



CITYWIDE DISTRICT 75 COUNCIL

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MINUTES CALENDAR MEETING

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide District 75 Council was held on Wednesday, **April 17, 2013** at 6:00 pm at Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street, NYC. The following people were in attendance.

*Note: Mr. Williams, President called the calendar meeting to order.
Call to Order at 6:44 PM the Calendar Agenda

1. Roll Call

Able Alagbe	Present
Charlene Carroll-Hall	Present
Gloria Corsino	Present
Maureen Dantzler	Excused
Diamaris Magarin	Present
Jackie Pierre-Louis	Present
Gloria Smith	Present
Joseph Williams	Present
Aliya Rasool	Excused

2. Appointment of Time Keeper:

Charlene Carroll-Hall

3. Report of the President

I would like to welcome parents and guest speakers to the Citywide District 75 Council Calendar Meeting.

The council is celebrating the Annual Autism Awareness Month and were glad that your here to celebrate with us.

The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity for everyone to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community.

So here are some Facts on Autism:

The word "autism," which has been in use for about 100 years, comes from the Greek word "autos," meaning "self." The term describes conditions in which a person is removed from social interaction - hence, an isolated self.

In the 1940s, researchers in the United States began to use the term "autism" to describe children with emotional or social problems.

From the 1960s through the 1970s, research into treatments for autism focused on medications such as LSD, electric shock, and behavioral change techniques. The latter relied on pain and punishment.

During the 1980s and 1990s, the role of behavioral therapy and the use of highly controlled learning environments emerged as the primary treatments for many forms of autism and related conditions. Currently, the cornerstone of autism therapy is behavioral therapy.

Over the past 10 years the rate of children born with autism has gone from the rate of 1 out of 108 to today's rate of 1 out of 80. With boys the numbers are 1 out of 50. If this was a virus it would be declared an epidemic.

In order to highlight the growing needs, concern and awareness about autism, the Council not only wanted to focus on the concerns. We wanted to celebrate and share the strives with autism as well as the events planned for Autism Awareness.

We have invited: The WNBA NEW York Liberty Basketball Team's Matt Schulman, Manager of Sales and Services and Kristina DeCarlo, District 75 Thomasina Howe, Autism Coach And Autism Speaks.

If you need a translator please raise your hand and please turn off your cell phones or put them on vibrate during the meeting.

Thank you,

4. Report of the Superintendent

Gary Hecht, Superintendent of District 75 welcomed the attendees. He informed the parents that April is Autism Awareness Month and District 75 services the largest population with autism. He was excited to have Thomasina Howe, Autism Coach at the council's meeting. Students will have the Alternate Assessment test this month. The district is working closely with the state prior to testing to work on any concerns and questions that may arise before the exam. The results of the testing will be provided to the District early July.

Other events planned by the District: The EPIC Fair-Best Practices on May 27th parents and agencies are invited to attend. The Samuel Stern Awards on May 21st will be held at the Lighthouse. There will also be parent workshops for the next two months. One of the workshops will focus on inclusion and transition. The dates of the workshops are May 3rd in Manhattan, May 7th at 721Q and May 16th at Hostos Community College.

District 75 Parent Coordinators throughout the borough planned workshops and events. For the month of May at 811X the Vision Center will provide parents with vision care and free eye glasses for students and families. In Manhattan and Queens there will be a series of workshops for Transition Planning and Common Core Instruction. For the month of June in Staten Island and Brooklyn there will be a Resource Fair and an outdoor carnival where various agencies are invited.

5. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the January 23, 2013 Calendar Meeting Minutes, Gloria Smith motioned to accept the minutes, Diamaris Magarin, second the motion and all were in favor.

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the March 13, 2013 Working Meeting Minutes, Able Alagbe, motioned to accept the minutes, Gloria Corsino, second the motion and all were in favor.

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the March 20, 2013 Calendar Meeting Minutes, Charlene Carroll-Hall motioned to accept the minutes, Gloria Corsino, second the motion and all were in favor.

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the April 10, 2013 Calendar Meeting Minutes, Jackie Pierre-Louis motioned to accept the minutes, Gloria Corsino second the motion and all were in favor.

6. Reading and Vote of Resolution-Protect Students Privacy

Jackie Pierre- Louis, please see attached.

7. WNBA New York Liberty Organization: Matt Schulman, Manager of Sales and Service and Kristina DeCarlo, Account Executive

Matt Schulman and Kristina DeCarlo of the NY Liberty Organization will highlight District 75 at the NY Liberty Autism Awareness Day on July 7th. During the event parents and students will be introduced to the NY Liberty Anti-Bullying School Day Game, NY Liberty Camp Day Games (summer programs), provided promotional items, on court photo's post game, Ball ceremony to name a few during the celebration. Tickets will be provided to the students and parents of District 75 as well as transportation services to and from the event.

8. Thomasina Howe, Autism Coach, District 75 Office of Autism

Ms. Howe, Autism Coach at District 75 started her presentation by reading 10 Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Know by Robert Frost. There after she engaged the attendees and council Autism Awareness Vocabulary and fill in the Missing Words related to autism. Attendees there after read the answers to the questions on the sheets.

9. Autism Speaks

Canceled

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm