# Archives, Reference and Research Advisory Board July 20, 2022 <u>Minutes</u>

### Present:

-Board Members: Marco Carrion, Alison Cornyn, Lillian Jean-Baptiste, Pamela Cruz, Sarah Gonzalez, Richard Moylan, Rebecca Pou, Peter Williams, and Eric Washington.

-DORIS Staff: Pauline Toole, Sylvia Kollar, LaTonya Jones, Kenneth Cobb.

1. Review of minutes from the April 20, 2022 meeting.

Marco Carrion asked for comments or questions regarding the minutes from the April 20, 2022 board meeting. None were voiced and the minutes were accepted.

## 2. Committee Reports

- a. Education Committee: Pamela Cruz reported for the Education Committee. The Committee met on July 18, 2022; member Brian Carlin wrote a report that she will share with the Board [the report is appended to the minutes]. She added that they are planning two teacher workshops on how to use archival material.
- b. Neighborhood Committee: Pauline Toole remarked that Eric K. Washington was unable to attend the meeting, but recently appeared on NBC -News (Channel 4), as well as NPR to speak about support for landmarking of the 'Colored School No. 4'. Once the building is landmarked, further input will be needed to discuss new uses for the building.

c. Social Media Committee: Member Sarah Gonzalez reported that her committee met on July 11<sup>th</sup> and discussed how they can amplify DORIS' social media output.

## 3. Update on Agency activities

Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Pauline Toole reporting

- -The "Jane's Walk" event in conjunction with the Municipal Art Society on May 7 at Industry City was well attended.
- -The Board merger [ARRAB and Archival Review Board] was moving slowly; one issue that needed to be addressed was the diluted authority of the Council Speaker in the new smaller board.
- -The Board is invited to visit the new 'mini' exhibit highlighting the architecture of 31 Chambers Street. It is located in the lobby alcove on the east-side of the building.

Commissioner Toole also updated progress on the upcoming conference on the 1936 Harlem report. Two summer interns are assisting with the planning. They are also transcribing recently-discovered minutes (located in the Mayor LaGuardia papers) of hearings on conditions in Harlem. The report had been commissioned by Mayor LaGuardia in the wake of the 1935 Harlem riots, but never released. There will be panels discussing education, employment, housing, criminal justice, policing and health-care. The conference will take place in conjunction with the New York Public Library at the Schomburg Center, on September 20th.

Municipal Archives—Sylvia Kollar reporting

- -June patron statistics included 99 patrons served at the Industry City and 31 Chambers Street public facilities and 147 new inquiries received. More than 1,200 pages were digitized 'on demand' for patrons.
- -More than 700,000 records had been added to the "Historical Vital Records" (HVR) on the agency website. The HVR provides free access to high-quality copies of birth, death and marriage records. The new records included Manhattan death and marriage license records.

- -The finding guide to the Mayor David Dinkins papers has been published online in the Collections Guide and digitized records of the Mayor McClellan administration were being added the Guide and linked to the online gallery.
- -Fifty ledgers had been digitized in the Old Town Records project.

External Affairs—LaTonya C. Jones reporting

- -The agency was hosting four new volunteers for the Neighborhood Stories and Women's Activism initiatives.
- -Neighborhood Stories commenced its fourth season and the staff were engaging with the Borough Presidents and Community Boards to promote the program. Twenty new stories had been added.
- -Andrea Mosterman presented Spaces of Enslavement in Early New York for the Lunch & Learn series. The program was recorded and can be viewed on Youtube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQSLtDcHnTA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQSLtDcHnTA</a>
- -External affairs staff attended community events including the Weeksville Juneteenth celebration and the Sunset Park Film Festival to promote the Department and its programs.

## 4. Other business.

Chair Carrion asked if members had any other business to discuss. None was voiced.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

# Pamela Cruz Education Committee Report: All.

As promised during our virtual meeting today, following is the ARRAB Education Committee Report, including the link that I was not able to share with you via the chat feature.

Best,

Pamela

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Brian Carlin had let the committee know he was unable to attend today's quarterly ARRAB meeting; he sent the committee and DORIS liaisons an email summary of our meeting so we could share it with the board.

The ARRAB Education Committee met on 07/18/2022. In attendance were:

#### **Education Committee**

ARRAB Board Members (on the Education Committee):

Brian Carlin Alison Cronyn Pamela Cruz

**DORIS Liaisons:** 

Patricia Glowinski LaTonya Jones

From Brian Carlin to the Committed, re: 7/18/2022 meeting, report for the ARRAB Board:

At our meeting we discussed the two following items to help connect teachers to the resources at the NYC Department of Records and Information Services:

1. Looking to bring resources from the Records to be used where applicable to the new in development NYCDOE curricula resources, Hidden Voices.

See the press release

https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/news/announcements/contentdetails/2022/05/26/schools-chancellor-banks-announces-new-curriculum-centering-aapi-voices

2. Two in-person teacher workshops, one in Fall; one in Spring, to help spread the word and get teachers using the resources of Records.

Pamela Cruz Archives Executive Archives Strategist and Advocate pamelaanncruz@gmail.com 917-846-3081 www.linkedin.com/in/pamelacruz