

January 2005 Minutes

Full Board Meeting Hope Cohen, Chairperson

January 4, 2005 7:00 PM

Hope Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

The December full board minutes were approved (19-0-1)

Chairperson's Report – Hope Cohen

- CB7 will host Deputy-Mayor Dennis Walcott on February 16th, who will speak to the public about education and affordable housing. This special event (including refreshments as well as opportunity for Q&A) will be at 7pm at the Universalist Church, Central Park West & 76th Street.
- A new Conflicts of Interest Board ruling excludes relatives of Community Board members from working in Board offices.
- Team SWMP will report their comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Solid Waste Management Plan, which includes the West 59th Street marine transfer station. Documents are available at www.nyc.gov/sanitation.
- City Planning has certified Lincoln Center's application to redevelop West 65th Street. The various applications related to the project will be discussed by the Lincoln Center Task Force on January 20, 2005, 7 PM, at 1865 Broadway. Findings will be presented to the full board on February 1. A summary of the actions is available on the CB7 Website at Lincoln Task Force.

District Manager's Report- Penny Ryan

- At the December meeting, the Manhattan Borough Board adopted a resolution in support of Council Member Brewer's Intro 174, which would require the NYC Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) to distribute 311 data to Community District offices.
- Phase 1 of the Office of Emergency Management and the Empower Institute's All Together Now, a pilot project in CD7 that trains individuals and buildings in preparedness has been successful. Phase 2, which will begin in February, will include all boroughs.
- Reports of crime are up slightly in the 20th Precinct, primarily due to grand larceny. Crime is down overall in the 24th Precinct. In 2004, 65% of reports in the 20 and 47% in the 24 were related to grand larceny - theft of unattended personal property
- The number of homeless men seems to be increasing in the District.
- Sidewalk cleanliness is 98% acceptable; street cleanliness has fallen from 95% to 89%.

· The City will recycle Christmas and holiday trees and wreathes. Curbside collections from January 6th to the 16th; collections in Central and Riverside Parks on January 8th.

Public Session

Dr. Richard Daines, President and CEO of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, reported on improvements in emergency care and other services due to consolidation of expertise among affiliates and partners. The hospital has developed a concentration in vascular disease, with an emphasis on strokes. He promised to explore potential problems in nursing services.

Hector Santana discussed the need for CB7 to work on behalf of people who live in public housing. He noted that the sidewalk on 64th Street in front of Amsterdam Houses is broken and dangerous.

Alan Flacks objected to decision to stop the distribution of committee meeting minutes (in hard copy form) to the general public.

Eliyanna Kaiser, representative of NYS Assembly Member Gottfried, reported on a joint hearing on Crystal Meth and hepatitis. She announced passage of the Javits Assembly bill, which does not include the West Side Stadium. She noted that Assembly Member Gottfried agrees with the proposed reform bill to improve New York State legislative processes.

Christina Harvey, representative of NYS Senator Schneiderman, reported his support of the proposed reform bill to improve New York State legislative processes.

Jason Haber, representative of NYS Assembly Member Stringer, reported that the newly updated reform bill will be published in the immediate future.

Manhattan Borough President's Report

John Mullens, representative of C. Virginia Fields, asked that Board Members up for renewal please submit their applications promptly.

Reports by Legislators

City Councilmember Philip Reed spoke about improvements to the CPW/103rd subway station, his work on the Consumer Affairs Committee regarding street vendors, new steps to stem identity theft, and the need to emphasize our budget priorities for city services.

City Councilmember Gale Brewer announced the official opening of her office in the District. She discussed upcoming challenges in youth and social program budgets throughout the City related to the new Out-of-School-Time funding (documents available at www.nyc.gov/dycd); her work to forge new partnerships between banks and schools in her District; and an upcoming hearing on broadband sponsored by the Committee on Technology in Government.

Business Session

Land Use Committee - Richard Asche, Chairperson, joint with

Transportation Committee - Andrew Albert, Chairperson and

Parks & Preservation Committee - Lenore Norman, Chairperson

1. 137-139 West 89th Street, d/b/a Monterey Garage.

Resolution to approve application #C 050159HAM by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) for A) the designation of 137-139 West 89th Street as an Urban Development Action Area and B) an Urban Development Action Area Project for the area; and for the disposition of the property to a developer selected by HPD to facilitate the sale of an existing five-story garage through the Asset Sales Program. (Adopted 24-1-3-0)

Parks & Preservation - Lenore Norman, Chairperson

2. 20 West 71st Street (Central Park West-Columbus Avenue.) Resolution to approve application #053022 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a rooftop addition.

(Adopted 25-5-3-0)

Transportation Committee - Andrew Albert, Chairperson, joint with

Parks & Preservation Committee – Lenore Norman, Chairperson

3. Resolution to approve request by Greenmarket for a Saturday market at Stranger’s Gate, West 106th Street and Central Park West. (Adopted 24-8-1-0)

Ron Hoffman, of the Duke Ellington Boulevard Block and Neighborhood Association (DEBNA), spoke in favor of the proposed green market. He cited a petition that indicates broad public support for the market.

Ira Manhoff, of 17 W. 106th Street, expressed his reservations about the market. Epicure is not opposing the market, but was concerned that DEBNA had not held a community meeting to get community input.. He noted that the market would obstruct benches on weekends. He would like his vendors to participate in the market.

Lon Fontaine, of the Duke Ellington Blvd. Housing Development Fund Corporation (DEBHDFC), submitted a letter declaring the opposition of DEBHDFC to the proposed green market.

CB7 members discussed the possibility that the proposed market would set a dangerous precedent in allowing commerce to thrive in Central Park. Others argued that commerce already exists in Central Park (especially on its exterior sidewalks), and that a green market would well serve the surrounding neighborhood.

4. 58 West 83rd Street (Central Park West-Columbus Avenue.) Resolution to approve application by 58 West 83rd Street Owners to the Department of Transportation for a consent to permit a stoop enlargement at 58 West 83rd Street. (Adopted 28-1-1-0)

5. Proposed bicycle rack locations were sent back to committee. The committee will discuss the locations, available at www.cb7.org at the January 11, 2005 meeting.

Transportation Committee - Andrew Albert, Chairperson

6. 302 Columbus Avenue (West 74th-75th Street.) Resolution to approve new application DCA#1184619 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 302 Columbus Avenue Inc., d/b/a Lenny's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats (rather than 12 tables and 24 seats in original application). (Adopted 31-1-1-0)

7. 2672 Broadway (West 103rd Street.) Resolution to approve renewal application DCA#0984023/ULURP#N000533 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Plaza Mexico, Inc., d/b/a Mama Mexico, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 16 seats. (Adopted 24-4-5-0)

8. Resolution to disapprove application #1184942 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Jay Patel to construct and operate a newsstand on the northwest corner of Broadway and West 72nd Street. (Adopted 24-3-6-0)

Jayesh Patel, the applicant, spoke on behalf of the newsstand, indicating the newsstand would not impede foot traffic and that he would keep the area clean.

Keith Eddleman, of 201 W. 72nd Street, expressed opposition because of blocked foot traffic and increased litter on the street. He stated that there were 5 news kiosks within a few blocks of the proposed location.

Matthew Lovallo, of 201 W. 72nd Street, objected to the newsstand, indicating that it would impede pedestrians and devalue the block.

Commerce Committee - George Zeppendfeldt-Cestero, Chairperson

9a. Resolution to approve applications for 2005 multi-block street fairs was adopted (21-1-3-1)

Ira Manhoff objected to DEBNA having a fair because DEBNA had not had an election for over 4 years, and did not have a diverse board and very few public meetings.

9b. Resolution to disapprove application for a multi-block street fair by Valley Restoration (Approved 28-0-0-0)

Solid Waste Management Plan Task Force (Team SWMP) - Charles Simon, Chairperson

10. Resolution to endorse CB7's comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the New York City Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. (Adopted 26-0-1-0)

- **Charles Simon presented an overview of process that led up to the Department of Sanitation's (DSNY) release of the Plan and the DEIS.**
- **The Team has reviewed the DEIS, in particular sections related to the West 59th Marine Transfer Station and responses to CB7's April 2004 testimony on the scope for the DEIS. He distributed a first draft of the Team's comments on the DEIS.**
- **Next steps include a City Council hearing on the Plan and commercial waste on January 18, submission of comments on the DEIS to DSNY on January 24, and a meeting with CB4 and NYDS.**
- **He acknowledged the work of the Steve Strauss and Sheldon Fine and the members who sent in comments on the draft.**
- **He asked for endorsement of draft comments with the proviso that the Team will continue to incorporate board members' comments.**

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Wymore and Bobbie Katzander

Present: Hope Cohen, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Annette Averette, Sheldon Fine, Georgette Gittens, Victor Gonzalez, Douglas Griebel, Phyllis Gunther, Robert Herrmann, Lawrence Horowitz, Joyce Johnson, Ulma Jones, Barbara Katzander, William Meyers, Eric Nelson, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Melanie Radley, Luis Reyes, Oscar Rios, Michael Roberts, Helen Rosenthal, Charles Simon, Sean Small, Elizabeth Starkey, Steve Strauss, Barbara Van Buren, Tom Vitullo-Martin, D. Maria Watson, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppendfeldt-Cestero, Dan Zweig.

Absent: Janet Alvarez, Guillermo Gonzalez, Marlene Guy, David Harris, John Howell, Barbara Keleman, Sharon Parker-Frazier, Chris Policano, Freddie Richardson, Ethel Sheffer, Patricia Stevens.

On Leave: Jean Green-Dorsey, Betty Katz, Barry Rosenberg.

Steering Committee

Hope Cohen, Chairperson

January 25, 2005

The January Borough Board meeting, attended by Helen Rosenthal, concerned itself with: the CB9's -#197A Land Use plan, the Emergency Preparedness Plan as presented by David Gershon. George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero is available to attend the February meeting if nobody else can.

Hope Cohen reported on the most recent meeting of the Lincoln Center Task Force. A brief discussion was held on how best to present the North Campus plans for LC upon which CB7 must take action. That ULURP clock runs out on February 28th.

Helen Rosenthal, reporting for the joint Strategy and Budget/Community Development committees, discussed the 30% budget cut for after school programs that has taken place in CD7 primarily because our zip codes do not qualify as "high need". Another concern is overhead funding is not provided for "center-based" programs, the majority of CD7 after-school programs.

The Chair of the Membership Committee, Barbara Adler, presented the possibility of a membership event using a professional workshop facilitator during the week of April 18th at which time new members will have joined the board. The possibility of an anonymous questionnaire was discussed.

- Bio's from all board members were recommended to help CB7 become a "friendlier" place.**
- Lateness is an issue at both full board and committee meetings.**
- A discussion was held regarding new board appointees and the number of turnovers on the board.**
- Discussion of rudeness at board meetings.**
- A suggestion to designate a "place" (different ones) to meet after each board meeting was made by Melanie Wymore and very warmly received by the entire committee.**

The Transportation Committee will sponsor a special forum in March on the proposed closing of the West Side Highway's 72nd Street exit ramp and associated issues (Riverside Boulevard connection, etc.) Andrew Albert and Penny Ryan will arrange a forum date by February 1.

Committee Chairs Andrew Albert, Lenore Norman, Barbara Van Buren and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero gave their reports.

Submitted by Bobbie Katzander, Co-Secretary

Present: Hope Cohen, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Marlene Guy, Bobbie Katzander, Lenore Norman, Helen Rosenthal, Barbara Van Buren, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero

Board Member Present: Linda Alexander. District Manager Penny Ryan. Absent: Richard Asche, Sheldon Fine, Larry Horowitz.

Lincoln Center Task Force Minutes

Community Development Committee

Marlene Guy, Chairperson

Strategy and Budget Committee

Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson

Minutes for Joint Meeting on January 24, 2005

Proposed Resolution Regarding the City's Out-of-School-Time Request for Proposals

The resolution should be sent to our elected officials, including: Gale Brewer, Virginia Fields, Louis Fidler, the Mayor and Dennis Wolcott.

There was much discussion about the resolution. The group agreed to use the "where as" terminology; add language regarding after school programs for all children; add language regarding the funding levels; and use footnotes heavily to define the acronyms.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the use of the word "crime" as it relates to the lack of after school programs.

The Resolution passed: Committee members: 7-0-0-0. Non-Committee members: 2-0-0-0.

Letters of Support for the programs who submit proposals

We will ask the office to e-mail the CBO's saying that if they would like a letter of support they should contact the CB7 office.

We should have a standard letter of support. Joyce Johnson will draft a generic letter.

Letters of support will be sent on a rolling basis (as they are received); but the cut-off date is February 14, 2005. (Proposals are due on February 17th and 18th).

Because we are familiar with most of the after school programs in CD7, letters of support will be given to all programs that request them. However, should a program that is unfamiliar to us request a letter; follow up and possibly a site visit would be required.

Other

The next meeting of the joint committee will be February 14, 2005 at 7pm at the American Bible Society.

Minutes from the November 15 and December 20, 2004 meetings were approved.

It was agreed that follow-up discussion regarding day care and other early child care programs would continue at the next meeting.

Community Development Committee members present: Marlene Guy, Sharon Parker-Frazier and Luis Reyes. Strategy and Budget Committee members present: Helen Rosenthal, David Harris, Bob Herrmann, Elizabeth Starkey.

Non-Committee members present: Phyllis Gunther and Joyce Johnson

Committee members absent: Georgette Gittens, Guillermo Gonzalez, Janet Alvarez, Sean Small and Melanie Wymore.

Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert, Chairperson

January 11, 2005

1. Review of Department of Transportation's proposed bike rack locations on West 72nd Street (locations at www.cb7.org) Joint with Parks & Preservation Committee.

Department of Transportation's 14 proposed bike rack locations on W.72nd St. (locations at www.cb.org) There was some confusion regarding the exact location of some of the racks and, after a lengthy discussion, the committee agreed to meet at 8:30 AM on Thursday morning to walk 72nd St. and view the locations before making recommendations. It was proposed that a vote be taken at the sites.

2. 229 Columbus Avenue (West 70th-71st Street.) Petition to modify DCA#1186113 by FLEJ Inc., d/b/a Pomodoro Restaurant, to the Department of Consumer Affairs and obtain a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 16 seats, instead of the current 6 tables and 8 seats.

Application was disapproved. Applicant was not present. Subsequent to meeting, sent letter to DCA asking for postponement. Rescheduled for February meeting.

Committee members 7-0-0-0, Non-Committee 3-0-0-0.

3. 225 Columbus Avenue (West 70th-71st Street.) Renewal application DCA#0982077 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Mare Mare, Inc., d/b/a Bruculino Ristorante, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats.

No changes. Application was approved.

Committee members 7-0-0-0, Non-Committee 1-0-1-0.

4. 485 Columbus Avenue (West 83rd-84th Street). Renewal application DCA#0907226 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Franco-Iano, Corp., d/b/a Isola Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 16 seats.

Owner, Sebastino Cappitta was present. No changes. Application was approved.

Committee members 5-0-1-0, Non-committee 3-0-0-0.

5. 718 Amsterdam Avenue (West 94th-95th Street.) Renewal application DCA#1099811 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Iano, Corp., d/b/a Aqua, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 40 seats.

Owner, Sebastino Cappitta was present. No changes. Application was approved.

Committee members 6-0-0-0, Non-committee 3-0-0-0.

6. Discussion of NYC Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), including the West 59th Street Marine Transfer Station and CB7's comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Joint with Team SWMP, Charles Simon, Chairperson. Documents at www.nyc.gov/sanitation.

The Chairperson of Team SWMP, Charles Simon, (members: Sheldon Fine and Steve Strauss) made a presentation of their detailed comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the NYC Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). An extensive and lively discussion took place and some additional suggestions were offered. Comments will be submitted to the Department of Sanitation on January 24th. The committee extended their gratitude to Team SWMP for the excellent job.

Submitted by Barbara Keleman.

Committee Members Present: Andrew Albert, Sheldon Fine, Bobbie Katzander, Barbara Keleman, Eric Nelson, Oscar Rios, Charles Simon, Dan Zweig.

Board Members Present: Hope Cohen, Steve Strauss, Tom Vitullo-Martin.

Commerce Committee

George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Chairperson

January 12, 2005

Multi-Block Street Fairs:

- 1) Curb/Vendor Numbers (street markings)
- 2) 20% Promoter's Fee (Public space)
- 3) Availability for new promoters/sponsors

(Draft) Resolution for #1 Curb/Vendor #'s is that Producer will use a vanishing ink to mark curbs and that within 30 to 45 days these markings will disappear through normal use.

In the event the sponsor/promoter does not comply, he/she will have 15 to 30 days to remove the markings at their own expense. If after this second time frame the sponsor/promoter's markings are still visible, The District Manager of Community Board 7 will contact sponsor with the name of a cleaning company and the sponsor will have 5 business days to pay for the cleaning. Failure to comply to District Manager's instructions will result in the ineligibility of the sponsor/

promoter to receive a street permit.

With regard to the 20% Promoters fee, after much discussion, if the CBO prefers the 20% as "In Kind Service," that is acceptable. If not, members will review the last 3 to 5 year average of revenue, not profit, as well as the last 5 years average of contributions in order to arrive at an acceptable/fair amount.

As for the availability for new promoters/sponsors getting a space, dialogue will commence with participating sponsors/promoters suggesting that the last 5 blocks or so be used.

Submitted by

Victor Antonio Gonzalez

Present: George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Victor Antonio Gonzalez, Doug Griebel.
Absent: Ulma Jones.

Parks and Preservation Committee

Lenore Norman, Chairperson

January 13, 2005

Presentation by the Department of Parks & Recreation on improvements to the Hippo Playground at West 91st Street and the Dinosaur Playground at West 97th Street.

KC Sahl, Administrator, Riverside Park, and Margaret Bracken, landscape architect, presented the plans. Council Member Gale Brewer has allocated \$100,000 for each playground. Both need extensive renovation. These monies will be a good start.

Hippo will be getting equipment for 5-8 year olds, surrounded by thick safety surface. Dinosaur's water spray will be repaired and 4 new sprinklers will be added.

Proposed plans were approved. Hippo: 5-0-0-0. Public Member 1-0-0-0. Dinosaur: 5-0-1-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.

421 Amsterdam Avenue, d/b/a Café Monaco (West 80th Street.) Application #04-5353 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace a storefront installed without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits.

Fernando Rodriquez, manager, attended without his architect. He did not have plans. The committee asked him to come to the February meeting.

New business.

The committee agreed to send a letter in support of Intro 403B, the Failure To Maintain Bill. The legislation will enable LPC to better preserve the city's historic buildings and neighborhoods.

Present: Lenore Norman, Phyllis Gunther, William Meyers, Klari Neuwelt, Michael Roberts, Patricia Stevens. Public Members: Michelle Kidwell-Cohen and James Dowell, Director, Riverside Park Fund. Absent: John Howell. On Leave: Betty Katz.

Strategy and Budget Committee

Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson

See Community Development Committee above.

District Service Cabinet

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

January 12, 2005

at the American Bible Society

1865 Broadway (West 61st Street)

Penny Ryan convened the meeting at 9:50 AM.

1. Enforcement of delivery bike regulations.

D.I. Murtagh - the bulk of summonses are issued to owners and riders for riding on the sidewalks. When reporting complaints, constituents are asked to give specific locations and time.

Insp. Dean - reported that in October Council Member Brewer's Office and the precinct conducted a bike outreach program. They visited restaurants and provided them with posters on regulations. More outreach is scheduled for April.

Enforcement was requested at 302 Columbus Avenue d/b/a Lenny's. Illegal bike rack and bikes chained to trees. Park Enforcement can issue violations for bikes chained to trees.

Penny Ryan stated the Transportation Committee is reviewing proposed bike rack locations on 72nd Street.

Council Member Brewer's Office - legislation is being drafted that will mandate restaurants to post biking regulations in their establishments.

2. Enforcement of vendor regulations.

D.I. Murtagh requested clarification of the vending laws from DCA and 1st amendment sales.

Council Member Reed's Office - working on legislation and City Council hearings will take place soon.

Enforcement was requested at 72nd Street and Columbus Avenue, in front of Chase Bank as well as at IS 44 on weekends during the Flea Market.

Enforcement requested at 105th and Amsterdam Avenue in front of Grosvenor YMCA.

3. Graffiti program.

Ms. Ryan reported that Community Affairs Officers are now in charge of graffiti.

D.I. Murtagh - Each precinct keeps a list of top 10 graffiti locations. The Community Affairs units should be made aware of graffiti and with the Mayor's Paint Program the location will be repainted with the owner's consent.

Ms. Ryan reported that there is a graffiti concern around MS44.

4. Reports on the Kent Hotel, 155 West 83rd Street, and Frant Hotel, 211 West 101st Street.

D.I. Murtagh reported that at the Kent, vertical sweeps were conducted on New Year's Eve with 1 arrest. The conditions appear to be under control. Main concerns are Fire and Building Codes.

Insp. Dean reported that at the Frant, very few complaints filed.

Joselyn Minaya, DA's Office, will continue outreach and will follow up.

5. Request by Parks to remove benches in corridor west of Frederick Douglass Playground.

Parks would like to remove benches to detour people from drinking in the park.

Inspector Dean - locations are next to the precinct and he has no concerns.

Lucille Donte opposes benches being removed. Benches are used by families especially during games in the ball field.

Inspector Dean, Eddie Hernandez and Lucille Donte will conduct a walk thru.

6. Homeless conditions at Strauss Park, Verdi Park.

Homeless condition does not appear to be a major concern but would like the agencies to monitor.

7. Updates on bars and clubs and noise control:

Amsterdam Avenue, 80th – 81st Streets; Brother Jimmy's – 428; McAleers – 425; 420 Lounge – 420; Jake's Dilemma – 430;

D.I. Murtagh reported that they continue to meet with bars and owners.

Star, 100 West 72nd Street.

Ms. Ryan reported an agreement letter was sent to the owner of Club Star.

D.I. Murtagh, situation has improved - only 1 complaint.

Amsterdam Avenue, West 109th -110th Streets;

Insp. Dean - currently no concerns on Amsterdam. Will monitor new bars that are scheduled to open.

8. Agency Reports

Parks

Planting is underway. Ms. Ryan thanked Parks for assistance with a curb cut.

DEP

Water shut down at Frederick Douglas Circle from 4PM-10PM for construction work. Ms. Ryan asked that the board office be informed prior.

FDNY

· New fire safety newsletter is available. Asking for locations to make presentations.

DOT

· Lee Eastmond introduced himself. He is replacing Jenny Torres, who is no longer with DOT.

· Ms. Ryan reported that DOT removed the "No Turn" sign on 72nd and Amsterdam Avenue. At the cross walk at 73rd and Amsterdam DOT is looking into a longer lead time to allow pedestrian to cross the street. 96th Street highway exit will remain as is.

DA's Office

· Announced new Identity Theft Unit.

Council Member Reed's Office announced that on March 2nd the Council Member will hold an identity theft hearing.

Ms. Ryan announced that DSC will meet every other month through June. She asked that agencies continue to contact the office with on going issues and agenda items.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.