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**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan  
Social Justice Committee  
Monday, September 23, 2024 – 6:30 PM  
*This meeting was conducted via Zoom***

**MINUTES**

*CB8 Members Present:* Sarah Chu, Saundrea I. Coleman, Wendy Machaver (Public Member), and Rita Popper.

*Approximate Number of Public Attendees:* 1

**Item 1 – Discussion of past social justice meeting topics**

The Social Justice committee met to conduct a retrospective of past meeting topics and to solicit ideas for future meetings. The co-chairs' view is that social justice issues impact us all regardless of our demographic identity and the committee seeks to be on the forefront of issues in our community.

**CB8M Social Justice Committee Purpose (December 7, 2020)**

- Increase internal participation in the committee, and also reach out widely to the community
- Possible inclusion of Social Justice issues in the annual explanation for the Statement of District Needs.
- Coordination with other committees on programs of mutual concern.
- Suggest that each Manhattan Community Board establish a similar committee if they have not already done so, perhaps with the assistance of the Borough President
- Examine all committee actions through the lens of Social Justice.
  - The example offered involved E-bicycles. As annoying and dangerous as they might be, outright bans would cause economic hardship for delivery persons, and a more fair response might be toward licensing and regulation.
- The committee should be and remain a group focused on change.
- Invite relevant speakers to address topics of concern
- Structure future meetings on focused topics

**Past CB8M Social Justice Committee Topics**

Date	Topic
June 24, 2024	Excited Delirium
January 29, 2024	UES Open Hearts
November 27, 2023	NYCHA Family Reunification Project
October 23, 2023	Opening Doors to Housing Initiative, Vera Institute of Justice
April 24, 2023	NYPD's Strategic Response Group with NYCLU
March 27, 2023	NYS Office of Cannabis Management Equity Initiatives
February 27, 2023	Justfix.org
October 24, 2022	Public Housing-to-Prison Pipeline Part 2
September 28, 2022	Public Housing-to-Prison Pipeline, Part 1
July 25, 2022	Domestic Violence
May 23, 2022	"Don't Say Gay" bills with Prof. Erin Mayo-Adam
April 25, 2022	A3103/S1828, a bill related to minimum wage for employees with disabilities
March 28, 2022	CleanSlateNY with Marvin Mayfield

Date	Topic
February 28, 2022	Educational Equity presentations by Yorkville East (MS 177) students
January 24, 2022	NYC Public Defender Eliza Orlins
November 22, 2021	NYC Racial Justice Commission
October 25, 2021	NYCHA Reform with Dr. Raja Flores
June 28, 2021	Education through a lens of Social Justice, with CB8M Youth, Education & Libraries Committee
May 24, 2021	"Scale and Scope of Surveillance Technology" presentation by AI for the People, Cornell Tech Digital Life Initiative, Public Advocates' Office
April 26, 2021	New York City Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes with Deputy Director Hassan Naveed
March 22, 2021	Community input for NYPD Reform Proposal
February 22, 2021	NYC Commission on Human Rights
January 29, 2021	First Amendment activities, Accountability for Capitol Insurrection
December 7, 2020	Defining Social Justice and Committee Purpose

Updates on past issues:

## 1. NYCHA Conditions

Saundrea reported participating in a forum with Dr. Raja Flores and the Public Advocate on the topic of NYCHA living conditions and that residents are still living in harmful conditions. Saundrea and the Holmes-Isaacs Coalition worked to help residents with examples, including a resident living in a hazardous studio with their spouse and two small children. NYCHA wanted to move the family outside the community, and advocates helped keep him in the community and moved him into a safe 2-bedroom apartment. The granddaughter of Eleanor Bumpers, who was killed by police in NYCHA, was moved out of a lead-filled apartment into another lead-filled apartment. There is also evidence that NYCHA is warehousing apartments in the city during a time when there is an overwhelming need for affordable housing.

## 2. Facial Recognition Technology

The President issued an executive order on policing that directed the National Academy of Sciences to produce a report on the use of facial recognition technology. Reports about the technology have also been released by the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In terms of policy, although some localities have banned the technology, states have not passed any bans, though some regulatory bills have been passed.

### **Item 2 – Suggestions for future meetings**

1. Presentation from Greystone Bakery or other organizations that supports people in re-entry.
2. Impact of businesses going cashless despite NYC legislation prohibiting businesses from denying cash payments.
3. Facial recognition update from the Public Advocate's office.
4. Establishing a long-term project to work on. The proposed project was advocating to bring resources to Isaacs/Holmes residents to fix outstanding problems and ensure all apartments are occupied, habitable, and accessible.

### **Item 3 – Old Business** – None

### **Item 4 – New Business** – None

**This meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.**

***Saundrea I. Coleman and Sarah Chu, Co-Chairs***