

CB12M Youth and Education Committee

Meeting Minutes Meeting #7

Monday, September 12, 2016

Location: 530 West 166th Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present: Fe Florimón, Chair; Priscilla Mota Willis, Assistant Chair; Maria Luna; Ayisha Oglivie; Estevan Nembhard, Luis Tapia

Committee Member (s) Absent: Glennis Aquino; Domingo Estevan

Community Members: Joselihne Minaya, Representative for District Attorney Office, Roberto de la Rosa, Community Activist;, Nafisa Masud, Student at CU Journalism; Raquel Cepeda; Joe Yoffie

The meeting was called at 7:17p.m by Fe Florimon, Chair
Members of the Committee and attendees were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves.

Part I. Discussion was taken place as indicated below

“*Committee Performance Review*” was the initial discussion of the Committee and was intended to review the last committee initiative that was held on Saturday June 18th - “*The Youth and Police Partnership Walk and Resource Fair.*” The following questions were asked by the Chair: “What was the members’ perception about the unfolding of the event? Should the event be held again and if so, what should be different next time? Committee members were given the opportunity to express themselves first and then, members of the public, especially those who participated in the event.

Members’ & Event Feedback

According to member Ms. Mota-Willis, the event was a nice idea, but in theory. She was hoping that conversations between youth and authority were expanded. She also added that did not want the March to turn into a NYPD kind of we are all good; but, also admitted that the idea has lots of room for improvement.

Member Ms. Oglivie, suggested that there was not a real conversation in regard to the dynamics between NYPD and the Community. She felt that the focus was on the youth and not on the police.

Member Ms. Luna mentioned that her father was a Captain for the NYPD from who she learned about the police and community relations. In her opinion police officer is law enforcement, not a teacher or priest. They have a lot of responsibilities, including keeping order in the community. They are also not assigned to work in the community where they live for valid reasons, which that may create some problems.

New member Mr. Tapia was formally welcomed into the committee. After listening to some of the members' feedback about the event, he suggested the committee to be the voice of young people, listen to them and not to decide for them. The topic of race should be to be left out of the conversation between youth and police.

Ms. Florimon, reiterate the purpose of the event, which was an initial conversation to promote police and community relations, especially, building bridges between youth and police, as well as community resources. She also assured members that young people and police were given the opportunity to interact in several meetings- during the planning committee process. She added that unfortunately only few members (perhaps two) were present at these meetings and so they missed the opportunity to witness important details that would may help them to improve their opinions. The June 18th initiative was a great event and it was highly supported by the school district , young people, parents, George Washington Campus, NYPD many other organizations according to the Chair.

New School Year 2016-2017

The Committee also discussed the subject of "*New School Year 2016-2017*" and new initiatives. According Ms. Florimon, many schools in the community of district six (D6) are facing some challenges and she wanted the committee to be aware of them. These challenges include: decrease on their students enrollment; the lack of proper ramps entrance for students with disabilities; and the lack of space for students' physical education among others problems. However, the D6 Community Education Council (CEC6) is expected to work/advocate for solution on these issues as part of their goals.

Fiscal Year 2018: Budget Preliminary Discussion

The committee held a preliminary discussion on the *Fiscal Year 2018* capital and expense budget priorities. Previous requests were reviewed including the increase of funding for Individualized Education Program (IEP) - Individualized Tutoring for students with learning difficulties in School District 6; funding for additional staff- Music Teacher class at H.S George Washington Educational Campus; also funding to expand Computer Lab and upgrade Science Lab at M468- H.S. for Health Careers and Sciences; and also for the upgrade of Science Lab and Student Toilets at I.S. 143M. Ms. Florimon informed members that the conversation needs to be continued and encouraged them to submit their budget proposals (capital and expense items) for consideration and they all members present agreed.

Part II. New/Old Business

Ms. Joselihne Minaya, Representative for DA office made an event announcement about domestic violence awareness month and encouraged the participants to spread the word and to attend the event on Monday September 27th- a community walk in support of the cause.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm