Jim Clynes Chairman

Latha Thompson District Manager



505 Park Avenue Suite 620 New York, N.Y. 10022

(212) 758-4340 (212) 758-4616 (Fax) info@cb8m.com- E-Mail www.cb8m.com – Website

## The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8 Youth & Education Committee Meeting New York Blood Center 310 East 67th Street Conference Rooms 1&2 Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:30 PM

Community Board Members (Present): Hattie Quarnstrom-Figerora, Debbie Teitelbaum, Ed Hartzog, Zoe Markowitz, David Menegon Community Board Public Members (Present): Betsy Tiffany Attendees: 11

## Agenda: Presentation on opportunities for youth participation in government

I. Introductions

II. Andrew Lombardi, one of the community liaisons at the Borough President's office, was not able to attend. Debbie explained the BP's Youth Council initiative for Manhattan teens 14-17 years old. The BP's office is hoping to have 24-48 teens participate this year. If the teens do not live in Manhattan, they must attend school in Manhattan. Logistics are still being worked out. The idea is that the kids will discuss ideas that affect the community and work with community leaders and their staff. Students will learn resume and interview skills as well.

III. Will Brightbill, Senior Advisor for Council Member Dan Garodnick, presented their summer internship program.

Will is the internship coordinator. They hire 6-10 interns to help with phones, mail and policy research. The teens also attend meetings on occasion. The office hires in the summer, spring and fall and the length of the internship is as desired. The interns work 2-3 days per week in the morning or afternoon. The office staggers the times so that every intern can work with different people throughout the office and see Council Member Garodnick as much as possible. The interns are in high school or college. Generally, the high school teens are more willing to help with office work while the college students prefer policy research. The application is rolling. The interns have various interests and are usually engaged in politics and competent in how to deal with people. The interns write policy papers during down time.

IV. Taylor Digby, community liaison for Council Member Ben Kallos, spoke about their internship opportunities.

When interviewing their interns, they look for curiosity to learn as well as a general understanding of local government. They should show initiative and be comfortable speaking in

person as well as by phone. Letters of recommendation are on request. The interns will work at least 60 days in order for college credits to be available. If the intern is invited back, they are considered "fellows" and given metrocards as a stipend. The interns are in high school or college and help with research, community organizing and office tasks. The internships are 20% project-based. The interns work on policy papers and plan events. Summer interns are hired for 20/hours per week; spring and fall interns work 12-15 hours/week or 10 hours/week with evening events. One intern is hired specifically to work in communications with the communication director, and work in graphic design and video editing. The other opportunity is a legislature fellowship. This intern would be in a master's program or law school and will work with the legislative director; hours would be the same as other interns. CM Kallos hires approximately 20 interns throughout the year, who are all based out of the district office, except for the legislative fellow. The application is rolling and those who live in the community are given additional consideration.

V. Charlene Bryant, of the Community Partnerships Unit, spoke about the Manhattan District Attorney's High School Summer Internship

This prestigious program has been around for 20 years. Usually, 20-40 students are accepted. Each student is assigned to an Assistant District Attorney to shadow throughout the day. There are "brown bag" days where the student interns will hear from other speakers and learn about all facets of the office; set designers, paralegals and other support staff will speak as the office understands that not every student will want to become a lawyer. The application consists of a cover letter/personal statement as well as a resume. Based on that, students are then invited to interview and asked to bring sealed copies of letters of recommendation. Decisions are made by the end of April. Students much attend high school or live in Manhattan. Students need to be in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade and want to understand the "process" of law. This year, approximately 30 students will be chosen. The application is competitive and they want to see how you express and present yourself. The students work and observe behind the scenes, which helps with a "mock trial" that they will participate in at the end of the program. The interns should show exuberance, creativity and stand out. If the student is not offered an internship, the DA's office can help guide the student to other law enforcement internships throughout the city.

## Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.