

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

Minutes of the Meeting of the Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee Board Office, March 12, 2012, 7:00 pm

Attendees

Robert G. Abbott, Committee Chair, CB8
Lamont Parker, CB8
Martin Wolpoff, CB8
Herbert Young, CB8
Jane Fisher, NYPL
Miawling Lam, Riverdale Review

The meeting began at 7:00 pm

Update on NYPL – DOE partnership: Jane Fisher expanded on the information provided at the January joint meeting with the Education committee. In addition to the pilot program to integrate the public school's library catalog with the NYPL catalog, the NYPL currently offers extensive support services for teachers and students. Moreover, as part of "Reimagining the Library for the Future" (see <http://www.nypl.org/yourlibrary>) the library intends to provide extended after-school homework-help facilities, expanded access to technology training, and expanded literacy services.

NYPL and Seniors: Jane Fisher described another initiative of the NYPL in collaboration with Lifetime Arts organization (see the Libraries Project on the website <http://www.lifetimearts.org/>) to bring art-based programs to the local branches for seniors over the age of 50. Kingsbridge branch will host one of the programs starting on June 5th and running for a total of nine Tuesdays through the end of July.

Budget Priorities: We had an initial discussion of the expense and capital budget priorities for fiscal year 2014. Unfortunately we also discussed very serious cuts in the 2013 budget that were just announced. The 2013 Preliminary Budget proposes total funding of \$207 million for the public library system (city-wide), a decrease of 30.4% from 2012. We will await more details on the 2013 cuts and analysis of the local implications for our area.

(Note: city funding for cultural organizations is slated to fall by 36.9% between 2012 and 2013.)

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by,

Robert G. Abbott, Chair

Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee