

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD # 17
4112 FARRAGUT ROAD
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11210**

Minutes of December 13, 2023

YOUTH/EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT:

Gail Grandison
Timothy Davis
Hyacinth Charles
Natasha Duncan
Trisha Louison
Edith Mark
Monica McKain-Brown
Cheryl Saunders
Pamela Simon
Jorge Tait
Ivor Wood

ABSENT:

Dovid L. Halon
Lisebethsa Morency
Donovan Whitter
Muline Mickle
Kamara Swaby
Ozni Lewis
Rose Graham
Samantha Lawrence

EXCUSED:

Joan Bakiriddin
Barrington Barrett
Patricia Reddock

GUEST:

The Youth Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. virtually, via WebEx.

Ms. Gail Grandison called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Everyone introduced themselves.

Notes

The meeting discussed upcoming community events, safety concerns in schools, the hiring process for a new assistant district manager, budget cuts and their impact on schools, and strategies for fundraising and addressing low enrollment in schools.

- The meeting is being chaired by Gail Grandison, who welcomes the members of the youth and education committee.
- Introductions are made by committee members, including Hyacinth Charles, Monica McCain Brown, Jorge A Tait, Ivor Woods, Mark Edith, Natasha Duncan, and Pamela Simon.
- Gail Grandison discusses upcoming community events, including a holiday lighting event and a toy giveaway for children.
- There are upcoming events, including a park lighting and distribution event, a playground cleanup, and a toy drive.
- A recent meeting discussed safety concerns in schools, with minimal risk reported in the district.
- The process of hiring a new assistant district manager for Community Board 17 is underway, with interviews and a scoring mechanism being used to narrow down candidates.
- The meeting discusses budget cuts and their impact on schools, particularly in the community.
- Gail Grandison expresses concern about the loss of funding and proposes reaching out to elected officials for a conversation or meeting.

- Timothy suggests alternative measures like fundraising and donations to support schools during this time of budget cuts.
- There is political pressure to prevent budget cuts for services such as school police, sanitation, and housing.
- Fundraising efforts should be done in partnership with schools and PTAs, such as through silent auctions or suggested fees for school performances.
- Movie nights and concerts can be organized as community-wide events to generate revenue for schools.
- The focus should be on finding multiple streams of income and ensuring that no one is left out due to financial constraints.
- Gail Grandison suggests donating a movie package for 1 or 2 families and having a raffle to determine who gets it.
- There is discussion about organizing a forum in the spring to address low enrollment in schools, with input from the Department of Education and parents.
- The committee discusses ways to address low enrollment and ensure school budgets remain substantial.

Generated by AI Assistant

Action items

- Add Pamela Simon to the committee roster and send her the official form to fill out [0:06:12](#)
- Attend the CD 17 community holiday lighting on Friday, December 15 from 6-7 PM in Power Playground at Albany and Foster avenues [0:08:06](#)
- Help decorate the tree for the holiday lighting event at 4 PM [0:08:43](#)
- Confirm with Ms. Lions if forwarding the previously filled out form by Pamela Simon is acceptable [0:08:55](#)
- Send out a survey to organizations that attended last year's youth happening event to gather feedback on activities, food, and entertainment preferences for the upcoming event in January/February. [0:21:43](#)
- Reach out to principals again for their input on the proposed meeting with elected officials and discuss potential alternative measures to address budget cuts in schools. [0:33:22](#)
- Explore the possibility of restoring funding for services such as school police, sanitation, and housing [0:34:50](#)
- Investigate options for fundraising, including partnering with PTAs and organizing a drive for essential items needed in schools [0:36:46](#)
- Compile a resource list of organizations that provide free donations to parents in need [0:40:30](#)
- Consider implementing a fee for entry at school performances and events [0:42:15](#)
- Explore the idea of organizing movie nights at each school as a fundraising event [0:46:38](#)
- Consider donating a movie package for 1 or 2 families [0:52:23](#)
- Organize a forum in the spring to discuss low enrollment in schools, inviting members of the Department of Education and parents [0:54:10](#)
- Explore ways to maintain budget for schools with low enrollment [0:56:51](#)
- Create marketing materials for the committee and gather feedback on content and design [0:59:55](#)
- Attend the Brooklyn Chamber annual meeting and winter gala on December 19th [1:01:27](#)
- Attend the toy giveaway for kids happening at the same time as the holiday lighting event [1:03:32](#)
- Share information about the Flatbush Leadership Academy mentorship program