

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 31, 2008 AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

PRESENT

Cassandra Prentice
Nancy Nunez
Sandy Mislow
Charlie Schiller
Bradford Trebach
Nicole Stent

AFFILIATION

CB 8, Committee Chair
Riverdale Neighborhood House
Riverdale YM-YWHA
Riverdale YM-YWHA
CB 8
CB 8, District Manager

Committee Chairperson, District Manager, CB 8 and Committee Members, and guest introduced themselves.

Committee Chair asked for a motion to approve minutes from the November 29, 2007 meeting minutes. Nancy Nunez asked that the minutes be revised under New Business, paragraph 4 to read Kingsbridge Heights Community Center Youth Leadership program. Minutes were approved.

New Business

Nicole Stent announced that the Board Office would benefit from a youth intern from Riverdale Neighborhood House. The intern will work 4 hours a week on a variety of projects. One of the projects the intern will be working on will be a Youth Services Directory.

Sandy Mislow-Presentation: Ms. Mislow is the new director of the Riverdale YM-YWHA inclusion initiative, who comes to our community with a background in teaching and psychology. Ms. Mislow will be working with all departments within the "Y" to help increase awareness and accessibility for individuals and families with special needs. The Riverdale Y is hoping to obtain funding from the Butler Foundation, who has hired a research firm to analyze hard data which will determine if the community needs are in line with the foundation's criteria for funding under this initiative. Ms. Mislow is scheduled to speak during the gallery session at the next full board meeting.

Old Business

The development of a Community Board 8 Youth Services Directory is a major item on the committee's agenda. Extensive research by the Committee Chair revealed CB 8 is sorely lacking in the core services offered by most CB's, i.e. teen pregnancy, alcohol and drug prevention and intervention, at-risk youth, mentoring programs, etc. Committee

members agreed that the proliferation of at least one the aforementioned issues, alcohol/drug abuse is fact, not assumption. Nancy Nunez, who has worked with pregnant teens, informed the committee that she must refer the teen-aged girls to resources outside of CB 8 and admits that this is a problem for the teens as they do not feel entirely confident traveling outside their community. The committee agreed that the community has turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to these issues. On a more visceral level the Committee Chair believes that if we fail our youth, we fail. Nicole Stent graciously agreed to lend her support in developing the Youth Services Directory. She suggested that one of the projects the intern will be working on will be the Youth Services Directory.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on March 26, 2008, at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Prentice, Chair
Committee Chair

CP:sa
(Feb. 4, 2008)