



COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

CITY OF NEW YORK

Anne Compoccia
Chairperson

Paul Goldstein
District Manager

MINUTES
OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
COMMUNITY BOARD #1
HELD
JUNE 11, 1991
WHITEHALL CLUB
17 BATTERY PLACE

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Anne Compoccia.

Public Session:

Nathan Weber - 80 N. Moore St., Spoke in opposition to the Amazon Club. His residence looks out on the Club; the music is loud and the crowd is boisterous. He has collected 32 signatures on a petition.

Steve Tiebout - The River Project - Discussed boating recreation on the Hudson River provided by the Downtown Boat Club. The Club has 44 members and gives boating and sailing lessons. Flyers will be distributed.

Arthur Piccolo - Bowling Green Association - Spoke in opposition to South Garden. He proposed a meadow at Battery Park City and an outdoor performing arts center as an alternative for the site.

Robert Bellinger - New Amsterdam Branch - Reported on the effects of budget cuts on the library. Service would be cut to 2 or 3 days a week, and a number of people would be laid off. A rally will be held Thursday at City Hall.

Jean Waldenstern - Battery Park City resident - Spoke in opposition to South Garden; She would like to see a community-type garden instead.

Executive Session:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held May 14, 1991 were adopted as presented.

Reports of Elected Officials:

Denise Woodin, Representative of Congressman Ted Weiss - Reported the Congressman has written a letter to Carl Weisbrod, President of the Public Development Corporation expressing his concern regarding the potential negative environmental impacts the proposed 730 foot COMEX office tower will have on the community. The Congressman issued a statement calling the Supreme Court decision in Rust vs Sullivan "repugnant". Congressman Weiss is cosponsor of a bill which would amend Title 10 of the Public Health Service Act of 1990 to provide abortion counseling.

Meg Reed, Representative of State Senator Manfred Ohrenstein - Reported on a meeting with Carl Weisbrod of the Public Development Corporation. A joint letter signed by all local public officials has been sent to the TBTA and the MTA calling for reversal of the one-way toll at the Verrazano Bridge.

Leanne O'Rourke, Representative of State Senator Martin Connor - Introduced herself as liaison to the Board and reported that the State Senator signed the joint letter regarding of the one-way toll on the Verrazano Bridge. Also, fifty calls have been received regarding the budget for youth programs.

Lissa Weinmann, Representative of Councilmember Miriam Friedlander - Reported plans for the Stuyvesant High School Pedestrian Bridge have been approved. Operating hours have been extended, and other community concerns will be met. Plans for renovation of Pearl Street Park are being discussed. The Staten Island Homeport is on the list of bases to be closed.

Borough President's Report:

Lillie Carino, Representative of Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger - Announced the appointment to new Board members. The Amazon Club will be monitored to assess overcrowding, parking problems and noise levels so residents are not inconvenienced. A survey will be conducted on the adequacy of open space within CB #1. The Stuyvesant High School Bridge has been approved. The City Council sub-committee, the Board of Education and BPCA agreed to community requests.

District Manager's Report:

Paul Goldstein - Reported on the following issues:

- Amazon Club - An inspection from an apartment of 80 N. Moore St. has been set up to determine noise levels by DEP inspectors. An appeal has been made to the owner not to inconvenience residents. The previous Community Board resolution stated that the owner must abide by the NYC noise code.
- 250 Water St. - The design was approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission after the size of the building was somewhat cut back. No additional hearings were held.
- Site 15 - BPC has decided to open Site 15 for community use and programs.
- Tribeca West Historic District - A hearing is scheduled for June 12th by the CPC.
- Stuyvesant High School Bridge - BPCA has increased the amount of money it will contribute towards the bridge.
- Newsstands - Several applications will be turned down as in consistent with longstanding board policy.

Chairperson's Report:

Anne Compocchia - A letter was received from the Amazon Club stating there is no intention of nude bathing or sunbathing in response to an article printed in NY Magazine. No Health Department permits were obtained by the owners. No permits were required by the Army Corp. of Engineers of the NYS DOT even though the pier was altered. A copy of the lease has been requested from NYS DOT.

Committee Report:

Letters assuring that the following Community Board concerns would be met were distributed:

No landfill
No permanent marina - only transient docking
A pumping station be installed
Rest rooms included in the Visitors Center

The public will have access to the pier during hours of operation. The pier will be open the same hours as Battery Park. The Board approved a resolution stating it was not opposed to declaring the water at Pier A "non-navigable" by a vote of 20 on favor, 7 opposed and 6 abstentions.

The Board approved a committee resolution supporting positions of the Neighborhood Coalition on the "City Environmental Quality Review Process" and a committee resolution to require hearings on possible environmental and health hazards and government regulation of electrical substations. The vote for each resolution was 31 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

A committee resolution in support of continued funding of the City's recycling program was approved by a vote of 32 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Financial District

R. Peracca

Public Session:

Irving Gotbaum - Attorney Morgan Guaranty Trust - Presented an application to allow the covered pedestrian space at 60 Wall St. to be closed 12 times per year for special events. Morgan Guaranty believes the space not to be sufficiently utilized and would like to use it 6 times a year and allow its use 6 times a year by community or not-for-profit organizations.

Committee Report:

Committee's position was that use should be at no cost to the community or not-for-profit organization and on a first come, first served basis. The space is a public amenity built in exchange for "bonus space" allowed the developer. The application as proposed includes payment of security and maintenance costs. The Board approved a committee resolution by a vote of 32 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Landmarks

H. Bromm for D. Hupert

Public Session:

Bruce L. Ehrmann - 13 Worth St. - Spoke in support of a change in the Tribeca West Landmark District to include the parking lot at the northwest corner of West Broadway and 3 additional buildings at 26, 28 and 30 Leonard St. No public hearing has been held.

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 MANHATTAN
RESOLUTION

Date: June 11, 1991

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE VOTE:	7 In Favor	2 Opposed	2 Abstained
BOARD VOTE:	20 In Favor	7 Opposed	6 Abstained

RE: Pier A, Declaration of Non-Navigability

WHEREAS: The developer of Pier A is seeking a Congressional declaration of non-navigability for the pier structures in order to gain financing approval for the planned renovation, and

WHEREAS: The legislation is written so that all Federal statutes and regulations continue to apply as if the structure or area were still navigable, and

WHEREAS: No open water will be declared non-navigable, and

WHEREAS: CB #1 is concerned that the declaration of non-navigability not be the precursor to an effort to landfill the Pier A area nor to limit public access to the pier, and

WHEREAS: CB #1 supports the efforts of the US Army Corps of Engineers to eliminate unnecessary time limits on their review of any applications for this project as embodied in the proposed legislation, and

WHEREAS: CB #1 has received letters from the City and the developer insuring that there will be:

1. Full and total public access to all public areas in the leasehold whenever either Pier A or Battery Park is open
2. No landfill associated with this project
3. No permanent marina facility at Pier A, now

THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 has no objection to declaring the Pier A structure non-navigable, and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

The Community Board strongly urges that the developer provide a public pumping station for boats which visit and dock at the pier.

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- 6) The proposed new CEQR rules should not be approved or promulgated before all related rule making and other proposals are reviewed, with full public participation (including review of written documents). Crucial upcoming rules, proposals and decisions include reorganization of PDC/EDC, coordination of CEQR with the City's Uniform Land Use Review Process (ULURP), and other changes in CEQR rules besides the current proposal, preparation of an Environmental Assessment Form and Technical Manual, and new OEC post-action audit procedures. These interrelated actions should be segmented, and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 urges that the comment period be extended until more clear, understandable information has been provided to the public in writing on the nature of the proposed changes, the problem(s) the changes are intended to solve, and options (i.e., alternatives) in organizing the CEQR process, and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 urges that this information be presented in an environmental impact statement (EIS), on which a public hearing would be held before the City Planning Commission makes final decisions on these rules, and prefaced by a presentation of the following briefing materials:

- a step-by-step, side-by-side comparison of the CEQR process now and how the new rules would change it;
- a full, understandable explanation of what the proposed rules say--for example, by explaining references to Executive Order 91 and various Charter provisions, etc.;
- alternative options for assigning lead agency status, deciding whom the new OEC should report to, etc., with pros and cons of each alternative (including those mentioned at the public hearing);
- a briefing memo on what exactly is going wrong with the CEQR process now.

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THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED
THAT:

That the appropriate committee of the Council of the City of New York hold hearings on the possible environmental and health hazards of electric substations, and the role government agencies should play in regulating such facilities.

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BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 urges the Mayor and the City Council to obtain agreement on the implementation of program improvements and efficiencies, and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 urges the Mayor and the City Council to redirect FY '92 funding for incineration operation expenses and capital projects to the recycling program, and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB #1 urges the Mayor and the City Council to facilitate expansion of the recycling program by utilizing private sector processing capacity and community-based recycling centers.

NOTE: Resolution as proposed by the Manhattan Solid Waste Board

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COMMUNITY BOARD #1 MANHATTAN
RESOLUTION

Date: June 11, 1991

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: LANDMARKS

COMMITTEE VOTE: 4 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained
BOARD VOTE: 25 In Favor 0 Opposed 2 Abstained

- RE: Landmarks Preservation Commission - Proposed Fees
- WHEREAS: The Mayor's current budget proposal has projected \$300,000-400,000 in LPC revenue to be generated by the adoption of new application and processing fees, and
- WHEREAS: These fees would be paid by the building owners when seeking permits for alterations of historic properties, and
- WHEREAS: The notion of imposing fees for permit applications first appeared in Mayor Koch's "Initiatives" of May, 1988, and
- WHEREAS: The proposed fees were characterized by preservationists as "paying for the privilege of regulation", and were widely opposed by preservation organizations across the city, and
- WHEREAS: These fees have reappeared under the guise of the budget crisis, and
- WHEREAS: These fees would, in effect, constitute a new tax, whose burden would fall disproportionately on owners of smaller properties, and
- WHEREAS: Since these fees are not based on a sliding scale, a new financial burden will fall disproportionately upon small property owners, and
- WHEREAS: Implementation of permit fees would have a chilling effect on Landmark designation, both of individual properties and of historic districts, with the greatest impact being felt in the less affluent parts of the city, exactly those areas that are the current focus of the Commission's attention, and
- WHEREAS: The existence of such fees would deter permit applications and would encourage non-compliance, and
- WHEREAS: The actual cost to the Commission and to other agencies of enforcing and processing the fees is now unknown, and
- WHEREAS: It is questionable that these fees will improve the financial health of the Commission, as the processing and enforcing of fees will obviously require a budget of its own, and, the question of whether revenue gained from the fees will be greater than the cost of imposing such fees is unclear, and

WATERFRONT & ENVIRONMENT
6-5-91

PRESENT

KATHRYN FREED
BARBARA MARKS
PATRICIA DILLON
HAROLD DONOHUE
NANCY PAGE
MADELYN WILS

EXCUSED

ROCCO D'AMATO

ABSENT

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN
GEORGE KELLER

WASHINGTON MARKET
6-12-91

PRESENT

JAMES STRATTON
PATRICIA DILLON
ROBERT GOLDSTEIN

EXCUSED

MADELINE PANTZER

ABSENT

HAROLD DONOHUE
KATHRYN FREED
DAVID HUPERT
NANCY PAGE
RALPH PEPE

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YOUTH

6-17-91

PRESENT

ROBERT TOWNLEY  
NANCY PAGE  
ROCCO D'AMATO

EXCUSED

KATHLEEN GUPTA  
UNA PERKINS  
LOLLY SULLIVAN

ABSENT

ELIZABETH KRIEGSMAN  
MADELINE PANTZER

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