

**MINUTES OF THE LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005 AT THE BOARD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Martin Wolpoff
Libby Vazquez
Marisa Parish
Karen Franklin

AFFILIATION

Committee Chairperson CB #8
CB #8
New York Public Library
Judaica Museum, Hebrew Home for the Aged

NYPL

Ms. Parish reported on the current status of our local libraries. Planning for the replacement for the Kingsbridge branch seems to be going on schedule, while construction at the Riverdale branch is complete, there are still some smaller items that need to be addressed, construction at the Jerome Park branch is taking a little longer than had been anticipated. Although there are needs at both branches, nothing is presently in the works for Van Cortlandt or Spuyten Duyvil.

Contest

Mr. Wolpoff has reached out in writing to the principals of schools with grades 7 and 8 in the Community Board 8 area. He has advised of the desire to initiate the fourth annual essay contest. Two schools have replied. The group brainstormed about a topic and decided on a hurricane/disaster related topic focusing on the idea of "What five things would you take with you if your family had to leave its home?"

Mr. Wolpoff will follow up with Principals to see if there is an interest in promoting the contest, in lite of last year's low response. There was a review of the contest's history. We discussed areas that have to be worked on if contest is to happen:

Fundraising

Prizes

Judges

Calendar

Promoting contest - getting the word out.

Mr. Wolpoff will review the reaction of the principals and report back at the next meeting.

Cultural Activities:

The Judaica museum will open in its new quarters in spring 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Vazquez
Committee Member

Please note: The meeting date has been changed to Thursday, November 10, 2005, 7:30 P.M. at the Board office.

LV:db