

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARIES & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 6, 2008
AT THE KINGSBRIDGE BRANCH OF THE NYPL

Present

Robert G. Abbott
Steven Barker
Maria Khury
Bridget Maybury
Martin Wolpoff

Affiliation

Committee Chairman, CB#8
Branch Manager, NYPL
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1. No June meeting of the committee. No minutes to approve.
2. The chair welcomed new members of the committee: Maria Khury and Bridget Maybury
3. The Kingsbridge Branch: The chair introduced Steve Barker who proceeded to present the design and layout of the new Kingsbridge branch library to be located immediately across the street from the existing building. Steve explained that the new building will have administrative offices for the staff and a large auditorium as well as excellent space for patrons. The lower level will have an outdoor patio that can be used for the children's program. The interior of the building will be bathed in natural light from the full wall of glass on the south and east facing sides. An energy-efficient "green" roof is expected to keep heating and cooling costs to a minimum. The timetable for development is estimated between 18 and 36 months with a most probable completion in about two years.

Kingsbridge has the benefit of staff members with age-specific skills. There is a children's librarian, a young adult's librarian, and Steve Barker is the Adults librarian. He generally described the activities that currently take place and suggested that the adult programs are growing. Emphasis on adult activities for the Spanish-speaking community is part of his future plans.
4. The Capital Budget for 2010: We reviewed the consolidated capital budget and expense budget priorities for fiscal year 2010. It was noted that the sequence of priorities submitted by this committee in June of this year have been juggled in the consolidated document. As the NYPL concurred with the original sequence, we will attempt to have it restored.
5. Proposal on Library Forums: After meeting with NYPL leadership over the last month, we considered the idea of hosting library "forums". As described, these would be meetings with patron stakeholders so that the NYPL could present their plans and

programs to the community and, in turn, obtain feedback and recommendations from the community. A preferred mechanism to accomplish this improved communication would be for this committee to have joint meetings with the Aging Committee, the Education Committee, and perhaps the Youth Committee so as to create a specific focus for the presentations. This meeting format would serve to introduce the NYPL to individuals and organizations that could lead to subsequent mutual activities related to the delivery of library services. A timetable to have the first forum was not considered as a more detailed agenda has to be developed.

Submitted by,

Robert G. Abbott
Chairman
Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee

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