



Diane Collier  
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## COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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### Youth & Education Committee Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 6:00pm Board Office

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

- Present: David L Giordano, Elsie Encarnacion, Nilsa Orama, Mahfuzur Rahman, Lilly Belle Gonzalez, Jacqueline Nelson, Jason Villanueva, Wendy Hewlett, John Green, Yolanda Brown
- Absent: none
- Excuse: none
- Guest(s): Stephanie Caban, Reading Partners; Fabrice Armand, DOC; Madai Velez, DA's office; Paul Dawkins, NYSOM; Sharon Garret, Harlem Scientology Center

#### 1. Opening Remarks

The Committee Chair opened the meeting at 6:05 welcoming everyone to the October meeting. The Committee Chair opened the meeting by asking for an adoption of the agenda. Motion by Mahfuzur, second by Wendy. Motion passes to adopt the agenda. Chair stated the presenters could not make it to this meeting due to a passing.

#### 2. Discussions/Presentations:

##### a. Review of Mission and Goals for the Youth and Education Committee

Committee Chair opened the discussion by reading the mission of the Youth & Educational Committee

*"The mission of the Youth and Education Committee advocates for the funding, programs and policies that support youth to secure a college education, careers of their own choosing, and economic stability for them and their families. Our educational activities should seek to encompass all learners including English as a second language learners & special needs learners. We advocate for academic excellence and knowledge of social justice issues in our community. We seek to develop and maintain positive relationships with all local schools, colleges and community based organizations to assist our schools in getting needed city services. We strive to give a direct voice to the youth of this community and to assist youth groups in any way possible consistent with our mission."*

The Committee Chair pointed out that we may want to consider adding adult education to our mission.

The Committee Chair then read aloud the goals for year 2016-2017:

- To increase youth attendance and participation in CB 11 Youth and Education Committee;
- Develop positive relationships with DOE District 4 Leadership team and Superintendent;
- Conduct Community Board forums & meetings with District 4 leadership and District 4 schools;
- Conduct activities and advocacy in supporting District 4 needs, focusing these activities to support renewal schools.

The Committee Chair spoke about the work the committee has already accomplished in the past year like an event done with District 4 leadership in March and the work they began with CPE I. Committee Chair stated he would bring to the next meeting an analysis he completed on the zip codes of the CB 11 district.

The Committee Chair then began to speak about our district needs priority list. He thanked Angel Mescaïn and Mia Brezin for their guidance and support in creating the list which is more detailed than it has been in years past. This detailed list will allow for the committee to get budget request directed to the correct entities that can possibly fund them.

The Committee Chair then asked for the committee to sign up and divide the task of taking minutes at each meeting. A slip was passed around and committee members signed up for the year:

September - David G.  
October - Elsie E.  
November - John G.  
December - Lilybell G.  
January - Nilsa O.  
February - Mahfuzur R.  
March - Yolanda B.  
April - Jason V.  
May - Wendy H.  
June - Jacqueline N.

- b. The Committee Chair then opened up the discussion to talk about the district needs priority list and goals, Danielle Sullivan was given the floor by the chair and as a past committee member she reminded us that we spoke about inviting someone from the District leadership team to review the list and give us some feedback on it. Committee Chair David said he can pass it along to Alexandra to look at the list within the deadline. Angel Mescaïn agreed that we have some time to send it to her for review but reminded us that we are required to have a public hearing at the next full board meeting on Tuesday. Comments will be taken that night that can influence the document. We are required to post the document online before the public hearing so that people can comment on it. Revision can be made after that hearing. Committee Chair will get the document to Alexandra and have her give feedback before the meeting on Tuesday. Nisla Orama said she would like to see something added to the document that spoke to programming regarding bullying specifically targeting certain groups. The development

of or bringing in of groups that can support bullying in our schools. Wendy Hewlett then spoke to the need for having more guidance counselors in schools to address these issues. The committee chair recommended sending a request to DYCD to develop programs that address bullying, cyber bullying included. Nisla O. reminded us that guidance counselors often times have heavy workloads and can not properly address the demands. Danielle pointed out that usually in elementary and Middle schools they have psychologist and school based support teams. Danielle suggested we use the language of social/emotional support in our ask. This term will umbrella a broader range of issues such as domestic violence, PTSD in small children as well as bullying. The Committee Chair will add the language to the request. Wendy Hewlett also suggested attaching mentoring programs the Chair said we can advocate for specific programs after the original request. The Chair then recognized Chandra Smith who spoke about the PBIS, RTI and the THRIVE NYC initiatives which address a number of the bullying and behavior issues within schools. Chandra suggested reaching out to individual schools who are dealing with these issues and see if they can implement these services. Mahfuzur mentioned supporting mentoring programs by having a monthly series for mentors. Wendy then said it is more beneficial to request that it be a RFP with money behind it to get people on board and paid for mentorship.

The Committee Chair then opened the conversation up for more comments and suggestions on the overall plan. Elsie Encarnacion asked if it was possible to attach specific numbers in our request for funding, instead of saying “increase funding” maybe we can ask for a specific amount to know when we’ve reached our goals. Angel Mescain explained that the words in bold are boilerplate language from the form that we put together the words underneath is our language which can be specific numbers. This requires the committee to know those specific number and do research on the projects individually. The committee will look into pulling together more specific ask in the future.

Angel Mescain then spoke and gave the committee credit for all of the work put into the goals, mission statement and priorities but reminded the committee can do more. As the committee becomes better we should take it to the next level by starting the process next month by looking at the Mayor's management report, the agencies responses and budget consultations; looking at the testimony agencies are submitting during budget negotiations to better inform our process for next fall. The Committee Chair said he has been attending meeting run by the Chancellor and has been keeping informed about new initiatives.

Angel Mescain asked to add something under the title of new school seats. There is work being done in the land use committee related to our committee in terms of big buildings and projects being built right now that will bring in families and potential students. There is a project on 126th street on the site of the old bus depot which, if built to capacity will bring 700 units of housing; the 125th street project between 2nd and 3rd which, if built to capacity could have upwards to 1000 units of housing. There is also the redevelopment of Co-op Tech on 96th street between 1st and 2nd by a group called the Avalon Bay. They are proposing to redevelop the entire block, build 3 stand alone new school buildings; one for Co-op Tech, one to rehouse two local high schools, one building will be a 63 story building used for housing which will bring a large number of new units. They will also redo the park. The committee should keep these projects in mind because they will have an impact on the work of this committee. Elsie then asked if there was an update on a project that presented to the committee last year on the 111th site, Angel said there was

no update the deadline for that particular RFP was August 23rd and the board has not heard back from HPD as of yet.

The Committee Chair then closed this portion of the agenda.

### 3. Developing a MTA Resolution for MetroCard's

The Committee Chair handed the floor to Mahfuzur who gave his update on the work he has done. Mahfuzur restated the purpose of the resolution which was to increase metrocard amounts and usage for students to get to and from after school commitments. Mahfuzur met with Samantha Farraro who created a petition for metro cards. Below are the resolves they came up with in their meeting:

- We shall resolve that the city of New York give every student the right to a student metro card in the student bill of rights.
- Eliminate reduce fare metrocards
- Set metrocards to work on subways, buses, express busses, select busses and the Tram
- Raise number of rides from the current 3 standard to 4 standard a day
- Expansion of hours of use from the current 5:30 am - 8:30 pm to 5:30 am - 9:30 pm.
- Include access on weekends including Sundays
- Include a trimester system which would allow for a year round metrocard including summer.

These are the recommendations and we are hoping to have a presentation in November.

Wendy then asked about age requirements for the MetroCard because it is a safety concern to have young students out late at night. Mahfuzur would like to include middle school children. Jason asked about funding and who we would request this money from and requested more information on the process by which MetroCard's are allocated funding. Danielle mentioned using advocacy in supporting OST programs by having them support our MetroCard request to give students the ability to get to the OST programs. A conversation was had by the committee about liability in having later time slots and a need to look into that further. Elsie asked about possibly having DYCD provide money to programs to have separate MetroCard's for their program participants. A conversation was had by the committee about this possibility.

The committee will do some more research and put it in as a budget priority. Mahfuzur and David will schedule some time to meet before the next presentation. Jason will look into researching OPT and how they get their funding.

### 4. Old Business:

#### a. Youth Participation on CB 11 Youth & Education Committee

The Committee Chair opened up the conversation about getting youth to participate in our committee. Nilsa will ask our Chair if we can use a flyer that Mia created at the upcoming Housing Forum and other venues to get youth interested in participating and applying to be a board member. Wendy mentioned putting together a youth forum to attract youth. Jason mentioned work he does on another board where board members are obligated to work closely with youth and create youth events to engage young people. Jacqueline mentioned having incentives for parents as well to get them to bring their

children out to events. The Committee Chair refocused the conversation to us getting a select group of kids to serve as advisors to our committee. Getting a small amount of kids to the table to help us inform our decisions as a committee. All committee members should begin to identify youth who want to attend our committee meetings. Committee Chair asked committee members to volunteer to be a part of a meeting to discuss how we can become more involved and become more visible in the community. Jason, Nilsa, Elsie Wendy and John all volunteered to be a part of the meeting. The meeting will take place at 5:00pm before our next monthly meeting on November 7th (Monday) due to Election Day.

5. New Business:

None

6. Announcements:

- a. Stephanie Caban announced that AmeriCorps is looking for volunteers to be literacy tutors for children in three East Harlem schools.
- b. Daniel White announced that there are 20 tennis courts on Randall's Island and they work with local schools to teach 500 kids how to play tennis. He is looking to partner with schools and would like to get suggestions on schools that would like to partner. There was also an announcement about two treadmills that they are looking to donate to the community.
- c. The Director of Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement for the Corrections Department of Corrections made an announcement that they are looking to do more community engagement and get involved deeper on the community level in events and meetings like these. There are non-uniform positions available and are entering the hiring stages and have exam dates coming up on October 1st and February 1st.
- d. Mahfuzur announced the FASFA application date start on October 1st.
- e. Madai Velez announced [cjii.org](http://cjii.org) is a website that currently has a number of RFP's available with monies for programs. DA's office can also provide bullying workshops. October is Domestic Violence awareness month. There is an event called Shine the Light on 125th street and 5th Avenue on October 17th. She will provide flyers to our Committee Chair.
- f. Jason announced that there is an event taking place this upcoming weekend on 125th street to talk about the Yoruba religion and its history. CCADI is running the event out of the old firehouse.
- g. David announced that on Sunday, October 23rd there will be Fiesta De Libro 11 am - 4:00 pm.
- h. Mahfuzur announced CEC 4 is having their meeting tomorrow

7. Adjournment

Motion made by Wendy to adjourn meeting, seconded by Jason.