

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 4

October 2, 2013 Roosevelt Hospital, 2nd Floor 1000 Tenth Avenue (58/59)

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing: Application for a renewal of an enclosed sidewalk café for New York Burger at 470 West 23rd Street (ULURP # N130021ECM)

Presentation of Seniors Community Survey Report: The presentation will review survey findings and highlight recommendations on how to best serve the aging population in Community District 4, residents of Manhattan Plaza residents and the performing arts community.

AGENDA

Public Session: Christine Berthet

Adoption of Agenda: Corey Johnson

Adoption of Last Month's Minutes: Corey Johnson

Report of the Manhattan Borough President: David Czyzyk

Reports of Local Elected Officials: Various

Report of the District Manager: Robert J. Benfatto, Jr.

Nominating Committee Report: Betty Mackintosh

Report of the Chair/Committee Reports: Corey Johnson

Chair Corey Johnson called the meeting to order at 18:42.

PUBLIC HEARING on New York Burger at 470 West 23rd Street (ULURP # N130021ECM):

MCB4 Chair Johnson introduced MCB4 member **Betty Mackintosh** to run the Public Hearing.

Ms. Mackintosh announced that no one had signed up to speak and asked if anyone would like to speak on the issue of the application for a renewal of an enclosed sidewalk café. With no responses the Public Hearing was closed. Chair Johnson did state he was pleased that New York Burger has been able to stay open for as long as it has.

PRESENTATION OF THE SENIORS COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT: MCB4 Chair introduced MCB4 member and **The Actors Fund Chief Operating Officer, Barbara Davis** to present to the Board. Ms. Davis thanked Project Manager Judy Rosch who worked on this for the last three years & Mia Oberlink of the Visiting Nurse Service. The study came about from discussions between the Actors Fund, a Human Services organization for people in the entertainment industry and management of Manhattan Plaza. Manhattan Plaza is the largest affordable housing complex in the US dedicated to performing arts professionals. The study spanned 5 zip codes within CD4 and took an in-depth look at the demographics of Manhattan Plaza. Of the 2,600 residents, 1,100 are over the age of 60.

Objective: Data collection on older population to start planning to make the community more age friendly.

Projection: In the next 20 years, the 65 and older population will rise almost 50% resulting in older New Yorkers outnumbering school age children for the first time in our history.

Focus: 4 Domains: **Address Basic Needs** **Promote Social & Civic Engagement**
Optimizing Physical & Mental Health **Maximizing Independence for the Frail**

Primary Findings of the 1,200 CB4 people surveyed:

69% live alone

58% have no children

45% have annual incomes below \$20,000

31% felt in need of mental health services, but 43% did not receive it

21% have difficulty with transportation and

71% believe traffic is a problem

Recommendations:

- Make affordable housing for seniors a legislative priority
- Work to improve transportation, traffic and noise conditions
- Provide safer walking environments by repairing defective sidewalks, crosswalks and curb cuts
- Ensure affordable stores remain in the neighborhood.
- Expand education efforts to inform them about available resources
- Establish intergenerational activities to encourage interaction among people of all ages.
- Provide more volunteer and paid work opportunities
- Develop a comprehensive online calendar of events and activities for seniors.
- Promote agefriendlycollege.org to connect seniors to educational opportunities.
- Foster neighborhood initiatives to emphasize seniors as productive citizens that add value.
- Get discounts for seniors to use health clubs facilities during off hours.
- Start walking clubs to encourage physical activity and socialization.
- Conduct an informational campaign to promote the importance of receiving preventive vaccines.
- Promote and increase access to affordable mental health services.
- Raise public officials' awareness for funding needs to support critical services for seniors.
- Designate and educate sentinels throughout the community to identify at-risk seniors and connect them with community support.
- Develop neighbor-to-neighbor programs, so those who are able and willing to help others can do so.
- Advocate for more senior transportation options such as taxi voucher programs and additional services for the physically disabled.
- Invest more in resources for informal caregivers, as they are the backbone of in-home care.

As a result of this study the Actor's Fund created a Seniors Resource Directory. Copies will be distributed through various channels.

Comments from the Board:

JD Noland suggested creating a task force to focus on this very important work. Ms. Davis responded these issues can best be handled by the HHS Committee.

Walter Malkoff suggested the Board write a letter of praise recognizing the work of the Actor's Fund and VNS

Comments from the Public:

There is a need to fast track moving seniors out of walk up buildings to elevator buildings

There are not enough senior centers and it needs to be a priority for developers.

GENERAL PUBLIC SESSION:

MCB4 Chair Johnson introduced Vice Chair Christine Berthet to run the public session.

1. **Bill Borock** of the Council of Chelsea Block Associations initially wanted to discuss BLP Item 2: Letter to SLA re The Gem Hotel – 300 West 22nd Street, but first commented on BLP Item 11: Letter to SLA re Pounds & Ounces – 160 Eighth Avenue. Mr. Borock asked MCB4 to postpone writing to the SLA to give the Block Associations enough time to discuss the latest talks with Pounds & Ounces management. With regards to the Gem Hotel, Mr. Borock told the Board the CCBA met with the attorney and general manager of the Gem Hotel concerning the request for a Wine and Beer License. The CCBA proposed additional stipulations for this license and expressed concern over the request by the Gem Hotel to hold “occasional events. They would like to have the number of events clearly defined. Rooftop venues present many problems and they would like the hotel to conduct a sound study. Mr. Borock hoped MCB4 would include the additional stipulations outlined by the Council of Chelsea Block Associations.
2. **Erin McCannon** of the LGBT Community Center announced the NYC LGBT Community Center along with The Manhattan Smoke-Free Partnership will be hosting a Session on Smoke-Free housing on Wednesday November 13th from 6-8 pm at the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge at 132 West 32nd St. Refreshments will be served and lawyers would be on hand. Ms. McCannon informed the Board that 70% of air is shared in multi-unit dwellings. This session was planned at the urging of Community Boards.
3. **Meredith Nowikowski** of the Meatpacking District Improvement Association announced they just hired Abby Murray who will be attending MCB4 meetings since a small portion of their District borders MCB4.

The MPIA is hosting Harvest Fest on Saturday, October 26th from 10am to 4pm at Gansevoort Plaza. This a family fun free event. Flyers were available.

4. **Lesley Doyel**, Co-President of Save Chelsea wanted to address Item 2: Letter to SLA re The Gem Hotel – 300 West 22nd Street. Save Chelsea is apprehensive about the application and believes the beer and wine license would create an unacceptable use of the rooftop. The research of 3 Block Associations shows the Gems Hotel plans are in violation of stated MCB4 guidelines.
5. **Michael Nobel**, MCB4 member spoke on his own behalf and wanted to address NYCHA housing matters. The situation has been “tense” because repairs had been neglected until the Daily News ran an expose. As many are aware they State Legislature passed a law to restructure the NYCHA’s board. Mr. Nobel wanted to let the Board know there will be an upcoming article in the Daily News discussing the issue and he was interviewed for the article.
6. **Phyllis Waisman** of the 23rd Street Block Association also wanted to address Item 2: Letter to SLA re The Gem Hotel – 300 West 22nd Street. The 23rd Block Association is disappointed in the response from management of the Gem Hotel. They would like to see more stipulations placed on the application. They believe granting the beer & wine license for the rooftop space will set a bad precedent and they ask that MCB4 be wary and consider the additional stipulations. The Block Association will be vigilant monitoring the Gem Hotel if the rooftop plans go through.
7. **Betty Mackintosh**, MCB4 member showed the Board a carrot, a Swiss chard leaf and a cherry tomato. Ms. Mackintosh asked what they all had in common and then informed the Board all these items were grown by the Hell’s Kitchen Farm Project. The vegetables are grown on the roof of Metro Baptist Church and the food goes to the pantry of the church. The Hell’s Kitchen Farm Project will host a Fall Harvest Celebration on October 30th from 6 to 8pm at Metro Baptist Church at 410 West 40th Street. Ms. Mackintosh informed the Board no one would be turned away, but donations would be greatly appreciated. Chelsea Now just did an article about the Farm Project and there is a great photo featured along with the article. First Vice Chair Christine Berthet asked Ms. Mackintosh who had access to the pantry. Ms. Mackintosh explained the church had a point system that determined how much was distributed.
8. **Lisa Wager**, Director of Government & Community Relations of FIT wanted to inform the Board of upcoming public programming which is updated in their E-blasts. A series of Film Screenings begins on Thursdays. Coming soon will be an Exhibition, Interior Design Outreach. Currently on exhibition is A Queer History of Fashion which has received positive press.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL FULL BOARD MEETING:

Chair Johnson noted for the Agenda the Board may consider tabling Item #11, but would defer to the BLP Co-Chair Lisa Daglian when she arrives.

The Agenda was adopted.

The September Minutes as scribed for the last time by retiring Board member Larry Roberts was adopted.

REPORTS OF ELECTEDS:

Jeffrey LeFrancois and David Czyzyk wanted to make an announcement so they decided to address the Board together. Mr. LeFrancois wanted first to give a brief report from **Assembly Member Dick Gottfried**’s office.

- Mr. Gottfried attended the ribbon cutting for P.S. 51 & was thrilled there is a wonderful new school facility.
- Regarding the Affordable Care Act, Mr. Gottfried expects this should be huge and NY State is running its own exchange. *Barbara Davis pointed out flyers regarding the Affordable Care Act were available in the back of the room.*
- The Assembly member cheers the DOT changes to be implemented along Ninth Avenue.

On a personal note, Mr. LeFrancois decided to leave Dick Gottfried’s office and will be traveling in South America. Mr. LeFrancois noted his first meeting with MCB4 was in the very same space as his last. He characterized his time as “remarkable and unforgettable” and said MCB4 was a pleasure to work with as Board members worked very hard to get things done. Mr. LeFrancois’ final remarks were that the Board made him feel like he had a second home outside of Harlem and the “Westside is the best side.”

REPORT OF MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT SCOTT STRINGER:

David Czyzyk, representing Borough President Stringer, related his announcement to Mr. LeFrancois. He informed the Board he would be leaving the Borough President's office because he received an offer he could not refuse. Mr. Czyzyk will be going to work for Assembly member Dick Gottfried so he would still be working with MCB4. As for the report for the Borough President's Office:

- In regards to the Affordable Care Act, there is comprehensive information available on the Borough President's website, www.mbp.org
- On Monday, October 7th the Borough President's Office will be presenting, "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" at Duffy Square at 6:30pm. There were flashy flyers on the event available and everyone is encourage to attend and wear purple.
- On October 26th, at Lehman College there will be Prison to Prosperity Fair from 8:30am to 5:00pm. This event is co-sponsored by an organization, Think Outside the Cell.org

Jackie Black of US Representative Jerry Nadler's office introduced herself as a recent hire & updated the Board: **Representative Nadler** condemns the Federal government shutdown and supports a clean resolution to the budget debate. Their office is working hard to preserve social services in New York. If there were any concerns or questions regarding the Shutdown or the Affordable Care Act, please contact their office.

Funsho Owolabi, for State Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal, announced:

- on October 17th Assembly Member Rosenthal will be hosting the annual Breast Screening Van for women 40 years and older.
- The Assembly member was also sponsoring free flu shots at her district office, 230 West 72nd Street on Tuesday, October 22nd from 9am until noon.
- In regards to the After Hours Variances, Ms. Rosenthal sent a letter to DOB based on the task force work. Everyone is tired of variances.
- Finally Mr. Owolabi said they welcomed the return of P.S 51.

Harriet Sedgewick, representing City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, told the Board Speaker Quinn welcomes P.S. 51 and it was a beautiful ribbon cutting ceremony.

Highlighting some recent legislation:

- September 24th the Council passed a law to prevent pregnancy discrimination. This bill will make it easier for women to request accommodations without the fear of repercussions.
- The Council passed legislation in response to Super storm Sandy. The bill will require a study and pilot program of using permeable materials on streets and sidewalks. New buildings will be required to install backwater devices to prevent sewage from getting into buildings. The bill will also update the plumbing code and ensure automatic faucets and toilets can still operate in the event of a power loss. Also the office of Long Term Planning will be given the task to address through policies, programs and action the City's response to natural disasters.

Edgar Yu of District Attorney Cy Vance's office announced:

- Along with Manhattan Borough President, Scott Stringer, they would be presenting "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence." Mr. Yu encouraged people to wear purple and attend the event.
- The DA with the New York County Lawyers Association held a workshop for small business owners outlining legal rights and obligations of business owners. Permitting and Licenses were covered as well.
- On Friday September 26th DA Vance hosted a conference on intellectual property rights in the digital age at John Jay Criminal College. For more information, visit their website: <http://manhattanda.org/>

Trisha Shimamlir, representing Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commented on the Government shutdown.

- Their district office was currently still open.
- Congresswoman Maloney supports a clean resolution and it deserves an up or down vote.
- To clarify a few points, despite a shutdown: Social Security will continue to be paid, Post Offices will still operate, Veteran services will continue.

Any questions about the shutdown can be directed to their office.

REPORT OF DISTRICT MANAGER ROBERT J. BENFATTO:

MCB4 District Manager Bob Benfatto stated he would be brief, he is usually brief and he expects to be brief again. Mr. Benfatto, informed the Board that the district office was flooded with emails about the government shutdown and was even asked if the District Office was closed due to the shutdown, to which Mr. Benfatto replied, "... that was the Federal government. We are the City government and we are and always will be open."

District Manager Benfatto updated the Board and the community on some up-coming land use applications.

- Last month the Board approved the Fulton Houses Project but the issue of the building facade was still outstanding. Reportedly much work has been occurring to produce a facade that is agreeable. On Monday, [October 21](#) at 6:30pm at 353 West 30th Street the Chelsea Land Use Committee will be hosting a presentation of the proposed facade.
- The Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Land Use Committee has moved its meeting to Wednesday, [October 30](#) at 6:30pm at Cameo Studios, 307 West 43rd Street. Because of the end of the Bloomberg Administration, next month there will be some "big items" certified at City Planning. On [October 21st](#) Site 7, CHDC and Taconic affordable housing project at 540 West 52nd Street will be certified and possibly the TF Cornerstone site at West 57th Street on Southside between 10th and 11th Avenue. In addition, Manhattan West a Brookfield project may be certified. Thus a very busy last three months of Land Use.
- The previous Monday, [September 30, 2012](#) the City Planning Commission approved the District Plan for the proposed Hudson Yards Business Improvement District. The next step is for City Council to vote before the end of the year. In the report to City Planning it was stated:

"Recognizing the unique character of the community as outlined above, the Commission supports the recommendation by Community Board 4 and other stakeholders to rename the district "Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance". The name change acknowledges the existing Hell's Kitchen community, the emerging community at Hudson Yards, and the common cause that unites them—the betterment of the neighborhood along and west of Ninth Avenue."

REPORT FROM BETTY MACKINTOSH OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Ms. Mackintosh informed the Board that the Nominating Committee was comprised of herself, JD Noland & Charles Bayor. New officers will be elected in the December Full Board meeting. The Committee will be interviewing candidates in the month of October. At the November Full Board meeting the Committee will ask if there are any additional nominees. If there are such, the Committee will convene and conduct more interviews. The nominees are as follows:

CHAIR:	Christine Berthet & Burt Lazarin
1 st VICE CHAIR:	Hugh Weinberg
2 nd VICE CHAIR:	Delores Rubin
CO-SECRETARY:	Frank Holozubiek
CO-SECRETARY:	Miranda Nelson

REPORT OF MCB4 CHAIR COREY JOHNSON:

MCB4 Chair informed the Board that with much sadness he had to announce that Board Member Larry Roberts was retiring from MCB4. Chair Johnson characterized Mr. Roberts as a thoughtful and fair Community Board member that stepped up whenever needed having sacrificed many nights at the expense of his family. Larry Roberts had the very unsexy position of Co-Secretary. *Though I beg to differ on that opinion. I find the role moderately sexy.* Mr. Roberts also was responsible for making the Actor's Temple available for Board use. He continues to be a member of his Block Association & Community Liaison to the Midtown North Police Precinct. Mr. Roberts will stay on to be a Public Member of the BLP Committee "to keep the bad guys in line." Now Mr. Roberts will probably have more time for Yankee games. *With that the Board erupted in a round of very appreciative applause.* Mr. Roberts briefly addressed the Board saying he hated good byes. Chair Johnson finished up his report by informing the Board that following the Full Board meeting there would be a farewell gathering at Jake's Saloon so he hoped that would be enough motivation to keep the meeting from being overly long.

COMMITTEE LETTERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

Chelsea Land Use Committee (CLU) (APPROVED)

Item 1: Letter to DCP re enclosed sidewalk café renewal for New Yorker Burger - 470 West 23rd Street
Pamela Wolff commented that the site had been a blight for so many years and it would be nice to see something successful there. Chair Johnson agreed.

Business License and Permits Committee (BLP)

Presented by BLP Co-Chair Lisa Daglian.

The following items were bundled: 5, 7-10, 12,13

Item 2: Letter to SLA re The Gem Hotel – 300 West 22nd Street (**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)

Hotel is applying for a Beer & Wine License for a Rooftop space. SLA generally approves Beer & Wine & the applicant is not willing to come before BLP again. If MCB4 does not recommend approval, The Gem Hotel will apply to the SLA without the stipulations agreed upon at BLP. Betty Mackintosh questioned the claim by the Block Associations that MCB4 was not following policy. Ms. Daglian explained MCB4 has guidelines in place, but these are not law for the Board. Marty DeKadt mentioned the sound equipment on the roof is already quite loud. Christine Berthet commented it seems reasonable to do a sound study & add baffling to reduce noise. JD Noland suggested to request that management keep a dialog with the community if there are noise issues. Pamela Wolff attended the meeting with management. She did not think the HVAC was particularly noisy. Concerned there will be an impact on this “historic street”, especially with the entrance on the side street, not the avenue. Burt Lazarin visited the rooftop. The mechanicals are very annoying, but one line of windows is directly exposed to the rooftop. Mr. Lazarin was mostly concerned because the Gem Hotel has put the Board in a very bad position, but they do not seem to care. Previously they had been more friendly & amenable, but now they say they will simply apply for the license without any of the stipulations if the Board does not recommend approval. Joe Restuccia suggested the Board state clearly in the letter the MCB4 policy guidelines so that future applicants will know where we stand. Also if the Board recommends a denial we stand to lose all we gained from the previously agreed upon stipulations. Father Fennessey asked if this is as far as the applicant was willing to go to which Ms. Daglian replied yes. The Father then suggested we should try to keep the lines of communication open with the Hotel. Brett Firfer said he appreciated Mr. Restuccia’s comments, but was concerned that the Gem Hotel might choose to by-pass the Board and that may set a precedent for other beer & wine applicants. Ms. Daglian explained most applicants know the SLA rarely denies beer & wine licenses. Christine Berthet suggested a friendly amendment to include all the stipulations we asked for and state that the applicant is not yet willing to comply. Brad Pascarella suggested to state security concerns and request that “traffic” be redirected off the side street. Chair Johnson stated he was uncomfortable with the applicant, but he knew the Board’s “hands were tied” Personally, Chair Johnson would like to outright deny the application, but they could ask the SLA to request the stipulations. Joe Restuccia stated he did not like the situation either, but the Board should make a principle stand. Ms. Daglian recapped that the Board would be voting on the application & the letter would include MCB4 policy, the Board’s request for more stipulations: a sound study, more security, a limit on the number of events, & potentially provide replacement windows. Mr. Restuccia offered to help with language & Marty DeKadt remarked Ms. Daglian’s recap was great.

Item 3: Letter to SLA re 736 10th Ave Café Inc 736 Tenth Avenue(50/51)(**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)
Ms. Daglian told the Board Druids has agreed not to use the back area. Joe Restuccia informed the Board that fully closing the rear yard may result in a citation for the applicant and that should be included in the letter.

Item 4: Letter to SLA re Morales Cabrera Corp – 741 Ninth Avenue (50) (**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)
Applicant had agreed to additional stipulations. These would be added to the letter.

Item 5: Letter to SLA re Cara Mia – 654 Ninth Avenue (45/46) (**APPROVED**)

Item 6: Letter to SLA re Lime Jungle – 803 Ninth Avenue (53/54) (**APPROVED**)

Item 7: Letter to SLA re Hono, LLC – 356 West 44th Street (**APPROVED**)

Item 8: Letter to SLA re Szechuan Palace – 360 West 42nd Street (**APPROVED**)

Item 9: Letter to SLA re F&W International LLC – 337 West 14th Street (**APPROVED**)

Item 10: Letter to SLA re Pushcart Coffee – 401 West 25th Street (**APPROVED**)

Item 11: Letter to SLA re Pounds & Ounces – 160 Eighth Avenue (**APPROVED**)

At issue was the applicant wanted to increase the hours of operation. At the time of the committee meeting there had been no complaints. Despite the request from the Block Associations to table this item, Ms. Daglian asked that the Board vote because of a timing concern & the Block Associations could maintain an open dialog with applicant.

Item 12: Letter to DCA re The Commons Chelsea – 128 Seventh Avenue (17/18) (**APPROVED**)

Item 13: Letter to DCA re Pret A Manger – 655 Sixth Avenue (20/21) (**APPROVED**)

UPDATE FROM STATE SENATOR BRAD HOYLMAN:

As member of the Public filed out of the room, State Senator Hoylman commented, “Don’t all leave at once!”

- *Mr. Hoylman stated Ms. Daglian does a great job with BLP. He noted the difficulty to navigate through the BLP process and said we can change the law to improve the process and he had “a bill for that”.*
- *State Senator Hoylman thanked the Board for the efforts in bringing back the “beautiful, stellar & amazing P.S. 51”. He had attended the ribbon cutting because that is what politicians do, they do not work.*

- Mr. Holyman had toured Bayview and will continue to work to maintain some community use for that location.
- The State Senator announced he would be hosting a forum on Fracking, Frackonomics: Debunking the Financial Myths of Fracking at SVA Theater. 333 West 23rd Street on Thursday, October 3rd 6 to 8 pm.
- Mr. Hoylman's office was also sponsoring free flu shots at State Senator Holyman's District Office, 322 Eighth Avenue, Suite 1700 on Wednesday, October 16th from 10am to 1pm.
- The State Senator finally announced that Jared Chausow will be leaving his office to travel in South America with Jeffrey LeFrancois.

Jared Chausow addressed the Board saying that Hell's Kitchen and Chelsea were two amazing neighborhoods and he will send photos and post cards from South America.

Transportation Committee (TRANS)

Presented by Jay Marcus, Trans Co-Chair

The following items were bundled: 14-20

Item 14: Letter to DOT re Bolt Bus Stop relocation – West 39th Street (**APPROVED**)

Item 15: Letter to DOT re High Line Hotel Loading Zone Request (**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)

JD Noland was concerned the language suggested the Board was condoning unlawful behavior. Mr. Marcus agreed to be specific about the parking issue, but was just noting residents do like to park in this area after 10pm.

Item 16: Letter to DOT re West 41st Street and Ninth Avenue Safety Improvements (**APPROVED**)

Item 17: Letter to NYC Parks re Tree pit widening program (**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)

Betty Mackintosh was confused by the language expressing disappointment with no communication, but then expressing appreciation of DOT facilitating communication. Mr. Marcus clarified that DOT really outdid themselves stepping up to bring the various groups together and the initial lack of communication was on the part of the other parties. Mr. Marcus would amend the letter to make that more clear.

Item 18: Letter to DOT re City Bench Removal Request-West 23rd Street(Sixth & Seventh Avenues)(**APPROVED**)

Item 19: Letter to DOT re City Bench Removal Request - West 46th Street at Tenth Avenue (**APPROVED**)

Item 20: Letter to NYPD/DOT re Illegal Truck Usage of Streets in West Chelsea (**APPROVED**)

Landmarks Committee (LAND)

Presented by Pamela Wolff, Landmarks Co-Chair

Item 21: Letter to LPC re 508 West 26th Street (RATIFICATION) (**APPROVED**)

Item 22: Letter LPC re 58-60 Ninth Avenue (**APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS**)

Ms. Wolff commented it was odd that this came before the Committee, but it was explained the applicant was required to go before the Committee to discuss the hole to be dug inside the building. This hole would be more than 7 feet deep. Betty Mackintosh suggested lines 28-29 be edited.

New Business (NewBus)

Presented by Jay Marcus, Trans Co-Chair

Item 23: Letter to DOT re Restaurant Row Improvement Project (**TABLED**)

JD Noland asked if this matter went before a committee and was concerned that there was no public presentation.

Mr. Marcus explained that it had not, but MCB4 had discussed and written a letter of support for the proposed improvements last year, yet no action had been taken. This letter would usually be an administrative letter and was written by DM Benfatto. Mr. Marcus said the aim of the letter was to try to expedite the implementation of these improvements. Mr. Noland said he would like to see designs. Chair Johnson thought it should go back to committee. Mr. Restuccia stated that even if it is pro forma the matter should be re-examined. This prompted Chair Johnson to table the Item.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:51 Scribed by Delores Rubin