Education, Culture & Youth Services Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2019  
Community Board 11 Office

MINUTES

PRESENT: Diane Norris, Chair; Linda White, Co-chair; Bernadette Ferrara; John Musto; and Shradhanand Pirtam.

EXCUSED: Marnie Rodriguez.

GUEST(S): Arthur Brown, Education Consultant; Mona Aly; Shireena Drammeh, Islamic Leadership School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Introductions
2. Guest Speaker - Shireena Drammeh
   Shireena spoke about the Islamic Leadership School at 2009 Westchester Avenue. It opened on September 11, 2001 and became a school for peace and understanding through studying and working together. It recently closed due to lack of funding. When it was open, there was a co-existence of religions as there was a synagogue and Jewish students as well as Islamic Students. It was a private school K-12 of which 95% of the graduates were college bound with Honors. They are interested in opening a charter school in Community Board 11 for grades K-5 called Stemdup with the stem curriculum and teaching Arabic. Unity and Peace are at the Heart of their teachings.
   The reason for Shireena’s visit is to ask for a letter of recommendation from the Board. The Committee voted unanimously to ask the Board for this letter.

3. Old Business
   Discussion on what necessary information the board needs to make a concrete proposal for an intermediate school in Community Board 11. We are also requesting that Jeremy invite the Superintendent of District School Board 11 and someone from the Department of School Construction to attend our April meeting.

4. Adjournment
   Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes taken by Linda White and typed by staff.