

CB12M

Youth and Education Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting #10

Monday, December 12, 2016

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

Committee Members Present: Fe Florimón, Chair; Ayisha Oglivie

Committee Member (s) Absent: Priscilla Mota Willis; Glennis Aquino; Estevan Nembhard; Luis Tapia; Domingo Estevan

Committee Member (s) Excuse: Maria Luna

Guest (s): Nayma Silver, Founder of the “Project Beauty Experience; Tiffany Viruet (Co-President: **NOTE;** *Forgot to sign attendance*); David Gracia, Founder and Executive Director Charlie Ortiz, Co-Founder and Executive Principal of WHIN -Music Community Charter School;

Community and Public Members: Nancy Betances, representative from Inwood Academy for LCS; Gloria Carrion; Rich Guherman; Nicholas Blount; Joe Yoffie; Roberto De La Rosa, Community Activist; Derek Peralta, Community Resident; Al Kurland, PAL; Matt Meigs, Community Resident; Lindse Sokol, Mental Health Consultant; Jon Zebtel Community Resident;

The meeting was called at 7:10p.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

- ✓ Ms. Florimon provided an overview about the unfolding of the agenda and on her conclusion she proceeded to introduce Ms. **Nayma Silver**, Founder of the "Project Beauty Experience: New Personal Development Program for young ladies". According to Ms. Silver’s testimony, this project was initiated in 2014 with the help of relative, friends and others folks from the community including NYCHA Dyckman Houses Resident Association, and great people who volunteered their professional services as hair stylists, make-up artists, and photographers. One of the main objectives of this initiative is to empower young ladies in New York City and particularly in Washington Heights/Inwood. **The Project Beauty Experience** is a personal development program for girls in middle school, focused on increasing self-knowledge & improving self-perceptions through fashion & civic engagement!
- ✓ According to her testimony, this is a labor of love she does voluntarily and has been lucky to attract a team of 9 college- educated women who believe in this mission and are giving back too, each in their area of expertise. Tiffany Viruet, (co-presenter) is also a graduate of Syracuse University and is one of her team members. Tiffany will be the meditation and yoga instructor

for their program. She is from East Harlem but is volunteering her time here in Northern Manhattan.

- ✓ Ms. Silver also stated that they have established partnerships with multiple stakeholders like the Jamaica Progressive League, Consulate General of Indonesia, Consulate General of Mexico, and the Consulate General of the Dominican Republic to name a few. They have the support of the Manhattan Borough President's Office and continue to secure the support of other stakeholders in our community. This is why they came to the committee (YE&C). They would like to request the full support of the Youth & Education Committee of CB12 to ensure the success of this initiative as they prepare to launch our 9-week program in the spring of 2017. Support in the form of leveraging networks to help them recruit over 100 applicants which will be narrowed down to 30 or 40 youth participants in the first cohort. Also, support by sponsoring venues free or charge in their behalf, so that they can host meetings and parent engagement events in Washington Heights/ Inwood community.

- ❖ Mr. David Gracia, Founder and Executive Director and Charlie Ortiz, Co- Founder and Executive Principal of WHIN- Music Community School were revising the committee meeting, after their initial appearance two years ago, to share an update of their WHIN school music project. According to the presents, their school has been approved by the NYS and a series of improvements have taken place since the past two years. WHIN has been able to implement a strong curriculum, which is characterized with important elements designed to help students to improve and stimulate their learning capacity. For example, part of subject found in their curriculum includes the aspects of the “Socio-emotional learning - Responsive Classroom- Restorative Justice.” Additional aspects include, “Common Core aligned- Rigorous, Inquiry-driven, and Project-based.” Classes at WHIN includes extended school day schedule form 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m; however, Friday students get dismissed at 2:00 p.m. According to presenters, in the next school year 2017 they will be offering 2 Kindergarten and 2 first grade classes.

Part II. New/Old Business:

- ✓ Member Oglivie, suggested to the committee to considering the discussion of youth homeless since this a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

- ✓ Ms. Florimon reminder and invited new guests to the first “D6 Holiday Season Gathering” event in honor of the district’s education and the collective effort of parents and educators. The event will be held on December 13, 2016 at the Hispanic Society Museum & Library, located between 155 & 156 streets –entrance on Broadway.

- ✓ Meeting Adjourned at: 8:47pm

Note: Next Meeting:

Monday, January 9, 2017 - Pending location.

Saturday, February 4, 2017: Isabella Geriatric Center 515 Audubon Ave (near 190 Street)