

**Community Board 12, Manhattan
General Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2003**

Members Present:

Mason Almeida	Sybil R. Dodson
Jacqueline Aristy	Rafael Escano
Anita Barberis	Luis Facundo
Rafael Beaumont	Beatrice Hall
Wayne Benjamim	Joyce F. Holland
James Berlin	Mark Levine
Aidee Camacho	Elizabeth Lorris Ritter
Kotie Cannon	Maria Luna
Emilia G. Cardona	Glenda Swanson-Massa
Martin Collins	Jay D. Mazur
Mireya Cruz	Renato Mena

Helen Morik	Bienvenido Toribio
Dr. Pamela Palanque North	Gloria Vanterpool
Zead Ramadan	Milagros Vicente
Barbara Smith Ramos	Sandra Wachspress
Julio Rodriguez	Msgr. Gerld Walsh
Nelson Rojas	Homer Young-Kennedy, III
Rose M. Santo	
Cleofis C. Sarete	
Steve Simon	
Socrates S. Solano	
Dago Suarez	

Members Absent:

Nelson Castro
Walther G. Delgado
Peter Ferrara
Leslie Foster (excused)
Jose Lopez
Kirk Miller
Julio Peguero
Elouise Whitehurst

Call to order at 7:02pm.

District Manager's Report-Gregoria Feliciano:

- Status of the families affected by the water main break on Thursday, 10/16. Three days after the Red Cross relocated the families of 2400, 2402 and 2404 Amsterdam Avenue in a Queens hotel, the Department of Housing Preservation & Development declared an extended vacate order on the residential properties with significant water damage. While the 38 families of the properties await to restoration of electricity and gas, the Human Resource Administration has also interceded by housing some families in a hotel on 57th Street. The additional assistance has already kicked into EBT Cards for families with open cases, and food vouchers for those who don't have EBT Cards.
- Follow-up on car washes on 190th Street & Broadway, and 220th Street Broadway in violations with DEP regulations; DEP will continue to monitor.
- Update Re: corrective plan of action for bus traffic at the Armory for track meets. Dr. Sanders is cooperative; taking proactive measures. NYPH is offering parking for buses. The 33rd Pct. will enforce parking prohibitions and traffic rules.
- PANYNJ is closing park at 178th & Cabrini Blvd. for renovations.
- NYCDMH health report is available for review at the Board office.
- Flu shots available at Board office on Friday, 11/21.

Public Session:

Tommy Leong & Jenny Torres, NYC Department of Transportation: Described renovation project. Introduced Louis R. Comunelli of the LIRO Group, the consultants hired to correct conditions inside the tunnel from Broadway to St. Nicholas. There are four phases: general construction (started), waterproofing (starting next week), electrical (starting third week in November), and coating (beginning of December). Gave technical details to work to be done. Final finish will include graffiti-resistant coating on walls and skid-resistant coating on floors. Lighting will be high-pressure sodium, not fluorescent. Work will be 7am-7pm, 6days a week, with a full-time engineer on site to answer questions that the public may have. Coordinating work with the MTA to reduce the inconvenience or delays the project may have. Hear more at the November 3rd Traffic & Transportation Committee Meeting.

A quorum having been reached, there were motions by Homer Young Kennedy III to adopt agenda (seconded by Rose Santo) and Emilia Cardona to approve the September Minutes (seconded by Martin Collins). Both motions passed unanimously.

Mary Ellen Rooney, Community Resident: Spoke in support of MTA elevators and better subway service. Speaker was encouraged to attend 11/3 Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting.

A member of the public asked what CB12 would be doing regarding this elevator issue. A number of people were in attendance at the general meeting to speak about this issue; 1st Vice Chair assured the crowd that this issue will be followed in committee meetings, where the bulk of the board is done.

Edith Prentiss, WHICOA: Handed out fliers regarding upcoming flu shot event. Spoke about problems with school buses for track meets at the Armory.

Michael Maegher, Community Resident: Spoke about problems on Fort George Hill, at base and what may be an illegal set up of a parking lot and car wash, as well as two trailers set up as a restaurant and possible residence. Do they have permits?

Martin Collins, Steve Simon and Kirk Miller stated that they are working on these issues in their respective committees (Economic Development, Health & Environment and Traffic & Transportation).

Rachana Pathak, Civilian Complaint Review Board: reminded people about Civilian Complaint Review Board and its procedures.

Richard McKnight, Transit Workers Union: Spoke in support of elevator operators, and maintaining full service. MTA budget will be voted on in December. Urged Traffic & Transportation Committee to take action. A public member announced an upcoming public meeting of Elevate the Heights, A

Deborah Klaber: we have been to the Traffic & Transportation Committee and was told we'd get a letter and we are still waiting. Last week two elevators broken at W. 181st Street and all 3 broken at W. 190th. Urged action.

New Business:

The First Vice Chair promised letter of support by end of the week. Aidee Camacho, Assistant Chair of T&T Committee, indicated that a letter has been sent and committee will send follow-up. Steve Simon urged formal resolution.

Ydanis Rodriguez introduced Yokaira Duarte, a student of Gregorio Luperon HS, who spoke eloquently about her school and urged CB12 to help find new space due to severe overcrowding. Ms. Duarte arrived in this country in 2001, speaking no English, and has become fully bilingual in less than two year. Mr. Rodriguez described the school, which works with incoming students who speak no English. Due to Federal "no child left behind" regulations, there is no severe overcrowding and a lack of basic facilities, including gym, auditorium, etc. Urged support in budget priority ranking.

Budget Priority Ranking:

Zead Ramadan spoke regarding Gregorio Luperon High School and Sherman Creek – Urged #1 priority ranking for Sherman Creek. Explained process for ranking.

Maria Luna proposed the addition of building for Gregorio Luperon HS to our capital ranking sheets.

Steve Simon proposed addition of the 33rd Precinct conversion, and the addition of renovation of West 190th Street IND Station in partnership with Metropolitan Museum of Arts, to look as wonderful as the Natural Museum of History subway Station.

Emilia Cardona spoke in support of reconstructing the Bishop Dubois HS site for Luperon. This enjoyed support, but Steve Simon and Milagros Vicente spoke in the support of using Dubois for an Intermediate School, and find another site for Luperon. Also, spoke against using 33rd Precinct for school, as the building is not appropriate for retrofitting for school. Youth & Education Committee Chair, Sandra Wachspress, spoke in support of Luperon High School and echoed Milagros Vicente comments - currently being used for special education for D6, D5, and D3.

There was much back and fourth on all of the suggestions. Zead asked Steve and Sandra to write brief item for OMB justifying additional items.

<Break for Ranking>

Chair's Report-Zead Ramadan:

As priorities are completed: Chair / Ramadan reported

- Water Main break and related CB12 press conference and advocacy.
- Secured assistance of Department of Business Services/ Business Assistance Unit for those affected by the water main break.
- Sherman Creek Development Task Force met with representatives of Dyckman Houses – Eloise Whitehurst attended.
- Audubon Partnership convened a meeting and gave presentation on Sherman Creek vision
- Deputy Mayor Doctoroff convened City Planning meeting for state holders, on Dyckman Street at Umbrella Bar Lounge. Community-based organizations, elected officials, businesses and merchants heard the city's broad vision for Sherman Creek area development. Key points included: all community voices will be heard; extensive community outreach; home ownership opportunities; waterfront and commercial development. This was first of many planning meetings Sherman Creek Task Force (interagency) will make presentation Wednesday, 11/12 @ 7pm. Board members urged to attend. (Location TBA.)
- Empowerment Zone – changing name of the "Tourism committee" to "Cultural Industry Investment Fund". has \$27 Million to invest our system.
- Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) program. CB12 is the only organization in Manhattan approved for this program, but we only have \$500 for 25 people. Need additional funding. Praised the Public Safety Committee for their commitment and dedication on this project. Only one board selected 1 of 19 organizations that applied only one funded. Dago Suarez urged any board members interested in participating to come forward.

Resolutions:

- Land Use – Re: BSA Approval of Shell Gas Station on West 181st Street. Passed 35-1-2-0
- Health & Environment – Re: Sanitation Litter Basket Pick-Up. Passed Unanimously
- Traffic & Transportation – Re: Armory Signage on the Henry Hudson Parkway. Passed Unanimously

The Board was declared a Committee of the Whole, and Steve Simon introduced a resolution regarding the MTA elevator proposal.

Public Officials:

Councilman Miguel Martinez:

- Spoke in support of meals on wheels; mentioned upcoming rally (10/29 @ noon @ City Hall.)
- Commended the community members who organized around budget cuts regarding the MTA elevators. Also described other MTA budget cuts (buses, etc.). Is pushing for a council hearing on this issue, since budget cuts should have public hearings and there have been none.
- Urged all to vote no on Proposal #3
- Thanked the board for their work on the budget priorities which are helpful to him and Councilman Robert Jackson as they make budget decisions.

Zead Ramadan, announcement regarding tech training program at CPMC.

Lilliam Perez, State Senator Eric Schneiderman's Office:

- Apologized for Senator Schneiderman not being in attendance but he is speaking at a forum on Proposal #3, urges all to vote no.
- Flu shots on 11/3 add 11/14. Urged people to spread the word
- Expressed solidarity regarding opposition to MTA service cuts
- Gave update on flood water main victims
- Apologized for lack of ramp in office. Construction hampered due to rain, but office has been following up and will postpone only opening when they are ADA accessible.

Carlos Rodriguez of Manhattan Borough President's office:

- Expressed support for Gregorio Luperon High School and trying to get a new site. Ms. fields will continue to put pressure on the Bloomberg Administration on this issue
- Sherman Creek – this is an inclusive process with representation of all stakeholders. This is not just an interagency task-force, but a community based planning group.

Announcements: none given due to the lateness of the hour, and the need to vacate the premises.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth Loriss Ritter

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 2, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT	CB 12 MEMBERS ATTENDING
Kirk Miller, Chair Aidee Camacho, Asst. chair James Berlin Anita Barberis Joyce F. Holland	Dago Suarez, excused Walther G. Delgado	Bienvenido Toribio

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager
Deborah Blow, Community Assistant

GUESTS

Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner-Dept. of Transportation, Addis-Alem Teguegne, Resident, Julio Batista, NYPH, Debra Claver, Resident, Marty Goodman, -TWU Local 100, Iasia Whitney, Christine White, Tom Buffolano, Christian Mariano-The Armory Foundation, Louise Fincher, Greater Fire Chapter Baptist Church, John Kinney Inwood Patrol, Howardena Pindell

Chair, Kirk Miller makes opening remarks and welcomes guests.

207th Street and 10th Avenue Project update, John Kinney, Resident comments on walk thru discussing all possibilities on W. 207th Street and @ turn on Isham and Feed into Vermilyea, following W. 216th Street and Bus Depot (this area was considered for possible closure) DOT's concern was the island being to narrow.

Kirk Miller raised discussion on @ on Isham and further traffic feed. John Kinney understand the fiscal demands of other streets because the monies have been diverted to 10th Avenue project only.

James Berlin raised the point of alerting the Bus Barn of 10th Avenue Project. J. Kinney mentioned the cost effectiveness of saving the cobblestone was discussion but no solid plane mentioned. J. Berlin added to the issue of cobblestones in terms of the profits made by some groups.

Recommendations: for you to discussion on walk thru contact DOT for a second visit
Presentation by Ms. Louise Fincher was tabled-no one present. Ranking Priorities done already.

J. Berlin gives report on IRT "1 & 9" line congestion, particularly on the issue of elevator operators shortage and follow up with a letter. Debra Claver, resident, updates on cuts of elevator jobs (22 positions) all of the elevators are in Washington Heights. She is asking the Community Board to write a letter to address issues (e.g. safety). Marty Goodman, station Agent and member of Transport Worker Union gave update on \$88M cut of stations expressed concerns of unsafe conditions like fire and overcrowding, robberies. The cuts are not part of layoff but reducing the # of cleaners of subway.

J. Berlin agrees with Debra Claver regarding situation of overcrowding on W. 181st Street.

K. Miller asked if there were any objection to writing a letter to address the cuts and impact of safety at W. 181st Street.

Margaret Forgione, NYC DOT gives report riverside Drive & Henshaw update reviewed what had been done regarding traffic change/pattern by Dec. delineators will be removed; safety issue – in conjunction with precincts. Most accidents are at Henshaw but not at staff. A traffic signal study of 90 days will be completed 10/10/03. Most accidents are attributed to drivers cutting other drivers.

A resolution to get @ on Staff Street and gains 6 parking spots.

Office Steve McManus Safety Patrol of the 34th Precinct, gives his report.

- An analysis was done every report is placed in computer database on the issue of Staff Street & Riverside Drive

Amended
COMMUNITY BOARD #12, MANHATTAN
DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET
October 16, 2003

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager
Deborah Blow, Community Assistant
Lee Anthony Nieves, Mayors Officer of CAU
Carlos Rodriguez, Man. Borough President's Office
Dago Suarez, Board Member
Bienvenido Toribio, Board Member
Lilliam Perez, Senator Schneiderman's Off.
Jennifer Arroyo, Senator Schneiderman's Off.
Rafael Escano, NYC Comptroller's Office
Sander Dulitz, Resident
Robert A. DeLaRosa, Councilman Miguel Martinez's Office
Det. Quinn, Patrol Borough Manhattan North
Capt. Jason Wilcox, NYPD 33rd Pct.
PO's Lopez & Sanchez, NYPD, 33rd Pct.
Sgt. Smith NYPD 34th Pct.
Det. Sean Quinn, Man Narcotics Task Force
Capt Roge, NYPD Transit Dist #3
PO Addison, NYPD Transit Dist #3
Jenny Torres, Dept. of Transportation
John Ramos, NYPD Housing Police PSA # 6
Mike Ryan, Supt, Dept of Sanitation
Richard Ortega, Sanitation Enforcement
Chief Thomas McCarthy, 13th Batt, FDNY
Julia Glaubach, FDNY Battalion #13

Dr. Norbert Sander, The Armory Foundation
Edward Small, The Armory Foundation
Theresa Tesler, GWB Port Authority
Louis Vazquez
Marc Barbieri, DOH/MH
Amalia Thomas Blake, Dept of Buildings
Theresa Tessler, Operation Mgr. NY/NJ Port Authority
Artie Meich, NYC PEP, Parks Maintenance
Brenda Cruz, NYC Parks Enforcement
Joyce Failla, NYPD Traffic Enforcement
Kenneth Brown, NYPD Traffic Enforcement
Ray Acosta, Supv Dist 12 DPR
Melvin, Alston, ACS
Adeena Horowitz, Selfhelp/WHICOA
Carlos Infante, HRA
Tony Brogdon, HPD
Judith Rodriguez, Inwood Library
Lynn Opinante, Washington Heights Library
Felix Morales, Ft. Washington Library
Etta Graham, Project Renewal
Mariella Camargo, St. Lukes Hospital
Carla Redix, Tenants Assoc. 560 W. 168th
Verna Arthur, Dept for the Aging

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

Ms. Feliciano called on a motion for Minutes of September to be adopted. Seconded by Tony Brogdon.

Ms. Feliciano called on a motion for Agenda to be adopted. Seconded by Dago Suarez.

Ms. Feliciano directed agencies to respond to the specific agenda items.

Dr. Norbert Sander, The Armory Foundation – reported on the update on the traffic mitigation plans surrounding the Armory. He reported that the season for the modified track and field will begin October 12th. He pointed out that National track meets are being held Sunday afternoons, with an average of 200-300 spectators traveling locally by train and buses to Washington Heights. He said that the official season starts after Thanksgiving thru March 15th 2004. Dr. Sander predicts a busy season, therefore traffic enforcement will be significantly needed to provide pedestrians and travelers with safety conditions.

Dr. Sander asked Ed Small, Track Director to speak on the traffic plans in place. Dr. Sander commented that this is a very busy sports facility an average of 10,000 persons, so significant police presence is necessary to ensure the safety of visitors frequenting the facility. Dr. Sander said a new security to assist with staff has been hired this year from the community, initiated thru Evelyn Sanchez of the "New Heights Community Center".

Ed Small said letters will be sent out to all the meet directors before competitions get underway explaining to them the Armory's plans to facilitate bus routes and parking destination of this information to all schools who are expected to attend. During Saturday meets there will be at least 10 meets. Two people, identified as traffic facilitators for the Armory, will direct the buses to the two designated areas intended for parking (map was created in conjunction with NYPD & DOT).

Mr. Small stated that the W. 165th Street parking lot on Ft. Washington has agreed to house buses on Saturday's and the overflow of buses will be parked at W. 155th St and Harlem River Dr. service road. On the day of the meet flyers will be handed out alerting the drivers to these new rule requests. The problem in the past has been, there is little traffic enforcement.

G. Feliciano asked if the Armory has a firm commitment with NY Presbyterian Hospital, for the proposed parking lot at the W. 165th St.?

Julio Batista, representative of NYPH said during the week the parking lot is very busy, so presently NYPH could only offer accommodations after 6pm, this poses a problem for runners whose meets start at 4:30pm. Mr. Small said that the alternative site would be W. 155th St. on Harlem River Drive which is a more viable means for parking the buses.

Ms. Feliciano asked if the buses were dispatching their passengers in front of the Armory or at other designated location. Dr. Sander intervened by saying the buses will allow passengers to be dropped off on W. 169th St between Ft. Washington & Broadway and then proceed on to specified parking location.

Mr. Small reiterated that in the past buses have been allowed to park at the Armory location to pick the runners up, but no longer.

Ms. Feliciano asked Mr. Batista to respond with a written response from NYPH commitment to allow the buses from the Armory Meets to use their parking facility at W. 165th St. & Ft. Washington during the weekend and after 6pm week days and copy the board office.

Capt. Wilcox was asked to share his perspective on the traffic plans from the Armory. Capt. Wilcox reported that there will be a marked improvement on the collaboration with the Armory, Parking Enforcement and NYPD. Capt. Wilcox did not have the schedule available to comment, but he said he does not expect that grid lock will occur as in the previous year.

G. Feliciano asked has sufficient outreach been done to NYPD Traffic Enforcement, Capt. Wilcox responded he will be reaching out. Ms. Feliciano asked that Sgt. Brown & Officer Failla of NYPD Traffic Enforcement be involved and then she be a part of the loop of information as it becomes available, so that she may inform callers.

Dr. Sander said he would provide a schedule of the hot spots of track meets to the Hospital and the Board office once it becomes available. He announced that the "Hall of Fame" Track and Field will be commemorated January 24, 2004 on a Saturday, further details regarding the time will be announced. All are invited. Elected officials have been invited locally and nationally.

NY/NJ Port Authority – Theresa Tesler, Operations Manager reported that there will be a renovation at W. 177th St. & Cabrini Blvd. "People Park". Engineer introduced himself and commented on the new installation of a rubber cushion on the ground bed and all new equipment for children. Park will be closed for renovations Oct. 15, 2003, until the spring of 2004.

G. Feliciano requested that sufficient outreach be done to the community.

Sanitation Enforcement – Sgt. Ortega reported on the ongoing sidewalk obstruction along St. Nicholas Avenue. Several hot spots were identified, W. 157th St. & Broadway T-Mobile and the LaMarche Restaurant's dumpster (summonses have been issued).

Ms. Feliciano had requested a list of the repeat offenders at the September meeting, Sgt. Ortega offered to look into her request.

Lee Anthony Nieves from the Mayor's office commented that his agency would revisit some of those hot spots.

G. Feliciano ask Sanitation Enforcement to monitor those areas and keep the board apprised.

Board member Toribio commented on the political posters still attached to the lamp fixtures. G. Feliciano asked DOT to intervene, DOT needs specific locations.

Board member Suarez reiterated the on-going street obstruction at W. 181st & Audubon Avenue, and requested a division specialist from the unit to respond to their concerns.

Carlos Rodriguez Manhattan Borough President's Office reported on an affected area at W. 179th Street where illegal dumping has been a concern.

Mayor's Officer will revisit issues of peddler's and vendors and report back to the board office.

J. Batista asked that newsracks be removed to avoid obstruction for the handicapp. DOT's Jenny Torres said it would be helpful to call 311 and report those affected areas or respond to their website for inquiries.

Councilman Martinez Office - Robert DeLaRosa reported on garbage pile up in the community.

G. Feliciano reiterated that the Mayor's Call Center 311 should be contacted on all non emergency concerns, so that resources will be in direct to these locations and we can justify increase funding requests.

Artie Meich NYC Parks & Rec. reported on tree pits adjacent to parkland is Parks' responsibility. All other locations with tree pits in front of such as schools, private homes, commercial and private property owner is responsible for maintaining tree pits.

D. Suarez commented on PEP vehicles having been parked on sidewalks on Payson Avenue in the past. Parks has since addressed that issue, no further comments at this time.

Sander Dulitz commented on the explosion of rat infestation at Gorman Park W. 189th St. – W. 190th St. Affected areas had been abated by Parks, it takes at least two weeks before the condition is contained was the response from Mr. Meich of the Parks Dept..

Agency Reports

NYPD 33rd Pct. - Capt. Wilcox reported that last year 700 truants were detained. He commented that the 33rd Pct. will step up patrol as a priority. He commented Halloween initiative is in affect. He looks to maintain and monitor a safe environment so all Trick or Treaters can enjoy the season.

Capt. Wilcox provided the following crime stats: shooting incidents down 14%, rapes down 10%, car thefts down 15%, robberies up 8% robbery arrests up 55%, grand larceny is up (motives of opportunity to steal); unattended property. Surveillance has been set up outside the hospital perimeters. The Capt. commented on upsurge of Dodge Caravan Plymouth Voyager and Mercury Villagers Mini Vans theft, late 80's and early 90's. Capt. Wilcox also announced the next Community Precinct Council Meeting at Incarnation Church at 7:30pm on Oct. 29, 2003.

NYPD 34th Pct. – Sgt. Smith had nothing to report, however, he was available for questions.

Questions: Is there knowledge of gang operations in the vicinity of W. 212th Street Cooper & Isham? (Good Shepard) Response: not to my knowledge, participant was advised to report any suspicious incidents to the precinct. Sgt. Smith spoke to the sting operations regarding delivery hold ups between the evening hours 10pm to 2am.

G. Feliciano: Is truancy program still at PAL? Response: No. Truancy site on Bennett Avenue.

Inquiries: What time can children be picked up for truancy? Response: Between the hours of 9:30am – 1pm.

In response to G. Feliciano's request for school crossing guard, Capt. Wilcox agreed the need to place a school crossing guard at the W. 156th St. Amsterdam Avenue.

G. Feliciano stated if a letter of support is necessary to let her know.

Manhattan Narcotics Task Force - Det. Sean Quinn

Det. Quinn gave a brief overview of the narcotics traffic and provided this phone number (212)426-4155. He stated that due to the nature of confidentiality level of their operations, he was unable to report further.

R. Escano commented on the underage children allegedly transporting drugs. Response: It's not a new occurrence, it's been an ongoing condition for years.

NYPD Transit #3 – PO Addison reported last 28 day period, picked up 10 truants, Truancy Team surveillance subways. Crime stats as follows: crime down in the Community Board 12, robbery up, grand larceny up, and assaults down, quality of life summonses issued, 112 between the two precincts. He commented that two police are stationed at the W. 181st platform to monitor the area.

NYPD PSA #6 Housing - PO Ramos reported on 1 grand larceny incident regarding Identity Theft. He commented Dept will continue with Tenant Association initiatives. Literature was distributed.

G. Feliciano asked officer to attend Committee for the Aging, November 18th meeting to speak about Identity Theft to which he agreed.

Dept of Transportation – Jenny Torres reiterated that persons should continue to use the non emergency number 311 for pot holes, traffic lights. Ms. Torres announced on Oct. 28, 2003 General Board meeting Tommy Leon of the Bridges Division will give update on the W. 191st Street Pedestrian Cross. She also commented on the assistant that Officer McManus of the 34th Pct. provided @ Riverside Drive & Staff Streets to monitor traffic conditions, reports to be forwarded to DOT for review.

R. Escano inquired about signage at the se cr. of Cummins & Seaman. Response: DOT it's a clearance sign.

Discussion of reviewing converting commercial munimeter will be reevaluated in 2005.

FDNY Battalion #13 - Chief Tom McCarthy reported on checking batteries in smoke detectors. Stats on fires in CB 12 not available.

G. Feliciano inquired about status of fire on 206th St. & 10th Avenue. No stats available at this time.

FDNY Battalion #13 - Julia Glabach provided literature on fire safety tips.

ACS - Melvin Alston reported briefly on truancy and how ACS investigate those issues.

Man Borough President Office - Carlos Rodriguez reported on the task force of Sherman Creek Development scheduled October 27 presentation by EDC at the Umbrella Restaurant, literature provided. He also reported on a "Parents Power" conference at LaGuardia High School on November 1, call (212) 5313339 for further information.

Dept. of the Aging - Verna Arthur reported that Manhattan Council Hearing on the Aging will take place October 22, 2003.

Senator Schneiderman's Office - Jennifer Arroyo reported flu shots will be provided at the Ft. Tryon Senior Center, for further information call (212) 928-5578.

DOH/MH – Marc Barbieri distributed literature. Contact (212) 788-4740.

HRA - Carlos Infante discussed child support services, 1-877-472-8411.

Project Renewal – Etta Graham provided stats at the men's shelter; 3 psychiatric referrals, 2 united with families, 1 Section 8 housing referral. Ms. Graham commented on the frustrations experienced with reports of clients smoking out on the street. She explained that clients do have some nicotine addictions and are not allowed to smoke on the premises and do step outside to smoke.

Inwood Branch - Judith Rodriguez new library cards are being issued.

Ft. Washington Library - Felix Morales reported ESL classes are available. He commented on closures at Ft. Washington library when temperature decreases.

HPD – Tony Brogdon nothing to report.

Councilman Martinez Office - Robert DeLaRosa provided group with contact number (212)788-7053.

Ms. Feliciano asked Traffic Enforcement to monitor Ft. Washington Avenue W. 165th St. to W. 168th Street for traffic congestion.

Adeena Horowitz – Selfhelp/WHICOA reported on new initiatives for the Aging and will bring information in November.

Meeting adjourned 11:45am

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Blow

YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 8, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandra Wachspress, Chair
Cleofis C. Sarete, Assistant Chair
Milagros Vicente

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Joyce F. Holland

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Jose Lopez
Elouise Whitehurst
Emilia Cardona
Maria Luna

PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT

Judith Rodriguez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager
Miguel A. Reyes, Community Assistant

GUESTS

Irving Roman, Parent Support Officer, Region 10, NYC Department of Education, Maceo C. Rayson, Sugar Hill Neighborhood Association, Anthony Flores, Children's Arts & Science Workshop, Vicente S. Villalba, Community Outreach & Community Based Organization Coordinator, Region 10, NYC Department of Education, Amy Horowitz, Phoenix House

Opening Remarks: Sandra Wachspress, Chair

Introduction of Community Board 12, Members and guests.

Explanation of what the meeting entailed and rankings of Capital & Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2005.

PRESENTATIONS:

Irving Roman, Regional Parent Support Officer, Region 10, NYC Department of Education

Discussion: Mr. Roman described the role of the Parent Coordinator. Each school has a Parent Coordinator or is in the process of hiring one. They are to be the point of first contact for parents. Parents can take their concerns to the Parent Coordinator by visiting them in person.

The Parent Coordinators do not deal with teachers or students directly, but take parent issues directly to the Principal of the school. They work under the auspice of the Principal and alleviate some of the Principals day-to-day responsibilities to allow him/ her to be more involved in academics.

The mission of the Parent Coordinator is to increase parent involvement. They assist the Parents Association and are involved in community outreach. However, ultimately they work under the discretion of the Principal and are employees of the NYC Department of Education.

Lucille Swarns is the Regional Superintendent, Region 10, Margaret Hill is the Superintendent for School District 6 – Region 10. Sherral Rancher, Team Leader for the Regional Parent Support Officers, Irving Roman, Parent Regional Officer and Rebecca Alicea is the District 6 Support Officer.

Whenever there is an issue that the Parent Coordinator can't handle they go up in the ranks from District to Region to Central Board. Parent Coordinators are supposed to increase parent involvement and serve as the school liaison to the parents.

The requirements for the Parent Coordinators can be found on the web www.nyc.gov. They cover each school in the school district and you can apply at the school through the Principal. There has been 1,200 Parent Coordinators who have applied from July to September.

Vicente S. Villalba, Community Based Organization Coordinator and Outreach, Region 10, NYC Department of Education

He visits community agencies that can assist the schools and get information back to the region. Needs to be well informed about all community- based agencies and organizations within the community, so that he has a file ready when services are needed.

Anthony Flores, Director of In- School Program, Children's Arts & Science Workshop

Provides assistance for the youth, tutoring, jobs, and mentoring. Youth programs have been cut by 40%. This organization provides internships and stipends to students to participate. They give them \$72.00 a month. They are at P.S. 173 on Saturdays.

Amy Horowitz, Phoenix House (adolescent admissions)

Provides substance abuse treatments to kids ages 12-20 and help keep the students in school. Phoenix House treatment for adolescents is designed to integrate the therapeutic regimen with education to allow each adolescent to reach his or her educational goals, maintain a crime- free lifestyle, and develop the skills and self-esteem necessary to be a healthy productive member of society. The program is located in Harlem U.S.A.

Maceo C. Rayson, Executive Director, Sugar Hill Neighborhood Association

Sponsor kids in sports. Located on West 158th Street and Edgecombe Avenue. Church on a Hill has provided some funds. They are trying to reach out to Community Board 12 and Community Base Organizations for support.

Milagros Vicente, Executive Director, Miracle Lives Inc.

Passed a pamphlet around from the "American Special Children's Pilgrimage Group" an organization for children with special needs. The organization takes students to Lourdes, France (a place known for miracles) as a retreat during the Easter Holiday recess. They are looking for adult volunteers to accompany these special needs children. She also informed the committee of her organization, "Miracle Lives Inc.", an organization for children with special needs.

Judith Rodriguez presented the NYC Public Libraries, Capital & Expense Budget Priorities for the branches in Community Board 12. Youth and Education continued ranking other priorities such as the Department of Education's and the Administration for Children's Services.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Cleofis C. Sarete, Assistant Chair

HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – October 2, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Beatrice Hall, Chair
Julio Rodriguez, Asst. Chair
Steve Simon
Barbara Smith Ramos

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Mireya Cruz
Jacqueline Aristy (excused)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregoria Feliciano, District Manager
Deborah Blow, Community Assistant

GUESTS

Frances Phipps, Deputy Commissioner-ACS Head Start, Walter Kehr, Resident, Ms. Michelle Greene, Program Director-Volunteers of America

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Meeting Convened at 7:15 pm. The chair greeted the invited guest and introduced the committee member and other guest.

Mrs. Francis Phipps, Deputy Commissioner from Administration for children's Services-Head Start was the first presenter. She gave a brief overview of ACS. She stated that ACS has been a stand along agency for the past six year. Former Mayor Giuliani separated ACS from HRA and Nicholas Scoppetta was named the Commissioner. William Bell is the present Commissioner.

Head Start is 100% federally funded with a budget of 1.75 million dollars per year. ACS is an out growth of the war on poverty (1964). Head Start was created for children from low income families to help them succeed an the program also offers services to meet the needs of children with disabilities. Head Start is operated by local non-profit organizations. Head Starts provides a variety of services including, Health care, Nutritional Services, Dental, Mental Health and social Services for families. ACS serves 20,000 children per year in 253 Head Start centers citywide.

Question: How many of the centers are located in CB12? Response: CB12 has 4 Head Start centers in the Washington Heights area. She also stated that CB12 is extremely underserved due to the lack of affordable space in this area. It was suggested that ACS investigate the possibilities of getting the old 33rd Pct from the Education Department. Mrs. Phipps promised to have her agency to look into getting the old 33rd Pct. She asked for the committees help in identifying affordable space in CB12. She also said that ACS would welcome the opportunity to partner with other agencies in order to open more HeadStart centers in the community.

The next invited speaker was Ms. Michele Greene, Program Director Volunteers of America W. 165th Street Residence) represented her agency. Ms. Greene. Stated that the w. 165th St. Resident has 146 units that provide permanent, supported and affordable housing to low income families, single adults, couples and senior citizens.

The building has 126 single (SRO) units and 20 family units. The population is made up of about 60% from DHS and about 40% of low income (\$24,000 or less) tenants. The building was formally a SRO before volunteers of America took it over (in 1997) and renovated it. Volunteers of America had their Grand Opening in November of 2001. The facility provides, Case Management, Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Services, Recreational Activities, After School and linkage to community services and activities.

Ms. Greene stated that 47 tenants that were living there before 1997 were allowed to stay after Volunteers of America took it over. All tenants must go through a screening process. Ms. Greene said that DHS audited their records to make sure that the Homeless rights are not violated. Ms. Green was asked to comment on a report from

the Tenant's Association Committee that cited several incidents of drug activities, disorderly conduct and poor supervision at the residence from March 2002 thru August 2003. Ms. Greene said that she had meet with the tenants Association regarding their complaints. She also said that the 33rd Pct. had done hall patrols but had not been able to substantiate any of the claims of drug sales on the premises.

Question: How many times have the police been called for incidents? Response: All the issues in the Tenants Assn report were being addressed.

It was decided that the committee would revisit this issue again in January '04 and at that time would like to have a meeting with Ms. Greene and representatives from tenants association.

Mr. Walter Kehr, a community resident came to the committee to discuss a letter that the said he sent to the Housing Committee back in May 2003. After a lengthy discussion of the matter, Steve Simon said that he would look for some information that he had worked on in the past and bring to the November meeting, so that a resolution could be sent to the city council in support of Mr. Kehr recommendation.

The committees' Budget Priorities & Rankings for FY '05 were completed.

The committee agreed to invite Associate Commissioner Luiz Aragon to discuss HPD's Loan program, topic agenda to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm

Respectfully submitted by: Beatrice Hall

Economic Development Committee

October 7, 2003

Minutes

Members Present

Martin Collins, Chair
Socrates Solano, A. Chair
Mason Almeida
Rose Santo
Julio Pequero

Members Absent

Rafael Beaumont

Members Excused

Kirk Miller

CB12 Members Attending

Beatrice Hall
Pamela Palanque North
Renato Mena
Bienvenido Toribio

Guests: Manuel Thillet, Esq., Robert Robles & Angel Guerrero, Café Seven, Monica Jaramillo & Jose Garcia, 1280 Food Corp., Jennifer Esty, Columbia U. Journalism, Cesar Abreu & Nemesio Ordonez, Sepia Lounge, Dario Oleaga, Umbrella Bar, Rafael Martinez, Tomas Restaurant, Elvin Marte, Riverside Radio Dispatcher, Persio Gomez, Seaman Cassandra Corp., Jane Bolster & Mary Weir, Uptown Treasures, Julio Alvarado, Audubon Partnership, Juana Baez, La Espanola Restaurant, Officer Stanley & Sgt. Freiburger, NYPD 33rd Precinct, Alexander Then, Pollo Dorado, Jennifer Wilson, Sister's Uptown Bookstore LLC, Luis Gonzalez, Laverne Campbell

The meeting started at 6:45 p.m. Martin Collins welcomed everyone, introduced the members of the committee and CB12, and explained the committee's purpose.

State Liquor Authority New Business Applications:

Café Seven (7 Henshaw Street)

The owners, Robert Robles and Angel Guerrero attended. They will apply for a Restaurant Wine License (a/k/a Beer-Wine License). Café Seven will serve imported espresso and coffees, sandwiches, Italian desserts, and organic as well as regular light food. They will be wired for computer access and look forward to hosting local artists' shows and events such as poetry readings. Open daily 7 AM - 10:30 PM. The committee recommended Café Seven for the license.

Pollo Dorado Fried Chicken (1497 St. Nicholas Avenue)

The owner, Alexander Then attended. He will apply for an Eating Place Beer License. Popular local restaurant that serves a full menu of Spanish and American food, in addition to their chicken specials. They have six employees and are open daily from 7 AM - 11 PM. The committee recommended Pollo Dorado for the license.

Sepia Lounge (3795 10th Avenue)

The owners, Cesar Abreu, Nemesio Ordonez, and Dario Oleaga attended. They will apply for an On-Premises Liquor License. Location is currently in construction. A minimum of 25-30 jobs will be available. Business will be two floors, with an ADA-compliant first floor restaurant (400 sq. ft.) and second floor lounge (2,000 sq. ft.). Public Assembly permit to be filed. Open daily from 11AM - 2AM. Full kitchen serving Dominican and American food and catering business luncheons and dinners. Mr. Abreu (CNA Properties) owns the building, which is also a parking garage. He will retain 100-125 spaces after construction is completed. Mr. Abreu said the restaurant and lounge will be soundproof, security will be hired for special events, and sufficient parking will be available to prevent double-parking on 10th Avenue. They will contact Consumer Affairs regarding the possible requirement of a Cabaret License. Future plans include use of rooftop space. The committee recommended Sepia Lounge for the license.

Umbrella Bar & Lounge (440 West 202nd Street)

Dario Oleaga attended. Umbrella submitted plans to extend their first-floor service bar by three feet, which requires an additional bar license from the SLA. The plans were presented and discussed after which the committee recommended the SLA grant the additional license.

Seaman Cassandra Corp. (4020 10th Avenue)

Persio Gomez is the President of Seaman Radio Dispatcher and Seaman Cassandra Corp. The premises houses Seaman Radio Dispatcher on the first floor. The second floor, currently under construction, will be home to Seaman Cassandra Corp. which will provide a multi-functional events space where drivers and their families may host family-oriented events and celebrations. Seaman Radio Dispatcher employs 240 drivers, the vast majority reside in the community. The corporation will apply for a Catering Establishment License, which allows providers of food to furnish beer, wine and liquor for consumption for an assemblage for a particular function to which the general public is not admitted. Mr. Gomez said the second floor is soundproof, most events would be scheduled on weekends, and that sufficient parking is available. The corporation will contact Consumer Affairs regarding the possible need for a Cabaret License. Next day garbage pick-up will be arranged so the shared rear corridor with Riverdale Funeral Home is clear. After further discussion and public comment, the committee recommended Seaman Cassandra Corp. for the license.

1280 Food Corp. Deli (1280 St. Nicholas Avenue)

The owner, Monica Jaramillo, and manager, Jose Garcia, attended. They will apply for an Eating Place Beer License. The deli serves Dominican-American cuisine, with a busy lunch time crowd. They have six employees and are open daily from 7AM - 12 midnight. The committee recommended 1280 Food Corp. Deli for the license.

La Espanola Restaurant (1944 Amsterdam Avenue)

The owner, Juana Baez, has applied for an On-Premises Liquor License. Ms. Baez purchased the restaurant earlier this year. They have sold beer and wine with a temporary permit for the past eight months and now wish to upgrade to a liquor license. Restaurant has 11 employees and is open daily from 6:30 AM - 12 midnight, sometimes later on weekends. La Espanola serves Spanish-American food and has a large screen TV, which has enhanced the restaurant's popularity especially for watching sports. A community resident commented the restaurant is adjacent to three senior citizen centers and nearby is P. S. 28. We discussed with Ms. Baez the importance of asking customers for ID. The restaurant is in the process of completing its soundproofing. Officers from the 33rd Precinct stressed the importance of being pro-active and gave Ms. Baez telephone numbers to reach out to the precinct if necessary. After further discussion, the committee recommended La Espanola Restaurant for the license.

Note: Los Compadres Restaurant (524 West 207th St) and Fitz Grocery (4415-4417 Broadway) were invited but did not attend. Both will be invited to our November 6 meeting.

State Liquor Authority Renewals:

The following were recommended to the SLA for renewal:

- International Food House (217 Dyckman Street) for Restaurant Wine
- Cabana Salvadorena Restaurant (4384 Broadway) for Restaurant Wine
- Post Billiards Café (154 Post Avenue) for Eating Place Beer
- Mambi Restaurant (558 West 181st Street) for Restaurant Wine

2148 Tomas Restaurant (2148 Amsterdam Avenue) On-Premises Liquor License was not recommended for renewal. The owner and a representative attended the meeting. Captain Jason Wilcox, 33rd Precinct Commanding Officer, informed CB12 that in the past two years, the restaurant was visited four times by a multi-agency (MARCH) unit, and received three reports for SLA violations. Officer Stanley reported the location received approximately 60 summonses from the NYPD and that six arrests and three felony assaults have occurred during the same period.

Café Billiard Luz (2153 Amsterdam Avenue). Recommendation on renewing their Restaurant Wine License was postponed. The 33rd Precinct reported gambling and underage drinking on the premises. The owner(s) will be invited to our next meeting.

1980 Amsterdam Avenue (d/b/a Fiesta Café Restaurant). Captain Jason Wilcox reported on this location to the Public Safety Committee last week and reached out subsequently to the Economic Development Committee. In the past six months, 1980 Amsterdam Ave. was summonsed twice by a multi-agency (MARCH) unit and received additional quality of life violations. The owner(s) will be invited to our next meeting.

Taxi & Limousine For-Hire Base Renewal:

Riverside Radio Dispatch (1642 St. Nicholas Avenue)

Elvin Marte, President, attended and discussed the application. Riverside has 300 drivers, which have served Washington Heights/Inwood and neighboring communities for the past 18 years. They have an outstanding community record. The committee recommended the TLC renew the license.

Capital & Expense Budget Priorities:

The committee ranked Sherman Creek its #1 Capital Priority because it will provide much needed modern retail and office space, jobs, housing, community amenities, and waterfront access for the community. We ranked the acquisition of vacant CB12 properties for the purpose of building more parking garages as our #2 Capital item. EDC is the responsible agency for both requests.

Last year's capital request to extend water ferry service from downtown Manhattan to Washington Heights & Inwood was dropped since EDC did not recommend it for funding.

Our one Expense Priority was the funding of a one-stop employment and job-training center in Washington Heights & Inwood, via the Department of Employment.

Artists' Day:

Also known as the Uptown Arts Stroll is scheduled for Sunday, November 23rd from 12 Noon to 7PM at various Washington Heights & Inwood locations. We will meet jointly with Parks & Cultural Affairs and the public on October 14th at 6:00 p.m. to plan the event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Martin Collins.

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – OCTOBER 8, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair
Sybil Dodson
Beatrice Hall
Barbara Smith-Ramos

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Helen Morik (excused)

PUBLIC MEMBER

Basilia Gomez

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mason Almeida, Martin Collins
Miguel Reyes – Community Service Aide

GUESTS: Eva Matos, Columbia University School of Dental & Oral Surgery (SDOS); Apufia Beko, Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH).

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1. **Presentation by Eva Matos – Community DentCare Network**, sponsored by the SDOS, operates off-site clinics in Washington Heights/Inwood and Harlem, including six school-based clinics through a partnership with the Mailman School of Public Health, and a Mobile Dental Center jointly with the Children's Aid Society. These are linked to five Ambulatory Care Network practices located throughout the community, which serve people of all ages. Through the Northern Manhattan Community Access Program, a partnership of the New York County Dental Society and the Dominican Dental Association, the school is also working with community dental clinics to expand access to oral health care.
The school-based clinics include a full-service clinic at I.S. 143, as well as prevention clinics at I.S. 52, I.S. 164, P.S. 8, I.S. 136 and the School for Pregnant & Parenting Teens. The mobile center visits day care and Head Start centers throughout northern Manhattan.
Two new facilities were recently opened. A six-chair clinic at the former P.I. building, 722 W. 168th St., offers comprehensive dental care for children; it was previously housed at Vanderbilt Clinic. A three-chair clinic in the Fort Washington Armory provides care for the homeless at the shelter.
2. **Presentation by Apufia Beko – Field worker, DOHMH Healthy Neighborhood Program.**
Based in East Harlem since July 2002, not working directly in Washington Heights/Inwood, which used to be target area. Still working with some buildings here. Visits apartments in response to various problems. Deals with landlords re: lead paint, mold, window guards, etc. Forms tenant associations, refers tenants to HPD and Legal Aid if necessary. Manhattan office has 3 workers, only 1 field worker.
3. **Discussion of City Council Bills** – Council Member Michael McMahon, chair of Council's Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste, requested comments from CB 12 re: three bills pending in the Council: Intro. 79, which would increase the fines for repeat violators of the law prohibiting the placement of household or commercial refuse or liquid wastes in the open mesh litter baskets on the city's streets; Intro. 528, which would require the Department of Sanitation to provide daily collection service, excluding Sundays, from street litter baskets in all districts in the city, and Intro. 529, which would change the current regulations that require trash cans to be placed out for collection from 8 p.m. during the summer and 5 p.m. during the winter on the day prior to collection to one hour before sunset all year round.
S. Simon presented a resolution in support of first two bills. After some discussion, M. Almeida suggested that it be amended to suggest that the Dept. of Sanitation conduct an educational outreach campaign before implementing Intro. 79. Dodson/Hall moved that the reso be adopted as amended. The motion was approved by the following votes: Committee Members 4-0-0, Public Member 1-0-0, Board Members 2-0-0, Other Attendees 1-0-0.
4. **Budget Priorities** – Last year's budget priorities were reviewed, and a few changes were made. S. Dodson spoke in favor of giving Pest Control the #1 priority. S. Simon spoke in favor of the need to hire additional street cleaning personnel. A majority preferred making Pest Control #1 and hiring additional Sanitation workers #2. After further discussion, the committee reached a consensus on the remaining priorities.
5. **Next Meeting** – S. Dodson suggested inviting George Gasparis, Director of the Columbia University Health Sciences Institutional Review Board as guest speaker for the next meeting, to be held Nov. 10. It was agreed that the committee would change its regular meeting date to avoid conflicts with the Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Simon