



Diane Collier  
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## COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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### **Youth & Education Committee Tuesday, January 10, 2017, 6:00pm Board Office**

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

- Present: Yolanda Brown, Elsie Encarnacion, David Giordano (Chair), John Green, Wendy Hewlett, Nilsa Orama, Mahfuzur Rahman, Jeremiah Schlotman, Angel Mescain (staff)
- Excused: Lilybelle Gonzalez, Peggy Morales, Chandra Smith, Jason Villanueva
- Guests: Rande Rogers- PASSNYC, Mayte Hernandez-Strive, T.D. Byerson-Strive, Eileen Munsch-RIPA, Christopher Girenti-RIPA, George Ball-Each One, Teach One, Inc., Simon Green-Each One, Teach One, Inc., Reid Wilson

#### 1. Call to Order– Adoption of Agenda

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Giordano at 6:05 pm.

The Chair made an announcement that two additional items—a presentation by PASSNYC, and a discussion regarding the current goals and accomplishments of the Youth and Education Committee would be added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Wendy Hewlett to adopt the agenda with the additional two items; the motion was seconded by Mahfuzur Rahman. All were in favor.

#### 2. Presentations & Discussions

David Giordano reminded the committee that at the December meeting, all members were asked to bring in a resolution as to what they would like to work on for 2017. He also reminded the members that they were also to bring in an inspirational quote and this will be further discussed later on in the meeting.

Rande Rogers from PASSNYC made a presentation regarding the organization and its mission to promote access for minority students to take the specialized high school admissions test in order to aid in diversifying the specialized high schools. PASSNYC works as a conduit to assist organizations to work together and share information and in so doing, builds a coalition to be supportive of each other as well as the students they serve. At the present time, there are 34 partner organizations in this coalition. As a result, PASSNYC has been able leverage resources to obtain free SHSAT prep for an increased number of students. As of May, more than 1100 students have signed up for test prep. Starting this month, 60 hours of free in person and online test prep will be available to students. Currently, in our district seventh

graders from Global Tech Prep, Renaissance School of the Arts and Isaac Newton will be receiving free test prep.

Mr. Rogers stated that he would be very interested in partnering with CB 11 to explore new ways that the community and residents could benefit through events and collective impact efforts and hopes that this is the start of a long and prosperous relationship.

He also mentioned in the planning stage is an event for a city council debate that would be centered around education, economic viability and real estate crisis.

Mr. Rande mentioned that he would like CB11 to sign a MOU to work with their organization; the MOU was given to Angel Mescain for review.

After questions asked by the committee members, David Giordano stated that he would be interested in having him come back at a future date to update the committee.

### 3. New Business

David Giordano distributed the current goals and missions handout and stated that the committee needs to review the goals, note the accomplishments of the committee and asked that all members review this as a discussion will be held about this at the February meeting; goals will be reviewed and decisions will be made as to the ones we keep and the ones that we have accomplished, which ones we may have to tweak and which ones we may have to let go and move on.

### 4. Old Business

#### a. Youth Metro Cards Resolution

The committee again congratulated Mahfuzur Rahman for his initiative and hard work on the Youth Metro Cards Resolution that was presented to the full board in December and discussed ways to garner support for the resolution from other stakeholders. Ideas discussed by the committee included:

- how to market the resolution
- creating a petition to gather signatures of support
- contacting other community based organizations who service youth for support
- contacting the Youth and Education committees of other Manhattan community boards in order to present the resolution
- presentation of the resolution to the Borough Board to gather support and potentially get a Borough Board resolution
- Making presentations to the schools

David said that the committee should start locally and then branch out. Yolanda stated that she will contact the other community boards and get their information. David mentioned that he will work with the other CBO's. Elsie mentioned that she would reach out to the local high schools.

David stated that he will utilize his youth group to help support this initiative.

Nilsa suggested putting this resolution on the CB11 website to direct people to it. David asked if the Manhattan Borough President should be contacted through our liaison. Angel suggested that we contact the other CB's and then to possibly present to the Borough Board for support.

Elsie asked how do we do outreach and present this; Angel mentioned that in terms of the other community boards, we would want them to pass a resolution to get them on board and then present it to the MBP office.

Nilsa suggested presenting to the various summer youth program providers for support for this initiative.

b. Review of draft comments on Draft Scope of Work for proposed East Harlem Rezoning

The committee discussed the draft comments on the Draft Scope of Work for the proposed East Harlem Rezoning. Angel Mescain mentioned that the Youth Committee submitted complete comments for inclusion into the Board's comments and mentioned that the framework document being reviewed by the committee is the one that will be used to submit comments and asked the committee if they may have further comments for consideration. He mentioned that the Board will be voting on the final comments at the next full board meeting being held in January 2017 and submitted the following day. Angel also reminded the committee that at least three major projects (Co-op Tech, 126<sup>th</sup> Street Bus Depot, Lexington Gardens) will require comments on their impacts to the community.

Angel mentioned that the developers for the Co-op Tech project are interested in presenting to the various committees; David Giordano asked why do they have to come to each individual committee and couldn't they present to more than one committee at the time. Angel explained that after they present to the Land Use Committee, then the specialized committees get an opportunity to have a presentation to ask targeted questions that relate to that committee.

David Giordano asked if there were comments on the draft scope; Elsie asked if there was a specific name for the formula being mentioned in our comments; Angel mentioned that there is a specific formula on how they calculate the seats. Mahfuzur asked about open space and parks and for more planning for recreational activities. David mentioned that those are discretionary items.

Elsie asked about the tasks listed that do not have comments listed next to them; Angel explained that not all committee comments are reflected but that the EHNP reflects some of the positions of CB 11 that speaks to those tasks.

Mahfuzur asked about Charter Schools and rezoning; David explained that the Department of Education does not always see things the way we see them.

Elsie asked if the committee would like to comment about the formula used to calculate space in general in a school for full size classrooms and wondered if there was another formula that could be suggested.

Nilsa suggested that clarification regarding net usable space for students be included.

Elsie will do some research to see if there is a number used for calculation of space and will let Angel know what she finds.

Angel mentioned that we will still have a continued opportunity to comment and mentioned that the newly formed task force will be a formal platform for education and for obtaining comments from the community.

David asked when we will see the official plan; Angel stated that there is no official plan until it is certified and that it will be tweaked; it is understanding that it may be certified in February –March. Once it is certified, the Community Board has 60 days for comments, then it will go to the Manhattan Borough President's office for 30 days, then to the City Council for 30 days. A position will be taken and that is the opportunity to put in everything that the community needs.

## 5. Announcements

Eileen Munsch and Christopher Girgenti from the Randall's Island Park Alliance made an announcement regarding the programs available and left information regarding the free field trips to Randall's Island, discussed the Waterfront Stewardship Program and the free Snowshoeing at Randall's Island. They also left sample lessons from their curriculum for review.

Nilsa Orama reminded the committee that the Bylaws revision will be discussed at the next full board meeting and that all members should have reviewed the proposed revision as they will be expected to vote on them at the meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wendy Hewlett and seconded by Elsie Encarnacion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Minutes prepared by Nilsa Orama and David Giordano.