

**YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON NOVEMBER 29, 2007
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

PRESENT:

Cassandra Prentice
Traci Callender
Urban Ellis
Gloria Ellis
Anne Gray
Jerome Harris
Eduardo Laboy (for Chris Corneil)
Cameron Niles
Nancy Nunez
Charlie Schiller
Nicole Stent

AFFILIATION:

CB 8, Committee Chair
Kingsbridge Heights Comm. Ctr.
New Marble Hill Tenants & Civic Center
New Marble Hill Tenants & Civic Center
Riverdale Community Center
Riverdale Neighborhood House
DYCD
New Marble Hill Tenants & Civic Center
Riverdale Neighborhood House
Riverdale YM-YWHA
CB 8 District Manager

Committee Chairperson, District Manager, and guests were introduced.

May 31, 2007 Committee Meeting Minutes were approved and seconded.

Old Business:

Nancy Nunez discussed a previous proposal to develop a youth council, which would be comprised of student interns.

Anne Gray provided a brief overview of the services offered by the Riverdale Community Center, which includes, but are not limited to a five day weekly, three hours per day (3:15 – 6:15 PM) after-school program that features group and individual counseling around issues confronting 7th -8th graders, most of whom attend MS 141; tutoring for at risk youth; Friday night Teen Center (7-10 PM).

New Business:

An open forum discussion was held to determine the needs and services available to young people in CB 8. Urban Ellis informed the committee of the services offered by the New Marble Hill Tenants Civic Center, most notably the efforts and challenges of engaging youth in the music, journalism, and college-bound programs offered by Marble Hill. The Committee agreed that a more aggressive approach must be taken

towards outreach efforts to community based organizations, schools, churches, etc. Incentives to promote participation in positive youth oriented activities were discussed, as well as developing linkages among the CB 8 CBO'S.

It was noted that young people are more receptive to people in their age group and the committee agreed that it might be beneficial to recruit college students to speak to young folks in settings where they congregate, i.e. schools, churches, community centers, youth events, etc.

Eduardo Laboy informed the committee of DYCD'S Youth Line Program, where kids speak to kids.

The Youth Internship program was also discussed and it was explained that giving back, once completing the program, is expected. The Committee thought it should be made an admission criterion.

In order to more effectively reach-out to the young people in our community, a commitment was made to develop a CB 8 listing of CBO'S covering the full spectrum of services, events, activities, interventions, etc. available to youth in our district.

Eduardo Laboy and Cassandra Prentice will spearhead this campaign, and Committee members will submit a list of the services provided by their organizations, and will take a pro-active approach in linking with one another.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Prentice
Chairperson
Youth Committee