

**Community Board 12 Licensing Committee**

*Minutes, June 12, 2013*

**Committee Members Present:** Aldemar Diaz (Chair), Shah Ally, Rolando Cespedes, Michael Diaz, Maceo Raysor, Angela Sanchez, Anina Young

**Committee Members Excused:** Elizabeth Lorris-Ritter

**Committee Members Absent:** Ulises Noboa, Edith Prentiss, Luis Tejada

**CB12 Members Present:** Ariel Ferreira, Richard Lewis

**CB12 Staff Members Present:**

**Community Members Present:** Elizabeth Porter, Arlene Schulman

**A. Welcome and Opening Remarks:** Aldemar Diaz, Committee Chair

**B. State Liquor Authority Renewal Licenses**

***On-Premise Liquor License***

1. El Conde Nuevo Bar & Restaurant Corp. – 4139 Broadway at the corner of West 175<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Angela De La Rosa (owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Restaurant, Dominican/Latin cuisine
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	Mon – Fri. 8:30am – 1am; Sat-Sun. 8:30a-1am (7 days a week)
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	24 tables/96 chairs (O/S 7 tables/24 chairs) (In 17 tables/72 chairs)
<b>Music</b>	Computer and Ipod, no speakers outside, closed doors and windows
<b>Security Cameras</b>	Yes – total 16 cameras on premises
<b>Security Personnel</b>	No
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes (entrance and restrooms)
<b>Employees</b>	16 employees (5 part time and 11 full time)
<b>Capacity</b>	100 patrons (from certificate from Fire Department)
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	3 (all face the front of the business)
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	A
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	No objections
<b>Community Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Councilmember Rodriguez supports the application.</li><li>• Community member: "Great service and great atmosphere."</li><li>• Restaurant delivery workers follow DOT rules (vest, traveling with the flow of traffic)</li></ul>
<b>Stipulations</b>	None

<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 1-0-0

2. Shazam Restaurant Corp. dba MTB Lounge – 151 Dyckman Street at the corner of Sherman Avenue

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Patricia Caceres (co-owner) and Brian Caceres (co-owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Bar/Restaurant; Spanish fusion
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	Sat.-Sun: 2pm-4am (last call 3am); Mon.-Fri. 2pm– 1am (last call midnight)
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	28 tables and 60 chairs. No outdoor space
<b>Music</b>	iPod and speaker system. No sound governor
<b>Security Cameras</b>	16 cameras throughout premises. None in kitchen.
<b>Security Personnel</b>	2 NYS licensed security guards; 7 days a week, 7p to closing
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes. Entrance and bathroom. 3 total bathrooms: 1 bedroom for accessible up stairs and 2 downstairs
<b>Employees</b>	4 full time-time
<b>Capacity</b>	74 (from FDNY certificate)
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	2 (both in front)
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	Pending. Last inspection was one month prior to meeting.
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Precinct</b>	Councilmember Rodriguez does not support the application, given the objection from the 34 <sup>th</sup> Precinct.
<b>Community Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Contact with police is very concerning”.</li> <li>• “Would the committee consider a holding workshop to help educate the community on how the licensing process works?” The resident was informed that the Board intends to do this in the near future.</li> </ul>
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The owner agreed to consider installing a security camera in the kitchen.</li> <li>• The Committee Chair expressed concern about hearing from the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct that the business had been operating under the name Insomnia, not MTB Lounge, which was the name under which the current license had been granted. The new name was also listed on the application, and per research done by the Board staff on the SLA Web site, this change had not been approved by the SLA. (This discrepancy would render the current application invalid, as a corporate license change, not a renewal would be required from the SLA.) The owner explained that the name of the premises had recently</li> </ul>

	<p>changed MTB to Insomnia Lounge and that she had already applied for a corporate change, which she seemed to believe should allow her to operate under the new name. A member of the Committee searched the SLA Web site and found that the name had just been updated one or two business days prior to the Committee meeting, but after the Board office had conducted its research via the same Web site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee Chair produced a message from the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct stating that legal action was brought against the establishment in Criminal Court for underage drinking at the establishment on six separate occasions. The owner responded by claiming that the charges, all of which had been fabricated by the police, were dismissed in Court. As evidence, one of the owners showed the Committee a copy of the judgment on his iPhone, which instead showed that the charges were found credible and all the violations were sustained, and that the business had been ordered to implement new protocols to ensure there is no underage drinking. As it happens, the corrective measures listed on the document were precisely the changes the business owner claimed to have made of her own volition.</li> <li>• In a related discussion, a member of the Committee searched for information about the business online and discovered publicity regarding an event held at the establishment which listed 10 DJs as participants and appeared to include photographs of patrons dancing. The business does not possess a cabaret license, which would be required to allow dancing. In reply, the owner stated that there is no dancing allowed, but that patrons sometimes dance, despite their protestations. When asked how often there were events like this, she stated that they were infrequent. Additional research by the Committee showed that these events are held at least once a week and, per the flyers produced by the establishment itself, always include DJs.</li> </ul>
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 5-2-0; Board: 0-1-0

3. C&H Hamlet Bar Ltd. dba Irish Eyes – 5008 Broadway between West 213<sup>th</sup> & West 214<sup>th</sup> Streets

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Chris Doherty (Owner)
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<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Irish Bar
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	10a to 4am 7 days; (will close at 2am on slow nights); open at noon on Sunday
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	5 tables/20 stools/20 chairs
<b>Music</b>	Juke box/sound governor
<b>Security Cameras</b>	4 cameras – all inside
<b>Security Personnel</b>	None
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes – entrance and bathroom
<b>Employees</b>	2 (owner and one bartender)
<b>Capacity</b>	50 (55 as per FDNY)
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	2 (both face Broadway)
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	N/A
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Precinct</b>	No objections
<b>Community Comments</b>	None
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	There were also no objections to the prior renewal of this license.
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 1-0-0

4. Barrow Tavern Inc. dba Liffy II Bar – 5009 Broadway at the corner of West 213<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Kirby Mannix (Owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Bar – no food
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	Mon. to Sat. 10a to 4am; Sundays 12p to 4am
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	7 tables; 24 chairs
<b>Music</b>	Juke box and Ipod/speakers with sound governor. Occasional live band. Sound proofing on the ceiling
<b>Security Cameras</b>	7 cameras (inside and out). 2 outside and 5 inside
<b>Security Personnel</b>	None
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes –for the front door. No- to the restrooms
<b>Employees</b>	6
<b>Capacity</b>	75
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	3 exits (2 in front and 1 in the back)
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	N/A
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Precinct</b>	No objections
<b>Community Comments</b>	Councilmember Rodriguez supports the application, given no objections from the 34 <sup>th</sup> Precinct.
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	This bar was shut down 4 years ago for an allegation of selling alcohol to minors. Per the owner, the charges were dismissed and the bar was allowed to reopen.

<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 1-0-0
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***Restaurant Wine License***

5. E.L. Mexican Restaurant Corp. dba La Oaxaquena Restaurant – 1969 Amsterdam Avenue between West 157<sup>th</sup> and West 158<sup>th</sup> Streets

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Elizabeth Pizarro (owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Mexican restaurant
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	7 days a week, 10am -12 am. Beer and wine served starting at 12p
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	7 tables and 22 chairs (all inside)
<b>Music</b>	Jukebox with sound governor
<b>Security Cameras</b>	2 (one in front and rear of restaurant)
<b>Security Personnel</b>	None
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes to the entrance and no to bathroom
<b>Employees</b>	5 (all full time)
<b>Capacity</b>	26 (27 per FDNY certificate)
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	1 – main entrance
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	Pending
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	No objections.
<b>Community Comments</b>	None
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter grade of “C” was previously given in early May. Improvements were made and a better grade is anticipated.</li> <li>• The business owner rents the basement of the restaurant to a band for practicing. As per Board Member Lewis, the band plays loud music that could be a nuisance. Owner agrees to be mindful of the noise from the band practicing and will monitor the level of noise.</li> </ul>
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 1-0-0

***Tavern Wine License***

6. D 'Tony Sport Corp. dba Nagle Sports Associates – 258 Nagle Avenue at the corner of West 204<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Jose Sierra (Owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	<b>Application withdrawn.</b>
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	
<b>Music</b>	

<b>Security Cameras</b>	
<b>Security Personnel</b>	
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	
<b>Employees</b>	
<b>Capacity</b>	
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	No objection
<b>Community Comments</b>	A community member passed the establishment and saw groups of men playing pool, questioning whether this is a tavern or a lounge. The owner was not present to answer the question, but the Committee Chair explained that a lounge would typically have an On-Premise Liquor License, whereas this establishment had a Tavern Wine License only.
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councilmember Rodriguez supports the application, given no objection from the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct.</li> <li>• The owner, Jose Sierra, was not present at the meeting when a vote was taking supporting the application. He later arrived and explained that the application he had submitted incorrectly listed the address of a proposed new location of the business, and that, since he never obtained a lease for that location, he is no longer interested in moving the business. There is no renewal required at this point, since the license was renewed earlier this year. Upon his request, the Committee voted to rescind the prior vote and voted against the application to satisfy the Mr. Sierra's request. The resulting resolution will reflect this fact.</li> </ul>
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 0-7-0; Board: 0-1-0

**C. NYC Department of Taxi & Limousine Commission Renewal of Livery Car Base License:**

7. Do Max Corp. dba Highbridge Car Service – 2402 Amsterdam Avenue at the corner of West 179<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Maribel Gomez – Owner and President
<b>Number of Cars</b>	63
<b>Parking Arrangements</b>	Parking spaces in the Bronx (184 <sup>th</sup> Street and Park Avenue), and gas station on 184 <sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway. Livery cabs are not allowed to park on the street.

<b>Hours of Operation</b>	24 hours
<b>Security Cameras</b>	Yes – 4 (3 inside and 1 outside)
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes – an ambulance company can be utilized for a customer who request such accommodations
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Precinct</b>	No objection
<b>Community Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councilmember Rodriguez supports the application, given no objection from the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct.</li> <li>• On the Dyckman Street strip, livery cabs have been known to honk horns excessively, behavior which a community resident described as obnoxious. The owner will continue to inform drivers not to excessively honk horns.</li> <li>• A community member has observed cab drivers littering the sidewalk at 181<sup>st</sup> Street and Fort Washington Avenue, and saw one driver urinating in a bottle and leaving the bottle on the curb. The owner stated that drivers are advised to behave civilly, and that when any objectionable behavior is observed by Ms. Gomez, the drivers are warned and then terminated if non-compliant after multiple warnings.</li> </ul>
<b>Stipulations</b>	None
<b>Notes</b>	The owner indicated that signs are also posted at the base to remind drivers to observe all laws associated with operating the cabs.
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 1-0-0

**D. State Liquor Authority New Applications:**

*On-Premise Liquor License*

8. Gunmetal Ventures, LLC – 4484 Broadway at the corner of West 192<sup>nd</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	No owner or representative was present at the meeting.
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	
<b>Music</b>	
<b>Security Cameras</b>	
<b>Security Personnel</b>	
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	
<b>Employees</b>	
<b>Capacity</b>	
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Precinct</b>	No objection to the application

<b>Community Comments</b>	
<b>Stipulations</b>	
<b>Notes</b>	Community member raised concerns that the owner, Jason Delgado, might be the owner of Altus on Broadway at 185 <sup>th</sup> Street.
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 0-7-0; Board: 0-1-0

9. Group Alana LLC. dba La Piscina – 4160 Broadway at the corner of West 176<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	Damien Vizuete (Owner)
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	Bar with open kitchen. New American cuisine
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	Mon. – Thurs. 4p - 4a; Fri. – Sun. 2p to 4a. Last call for alcohol at 3am.
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	20 Tables and 40 Chairs.
<b>Music</b>	iPod with speakers.
<b>Security Cameras</b>	6 (3 indoors and 3 outdoors).
<b>Security Personnel</b>	2-3 NYS certified security (anticipated)
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	Yes – entrance and bathroom.
<b>Employees</b>	7 (including security)
<b>Capacity</b>	74 (per FDNY certificate)
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	3 (one on Broadway and 2 on 176 <sup>th</sup> Street)
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	N/A
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	The Precinct, which is concerned about the business' proximity to the United Palace Church, will not approve until they have met with the owner and conducted a walk-through of the establishment.
<b>Community Comments</b>	
<b>Stipulations</b>	Owner agreed verbally to meet with the 33 <sup>rd</sup> Precinct to arrange for a walk-through of the premises (or sign a notarized stipulation) prior to Community Board general meeting.
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 7-0-0; Board: 0-0-1

*Restaurant Wine License*

10. Tacos Mi Lupita Corp. – 112 Audubon Avenue at the corner of West 171<sup>st</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	No Owner or Representative was present at the meeting.
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	
<b>Music</b>	

<b>Security Cameras</b>	
<b>Security Personnel</b>	
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	
<b>Employees</b>	
<b>Capacity</b>	
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	
<b>Community Comments</b>	
<b>Stipulations</b>	
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 0-7-0; Board: 0-1-0

11. Lola Lola Restaurant Inc. – 1306 St. Nicholas Avenue at the corner of West 176<sup>th</sup> Street

<b>Owner/Representative</b>	No Owner or Representative was present at the meeting.
<b>Type of Establishment</b>	
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	
<b>Tables/Chairs</b>	
<b>Music</b>	
<b>Security Cameras</b>	
<b>Security Personnel</b>	
<b>ADA Compliant?</b>	
<b>Employees</b>	
<b>Capacity</b>	
<b>Emergency Exits</b>	
<b>Restaurant Letter Grade</b>	
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct</b>	
<b>Community Comments</b>	
<b>Stipulations</b>	
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Vote</b>	Committee: 0-7-0; Board: 0-1-0

**E. New Business / Adjournment:** Question by Arlene Schulman: What is the status of the taskforce that was discussed at the nightlife hearing? Ms. Schulman informed the Board that she has learned that Councilmember Rodriguez’s office is heading the taskforce.

**Community Board 12 Manhattan**  
**Minutes for the Parks and Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting\***  
**June 4th, 2013 at the Board's Offices – 711 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Committee Members Present (6):** David Kach, Asst. Chair, Karen Arthur, Mitch Glenn, Richard Lewis, Lorenzo McGougan, Juan Mejia.

**Committee Members Absent (2):** Harlan Pruden, Chair and Chris O'Sullivan.

**Board Members (2):** George Fernandez, Jr. , Edith Prentiss, Liliana Saneaux.

**Public (8):** Nigel Chivaya-DNA Info, Migdalia Bernart, Richard Realmuto, Tom Stoelka, Kevin McKeon, Nelson A Denis, Alexander Levi, Sarah Deutsch & Ashley Chastain, Obed Fulcar, Paul Eston.

**Guests (1):** Terese Flores

**Staff Coverage (1)** Rafael Iglesias.

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**Parks Update – Presenter: Therese Flores, Parks Dept.**

- Wright Brothers Playground –Work based on the change order to complete the basketball courts will finish in August. The rest of the park will be completed in November. Edith Prentiss asks about ADA compliance. Therese to respond in the near future.
- Morris Jumel Mansion – Existing plans for ADA ramps need funding. Councilmember Jackson indicates that he will provide this funding, though he has not made a firm commitment and has not specified an amount. Once funding is secured, the project goes to design. Carol Ward, new Acting Executive Director of the mansion, provided further details about the accessibility plan. Ramp will go into the first floor on the west side of the building. There is a desire to expand ADA improvements to 1st floor bathroom in this project also. Expectation is for FY14 budget. Further improvements to the façade hoped for in funding in FY15 budget. Finally, Phase 2 of improvements to the boundary wall and the slate sidewalks are close to starting. Phase 2 will complete the refurbishment of the retaining wall and the sidewalks.
- Muscota Marsh – undergoing final Parks Dep't review before opening. Last phase of plantings to be completed in July and then park is expected to open. Member of the public asks for kayak storage near the dock. Therese will look into this possibility. Also, Therese will give us the details of hours of public access to this dock. Susan Ryan of Conservancy North noted that her organization is one of the products of the "dual use agreement" between Columbia University and the Community, and is very interested in keeping tabs on how the agreement is being actualized.
- J Hood Wright Park – Therese says that Parks is working closely with the 33rd precinct to patrol the park. She solicits comments or complaints. There was a comment about conflicting closing times for the park – 11 pm vs, 1 am. Therese removed the 1 am sign 3 months ago but it seems to have reappeared. Therese to research. Some praise was given about the improvements– both physically to the park and also enhanced enforcement in the park - over the last year. Therese also reports that the plan from last month's meeting to provide an Astroturf soccer field, which CB12 approved, has been put on hold. The Parks Dep't believes that the soccer pitch being built in Highbridge Park will be sufficient for the neighborhood. Richard Realmuto, a member of the public, reacted very strongly to this finding. He points out that Highbridge is far away and that he is ready to arrange private funding of a soccer pitch at J Hood Wright. Nelson Denis advanced this argument, further suggesting that the recent investments in the park are being wasted because soccer players are now chewing up the grass that's just been planted. Another person said that she was talking to the volleyball players and they said that they do not want Astroturf. A lengthy and winding discussion ensued on this issue. David Kach asked if anything can happen to control the nighttime barking dogs. It was agreed that this will remain an ongoing concern.
- Isham Park water provisioning, including Bruce's Garden – This project is in Parks' Legal Dep't in preparation to go out for bidding. It could be bid out by the end of the summer and a contract could be signed by the end of the year.
- There is a beautiful new lawn in Inwood Hill Park at Seaman Avenue, thanks to the Junior League.

- Highbridge Pool opening June 27th. Maybe. The locker rooms by the pool are complete and ready to go. The splash house construction project to enclose the Play Center is ongoing. Lorenzo asked who is doing the labor on these 2 projects. Therese explains that architecture students at Pratt are volunteering their labor.

**New Yorkers for Parks – Lisa Kaplan, Emily Walker. [www.ny4p.org](http://www.ny4p.org)**

- New Yorkers for Parks champions NYC parks.
- NY4P has developed their Parks Platform 2013. The purpose is to bring the importance of parks to everyone's attention. The organization wants the public to sign on to the 10 point platform. Important elements of the platform are:
  - Parks should have its own capital budget.
  - The expense budget is cut disproportionately to other City Dep'ts every year.
  - There is no park by park budget to be viewed by the public.
  - Park alienation should only occur in the most extreme situations. Communities should have a voice in alienation proceedings.
  - The city should employ greater outreach to get people into and involved in the planning of their local parks.(ka)
- NY4P is looking to get people to endorse this platform at [www.ipetitions.com/petition/parks-platform-2013](http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/parks-platform-2013).
- Richard Lewis calls out the need to explicitly mention indoor facilities. Lisa accepts this comment.
- Edith discusses the high cost of membership at accessible pools and indoor facilities, and the relative inaccessibility of many parks facilities.

**Concrete Safaris, Mac Levine. Nonprofit in East Harlem. [www.concretesafaris.org](http://www.concretesafaris.org)**

- Concrete Safaris runs "farms" in East Harlem where many non-team sports activities for teens are held. These teens are turning many NYCHA green spaces throughout East Harlem into gardens. They are growing plants and food in these spaces.
- Concrete Safaris wants to expand to northern Manhattan.
- Ms. Levine asks for our support for a race and fundraiser for the organization September 21 and 22, 2013. Hopes to turn it into an annual event.
- Ms. Levine asks for a resolution in support of the fundraiser. Since we do not have a quorum, the committee cannot act.

**New Business**

Lorenzo McGougan, PCA committee member, speaks about the Sunken Playground in Highbridge Park. Tremendous cracking is running through the tarmac of the basketball court. He is worried about kids falling and hurting themselves. Therese Flores will inspect the court and come back to the committee with a plan for repair.

Susan Ryan, an Inwood resident whose husband was mugged in Isham Park 6/6/12, and the Park Department subsequently installed a camera in Isham Park. Shortly after, it was determined that the camera is rarely recording. Ms. Ryan came before the committee to register her disappointment with this arrangement. She requests that the camera start recording 24 hours a day. She also requests more PEP officers for northern Manhattan parks. Therese Flores agrees to report back to the committee on the recording policy for cameras in CB12 parks, and how the schedule for cameras in our CB12 parks is determined. George Fernandez recommends that we have a joint meeting with Public Safety to discuss this matter.

Meeting adjourns at 9:59 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mitch Glenn and edited by Harlan Pruden

**Community Board 12-Manhattan**  
**Housing & Human Services and Health & Environment Committees**  
**Joint Meeting – June 6, 2013**  
**Board Offices - 711 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10032**

**H&HS Committee**

Members Present: Richard Lewis, chair; Jay Mazur, Alyce Smith, Ayisha Oglivie and Angelo Ortiz.

Members Absent: Ellen Kackmann (excused) and Christina Burgess (Public Member)

**H&E Committee**

Members Present: Steve Simon, chair; Karen Arthur, David Kach, Elizabeth Lehmann, Lorenzo McGougan, Juan Mejia and Beatrice Hall (Public Member)

Member Absent: Edgard Nau

Board Members Present: George Fernandez, Obie Bing

Guests (in addition to the panelists): Madeline Knaup (NYC Clean Heat), Barry Korn (Barrett Capital), Michael Weisberg (M-Core Credit), Diane Glanternik (NYC Housing Development Corp.), Orainab Hamdieh, Altagracia Fabal, Barbara Moore, Betsy Jurries (Operation Exodus), Leslie Tait, Frank Nadal (Castle Village), Nyree Chin, Dan Rieber (Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp.), Jim Little (Upper Manhattan Mental Health Center), Martin Collins (Council Member Robert Jackson), Hal Porter, Ancris Ramdhanie, Loretta Keeling, Roger Rettie, Christopher Carini and Tricia Ryan (both from Con Edison)

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The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Steve Simon and Richard Lewis.

- Steve explained that this was a joint committee meeting following up on previous meetings dealing with the NYC Clean Heat program. He introduced the members of his committee and welcomed three new members: Karen Arthur, Lorenzo McGougan and Juan Mejia. He thanked Richard for organizing the meeting and lining up all of the speakers.
- Richard introduced the members of his committee, outlined the agenda and introduced the panel for the topic, "Gas Conversions and Other Alternatives":
  - Samuel Biele-Fisher – Bright Power
  - Michael T. Colgrove – NY State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)
  - Joseph McGowan – Con Edison
  - Hugh Chrysler, P.E. – Hugh Chrysler Engineering Co.
  - Paul Lipsis – Advanced Chimney
  - Posie Constable – NYC Energy Efficiency Corp.
  - Jill Wasser – NYS Public Service Commission
- Richard then gave a brief slide presentation, "Natural Gas 101," dealing with questions and dilemmas raised by gas conversions.
  - Local law bans use of #6 oil after 2015 and #4 oil after 2030: so what is an owner to do?
  - Two types of gas service: Firm (gas only) and interruptible (dual fuel situation)
  - What are the actual costs for a particular building?
- Samuel Biele-Fisher spoke on behalf of Bright Power, Inc., an energy efficiency company:
  - His company works with coop/condo boards and property managers to determine whether a conversion is feasible and cost effective.
  - Services include energy benchmarking and auditing, fuel conversion services, design and specifications of systems, bid and construction management, solar energy design.
  - Identify new heating components

- Draft project scope and find qualified bidders
  - Arrange financing from NYSERDA for fuel conversion
  - Check that system being installed correctly, that all systems are up to code and that building is getting quality product
  - He recently converted a 55-unit building. The bids were \$125,776 and \$150,750.
  - Projects pay for themselves between 2-6 years.
  - He has done a couple of projects in Washington Heights-Inwood. It's challenging because housing stock is older.
  - The cost of a conversion in one building in Inwood was going to increase tenfold because they would have to bring in a gas line.
- Michael T. Colgrove, Director of Energy Programs (NYC), spoke on behalf of NYSERDA:
    - Oversees Multifamily Energy Performance Program
    - NYSERDA helps people who own commercial and industrial properties and residential properties, including single-family homes and multifamily buildings
    - Involved in broad energy efficiency work, not just fuel conversion program
    - Look at how whole building uses energy
    - Eligible if building has five or more apartments
    - Have to pay system benefit charge for both electricity and gas
    - Threshold for each project is to have 15% energy savings. Average reduction = 26%.
    - Average payback = 4.9 years
    - Interruptible gas is a certain rate class from Con Edison. They switch you from gas service, usually in the winter when there is high demand for it, to oil supply.
    - Firm gas entails using only gas, no oil on premises. If you want to convert to firm gas, then you are eligible for our program.
    - Oil customers that want energy efficiency work do not qualify for grants.
    - Only looking for those who want to change to firm gas.
    - Process begins with finding a "partner" to assist you – we have 91 partners, check website
    - Incentives cover cost of partner and offset construction costs
      - Performance payment: \$1000 per affordable apartment for converting to firm gas
      - \$700 per market-rate apartment
      - Another \$150 per unit if building achieves 20% energy savings
      - Average building saved 26% and got a \$300 per unit bonus
    - Incentives also available for 15% energy savings on electric and fuel side
    - Financing – provides half the market-interest financing
    - Sub-metering – direct incentive \$250 per meter
- Joseph McGowan, Manager, Gas Customer Solutions, spoke on behalf of Con Edison:
    - Natural gas better for environment
    - As of 4/15 all requests for gas conversions are handled by his unit; communications now electronic
    - Area Growth Zones initiated to meet high demand for gas conversions
    - Con Ed trying to bring capital costs down to zero to make it attractive to the customer
    - There are currently two Area Growth Zones in our community: Dyckman Street to 207<sup>th</sup> Street (J2) and W. 173<sup>rd</sup> Street to W. 178<sup>th</sup> Street (H1), both river to river

- In 2013 more than 80% of non-area growth requests received a zero capital cost connection option and this number is trending higher
  - In the Area Growth Zone in Inwood last year (207<sup>th</sup> Street to 220<sup>th</sup> Street), 90% of the applicants received a zero capital cost option
  - Two of the five current zones in Manhattan are in Washington Heights-Inwood
  - Zones will be expanded in the next 5-6 years
  - For info, go to website: [coned.com/gasconversions](http://coned.com/gasconversions). There are links to incentives, resources
  - Tight process to get gas, so applicants have to be ready to do conversions.
  - Con Ed requires a commitment letter from owners.
  - Owners should do due diligence, determine internal conversion costs beforehand, line up financing and have a signed contract with a plumber.
  - If not real with request and just fishing, submitting a request blindly, owners are doing a disservice to your neighbors.
  - Conversion must be completed within a timeframe or owners will be billed for Con Ed's costs. They will have six months to pass final gas inspection.
- Hugh Chrysler, P.E., President, spoke on behalf of Hugh Chrysler Engineering Co., LLC:
    - Has done six conversions in Washington Heights, 5 or 6 more in the pipeline
    - 515 West 170<sup>th</sup> St. – 36 apartments. Cost = \$35,000. Kept boiler (since it was capable of burning gas), burner and chimney. Rewired the panel and installed new gas line. Con Ed switched from 2" to 4" gas service. 1-year payback.
    - 1505 St. Nicholas Ave. – 23 apts. Cost = \$40,000. Kept boiler and burner. Installed new 3' gas service.
    - 431 Audubon Ave. – 41 apts. Cost = \$39,000. Kept boiler, burner, control panel and brick chimney with possible new stainless steel liner.
    - 569 West 184<sup>th</sup> Street – 18 apts. Cost = \$55,000 for new boiler/burner with option for natural gas. Con Edison said it would charge \$900,000 to connect gas lines to new equipment. As a result, did not proceed.
    - 29 Wadsworth Ave. – 41 apts. Cost = \$44,500. Kept boiler, new gas burner and new 4" gas service.
    - 575 W. 189<sup>th</sup> St. – Con Ed said it would charge \$1.1 million for gas connection, so did not proceed.
    - Most projects have a 2-year payback
- Pete Lipsis, Sales Manager, spoke on behalf of Advanced Chimney:
    - Full service chimney company
    - Chimney pipe that is old and falling apart needs to be replaced. Moisture inside chimney seeps into brick mortar joints and causes cracks. When converting to gas, it can cause blockage and liner can collapse.
    - Terra cotta clay could be rotted
    - May need a new chimney installed on outside of building
    - Using ceramic glue sealant (thermocrete) could cost \$50-60,000.
    - Stainless steel flex-liners (light gauge metal) could cost \$80-90,000
    - Also could use prefabricated chimney pipe

- Posie Constable, Director – Clean Heat Finance, spoke on behalf of the NYC Energy Efficiency Corp. :
  - Founded by City of NY, but not a city agency
  - Mission is to capitalize energy efficiency finance market
  - Mayor announced financial partners that are providing more than \$100 million as part of NYC Clean Heat program
  - Have completed 8 projects
  - Will lend to HPD / HDC-supported buildings
  - Mortgage-based refinancing
  - Equipment leasing, such as tanks and boilers
  - Community Clean Heat Fund provides funding for conversions to #2 oil or gas – must be in a low or moderate income census tract
  - Energy efficiency wherever possible
  - Rates 2 ½ - 4 ½%
  - Chase and Hess have joined together to create a Clean Heat program in which owners make a single payment to the provider for the commodity and for the capital cost.
  - To secure financing need 3 years tax returns
  
- Jill Wasser, Consumer Program Specialist, spoke for the NY State Public Service Commission:
  - PSC regulates utilities and makes sure gas and electricity keep flowing
  - Provides approvals to Con Ed to extend pipeline and enhance service
  - Tries to be the consumer advocate
  - Complaint Scorecard

After the presentations were completed, there was a brief question-and-answer period.

S. Simon asked M. Colgrove: Does NYSERDA still have funding for these grants? One of our board members had heard that you ran out of money.

M. Colgrove: Yes, we still have \$20-30 million.

S. Simon: Do these grants offset Major Capital Improvement rent increases that landlords may request?

M. Colgrove: Recipients cannot file for full costs. The [MCI increase requested] must be reduced by the amount of the grant.

G. Fernandez: Why does Con Ed shut off lights in a building when the landlord does not pay the bill?

A: Tenants can pay the bill and deduct these payments from their rent.

The Health & Environment Committee members met briefly so that S. Simon could pass out copies of (1) the letter sent by the NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation in response to CB 12's comments on the cleanup plan for the brownfield at 4566 Broadway and (2) the list of the committee's FY 14 budget priorities, which needs to be reviewed and updated when the committee reconvenes in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alyce Smith, with assistance from Steve Simon

## CB12M-YOUTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Monday, June 10, 2013**

Location: Meeting Location: 711 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street Main floor (Haven Entrance)  
New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present: Fe Florimón, Chair; Christopher Smith Assistant Chair; Michael Jimenez; Angelo Ortiz; Aysha Oglivie; Alyce Smith

Committee Members Absent: Maria Luna; Manny De Los Santos

Guests; Mr. Jacob Morris; Joe Rogers, Founder- Total Equity Now

There being a quorum present, Chair Ms. Florimon called the meeting to order at 7:25pm

Chair welcomed and introduced all members and attendees. Chair officially acknowledged Ms. Aysha Oglivie as a new member of the committee.

The Chair turned facilitation of the meeting over to Assistant Chair Christopher Smith.

Asst. Chair previewed the agenda items and announced item #2, "Platform of New Yorkers for Great Public Schools", is removed from tonight's agenda.

Jacob Morris, Proposal for Central Library- Update on resolution: Mr. Morris there is a problem with the redrafting of the resolution as passed by CB12 in June 2012, specifically the resolution that was passed refers to the operational budget yet the issue at hand concerns the NYPL's capital budget. He recommends that we (committee) make reference to a bill in the NYS assembly, and tighten the language in the section of "be it resolved". Committee drafted and passed a new solution strengthening CB12's support.

Joe Rogers, Uptown Education Collaboration Initiative, statement of support/commitment and clarification: Mr. Rogers updated the committee on the UEC including an announcement of their next meeting on June 27th, at City College's NAC Ballroom, 6:30pm. Mr. Rogers is requesting CB12 vote on a draft letter formalizing commitment and support to the mission of the UEC as well as sending one or two member representatives to regular quarterly meetings so that CB12 has a voice/role in shaping the ongoing dialogue.

Committee members shared concerns and comments regarding what Mr. Rogers is requesting on behalf of UEC, and what the nature of that relationship should look like since the UEC a non-statutory body.

The committee also resolved to empower the Committee Chair to discuss the matter with the CB12 Chair in consultation with Joe Rogers how exactly that relationship should be shaped moving forward.

## Old/New Business

Privacy Issues (Fe Florimon): Letter regarding student privacy issues should go out from the board this week.

Joint Y&EC and Elders pending meeting (Fe Florimon): School band is not available so the event is pushed back for the fall.

Youth Program Cuts (Angelo Ortiz): Proposed 6/4 rally was cancelled due to rain. There is no other rally planned.

Public Members (Fe Florimon): Chair will propose two new public members be appointed to CB12's Youth and Education Committee. She hopes to get young members appointed and encourages more civic involvement from the general community.

Public Forums (Fe Florimon): June 1st forum centered on the importance of a resolution in the NYS Assembly to allow appointment of 16 and 17 year olds on community boards.

School Choice (Fe Florimon): There is an ongoing discussion in the Community Education Council as to the value of proposed zoning changes and residents' concern that these changes would lead to charter schools taking over school buildings. The hope is that there will be clarity on the de-zoning proposal of District 6 by September 2013.

Committee Input on 2012 and Reflections Moving Forward: Committee members shared the Chair did a great job this year with increasing the presence and importance of the committee's role in Washington Heights and Inwood. Members provided input into tightening how meetings are facilitated as well as keeping close to agenda items and encouraging members of the public to be succinct with their input. Other suggestions were posed with regards to increasing public attendance by choosing different locations for the meeting as well as utilizing social media. The Chair singly encouraged members to provide more input into monthly agenda items and guest speakers.

Next Meetings: Saturday, September 7th, 2013 @ Isabella Geriatric Center; and, Monday, September, 9, 2013 @ the Community Board Office.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:56pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Angelo Ortiz

**Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013**

**Attendance**

Committee:

Present - Yosef Kalinsky, Mitch Glenn, Anita Barberis, James Berlin, Edith Prentiss

Absent – Richard Allman, Elizabeth Lorriss-Ritter (excused), Aldemar Diaz (excused), Ulises Noboa (excused), Maceo Raysor (excused)

Public: Josh Orzeck (DOT), Paul Elston (CB8 Bronx), Lars Klova (Hudson View Garden), Cheryllynn Mena (WEACT)

**Hudson River Greenway Link** (presented by Paul Elston)

- Suggestion to have a continuous bike facility connecting the Westside Greenway from lower Manhattan, through Northern Manhattan, across the HHB, into the Bronx, and connect to the Old Croton Aqueduct trail which continues in Westchester another 20 miles.
- Need to add 4-6 miles of total trail to connect them
- Key point is the HHB – need that connector. Ideally would be best to build a cantilever on the south side of the bridge overlooking the river, but at the very least need to make it bike accessible on the current upper lever – currently we are operating with 2 lanes while under construction, so it is feasible to continue with two lanes and use the third lane for bikes and or pedestrians.
  - Jim suggested that the bike lane also be used as a “break-down” lane for cars in case of emergency
- Suggestion is to move the current bike paths in Inwood Hill which meets up with the HHB, but at a very steep incline, instead to the southern side of the HHP adjacent to the vehicular traffic, which is a much more manageable ascent to the HHB

Vote to support 5-0-0 . We will follow up with the parks committee (who received this presentation last month) and say that we support the concept of the Greenway Link for a joint resolution on the matter.

**DOT Report** (presented by Josh Orzeck)

- DDC will install two pedestrian ramps at
  - West 177<sup>th</sup> Street and Cabrini Blvd
  - West 176<sup>th</sup> Street and Haven Avenue
- Edith – DOT needs to make sure that their pedestrian ramps are installed correctly and lead people in the correct direction, especially for those visually impaired. For example:
  - 181<sup>st</sup> Street and Broadway – southwest corner
  - 168<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway

Edith will compile a list of pedestrian ramps that DOT should reexamine

- Pinehurst Avenue will be repaved in July 2013
- Responses to old resolution/requests
  - 2012
    - 173<sup>rd</sup> Broadway to Ft. Washington – speed hump request – nothing entered into the DOT database yet to report back on.
    - Pinehurst between 183<sup>rd</sup>-185<sup>th</sup> – study done and not warranted

- 162<sup>nd</sup> Edgecomb/St. Nicholas – speed hump installed, has enhanced the area
- Loading zone for in front of Ft. Tryon rehab center – rejected
- Bike Share – not in 2014, only going as far north as 59<sup>th</sup> Street
- 215<sup>th</sup> and Park Terrace West – doesn't meet criteria for stop sign
- Dyckman Street – not feasible to focus on Dyckman as a route because there is a lot going on there, so DOT would prefer to find another street to use as an east-west connector, so that they can focus their energize on other proposed bike lane possibilities.
  - George Fernandez – should we consider asking DOT to run a traffic study of the Dyckman Street area traffic issues, especially during the summer weekends? Jim – this is more an issue of NYPD enforcement than of traffic patterns.

New Business:

- Proposed speed hump at 158<sup>th</sup> Street and Edward Morgan
- Proposed route for M-60 – select bus service would only start at Lennox and not Amsterdam. WEACTION is not happy about the process here, leaving out community input.
- Need to nag Marcus Book for walkthrough with businesses owners and MTA for upkeep of train stations on Dyckman

Committee Meeting for the Concerns for Aging  
at Community Board Office  
June 11, 2013

Committee Members Present Public Member

Gloria Vanterpool, Chair Norma  
Betty Lehman, Asst. Chair  
Liliana Saneaux  
Edgard Nau Absent Excused

Guests

Genia Addeo, Jim McNiff, Lucille Bonilla, Norma DeCandido, Gisselle Meija-City Harvest

Meeting convened at 10:15 am by Chairperson  
Warm welcome was extended to all and those present introduced themselves.

Committee Reports

Public Safety Liliana Saneaux

Noise complaints @ Dyckman St.

Discourage clothing change in parked vehicles by baseball players

Warning : Dirt Bikes will be confiscated by police if they are ridden on the streets

30% reduction in crime

Dog Waste -- Ask resident cooperation in curbing dog

Vanderbilt Clinic Tour

On May 14, 2013, the committee along with other board members, joined Dr . Lantiqua and his staff at the clinic. The tour included an opportunity to view the reconstruction of the area and an update on the services to the elderly patients served at the clinic. Questions were asked and were thoroughly addressed. It was agreed that the committee would be in touch with Dr. Lantiqua in the future regarding any recommendations or complaints on the services to the elderly.

During July and August, no committee meeting will be held but a survey will be drafted and distributed to the senior centers and others who provide services to our older adults requesting their recommendations for how we can better serve them and address their needs. Responses from the surveys will be considered addressed in the Fall.

Have a great summer.

Submitted by Gloria Vanterpool

**Community Board 12**

**Public Safety Committee**

**June 5, 2013**

**Present – Committee Members**

Michael Jimenez, Chair  
Chris O'Sullivan  
Liliana M. Saneaux  
Rud Morales

**Absent or Excused**

Michael Mowatt-Wynn, Public Member  
Pamela North

**Present – CB 12**

George Fernandez, Chair CB 12

**Present –Guests**

Deputy Inspector Buzzetti (34<sup>th</sup> Pct.)  
Officer Perez (34<sup>th</sup> pct Community Affairs)  
Captain Pichardo (33<sup>rd</sup> Pct.)  
Sandrine Ferminos (DA's Office)

**Meeting called to order 7:15 pm**

**The Public Safety Committee Introduction and opening statements**

The PS Committee members introduced themselves  
The PS Chair addressed the audience and gave them a brief description of our role in the community and what action to take to file a complaint or get in contact with the board.

**Update from 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct – Inspector Buzzetti**

Burglaries

Burglaries continue to be a problem and the 34<sup>th</sup> Pct continue to work to drive the numbers down. As per Inspector Buzzetti, there were arrest made and he hopes to pursue some leads to see a drop in burglaries.

Car Theft

Inspector Buzzetti reports that the number of car theft in the 34<sup>th</sup> precinct is low for the month June. There were 4. Compared to last month there were only 2, on the Compustat it states there was a 100% jump but that is caused because of the comparison 2:4 ratio.

Mail Fishing

Fishing mail is still an issue. People continue stealing mail (rent checks, money orders for payments, IRS checks in personal mailboxes by using glue traps or any other sticky object and attaching it up to the

string. Grand larcenies are driving up number in theft. The 34th continues to send emails and flyers educating residents on measure that can be taken to minimize the possibility of becoming a victim

### Summer Months

The 34th focuses on quality of life issues. Motorcycles, businesses and other noise generating factors.. The 34th performs license checks. They also work visit business to discuss security coverage, hours and noise levels.

### Motorcycles:

The 34th looks for parked motorcycles and asks to see their license, proper registration or insurance. When the paperwork is not in order the motorcycle is confiscated. On the day of the PS meeting a motorcycle was taken from the parking lot behind La Marina. Inspector Buzzetti points out that while they can reduce the number of motorcycles they will not be able to get rid of every motorcycle on the street. They are legal. As long as the motorcycle operator has his paperwork in order and isn't breaking any laws, they have can drive their bikes. The precinct avoids chasing motorcycles drivers to avoid injury to residents/bystanders. They wait till they park and try to approach them then. Once approached they issue them summonses when parked on sidewalks is one way to get them to respect the law. As of the June Meeting they confiscated more than twenty (20) motorcycles and they will continue to collect them as people break the law or don't have proper documentation to operate. The Inspector predicts they will triple the number before years end.

There is a law passed that states food deliveries CAN NOT be made using motorized bicycles.

### La Marina and other Bar/Lounge/Restaurants

. Issue is traffic, not crime. Traffic agents are assigned to help remedy the issue.

Noise complaints around Dyckman are high. The tool that the PD has against licensed premises is "nuisance abatement." If they are closed, they are allowed to reopen with stipulations. It can take a long time to close a place with chronic complaints.

### Stay Alert

In and around parks people are walking behind residents with smart phones such as iPhone and snatching them. Police presence has been increased and the Inspector is hoping to work with parks to see how security can be increased. The inspector asks that residents stay alert and aware of their surroundings.

### July 4<sup>th</sup>

Last year most areas were under control but he observed some were using fireworks from rooftops. Post Avenue was one of the areas using fireworks on roofs. They will concentrate on rooftops more this year. They will also try to intercept the fireworks prior to July 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Dominican Day Parade

Post the parade there is a lot of activity in the 34<sup>th</sup> precinct community. Last year was controlled in the St. Nicolas Avenue, Audubon and but due to the bars strip on Dyckman it attracted a lot of people and it was very saturated. They are looking to plan to close streets in Dyckman Street to help ease the traffic flow.

### 181<sup>st</sup> and 207st. Vendors

on 181<sup>st</sup> street the laws are more specific and the precinct was able to curbe the 181<sup>st</sup>. They are looking to move up to 207st and begin to clean that up. One strategy they will try is to have police dispatch early before they set up. If they are set up they will eventually start writing summonses. For repeat offenders they will have to be arrested. The Inspector is hoping to avoid getting to those extremes. The precinct wants to work with the vendors to clean up the area.

### Public Urination, drinking and Electronic Bikes in Parks

Electronic bikes are illegal and the 34<sup>th</sup> pct is reaching out to business owners to let them know they can't be used for deliveries anymore. After speaking with them they will begin to issue summonses to violators.

Public Urination and drinking is a known problem. The 34<sup>th</sup> precinct is reaching out to taxi bases and ask them to put out radio alerts and distribute literature about changing in public while playing softball, urinating in public, etc... The Inspector asks that you call it in when you see it. When calling it is important you give a good description of the incident. He says it would be handled more serious if the person is exposing himself in public where people can see. The Inspector has a number of complaints and wants to work with the Parks Department to increase porta-potties

### Dog Curbing

The precincts says they have quality of life overtime where they go out and look for things like people not curbing their dogs. If they spot someone they issue a summons. If there is a specific location or a specific person they will dispatch someone to address the issue.

**Pastor Olivieri** was recognized for lending us his space, La Puerta Estrecha, to hold the Public Safety meeting. He spoke about how he loves his neighborhood and asked for residents to reach out if he can help in any way.

### **Update from 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct – Captain Fausto Pichardo**

Captain Pichardo reiterated the Inspector Buzzetti's reporting since both precinct.

### Crime Statistics

For the past month the 33<sup>rd</sup> pct has a 30% reduction in crime.

For the year they are down to 15%. No murders to report this year but they have had a few shootings. Down in robberies and rapes, no auto thefts.

### Grand Larcenies

Grand Larcenies are up. These are a property or Identity theft crime. These crimes can be prevented by shredding your documents and being vigilant about the information you leave behind for strangers to get information.

### Stop the Bullying Campaign.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, Public Safety Committee and Chair George Fernandez worked on a Stop the Bullying Campaign. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Pct and Public Safety are working in conjunction with Columbia Presbyterian, Columbia University and The New York Yankees. It Kicked off June 7<sup>th</sup>. Captain Pichardo is looking to continue the campaign and spread throughout the schools in the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct.

#### Car Break-ins

There were 12 car break-ins in one week. As the precinct noticed the jump they investigated and found there was a known car thief who was released. Upon breaking his probation an arrest warrant was issued. Once in custody the car break-ins ceased.

#### Illegal Barbecue

Captain Pichardo states that in the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct it doesn't seem like an uncontrollable issue. He feels because the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct has Highbridge Park people tend to have their barbecues there. He is looking into that. Dr. Chris O'Sullivan stated that there is an issue in Upper Riverside. The Captain said he would look into it and address it.

#### **District Attorney's Office Report – Sandrine Fermino, Community Affairs Coordinator, Northern Manhattan Office**

Due to it being the beginning of the month the numbers were not available the day of the meeting. They will be made available for the 34<sup>th</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community Council meetings.

As of May 28<sup>th</sup> 2013 the DA's office has a new Financial Intelligence Unit which is partnering with the United States Secret Service, IRS, and the FBI to investigate any crime that are part of homicide to human trafficking that may involve any financial concern or money laundering etc...

One of the services that are in the DA's office are Trespass Affidavit Program. Once enrolled that building manager or landlord will provided the DA office with 2 keys to the building and must put up a sign stating it's in the program. Tenant placing calls in to the DA's office asking to add the building to the program is usually the drive to start the process. Another way is to call the precinct and ask to have the DA call the building manager to add your building to the program. The program allows the NYPD to enter the building at anytime and do walkthroughs in the building.

Another unit is Special Victims Unit (SVU), through this unit they educate, help those who are victims of crimes with shelter, school relocation, housing, harassment.

Counseling services is another program.

All information can remain anonymous.

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

Susan Ryan, an Inwood Resident, states that there have been a number of robberies/muggings to mothers while with their children in Inwood Hill Park and surrounding areas. All incidents have been documented. Mrs. Ryan came up with the idea that she states Senator Espaillat's office has shown interest in working on. To have New York State legislation reclassify robberies that occur in the

presence of young children to a more serious offense. As per Sandrine Fermino, Senator Espailfat has already reached out to the DA's office regarding this proposal.

#### Camera at Isham Park

Susan Ryan's husband was mugged and assaulted one year ago in Isham park around 8:15pm). At the time of the assault it was still light. Her husband suffered a broken nose and other serious injuries. Post the incident the Parks Department placed in a camera (not an NYPD camera) where the assault took place since many other assaults took place prior to Mrs. Ryan's husband being mugged. Prior to the assault there was a camera there and, as per Mrs. Ryan, it was taken down to place somewhere else.

After the second Camera was placed the expectation was that the camera would be operable 24 hours a day and seven days a week. On the afternoon March 26 there was another assault. The NYPD wanted to see the footage and they were told there was usable footage because the camera was not on. Inspector Buzzetti stated he was not aware that the camera was on and thought it was recording 24 hours a day.

It appears that most crimes that occur in that area happened during the times the camera is not operable. The times include 7:00am, 8:15am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 7:00pm and 8:15pm. The Camera at Isham was on 1:00 am to 5:00 am which is when the park is closed. Mrs. Ryan points out that the camera was operating during the times that crimes were not happening. She also stated that she brought up her concern to the Parks and Cultural Affairs as well. Mrs. Ryan says that the Parks Department stated that they followed the recommendation of the NYPD. Inspector Buzzetti stated that any recommendation they would make to parks would involve a camera the operates 24 hours a day. She and other Inwood residents are requesting a camera be put up that records 24 hours a day.

**Meeting adjourned 9:13pm**

## Parks & Cultural Affairs

May 7, 2013

### Committee Members Present:

Harlan Pruden, Chair  
David Kach, Vice Chair  
Mitch Glenn  
Richard Lewis  
Chris O'Sullivan  
Zead Ramadan

### Other Community Board members:

Juan Mejia  
Edith Prentis

### Announcements

- Public Hearing Thursday night
- Highbridge Park Newsletter
- Drums Along the Hudson 11 am to 6 pm May 19
- The Parks Dep't. has mobile units with skating, fitness and play themes that are available for street fairs

### Presentations

#### Art Installation in Inwood Hill Park Estuary, "Harvesting Storm: Snapped Umbrellas"

SLO Architecture has a grant from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council for a 2<sup>nd</sup> try at creating an open floating dome with a 24 foot diameter. The dome is made from broken recycled umbrella frames made buoyant by 128 soda bottles. It is anchored and stable but can sit on the mud flats when the tide goes out. They are building it at the Brooklyn Bridge Navy Yard. It will be brought up the E. Rver to the Bronx River by barge. It will be placed 150 feet from the shore and installed on Aug. 1, weather permitting.

They attempted this project two years ago, building the dome with the help of kids from Rock the Boat and Inwood, but when they put it in the Bronx River on pontoons of canoes pulled by a motor boat, the waves were too high and the canoes were flooded.

Question: Is there a possibility of birds getting trapped in the dome or nesting in the dome?

Answer: Birds hang out on it but the dome is too diaphanous for birds to be trapped or nest in it.

Q: Is a resolution needed?

A: No

Q: Will there be an event surrounding the installation? Publicity?

A: Possibly a CB 12 summer event. Social media: Bronx River Crossing Face Book page; Inwood Face Book page; twitter.

Suggestion to present at Lost History Night at Indian Hill Café, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month.

### Washington Heights Corner Project

Sarah from the Washington Heights Corner Project explained that it is a syringe exchange program for Northern Manhattan. Their office used to be at the NIMC office but it is now located at St. Nicholas and 181<sup>st</sup> St. They provide case management, HIV & hepatitis C testing, wellness and mental health support, with 11 full time staff. A lot of participants are homeless and use the parks so the project works with the Parks Dep't.

Outreach: (917) 504-9931 (English or Spanish)  
566 W. 181<sup>st</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Contact Sarah if you find used syringes anywhere north of 135<sup>th</sup> St. Do not pick them up yourself. They are considered hazardous waste. The workers can't pick up litter, only sharp and hazardous objects, like broken crack stems. One must be needle-stick trained to pick up; they wear reflective vests and puncture-proof gloves. Sarah Deutsch: (212) 923-7600 ext. 121 sarah@cornerproject.org

Let them know if there are spots where needles are being dumped regularly. They need input from the community on the routes they should be covering. Ashley is a doctoral student at Columbia University School of Public Health who is doing GPS tracking of the routes, which are cleaned up weekly or biweekly, depending on the use. Heavy use spots include under the bridge, the staircase at 176<sup>th</sup> down to the Hudson, Sherman Creek at the top of Highbridge Park.

### Hudson River Greenway Link

The purpose is to link to the old Croton Aqueduct train line in Westchester. One can already go by bike from Inwood to Battery Park. This project would create [HAS CREATED?] 4 miles of waterfront access: 3 in the Bronx and 1 in Yonkers. It would cost \$16 million to add bike and walking path on the Henry Hudson Bridge. The disabled access ramp will be completed in Sept.

From 59<sup>th</sup> St. to Battery Park City cost \$700 million. This piece will cost \$50-100 million. Half would come from the city and half from Westchester. Asking for support to make it a budget priority.

Next month there will be a resolution in support of the project from Traffic & Transportation and PCA.

### **Old Business**

#### J. Hood Wright Soccer Field

Therese reported that Parks Dep't. would not allow it in the space proposed because there are old trees there. Community member reiterated that volley ball and soccer are already played in the same space, which is concrete, so would be able to share that space if it were covered in Astroturf.

Therese said the priority was the soccer field in Highbridge Park at 175<sup>th</sup> St., which is already funded and part of the Northern Manhattan Master Plan. J. Hood Wright has a multi-purpose play area.

Community member states that they already have funding to put in Astroturf and soccer goals from an individual representing a sports clothing store, but Therese points out that funding perpetual maintenance is different from funding installation.

It might be four years before it is designed, bid out, constructed and usable. There are also safety issues with AstroTurf.

Resolution in support of J. Hood Wright Synthetic Surface Multi-Purpose Play Area.

Issues are:

- Drainage and subsurface
- Maintenance
- Funding from Modell's
- Design
- Proposed space

Vote:

Committee: 6 – 0 - 0

Board members: 2-0-0

Community: 8-0-0

#### Parks Department Report

Volunteer projects in May in Inwood

#### **New Business**

Propose changing the name of PCA to Parks, Cultural Affairs & Waterfront or Cultural Affairs, Parks & Shoreline

#### **Resolution on Accessibility of Events in Parks**

Committee members: 6-0-0

Board members: 2-0-0

Community: 4-0-0

**Adjourned 9:40 pm**

Minutes submitted by Chris O'Sullivan and edited by Harlan Pruden