



Chairman: Nicholas Himidian, Jr. - District Manager: William Rivera

Youth & Education Committee Meeting Minutes November 8, 2018

Committee Chair: Venus Williams

Vice Chair: Harry Dunlap

- **Introduction**

Committee Description: The youth & education committee represents the community's interests with regards to education and programs that target the youth and acts as a liaison between community members and the NYC Department of Education including Parent Advocates, PTA's, Educators and Principals, School Safety, the Administration for Children Services, the District Attorney's Office, NYC department of Youth & Development and local organizations and nonprofits.

- **Guest Speakers**

- A. Shireena Drammeh, Islamic Leadership School

- Principal and Cofounder of the school
- Wanted be known as the peace promoting school after 9/11 attacks
- Founded several peace programs, one of which is the Interfaith Living Museum
 - Partnered with several schools and the program is going onto its fifth year
 - Learn about heritage and culture
- Celebrates Jewish holidays with them
- 100% of students are college-bound
- With exception of ESL students, students graduate by 16 or 17 years of age
- They do really well on state exams and have to retake Regents exam if they receive less than an 89
- Wants to stay within the district and is still looking for location
- Will have grades K – 2, with 50 students in each grade
- Called Stand Up Academy Charter School
 - STEM Curriculum DUP
 - DUP = Diversity, Unity and Peace
 - School for the youth in our community
 - Will partner with the same organizations
- Will provide entrance exam on lottery basis
- Partnership with parents and requirement is willingness to work hard
- Strict disciplinary plan similar to the Islamic Leadership School

- Will have yoga program
 - Needs letter of support from Community Board 9 and possibly advertise later
- B. Tony Santiago
- Helps with the fundraising to open up charter school because they don't receive the same funding as public school
 - Would like support from Community Board 9
 - There are foundations, corporations and elected officials can allocate money for charter school
 - Will apply for elected official funds and will later make request for capital funds, so they can get supplies
 - Abunoman: Can ask DYCD for funding help
 - Abunoman will give more information regarding funding
 - Venus: Council Member Ruben Diaz Sr. also gives out an annual grant
- C. Community Board Vote
- New way to record votes
 - Everyone voted yes to providing a letter of support, except Nick because he didn't see the presentation, so he will vote on it later
 - Nick usually writes the letter and Venus Williams will sign
 - Motion to approve support letter for STEM DUP Charter School
 - Unanimous vote
 - 3 people absent
 - They have quorum (50% + 1); 4 ppl agreed
 - Motion passed
- **Old Business**
- A. Toy Drive
- Need day and place to give the toys to
 - Always given to hospitals but should try giving them to shelters this year
 - Try to collect more and maybe divide it to send it to different places
 - Maybe a library because children can come to libraries when they don't have toys at home
 - At a school and have Nick dress up as Santa Claus
 - Dropoff is at CB9 office and the deadline should be December 14, Friday
 - Nick: We should pick a school and work with them to give out toys before school closes
 - We also need red wrapping paper if we are wrapping all the toys
 - Flyer completed by November 16 for the blast
 - Toys catering to K-5 students, which should be included in the flyer
 - Email each other to decide on school
 - CB9 Staff should call P.S. 93
 - Have the flyer go out by Friday
 - Should consider challenges like getting too much or not enough and school schedules
 - Nick: We can do it outside of the Christmas season if it doesn't work out during the time frame; we can probably do it in January or February and call it a gifting event
 - Nick: We should consider everyone else who doesn't celebrate any of the holidays and have an event that's more inclusive, so the children don't feel left out

- Nick: We can possibly give out to shelter
 - Venus: We have to wait to see how much we collect
 - Nick: We can have two parts to the toy collection, one during this time and one during the spring
 - Venus: We should leave out Christmas or Holiday and just call it a toy drive
 - Should consider how many toys are collected and then maybe have another round
 - Keep the deadline and if it needs to be extended to January, then they will
 - The location is to be determined
- **New Business**
 - A. Thanksgiving Food Drive?
 - Constituent's Manicurist needs donations and volunteers to make food and serve to shelters
 - Can present to General Board but should prepare with a flyer as well
 - Make sure there is no peanuts used in the foods