

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

### MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MAY 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

#### **Present**

Thomas C. Durham  
Anne Gray  
Jessica Cuevas

#### **Affiliation**

Co-Chair  
Riverdale Community Center  
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center

At 1 PM the meeting was called to order; starting with the approval of the last meeting minutes.

#### **Co-Chair's Report**

- Chairperson Cassandra Prentice, due to health problems is still unable to attend the Youth Committee meetings.

As you all have been hearing, there is federal stimulus money in the city. I spent several days searching the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) for funding for our youth organization in CB8, other than the Out-of-School Time (OST) Technical Assistants Program. It seems that all available funding is targeted toward the lower income communities.

These funds are to secure summer jobs for the inner city youth and youth and children centers in high crime neighborhoods.

There also seems to be funding for NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) youth centers but Marble Hill and Ft. Independence centers (NYCHA in CB8) were not on that list of stimulus funding. We need to check in with these property managers.

We need to have someone from DYCD sit down and explain why they feel the middle and upper class neighborhood youth are not at risk and why our programs struggle for funding.

#### **Old Business**

- At our last meeting, all youth organizations were asked to send their budget priority needs to CB8 so that the youth committee can target and prioritize the common needs of everyone. We only received the budget priorities from the Riverdale Community Center (RCC).

RCC wrote and broke down their budget and programs with such great detail that we used it as an example and guide for the other youth organizations. The present meeting attendees also used the RCC budget request as a format for the rest of the meeting.

RCC is a ten-month budget program, masking the public school calendar. However it does try to keep its doors open during the long school week break and major long running school holidays.

Kingsbridge Heights Community Center (KHCC) is open all year long from morning until the late evening. KHCC has taken on many fund raising ventures to close its budget needs. It has made, like other centers, many budget cuts and even asked personnel to take early retirement.

Like Riverdale Neighborhood House, the Riverdale YM/YWHA and the Marble Hill Community Center runs year round programs, all are finding it hard to keep many programs operating.

## **New Business**

### **Budget Priorities**

- Funding all CB8 youth programs and organizations so that they can keep their doors open.

I'm hoping that CB8 received the budgets from the organizations who did not submit their information. Most of the Youth Organization's executives are out attending meetings to try to obtain and hold on to the meager funds that are still available to them.

## **Adjournment**

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2009.

Submitted by Co- Chairman

Mr. Thomas C. Durham  
Chairperson  
Cassandra Prentice