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## COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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**Youth & Education Committee**  
**Tuesday, June 9, 2015, 6:00pm**  
**Board Office**  
**1664 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10035**

### \*\*\* Minutes \*\*\*

Present: Carlos Diaz, Danielle Sullivan, Laurence Vargas, Neil Flynn, John Green, Joshua Watkins, Nilsa Orama

Absent: Peggy Morales, Jemar Ward

Excused: David L Giordano, Eudora Ortiz

Guest(s): Syrvella Hall, William Sawyer, Mahfuzur Rahman, David Perez, Charron Matthews, Madai Velez

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice Committee Chair Danielle Sullivan.

1. Call to Order- Adoption of the Agenda
2. Discussions/Presentations
  - a. Thomas Jefferson Park Recreation Center's programming and events, Syrvella Hall, Program Coordinator
    - i. Ms. Hall presented the programs and events that are taking place at the Recreation Center, and asked the Community Board to spread the word about the Center. Some of the programs include Kiddie Zumba, basketball clinics, senior water aerobics, and adult swim.
  - b. Inner City Tech, William Sawyer, Founder/CEO
    - i. Inner City Tech is a program to teach computer skills to adults that are low-income and minorities. Mr. Sawyer was seeking a letter of support for the program, as well as for their renting a location on 125<sup>th</sup> Street and Lexington Avenue. Mr. Sawyer described Inner City Tech's current offerings, which are workshops with partner organizations in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The Committee advised him to come back in September once he had secured non-profit status and had more concrete information on his proposed training courses and desired location.
3. Old Business

a. Statement Of District Needs/Neighborhood Study

- i. The Committee reviewed the draft list of needs and recommendations, and added a few clarifying remarks. The next Community Visioning Session will focus on Youth and Education issues, and it will be held on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30-8:30, location TBD.

b. Parents 4 Parents

- i. Danielle Sullivan gave a brief update regarding the Community Liaison Initiative's goal to ensure that youth and their parents are receiving all the services and information about educational opportunities and supports that they are entitled to receive through schools' Parent Coordinator & Guidance Counselor positions. Ms. Sullivan distributed suggested community building questions to start conversations with partnered schools over the summer and fall. She then explained the plans for bridging the gap between CEC4 and CB11, as well as strengthening how the community deals with education as a whole.
- c. Neil Flynn reported that the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) had cut afterschool seats, and then restored some of them, but not to full capacity. Mr. Flynn wanted to inform the Committee, and learn of any suggestions on what could be done to supplement the families that the community based organizations were not able serve. He requested a follow up and would want to know what was the probability of the cut seats being restored.

4. Announcements

a. SportTime Tennis Center

- i. A brief overview of what Sports Time does, its success stories and a firsthand look at the new program they will be rolling out in late July. They are looking to strengthen their program to get more American children playing tennis, and they wanted help from CB11 to encourage children to attend SportTime.
- b. Peggy announced that she has had a few conversations with the people at the schools she has been partnered with for the School Liaison Initiative, and she has found that the position of the Guidance Counselors and Parent Coordinators are not being utilized appropriately.
- c. Neill announced that the Hecksher Building's indoor pool will be opening in the fall, and partnering in some programs with the Parks Department.

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Peggy Morales to adjourn meeting, seconded by John Green.