

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS,
LIBRARIES AND INTERNATIONAL
INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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September 14, 2023

Start: 10:05 a.m.

Recess: 10:09 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Chi A. Osse, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farias
Shahana Hanif
Rita C. Joseph
Farrah N. Louis
Francisco P. Moya
Sandra Ung

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone check for the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and International Intergroup Relations. Today's date is September 14, 2023, located in Council Chambers, recorded by Steve Sadowsky.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Welcome to today's New York City Council for the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations.

Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices. Don't approach the dais. If you need assistance, contact the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Chair, we're ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON OSSE: [GAVEL] Good morning, everyone. I'm New York City Council Member Chi Osse, Chair of the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations.

Today, the Committee will both hear and vote on one piece of legislation as well as vote on two additional pieces of legislation. We will hear and vote on Proposed Resolution 415-A sponsored by Council Member Joann Ariola, a resolution calling on the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign the September 11th Day of Remembrance Act,

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2 and we will also vote on Proposed Resolution 346-A
3 sponsored by Nantasha Williams, a resolution
4 recognizing the contributions of hip-hop to arts and
5 culture by designating August 11th as Hip-Hop
6 Celebration Day, August as Hip-Hop Recognition Month,
7 and November as Hip-Hop History Month in the City of
8 New York. Proposed Resolution 450-A also sponsored by
9 Council Member Williams, a resolution recognizing the
10 contributions of Def Jam to the music industry and to
11 music lovers everywhere by designating January 2024
12 as Def Jam Recognition Month in the City of New York.

13 Last month, we celebrated the 50th
14 anniversary of hip-hop, a genre that made waves on
15 our culture. Hip-hop was founded in the Bronx by
16 black artists, poets, and musicians as a form of
17 expression and creativity to address injustices and
18 bring resilience and power in the midst of it while
19 centering joy, love, community, and celebration, the
20 tenets that our city is built upon. Tenets that bring
21 our city together and make it what it is.

22 This week marks the 22nd anniversary of
23 the September 11th attacks. The attacks cut us
24 deeply. Thousands were murdered, both as workers at
25 the World Trade Center and as the brave first

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2 responders who rushed to their rescue. We will always
3 remember them. In the years since, chronic illness
4 took more lives and left many with permanent
5 disabilities. At the same time, xenophobia spiked as
6 far too many people chose to direct their anger at
7 racial and religious minorities. This is a legacy we
8 continue to fight. While it can be explained, it
9 cannot be excused.

10 On a personal note, I would like to take
11 a moment to remember one of those heroic first
12 responders, retired NYPD officer Robert Anthony
13 Nobile. Bob died last week after suffering for many
14 years from cancer that resulted from his days at
15 Ground Zero. He was a wonderful guy, devoted husband
16 to Liz, and loving father to Samantha and Rob. He
17 will be missed every day.

18 I want to recognize Members of this
19 Committee who are here, Council Member Farias,
20 Council Member Ung, Council Member Joseph, Council
21 Member Louis, and Council Member Dinowitz, and online
22 we have Council Members Hanif and Moya.

23 Clerk, I believe that we can move on to
24 vote.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
vote on Cultural Affairs. Items are coupled. Chair
Osse.

CHAIRPERSON OSSE: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Moya.

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you. Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

Congratulations to all bill sponsors.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Dinowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Farias.

COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all. Thank
you.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you. Joseph.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ung.

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: I vote aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
3 vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the
4 negative, and no abstentions, all items have been
5 adopted by the Committee.

6 CHAIRPERSON OSSE: Thank you, Billy, and
7 thank you, Colleagues. Without further ado, this
8 Committee is closed. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date September 18, 2023