



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
1664 PARK AVENUE
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Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

Youth and Education Committee Tuesday, May 8, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Board Office

*** Minutes***

Present: Elsie Encarnacion, David Giordano, Lilybelle Gonzalez, John Green, Shawn Smith, Jason Villanueva, Nilsa Orama (ex officio), Thomas Herrera (staff), Angel Mescain (staff)

Excused: Mahfuzur Rahman

Guests: Yolanda McBride, Phoebe Boyer, Miriam Martinez, Louis Berner-Herouv, Joannie Acevedo, Danny Gonzalez, Emily Johnson, Xavier Santiago, Henry Flores, Pilar de Jesus, Ranya Bautista, Adam Cruz, Reeshemah Brightly

1. Call to Order– Adoption of the Agenda

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Announcements

- a. Mahfuzur Rahman announced the Spirit of Service event on April 28th 2018
- b. David Giordano announced the community meeting on the future of Children's Aid East Harlem Center to be held at 130 East 101st Street at the East Harlem Center at 6pm on April 11, 2018
- c. Louis Berner-Herouv of Bike New York announced their initiative to teach children how to ride bikes and the safety measures they should take
- d. Stanley Issac Center announced their tutoring program for children who need help in reading and writing

3. Presentations & Discussions

- a. Discussion and Planning of Budget

Jason Villanueva, committee member and chair of the District Needs and Budget committee, discussed the outlook of the committee and how it should approach its

advocacy for funding and prepare itself for FY2020. Staff liaison Thomas Herrera shared that the Department of City Planning will be taking the lead in connecting the community board and its stakeholders to the city agencies for follow-up on the Points of Agreement (POA) from the rezoning. The agencies will be available as soon as next month to come to committee meetings.

4. Old Business

a. Children's Aid East Harlem Center

The committee convened and revisited the resolution presented by Vice-Chair, Xavier Santiago, at the Full Board on 4/17/18. The committee revised and edited the resolution.

Jason Villanueva made a motion to adopt a resolution regarding the sale of property at the Children's Aid Society East Harlem Center. The motion was seconded by Lilybelle Gonzalez passed with one present/not voting (Giordano).

Draft resolution is attached.

5. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm



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RESOLUTION

Date: May 15, 2018
Committee: Youth & Education
Board Vote: 36 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 present/not voting
RE: Resolution Regarding Sale of Children's Aid East Harlem Center Property

Whereas Children's Aid is one of America's oldest and largest children's private child welfare nonprofits in New York City, with an annual budget of over \$100 million dollars, 45 citywide sites, and over 1,200 fulltime employees;

Whereas Children's Aid helps tens of thousands of disadvantaged, New York City children succeed annually, by providing comprehensive services of after-school and weekend programs, arts, camps, early childhood education, events, family support, medical, mental health, and dental, juvenile justice, legal advocacy, special initiatives, sports and recreation, and youth development programs;

Whereas the Children's Aid East Harlem Center located at 130 East 101st Street, New York, New York 10029, has provided similar services to the community of East Harlem for nearly seventy years through the efforts of local volunteers and Children's Aid employees;

Whereas those services have benefited nearly four generations of East Harlem and created a safe space for the children to interact and play without fear of violence within the East Harlem community;

Whereas Community Board 11 of Manhattan (CB11M) has learned of the impending sale by Children's Aid of a portion of land adjacent to the East Harlem Center (Block 1628, Lots 58 and 59), which currently serves as an outdoor playground and picnic area that is heavily utilized in the Center's programming;

Whereas CB11M is concerned about the potential disruption of services during the closure of the East Harlem Center and the adequacy of substitute locations for providing the same resources and opportunities to the community; and

Whereas Children's Aid is the recipient of local, state and federal grants for funds and beholden to transparency with the public and has failed to provide the public with sufficient information on the sale of the East Harlem Center adjacent lots; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Community Board 11 of Manhattan:

1. requests the State Attorney General to investigate this transaction, with its authority over substantial sales by 501 c3 status organizations;
2. urges the Mayor, the Manhattan Borough President and the New York City Council to act in solidarity with the community on this matter and advocate a new arrangement in lieu of the current transaction;
3. urges Children's Aid, in the spirit of good faith and seeking to rebuild the East Harlem communities' trust, to give a full commitment to allow a representative designated by CB11 an advisory role on any said board or steering committee of Children's Aid East Harlem Center.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nilsa Orama". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nilsa" being more prominent than the last name "Orama".

Nilsa Orama
Chair

cc: Hon. Bill De Blasio, Mayor, City of New York
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, New York City Council
Hon. Diana Ayala, New York City Council (via email)
Hon. Bill Perkins, New York City Council (via email)
Hon. Ben Kallos, New York City Council (via email)
Hon. Keith Powers, New York City Council (via email)
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President (via email)
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, United States Congress
Hon. Brian Benjamin, New York State Senate
Hon. Jose Serrano, New York State Senate
Hon. Robert J. Rodriguez, New York State Assembly
Hon. Inez Dickens, New York State Assembly
Alex Kohen, Manhattan Community Board 11 (via email)
David Giordano, Community Board 11 (via email)