor condition) taxes were paid – no response.

548 W. 156 St. (fair condition) occupied HDFC building-cooperator (Steve will speak to the agent). 510 W. 159 St. (poor vacant) realtor-510 W. 159th Realtor Inc. of Paramus, NJ. -No response.

531 W. 159th St. (vacant-sealed) \$21,400.00 owed in back taxes-no response. Ms. Macklin's office will send out a litigation letter to the property owner. 561 W. 159th St. (vacant-sealed) the owner (Doris Jackson) owes \$76,000. In back taxes. A letter of litigation will be sent to her. The property maybe put in foreclosure or Home Works program.

563 W. 159th St. (vacant-sealed) Ms. Macklin will call back on this building. The realtor is NY Pride located in New Hyde Park and \$2,000.00 is owed in taxes. 567 W. 161st St. is a HPD building (since 1994) it is under DPM-property management; Michelle Macklin will speak to Al Gavin about this building. 572 W. 161st St. is (vacant-sealed) & owned by the same owner as 540 W. 156th St. Ms. Macklin will get back to us on this property (512 W. 171st St. or 105 Audubon Ave). She will also get back to us on 517 W. 173rd St. and will find out if /and what's a 203B building is. 554 W. 173rd St. (vacant-sealed) owes \$767.00 in taxes (same owner as 540 W. 156th St.).

536 W. 175th St. is a shell from fire(s). Ms. Macklin will check to see if it was a 203k building. She will probably contact DOB about demolishing the building. 541 W. 156th St. (vacant-sealed) registered to Kimman Realty at 7175 Broadway and \$3261.09 is owed in back taxes. She said that Seth Miller is the property manager but he does not want deal with HPD.

Ms. Macklin also gave out updated list on the following requested information:

- List of buildings in litigation
- Round V & VI of the 3rd Party Transfer
- Volunteer Repair Agreement
- Roof to Seller Inspection (code enforcement)
- # of owners participating in Housing education programs in CB12

Steve Simon will add additional lots to the present list and pass that list to Michelle Clark and Cassandra Vernon (HPD).

The Housing & Human Services Budget Priorities (Fiscal 2005) was reviewed and it was suggested that a letter be sent to DOB on Expense Budget item 3120511E (ranked #18) explaining the Request---provide funding for community outreach programs.

The mail was reviewed and notes were attached for the Office Staff to follow through on.

HRA will be returning on April 5, 2004, to update the committee and all other parties present (January 29, 2004) regarding the delivery of the services at the Dyckman Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

Respectful Submitted by: Beatrice Hall

Committee for the Aging
March 9, 2004
MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Gloria Vanterpool
Leslie Foster

Committee Members Absent

Msgr. Gerald Walsh (excused)
Nelson Rojas
Glenda Swanson-Massa(excused)

Public Members

Edith Prentiss
Norma DeCandido

Deborah Blow, Community Associate

Guests: Asst. Commissioner Linda Whitaker-Dept for the Aging, Dr. Krishan Kohli-DFTA, Ethel Stoll, Mary Jones Springer, C. Levinson, Nora Negron-ARC, Zamira Setaro-Con Edison, Chief Roger Montesano-Director Community Affairs FDNY, Ada Terry -FDNY Fire Zone, Angela Johnson, Hazel Knopp Heyward-Resident, Rose Mary Cortez-Health Outreach, Zhame Babayne-YM-YWHA, Karen Burnham-MSW, YM-YWHA, Marilyn Pacheco-Isabella Geriatric Center

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. with announcements and opening remarks from Gloria Vanterpool, Asst Chair.

- Reminder of the Uptown Arts Stroll event June 12 and 13 2004.
- Letter from the Commissioner Edwin-Mendez-Santiago (dated March 3, 2004)
- NY Times article on distribution of "home delivered meals"
- New date for next Aging meeting April 20th, 2004

Asst. Commissioner Linda Whitaker updates the group on new projects as well as on-going services offered by the Dept. for the Aging, particularly the elderly population demographics in the CB 12 area. Those stats were presented by Krishan Coley-Demographer for the Dept for the Aging. Presently the agency provides services to 330 Senior Centers.

Our next presenter was Chief Montesano-Director, of Community Services for FDNY. Ms. Ada Terry, Director of Fire Zone assisted Mr. Montesano in his presentation regarding Fire Safety Campaign. This initiative is to be implemented throughout the CB12 catchmen area from March 21 through April 24, 2004. CB12 provided Ms. Terry with their Resource Directory to assists in their outreach and follow up. FDNY provided the group with a contact number (212)698-4525.

Suggestions for future meetings and topics were discussed. The committee asked that a representative from SCRIE be contacted and a representative from HPD to speak to Section 8 Housing.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Vanterpool

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2004

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair
Sybil R. Dodson
Helen Morik
Barbara Smith-Ramos

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Beatrice Hall (excused)

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Basilia Gomez

Deborah Blow, Community Associate

GUESTS: Marilyn Castaldi and Clara Leon, Columbia University Medical Center
Gloria Thomas, Program Coordinator, Asthma Basics for Children.

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Meeting was convened at 7:10 p.m.

1. Opening remarks – Sybil Dodson welcomed guests, introduced the committee members and gave a brief overview of the agenda. Chairman Simon delayed.

2. Asthma Basics for Children (ABC) -- Gloria Thomas, Program Coordinator

- CDC funded, affiliated with Columbia Univ. Center for Population and Family Health
- asthma rising in our community
- working with both parents and children at schools, Head Start and day care centers, churches
- handbooks created for parents and educators with parents' input
- teaches how to identify and help children with asthma symptoms
- screen children - go into schools where #'s are high, focus on kindergarten to 2nd grades
- follow-up by providers, including NYPH Ambulatory Care Network
- information given to principals
- asthma action plan given to parents
- areas covered include 10032, 10033, 10034, 10040, 10026, 10027 and 10037
- East Harlem has the highest concentration of asthma cases
- Washington Heights-Inwood and Central Harlem have a lesser rate
- working with Health Plus to enroll uninsured families
- 500+ children in program identified with asthma or symptoms of asthma
- first year of program started in September-funded for 5 years

Breakdown by zip code of asthma cases identified by ABC will be provided to CB 12 in 2 weeks. She will return when report is completed in coming months.

3. Press Reports Concerning Incarnation Children's Center

Marilyn Castaldi, Chief Communications Officer of Columbia University Medical Center, responded to recent stories in New York Post claiming that children with AIDS at the Incarnation Children's Center were used as "guinea pigs" in experiments for new AIDS drugs. She said that NY Post stories were misleading; in fact these were landmark clinical trials that took place for 11 years in 1990s and later at a half-dozen centers in NYC, including another site at Columbia. Approved by the FDA, informed consent was always granted by parents or guardians. Children were given access to medicine they would not have received otherwise. Regimens were all developed by NIH, ensuring safe dosages. No placebos used, so all children would benefit. No deaths attributable to these trials.

Trials concluded when ICC closed its ambulatory care center operated by Columbia in 2002; ICC now only a residence (skilled nursing facility). Many children have been kept alive, beyond original expectations. Some are now in high school, even college.

Ms. Castaldi distributed copies of press statements issued by Columbia in response to Post stories.

4. Mail was reviewed.

5. Next Meeting: April 19 - Presentation by WH-I Gene Coalition.

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Steve Simon.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
MARCH 1, 2004

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Aidee Camacho, Chair
Dago Suarez
James Berlin
Anita Barberis
Joyce F. Holland

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

Milagros Vincente
Julio Rodriguez

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Basilia Gomez

Zead Ramadan, Chair

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager

Deorah Blow, Community Assistant

GUESTS

John Kinney-Inwood Patrol, Hannah Lavan-Resident, Debra Klaber-Elevate the Heights, Wm. Stanford (Mr. X), Jenny Torres-DOT, Deputy Inspector Wilcox-NYPD 33rd Pct., PO Adorno-33rd Pct., Scott Simpson-Hendrick Hudson roops, Assn., Louise Fincher-Resident, Edith Prentiss-WHICOA

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Aidee Camacho opened meeting at 7:15PM

Jenny Torres-DOT: - Refurbished pavement markings on Broadway from 190 thru 204 Sts

- Traffic light on Henshaw has been installed and seems to be working well. Removed barriers.
- DOT will install grips on the ramp to the 191st Street tunnel to slow wheelchairs down. Comment made that ramp is too steep and does not comply with ADA.
- Re: angle parking on Staff Street, we should write a letter to M. Forgione to support the angle stripping to accommodate this, also need appropriate signage.

Jim Berlin: DOT has worked well with us. The above ramp does not comply with ADA requirements and we will include this in the resolution.

Re Co-Naming Streets: We secured written clarification from the City Council Speaker's Office that the candidate must be deceased to be considered. This eliminates "Florence & Herbert Irving Way" and "Jasper Simmons Way". Discussion ensued with reference to verbal conversations from our Council people to both the Board and Ms. Fincher who has been requesting the latter co-naming. We requested documentation from our representatives to support the guidelines of the City Council. We asked Ms. Fincher to follow up with the information that was given to her that refuted the need for a candidate to be deceased.

Reviewed resolution in support of subway station accessibility, as requested by Edith Prentiss. Revisions were suggested to tighten the copy. An attempt to vote on its passage met with opposition, so we deferred it to our next meeting and asked Edith if she would take a cut at revising it.

Debra Klaber – "Elevate the Heights" – Provided the status of elevator operation. Elevators that are not manned: 1/9=168, 181,190 and A=181,190

- Cameras are not in elevators that are not manned and neither is signage of weight/capacity
- Increase of litter and graffiti
- Incident report to elevator operators
- Elevator maintenance – huge breakdowns (elevators not operating efficiently)

Resident-Hannah, who lives on 169th St. right behind the Armory (betw. Broadway & Ft. Wash. Ave.) relayed major complaint about the busses, with their engines running, queuing on that block to pick up the kids after their track meet. We requested the District Manager to set up a meeting with the Armory personnel and the Police Precinct to review the negative impact these busses have on our community during track season and how we can mitigate them.

Re: Crossover mirrors for large trucks (over 18,000 lbs) to enable them to see pedestrians crossing the streets. This is particularly relevant to 179th St., entrance to the GW Bridge, where three fatal accidents have already happened. It was recommended that we support Assemblyman Seddio bill with a resolution.

Anita Barberis presented a proposed reduction in bus stops for the #4 Bus on Ft. Wash. Ave. Deferred to next meeting for a consensus of our Committee before presenting it to MTA.

Dyckman Bakery has 6 trailers parked on the west end of Dyckman St. from December, 2003 – April, 2004. Taking up valuable angle-parking spaces for surrounding community. Permit granted by 34th Precinct to Jewish Community/Supplies for Passover (Gruenbauam's). Rumored they may be moving to Lakewood , N.J.

Complaint about 34th Precinct parking on the sidewalk. An old issue that we have not succeeded in resolving.

Review placement of bus shelters in our community.

Committee was requested to take another look at the street resurfacing program and prioritize those streets that should be completed first. We will review the recommendations at our next meeting.

Mail: Good Samaritan- approved for draft resolutions.
District Manager's request to explore parking for the 3 local post offices
Review of 5-year Capital Plan, to be addressed at next meeting
Bronx Arterial Needs – Mtg.3/04
Hevesi Report

Meeting adjourned 9:45PM/ab

YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 1, 2004

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandra Wachspress, Chair
Cleofis C. Sarete, A. Chair
Milagros Vicente
Jose Lopez

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Maria Luna (excused)
Emilia Cardona (excused)
Mark Levine

PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Alvarez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Deborah Blow, Community Associate

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Julio Rodriguez

GUESTS

Scott Simpson, Scout Master, Hendrick Hudson Troop Association, Elbert Garcia, Manhattan Times, Vicente J. Villalba, Region #10, NYC Department of Education.

Meeting convened at 7:30pm.

Opening Remarks:

Sandra Wachspress, Chair

Discussion of Resolution RE: Support of NYC Public Libraries

Presentations:

Scot Simpson, Scout Master for Troop #729, The Boy Scouts of America, Hendrick Hudson Troop Association:

The number of troops went from 25 to 4, one in St. Spyridon Church, one in Fort Washington Collegiate Church, one in Good Shepherd Church and one at the Broadway Temple. The Scouts fund their own program. They would like to receive more funding.

- What is needed: Uniform \$80.00 and Sleeping Bag \$50.00. Pictures and literature was handed out for information on the Boys Scouts.
- What the Scouts do: The Scouts learn life skills after they are done with the program. There is a program called "The Venturing Program" that is co-ed.

The scoutmaster would like books donated to the Boys Scouts for fund raising purposes.

Vincent Villalba, Region #10, Department of Education:

I.S. #90 and I.S. #218 among others will be divided into academies. These academies will have their own Principals. Between now and September eleven schools will be restructured. Larry Block, Instructional Supervisor, is responsible for the restructuring of the schools.

Minutes respectfully by: Cleofis C. Sarete, Assistant Chair

Economic Development Committee
March 2, 2004
Minutes

Committee Members Present

Martin Collins, Chair
Mason Almeida
Rose Santo
Rafael Beaumont

Committee Members Excused

Julio Pequero, Assistant Chair
Socrates Solano

Committee Members Absent

None

CB12 Member Present

Dr. Pamela Palanque North

Guests: Karim Bouskou & Natalie Weiss, Café Isham, Captain Drew Capul, 33rd Pct., Elsa Mejia, Elsa La Reina Del Chicharron, Domingo De La Cruz, La Amistad, Eugene Gologursky, Jackie Parrot, Joe Wojak, Inwood Neighborhood Association, Alex & Angela Rodriquez

The meeting started at 6:45 p.m. with opening remarks by the chair.

The Uptown Arts Stroll is Saturday & Sunday, June 12-13 at venues in Washington Heights-Inwood. The opening reception is Wednesday, June 9 from 6:00-9:00PM tentatively at the High Bridge Rec Center.

New Business Applications:

Elsa La Reina Del Chicharron (1249 St. Nicholas Avenue) Applicant: Elsa Mejia

Ms. Mejia discussed the business, which opened recently, and the Eating Place Beer License. The restaurant serves a fast-food menu and offers sit-down, takeout, and delivery. Open daily until 11:00PM and they have two employees. Ms. Mejia has owned and operated a similar business for the past ten years at 4840 Broadway. The committee recommended the State Liquor Authority grant this license.

Café Isham (4959 Broadway) Applicants: Karim Bouskou, Natalie Weiss

Mr. Bouskou and Ms. Weiss discussed their plans to open a restaurant in Inwood. They have applied for a Restaurant Wine License. Café Isham will have an assorted menu of soups, salads, pastas, and main courses. Mr. Bouskou has worked nearly twenty years in the restaurant business while Ms. Weiss is experienced in hotel and restaurant management. Restaurant will be opened daily until 11:00PM and create ten to twelve new jobs. The committee recommended the State Liquor Authority grant this license.

License Renewals:

The following business licenses were recommended for renewal to the SLA:

Sofy Card Inc. DBA: Taqueria Tilcingo 264 Sherman Ave. renewing On-Premises Liquor
Rincon Salavadorena Restaurant 1229 St. Nicholas Ave. renewing Restaurant Wine

La Amistad 2178 Amsterdam Ave. and On-Premises Liquor renewal was discussed with Domingo De La Cruz and officers from the 33rd Precinct. Mr. De La Cruz represented the owner Jose Reyes. The 33rd Precinct and CB12 have received numerous complaints about noise, fights, after-hours, and overcrowding at the location. The license was recommended for renewal with the following stipulations:

1. Compliance with all SLA rules & regulations, including not serving alcohol after 4:00AM.
2. Check patron identification before serving alcohol.
3. Increased security for events with more than 75 persons in attendance.
4. La Amistad needs a Place of Assembly Permit and will apply to the Dept. Buildings. Occupancy will be posted and not exceeded.
5. All exits must be clearly marked.
6. To effectively plan for all occasions, a Monthly Events Calendar should be sent to Deputy Inspector Jason Wilcox, Commanding Officer, 33rd Precinct.
7. Control of the premises will not be given to any outside promoter at any time.
8. A sign will be posted on the front door, which reads, "Please be a good neighbor. Keep the noise down. Thank you. Management."
9. We will meet with La Amistad again in May for a progress report.

Senoko Inc. DBA: 107 West at 811 West 187th Street. On-Premises license has expired per SLA.
 4716 Broadway Restaurant DBA: The Irish Brigade. On-Premises recommendation tabled: noise complaints.

Discussion:

The owners of La Caridad at 2182-2184 Amsterdam Ave. and El Nuevo Diamante Restaurant at 151 Ft. George Ave. were invited to discuss complaints about noise, overcrowding, after-hours etc., received by local precincts and CB12. Neither business owner attended so we will reach out again.

Old / New Business:

Washington Heights-Inwood Development Corp. met March 3rd with the business owners affected by last October's Amsterdam Avenue flood to assist them in receiving compensation for profit loss resulting from damaged merchandise.

Including On-Premises and liquor store licenses, there are presently 18 active liquor licenses on Amsterdam Avenue between West 157th Street & West 174th Street. The State Liquor Authority holds a 500-foot hearing for a new liquor application when there are three or more active liquor licenses within a 500-foot radius of the premises.

We received a copy of a letter from CB3 to the Mayor advocating for paid NYPD detail to supplement existing security in bars & clubs. We discussed it with police officers at the meeting. There are too many liability issues to make this a viable proposal.

Committee reviewed correspondence re: NYC Pay Phone Advertising Reform. There's a Public Hearing next week on the subject. Manhattan north of West 110th Street not included in the proposal. We will get more information and prepare a resolution for next month's meeting.

We discussed the presentation by the Dept. Consumer Affairs at last month's General Meeting re: Proposed Cabaret Law Changes. Process for addressing noise, NYC's #1 complaint, from bars & clubs and having an engineer sign-off new locations are sound-contained before they open was positively received; however, we felt further outreach by DCA was required and materials in Spanish are essential.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Martin Collins.

PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1, 2004

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Emilia Cardona, Chair
Elizabeth Lorris Ritter
Dago Suarez

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

H. Young-Kennedy, III, Asst. Chair (exc)
Glenda Swanson Massa (excused)
Renato Mena (excused)
Rafael Escano

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Aidee Camacho

GUESTS

Joe Wojak, Angie Wojak, Eugene Gologarsky and Jackie Parrott, Inwood Neighbors Association, Ray Acosta, Recreation Manager, NYC department of Parks & Recreation, Francis Lora, Manhattan Times, J. A. P., Isham Park, John Kinney, CB12 Resident, Nicole Smith, Partnership for Parks, Rodney Collaso, Parks enforcement, Athena Verez, Resident, Myrna Thomas, Friends of Lilly Brown Playground, Frank Andrews, Resident, Alex Rdriguez, El Conde Rest., Angela DeLa Rosa

The meeting was called to order at 7PM.

Opening Remarks: Emilia Cardona, Chair

The group representing the preservation of the Seaman/Drake Arch requested a letter of support for their endeavor. Although this committee has no problem giving support and this committee has investigated the process for land marking status, it was suggested that the group go to the Executive Committee as well. It was also suggested that the group reach out to Councilman Jackson and the Chair of the Parks/Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council for support as well.

Ms. Smith from Parks Department spoke about the Highbridge Project. The League of Women, a group of volunteers, will work with community people every weekend between April 18 and May 15 to paint and clean in and around the recreation center. They need more volunteers to assist them.

It was suggested they contact FYI for help in getting the word out and getting ideas on the subject of the mural that is to be painted.

The budget for this project to beautify the bleachers, deck and adjoining area will be \$60,000.

The representatives from the proposed Green Market asked for a letter of support for their project. It was suggested that they meet with the Economic Development Committee. They felt that since they want to set up in or around a neighborhood park, we were the correct forum. There was a short discussion about the proposed site and other more convenient locations. They were told to get the support of the residents from Payson Avenue and to visit the Economic Development Committee as their project is really economic development.

Mr. Ramadan joined the discussion and suggested that the someone look into having a plaque placed on the site of the former Negro Burial Grounds.

A resident of the upper community complained about the bingo game in the park on Amsterdam and 191 street. She also complained about the dogs running loose and the destruction of the flower garden. These activities are making the quality of life less than pleasant for the residents of the area.

Parks Officer Collaro said he would work on those problems.

The residents also want to convert a sand box into a dog run. It was suggested that they speak with committee member Homer Kennedy who has experience in this area.

Mr. Acosta was commended for the good job he is doing and the improvements that have taken place in our parks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 Pm.

**COMMUNITY BOARD #12, MANHATTAN
DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET
MARCH 18, 2004**

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager
Deborah Blow, Community Associate
Dago Suarez, Board Member
Elizabeth-Lorris Ritter, Board Member
Lee Anthony Nieves, Mayor's Office-CAU
Gabriela Rosa, Councilman Miguel Martinez,
Rebecca Miller, Public Advocate-Betsy Gotbaum Off
Jennifer Arroyo, Senator Schneiderman's Off
Joceline Minaya, Liaison, Man District Attorney's Office
Deputy Inspector James Kehoe, NYPD 34th Pct.
Deputy Inspector Jason Wilcox, NYPD 33th Pct.
NYPD PO. Figueroa, 33rd Pct.
NYPD PO Desmazo, 33rd Pct.
PO Addison, NYPD Transit #3
PO Lowery, NYPD PBMN
Pat Oles, Northern Man Parks
Synetta E. Anderson, Supv. GWB Bus Station

Adneri Ponce, NY Commission on Human Rights
James E. Berry, NY Commission on Human Rights
Sandra Harris, Dir. - Govt & Comm. Affairs Columbia Uni.
Supv. Frank Neal, Dept of Sanitation
Lillie Farrell, Dir- DEP
Zamira Setara, Con Edison
Amalia Thomas-Blake, DOB
Mona Yoffie, ACS
Melvin Alston, ACS
Carlos Infante, HRA
Marc Barbieri, DOH/MH
Mariella Camargo, St. Lukes Hospital
Judith Rodriguez, Inwood Library
Felix Morales, Ft. Washington Library
Etta Graham/Clifton Hill, Project Renewal

Ms. Feliciano welcomed city agencies, guests and representatives of elected officials.

Ms. Feliciano briefly announced the next "Arts Stroll" event for Washington Heights & Inwood will be June 11 and 12 at Highbridge Park. A poster design contest has been added for this event. The next meeting of "Arts Stroll" is April 15, 2004 at 6pm.

Ms. Feliciano called on a motion to adopt the March 18, 2004 Minutes. Hearing no opposition, minutes were adopted.

Ms. Feliciano then made a motion to adopt the April 15, 2004 Agenda. Hearing no opposition, agenda were adopted.

Agenda Topics

NYPD Deputy Insp. Kehoe reported W. 183rd St is currently not an APL (Accident Prone Location). He said during the month of February there had been three accidents of parked vehicles. The following enforcement violations were issued:

- 20 parkers
- 5 alternative side
- 6 hydrants
- 9 others
- 12 moving summonses

Deputy Insp. Kehoe reported that the Diamante Restaurant on Ft. George Ave. had been reported with noise complaints due to entertainment twice a week. Lt. Corolle has monitored that location and spoken to the owner of establishment. It was recommended that the proprietor invest in sound proofing. Two "C" summonses has been issued to that location.

G. Feliciano asked the Inspector to report on the Coogan's Race. He announced that the race went well, apparently up towards the W. 181st St. & Cabrini there were some concerns about deployment of appropriate traffic coverage from beginning to end of race. Insp Kehoe said next year auxiliary patrolman will be posted to direct traffic

Bd member Ritter mentioned that auxiliary police coverage should be better coordinated between the two precincts.

D. Suarez confirmed that according to the radio dispatchers the streets were open. Deputy Insp Kehoe reiterated that a better source of communication will be implemented for next year's run.

Deputy Insp Kehoe reported on stats:

- currently up in crime category overall 2.73%, y-t-d up 9% vs. 301/ 276 last year.
- grand larceny auto on the rise.
- shooting at W. 204th Post Ave. 2 persons shot, 1 DOA still under investigation
- shooting 560 W. 184th St. dispute, perpetrator cooperating
- checkpoints by the GWB for stolen cars (Honda Accords and Accuras)

- burglaries, break in apartments through windows, checking patterns in the northern end
- robberies (subway) station at 215th Street section, NYPD monitoring area

Ms. Feliciano asked Enforcement up to combat above conditions have there been arrests in Isham Park regarding drug use? response: no arrests @ this time. How is the funding for the 3 sectors in the Impact Zone. Presently 8 officers, coverage from Thursday to Sunday @ Post Avenue, Vermilyea – Dyckman Avenue north.

Deputy Insp. Jason Wilcox reported on the spill back conditions at W. 177th St & Bway. Inspector Wilcox anticipates DOT will refurbish the traffic lines in the Spring and Summer which will help visibility. Inspector reported apporixmately 60 summonses have been issued y-t-d at that particular corridor.

Insp. Wilcox reported crime conditions are down in the 33rd Pct. area since last month. The Insp Wilcox said that during the last 28 day period livery cabs are being broken into. Targeting unattended livery cabs and stealing new recording systems - fees range in the amount from \$100 to \$1,000. NYPD formulating patterns of incidents. Perpetrators seemingly are identified as being from the Bronx. His Pct. has been addressing an increase in robberies through Operation Impact. Insp. Wilcox has deployed additional officers covering the weekend, shifts increasing overtime hours. Insp. Wilcox announced the following:

- 2000 building verticles have been conducted year to date
- 400 "C" summonses have been issued
- Police District Council meeting 4th Wednesday of every month will be an off site meeting at lower end of the Heights, 156-20 Riverside Dr. Community room

G. Feliciano reported complaints from the Ven y Ven Restaurant at W. 162nd St. Insp responded location is under NYPD's radar.

DOS – Supervisor Frank Neal reported on the illegal dumping of Wadsworth Avenue at W. 182nd St., location is being monitored by enforcement, no one has been caught at this time. Supt. Neal reported although chronic areas for garbage had been interrupted due to snow storms and holiday's, sanitation is back on regular scheduled pick up routes. He added that at W. 189th St. Wadsworth Terrace, area identified for tire dumping, a perpetrator had been caught and no further occurrences at that location. He also reported on change in routing schedules, formerly 2-3pm changed to 11 -12:00.

Bd member Ritter acknowledged the efforts of Sanitation disposing of garbage from baskets given the limited vehicles at their disposal.

G. Feliciano commented on an unlicensed food cart at Isham and Broadway, asked Sanitation to monitor. Neal said, additional 162 workers have been reinstated to duty.

DOT – Jenny Torres reported on light repairs (#s 1413609 and 1413781) called into 311. According to Con Ed - Stop tag # 1413611 will be repaired within 2 days. Ms. Torres announced that May has been designated for "Safe Kids Week", teaching children the importance of poison control. Our local precincts and Fire Department will participate. For further information contact Director Marjorie Marciano at (212)442-7672.

DOB – Amalia Thomas Blake reported that 97 Ft. Washington Avenue, DOB innvestigated and found work permit signs not visible. Ms. Thomas Blake said all calls regarding complaints should be referred to the Mayor's 311 Call Center. DOB Investigator will report on their findings, should builder not respond to DOB warnings a "C" summons will be issued, fines imposed. Documentation and history of violations were provided. Follow up within 3-4 weeks. I

DOH/MH – Marc Barbieri reported on several rat infestation issues. 1946 Amsterdam Ave. under inspection ,4990-4996 Bway – emergency bating continues , 17 Ft. George Hill (mold found in apartment)- investigated by environmental division, building owners notified, 910 Riverside Dr. (child bit by rodent) owner notified by Health Dept. area has been abated. DOH to monitor. Also Mr. Barbieri was invited by District Manager to give a presentation to the Landlords Task Force on prevention of safeguarding against West New Virus.

Ms. Feliciano requested on behalf of the board that we be notified simultaneously with proprietors when letters of "no objection" are being generated by the DOB.

NYPD Transit #3 – PO Addison reported grand larceny incidents on the increase due to poor judgement and lack of attention to property. Subways, local hospitals and restaurants are anticipated breeding grounds for perpetrators . Commuters using metro card machines should also be on the alert.

- Ms. Feliciano suggested that more of an active outreach be implemented, so that the public is aware that these crimes are crimes of opportunity. Officer Addison reiterated that there is outreach monthly, at the stations on the PA system, but passengers fall asleep and become distracted on crowded subways, which sometimes is unavoidable. Ms. Feliciano identified a location at W. 163rd "C" subway line as commuters report alleged drug activity and the smell of crack use (steps) (212) 281-7649. It had been reported earlier by the commander of the 34th Pct. that 2 incidents regarding muggings had occurred by persons departing from subway on the "A" at W. 207th Street.

Manhattan DA's Office – Joselinne Minaya reported Total arrests 698

- Trespass Arrests 36
- Drug Arrests 277 , 109 sentenced, 34 jailed
- Marijuana Arrests 321, 76 sentenced
- Robbery Arrests 31
- Grand Larceny 33, 13 sentenced
- Total Evictions & Vacates from 6/10/88 – 2/29/04, were 2,119
- Total #of Bldgs in the Trespass, 494

Commendations extended to the 33rd and 34th Pcts. for their efforts in the Coogan's race.

Northern Manhattan Parks - Pat Oles reported Easter event 9:30am April 9, 2004 at Highbridge Park, flyers to be distributed by the end of the week call for further info (212) 795-1388.

It was stated by resident Suarez that benches are being removed along Payson Avenue. Suarez indicated seniors enjoy utilizing benches during the spring and summer. Parks no longer using those benches, removing the frames-no blueprints for new ones or replacements at this time.

Commission on Human Rights – Adneri Ponce/James Berry both reported on the various workshops that are provided by their agency. Flyers are being distributed. For further information on multicultural sensitivity workshops contact (212)306-7717.

ACS - Melvin Alston, reported on Career Day April 2, 2004, contact (212) 341-0721 for further information.

Ms. Yoffie of ACS reported preliminary workshop preparation on Domestic Violence spearheaded by Manhattan Coalition on Tuesday, 4/22/04.

HRA - Carlos Infante reported on SSI Live Alones (Food Stamp allowances) provided information to the group.

Project Renewal - Clifton Hill reported that the mens shelter had it's Callahan Inspection done by Coalition for the Homeless. This is a six month maintenance inspection of shelter facilities in the city. Mr. Hill provided stats from the mens shelter; 3 psychiatric, 1 short term detox, 1 pvt housing, 1 SRO and 1 section 8 housing occupancy.

DEP – Lillie Farrell, Director reported on the installation of the Croton Water Plant, although the plant will be built in the Bronx, environmentalist were opposed at a Public Hearing at DeWitt Clinton High School earlier that month. Construction workers were in favor due to the job openings. Needless to say, the atmosphere became emotional, which discouraged other residents. As a follow up DEP will be reviewing the 2003 Environmental Statement and conducting further surveys with respect to the drinking water campaign.

On a final note Ms. Feliciano commented that she met with agency reps and the Armory Foundation to discuss idling buses during the track season, corridor at W. 168 to W. 169th between Ft. Washington Avenue and Broadway affecting the air quality. Ms. Feliciano asked that DEP monitor those conditions for next season while plans to find parking accommodations are implemented.

Ft. Washington Library – Felix Morales reported registration of ESL classes will be 6:00pm – 6:30, classes held Monday & Wednesday 6:00 – 8:30pm.

Inwood Library –Judith Rodriguez reported registration for ESL classes will be 3/27 at 10:00am. She announced that the W. 181st St. Traffic Study will be hosted at the Inwood Library 3/22 @ 6:30pm.

GWB - Synetta Anderson reported terminal has been displaying art work of local school students. Ms. Anderson said that Theresa Tesler has still been in negotiations with agencies involved in repaving Ft. Washington street conditions, arrangements not yet finalized.

Miguel Martinez's Off. – Gabriela Rosa announced Dominican Heritage Day was a success.

Senator Schneiderman's Off. –Jennifer Arroyo distributed literature.

Public Advocate Betsey Gotbaum - Rebecca Miller provided brief description of services.

Patrol Borough Manhattan North - PO Lowery Chief Diaz sends regards.

Con Edison – Zamira Setara follow up on Harlem River Drive lights, next month.

Meeting adjourned 11:45am

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Blow