

***Full Board Meeting
Eric M. Nelson, Chairman
September 5, 2000***

Chairman Eric Nelson convened the meeting and thanked St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital for allowing the Board to use the space. Mr. Nelson gave his report.

- Metrocom has the NYC franchise to install radio transmitters on utility poles throughout the city. The radio system will provide high-speed wireless Internet access via portable hand-held modems. The company will discuss its plans at the US/E Committee meeting on September 13. In CD7, there are over 30 locations, which will be posted on the Board's website and available by fax from the board office, beginning September 6.
- Family Reunion Area for the NYC Marathon has been on Central Park West, 72nd-86th Streets, and on 77th and 81st Streets, Central Park West - Columbus Avenue for the past three years. It was in Central Park, but was moved after the restoration of the Great Lawn. The Parks Committee will discuss the reunion area at its September 14 meeting.
- Plans are being developed for the Macy*s Thanksgiving Day parade and balloon inflation on the eve of the parade. At last year's balloon inflation, there were concerns about the closing of the subway entrances and the impact on the community. Issues will be addressed at an upcoming meeting, probably at Uniformed Services. Date will be announced.
- Board member's committee assignments will be distributed on September 7.
- The Fund for the City of New York has committed to conducting a model project with CB7. The project, called CommNet, uses hand-held computers and digital cameras to document infrastructure and streetscape problems. Various solutions to problems can be developed, including sending the data to city agencies for resolution. CB7's vice-chairs are developing an implementation plan.
- The City has decided to allow community boards to use the nyc.gov URL. Mr. Nelson is in contact with Brian Cohen, Executive Director, NYC e-Government Office.

Mr. Nelson asked Assistant District Manager John Martinez to give an update on the Board's website: www.cb7.org.

Mr. Martinez announced that CB7's site is up and running. An interactive map of the Upper West Side is the next step.

Mr. Nelson asked District Manager Penny Ryan to report.

She gave police updates in connection with the spate of Upper West Side burglaries. A man was arrested and positively identified. Police encourage residents to lock their doors and windows. All crimes related to the burglaries did not show any break-and-entry. A suspect in the Wise Towers homicide was arrested (boyfriend of victim's daughter).

DOT is milling and repaving, from CPW to RDS, 96th, 108th, 109th Streets.

The DOS plan to change street cleaning to one and one-half hours is delayed until February.

The Columbus Centre building was renamed "Time Warner Centre". The project is in the demolition and excavation phase. Blasting is being used to remove rocks.

Reconstruction of the 72nd Street IRT station required the closing of southbound lanes of Broadway from 73rd-72nd Streets for three weeks in August. The contractor met the schedule and eliminated the need to close the lanes for 18 months.

Mr. Nelson introduced Sigurd Ackerman, M.D., President and C.E.O. of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, who reported on "The federal healthcare cutbacks and how St. Luke's-Roosevelt has responded" In 1999 the hospital had a 3% deficit in a \$550 million budget. In 2000, the hospital anticipates an \$18 million loss in Medicare reimbursements and a \$16 million reduction in NY State funding, for a \$34 million shortfall. About 6% of the budget cut is related to the Federal Balanced Budget Act. But that's not the only reason for the short fall. HMOs and insurance companies are squeezing the hospital as well.

Two approaches are being implemented: reduce costs and increase revenue by increasing volume, not costs. There is no way to reduce costs enough to provide the same level of care. So the hospital must cut and grow simultaneously. Dr. Ackerman went over several methods of addressing the cost and growth problem, including reducing staff by almost 300; redesigning clinic, hospital and emergency room spaces as well as services; and closing low-performing services.

Legislators' Reports

Congressman Jerrold Nadler.

- Housing for people with AIDS- offered bill to increase funding, which passed in the House. The Senate may add money as well.
- Railfreight Tunnel - Mayor supports the tunnel creation. \$5 million study concluded cost would be \$2.3 billion dollars, and would remove one million trucks from city streets and reduce air pollution. Benefits of \$500 million a year.
- Hudson River Park - HRP needs about \$150 million of a \$350 million budget. Gov. Pataki has asked for \$100 million from the Federal Water Bill.
- Prescription drugs for seniors - Democrat's approach: Under Medicare, voluntary participation, with an additional premium. Medicare would pay 50% up to \$5,000, and then 100%. Low income seniors would be completely covered. Congressman Nadler advocates 80%, not 50%. Republicans: Give incentives to the insurance industry to offer private coverage of 50% of the cost up to \$6,000, and 100% above. He believes this doesn't work since so many seniors need drugs- insurance companies may not respond effectively to demands.

Assemblyman Scott Stringer.

- Trump's proposal for a casino at Riverside South.
- Mandatory math and science exams with higher standards are good, but his staff found schools lack the equipment to educate the students on materials included in the tests.
- Con Edison energy rates. To decrease the rate impact immediately, he is calling for a cut of taxes on electric bills.

Public Session

Melanie Radley, CB7, announced that the Uniformed Services/Environmental Committee will discuss the increase with Con Edison rates at the September committee meeting.

Jonathon Glover, Project Return, announced that they have people to provide community support.

Ron Kapon, 20th Council Precinct, gave update on 20th Precinct Council and announced the appointment of Robert Varieur as Chief of Police with DEP.

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Brad Usher, Senator Tom Duane's Office, announced that New York Apple Tour buses are back on the road, under an independent monitor, pending permanent revocation of the bus company's license.

Mary Feliciano, Amsterdam Houses, expressed concerns about transportation, in particularly the M66 bus delays, and also homelessness.

William Crain, NYC Board of Regents, stated that the Board is holding hearings on its master plan regarding open admissions at city colleges.

Marion Stone addressed the Philips Club application and expressed concerns about congestion and traffic issues.

Dan Cohen, CB7, announced the Landmark Committee's Walking Tour; Westsiders for Viable Neighborhood's community meeting; and Three Parks Independent Democrats' meeting.

Gale Brewer, CB7, spoke about the website and the connection to nyc.gov City website. The NYC Comptroller concluded in a recent report that NYCHA system in which tenants request skilled-trade repairs was not adequate.

Noah Pfefferblit, Manhattan Borough President's Office, announced that they are looking for a liaison for CB7.

Business Session

The resolution to disapprove a new application to the Department of Transportation by Café Salsa Entertainment, Inc., d/b/a Azucar at 462 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82nd-83rd Streets), to install a handicapped-accessible ramp was adopted: 22-14-4-0.

Arthur Harris, architect, spoke in favor of the ramp.

Resolution to disapprove application #182-95 BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals by Rothkrug & Rothkrug for Equinox Fitness to amend the special permit to allow the expansion of the existing physical culture establishment on the second floor of 2465/69 Broadway was not adopted: 13-22-3-0.

A substitute resolution to approve was adopted: 22-12-3-0

Resolutions, voted on by Steering Committee on July 26, 2000, for ratification:

The resolution to disapprove the application #1038041 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Shadur Nabi to operate a newsstand on the west side of Broadway between 67th-68th Streets, was withdrawn by the Transportation Committee co-chairs.

Resolution to approve application to the NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission by U.C. Columbus Radio Dispatch, Inc. for a For Hire Vehicle Base station license at 100 West 106th Street was adopted: 34-0-1-0.

Resolution to approve request to the Department of Transportation by Millennium Partners for an extension of the hotel loading zone in front of The Phillips Hotel, 1965 Broadway (66th Street), was adopted: 36-0-2-0.

Resolution to disapprove installation of public art works on Broadway Malls was adopted: 36-2-1-0.

The resolution to approve the new application DCA#1034982 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Café Salsa Entertainment, Inc., d/b/a Azucar at 462 Amsterdam Avenue (82nd-83rd Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats, without a ramp, was withdrawn by the Land Use Committee co-chairs.

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Resolution to approve renewal application DCA#0984345/ULURP#N000227ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Helodona, Inc, d/b/a Olympic Flying at 200 West 60th Street, for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 32 seats, was adopted: 32-4-0-0.

Resolution to approve renewal application DCA#0984023 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Plaza Mexico Inc., d/b/a Mama Mexico at 2672 Broadway (101st-102nd Streets), for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 16 seats, was adopted: 30-3-2-1.

Resolution to approve new application DCA#1035647 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the West 62 Operating LLC, d/b/a Rosa Mexicano (61st-62nd Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 13 tables and 28 seats, was adopted: 32-1-1-1.

Resolution to approve new application DCA#1038882 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the S&C, Corp., d/b/a Potion Lounge at 370 Columbus Avenue (77th-78th Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats, was adopted: 33-3-0-0.

Resolution to approve new application DCA#1039396 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Amsterdam Avenue Brother Jimmy's LLC, at 428 Amsterdam Avenue (80th-81st Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 16 tables and 34 seats, was adopted: 36-1-1-0.

Resolution to approve new application DCA#1039389 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Spoonbread Inc., d/b/a Spoonbread Too at 364-366 West 110th Street (Columbus-Manhattan Avenues), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats, was adopted: 34-0-1-0.

Resolution to waive CB7's right to comment on application #N000650ZRM to the Department of City Planning by the Museum of Modern Art, in conjunction with its proposed expansion for modification of certain provisions of Section 81-066ZR, applicable to the Special Midtown District, one block of which is located in DC7 at Central Park West, 60th to 61st Street, was adopted: 33-0-2-0.

Resolution to approve American Museum of Folk Art's plan for reconfiguration of space at Columbus Avenue and 65th Street, was adopted: 37-0-0-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Present: Eric M. Nelson, Chairman, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Richard Asche, Annette Averette, Peter Bailey, Gale Brewer, Steve Carbo, Dan Cohen, Hope Cohen, Beverly Feingold, Sheldon Fine, Georgette Gittens, Guillermo Gonzalez, Douglas Griebel, Phyllis Gunther, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Lawrence Horowitz, John D. Howell, Ulma Jones, Betty Katz, Barbara Keleman, Marc Landis, Jan Levy, Lenore Norman, Lydia Padilla, Melanie Radley, Oscar Rios, Hector Santana Jr., Ethel Sheffer, Elizabeth Starkey, Evelyn Tamarin, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Jeffrey Zahn, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Robert Zuckerman, Daniel Zweig. District Manager Penny Ryan and Assistance District Manager John Martinez.

Absent: Beth Berns, Jean Green-Dorsey, Joyce S. Johnson, Klari Neuwelt, Sharon Parker-Frazier, George Price, Barry Rosenberg, Patricia Stevens, D. Maria Watson, Angela Wiggins, Melanie Wymore.

Youth Committee
Peter Bailey and Melanie Wymore, Co-Chairs
September 19, 2000

5 PM Youth Council

Teens of the CB7 Youth Council met with Emily Lopez to plan Youth Council activities and identify key issues of focus for the upcoming year. Emily also presented an overview of her experience as a civilian in training at the NY Police Academy. The next meeting of the Youth Council was set for 5pm on 17 October at the Community Board 7 office. Pizza will be served.

7 PM Youth Committee

Attendees: Melanie Wymore, Phyllis Gunther, David Harris, Sharon Parker-Frasier, Patricia Stevens, Evelyn Tamarin, Angela Wiggins, Tom Vitullo-Martin.

Public Members and Guests: Ronnie Wattman, Roxy McCarroll, Orlando Herrera, Narciso Cruz, Sybil Maimin, Fiona Oliphant, Laura Sutherland, Arnyce Foster.

Co-Chair Melanie Wymore reported on several activities/events that occurred over the summer, including:

1) 59th Street Recreation

City Planning approved a one-year extension to decide, through public process, the scope and budget for rejuvenation of the center. A task force of CB7 members and other volunteers will conduct a needs assessment of the community as well as solicit funds for renovations. The project scope will be defined and presented to the Parks Department by 1 December 2000. Phyllis Gunther, Evelyn Tamarin, and Tom Vitullo-Martin volunteered to join the task force.

2) Reclaiming School Gyms

The Youth Committee will research and advocate the reopening of school gyms during non-school hours to youth service providers in the district. Sharon Parker-Frasier, Orlando Herrera, and Narciso Cruz volunteered to initiate this project.

3) District Needs Statement - Youth

The Youth Committee will compile/analyze youth-related statistics for the district and publish the youth section of the CB7 District Needs Statement. Angela Wiggins, David Harris, and Evelyn Tamarin volunteered to oversee this project.

4) Other reports

Co-Chair Melanie Wymore reported on the Dome garden initiative at Brandeis High School supported by the Brandeis Community Council. Students of Brandeis were hired through the Summer Youth Employment Program to open and maintain the garden for educational use.

Chair of Community School District #3, Ronnie Wattman, gave an overview of the Borough Youth Committee and the City Youth Committee. Last year, these committees focused on the voucher program proposed by Mayor Giuliani.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next Youth Committee meeting will be at 7PM on 17 October 2000 at the CB7 office.

Melanie Wymore

Uniformed Services/Environment Committee
Co-Chairs: Melanie Radley and Hector Santana
September 13, 2000

Wireless Data Network

Metricom representatives including Patrick Kelher, local market manager, and Mike Clairon described the wireless Internet services that Metricom would provide to NYC residents through a series of radio transmitters located discretely on lampposts. Modem like devices that can be attached to laptop computers, USB ports, and ultimately handheld computers will allow individuals within 30 feet of the transmitters to access the Internet, at a reasonable monthly fee and will provide wireless communications throughout the city. Metricom, a publicly traded company since 1985, is a joint venture between Microsoft founder Paul Allen and MCI, was awarded the contract to establish the wireless network by the city through a RFP process. The company has already established the system in 25 other metropolitan cities including San Francisco and New Haven.

The pole top radios emit approximately 1 watt of power comparable to a small intercom system and pose no health hazard to local residents. In fact the pole top transmitters have already been installed throughout the city. The company advised the committee to contact Lester Smith in the Manhattan Borough President's office for the Manhattan map of the transmitters.

Consolidated Edison Rates

Walter Shay, customer outreach representative for Con Edison, addressed the issue of escalating electric rates and attempted to explain the convoluted structure that had resulted from deregulation of utilities by the Public Service Commission and the Governor. This has created a situation in which Con Ed, no longer a provider, but now a deliverer of utilities is blamed for cost increases it cannot control. The increase is due, he explained, to the higher cost of buying power from the providers—a demand supply situation, where demand in the new competitive environment outstrips the supply. In fact, Con Ed has established a number of initiatives such as level billing and waving the late payment charges to alleviate the burden of costs to the customer, and established an emergency fund for the elderly. The portion off the bill attributable to Con Ed service charges has actually dropped.

The consensus of the committee was that the increase in electrical rates could not be discussed solely with Con Ed. The Public Service Commission, a major energy provider such as Keyspan, and the independent service organizers need to be brought together in a public forum. Public in attendance, who expressed disappointment that the meeting had not been more widely publicized, urged the committee to hold a large public forum on the issue so that the Westside community could not only be informed and educated on the reasons for rate increases but also could learn effective ways to intervene to contain the burgeoning rates. CB7 member Steve Carbo, an environmental lobbyist, will contact environmental groups, Melanie Radley will work with the office to contact representatives from Con Ed and Keyspan and the PSC. The committee will draft a letter to local legislators inviting them to attend and participate. The committee will aim for a November forum.

New Business

A member of the community suggested the committee hold a hearing on mail service. Lisa Lehr announced that Deputy Chief Charles Günter had replaced Chief Raymond Diaz as executive office of Manhattan Borough North.

The October meeting will focus on traffic problems created by urban disturbances including street fairs, parades, politicians, etc. Penny Ryan will be asked to contact the appropriate NYPD officials.

Submitted by Melanie Radley,
Co-Chair, Uniformed Services/Environment Committee

Committee Members present: Melanie Radley, Hector Santana, Steve Carbo, Hope Cohen, Ulma Jones, Oscar Rios.

Committee Members absent: Sheldon Fine, Georgette Gittens, Marc Landis.

Board Members Present: Barbara Adler, Doug Griebel.

Transportation Committee
Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairs
September 12, 2000

Members in attendance: Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, co-chairs, Barbara Kellerman, Barbara Van Buren, Elizabeth Starkey.

1. Application by American Bible Society to Dept. of Transportation to install 7 planters on sidewalks on Broadway and West 61st St.

John Colligan, Director of Administrative Services for American Bible Society, made the presentation, with illustrations showing size and shape of planters. The planters will contain pyramidal yews. Maintenance and daily cleaning and watering will be the responsibility of ABS staff Installation in spring 2001. Committee resolution to approve the installation of 7 planters on the sidewalks on Broadway and West 61st E adjacent to 1865 Broadway passed with the following vote: 5-0-0-0, committee; 3-0-0-0, public members.

2. Application #1038041 to Dept. of Consumer Affairs by Shadur Nabi to construct and operate a newsstand on west side of Broadway between 67th and 68th Sts.

The committee had previously heard and approved application at July 2000 meeting. Application returned to committee to allow comments from an adjacent merchant, Victoria's Secret, who had not received notice of July hearing. Michael Silberman, Rosenman & Cohn, represented Victoria's Secret, objecting to application on the grounds of obstruction of their store's entrance and windows, general congestion on street, plus technical objections to inaccuracies of plans with regard to parking meters and trees. Committee discussion reflected contrasting views: general support for the design of newsstand and competence of operator, with concerns for sidewalk congestion and lack of master plan for placement of newsstands by DOT. Committee voted to reaffirm its July resolution by the following vote: 3-2-0-0, committee; 0-1-0-0, public members.

3. 400 West End Ave. (79th St.): Request to reduce the length of the M79 bus stop adjacent to building. Representatives of the building residents and maintenance staff (Barbara Conti, resident, and Peter King, maintenance staff) presented complaints about the use of the curb, from Broadway to WEA, for the lay-over of M79 articulated buses. Bus-stop was originally expanded to accommodate the new articulated bus, then doubled, i.e., extended to WEA. The space is used as a lay-over, despite the fact that the designated lay-over for the M79 on West 79th St. is beyond RSD near the Rotunda.

Residents brought photographs showing several buses between B 'way and WEA with bus drivers. They complain that there are always 2 or more buses on the location, idling, interfering with garbage removal from the building, creating a noise and pollution nuisance. Efforts to work with NYCT have been futile. No NYCT representative was at the meeting. Committee voted to send strong letter to NYCT requesting elimination of double stop and no more lay-over on block. Advised residents to write directly to Millard Scay, Director of Bus Operations, NYC TA, 370 Jay St., Brooklyn, NY 11201, with copy to TA President Lawrence Reuter. Board will follow up.

4. New Business: Committee heard and disapproved preliminary proposal from Naturalizer on Columbus Ave., north of 55th St., to place a giant shoe on the sidewalk in front of store.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Eric M. Nelson, Chairman

September 27, 2000

Fund for the City of New York Project and 59th Street Rec Center Task Force

Melanie Wymore reported that the vice-chairs are meeting with the Fund on September 28 to develop a plan for the CommNet project. They recommended to Steering that two sections of CD7, Central to Riverside Parks, be surveyed by teams of 2-3 board members and community representatives. The first sections would be 110th-108th Streets and 75th-77th Streets. There were questions about the Fund's software and its compatibility with CB7's, training, and follow-up. These questions will be discussed on September 28. A request for volunteers will be made at the October 3 full board meeting.

Peter Bailey and Ms. Wymore reported that CB7's resolution to approve modifications to the Restrictive Declaration for 101 West End Avenue, which allocated funds for renovations at the 59th Street Rec Center, asked for a year delay to develop scopes of work and to identify additional funding for the project. The next step is to set up an assessment of the needs of the community and the potential of the facility. There will be joint task force with Community Board 4 and community groups. The outdoor pool is no longer in discussion and the focus is on a gym annex. The scope of the work must be finished by the end of this year (December 31st). In August, Department of Parks and Recreation will evaluate the available funds. If the scope exceeds the budget, the scope will be downsized.

Discussion of the family reunion area for the NYC Marathon.

The family reunion area used to be in Central Park on the Great Lawn. Since its renovation, Parks is concerned that heavy foot traffic, especially in November and possibly in the rain, will cause significant damage to the great lawn. The Mayor's office decided three years ago to use Central Park West for the reunion area. The following streets are closed, from 7:00 AM to 6:00PM, to traffic: Central Park West from West 73rd-85th; 77th and 81st Streets, Central Park West to Columbus Avenue; and all side streets in the affected area between CPW and Columbus Avenue. 31,000 runners meet their families and friends in this area, with the biggest influx around 2:00-4:00 PM.

Concerns about using this area include traffic congestion with the closure of many streets; public safety, even though the NYPD maintains, with difficulty, emergency lanes; noise of announcements in five languages throughout the day; lack of access to residential buildings on closed streets; lack of access for visitors and vehicles to the American Museum of Natural History and the new Rose Center; disruption of public transportation by re-routing of NYCT busses; general quality of life impacts caused by tens-of-thousands of people being in the area; and the frequency of other nearby neighborhood-based activities, such as the Sunday Greenflea Market.

The 20th Precinct confirmed its concern about traffic congestion caused by the street closures.

Jake LaSalle, of coordinator for the Marathon, described the reunion area and his efforts to inform the community and address concerns. He said they will go where ever the City tells them to go.

There was agreement that the area cannot be changed this year due to time constraints. Ethel Sheffer recommended that the Board send a letter requesting traffic mitigations such as VMS boards and bus information, and asking to initiate a discussion about alternatives locations. The Parks, Uniformed Services and Transportation Committees will draft components of such a letter, and Mr. Nelson will prepare a final version to send to the Mayor and appropriate agencies.

Budget

John Howell presented the NYC Capital Planning and Budget Committee's report. He distributed last year's priorities for New York City Expense and Capital Budgets. He requested that each committee submit its budget recommendations for FY 2001 and changes for the DSC for 2001 by October 20th.

Eric Nelson requested that each committee designate a liaison to the Budget Committee by the October 3rd Full Board meeting. Each representative should communicate with Ethel and/or John and cc: Penny Ryan about any priority recommendations or DNS changes, or confirm that there are no new priorities or changes. The budget priorities will be discussed at the October 25th Steering Committee meeting, and presented to the full board on November 1st.

October 3 full board agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda and discussed items that might need lengthy discussion. Penny Ryan will check with DOT on the deadline for Azucar's sidewalk cafe application.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Present: Chairman Eric M. Nelson, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Peter Bailey, Beth Berns, Dan Cohen, Sheldon Fine, Robert Herrmann, John Howell, Jan Levy, Melanie Radley, Ethel Sheffer, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Melanie Wymore, Dan Zwiig.

Absent: Richard Asche, Larry Horowitz, Lenore Norman, Hector Santana, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero.

Minutes
Parks, Libraries, and Cultural Affairs Committee
Community Board 7/Manhattan
250 West 87th Street
September 14, 2000 at 7 PM
Barbara Adler and Bob Herrmann, Co-Chairs

The meeting was called to order by co-chairs Barbara Adler and Bob Herrmann at 7:15 PM, even though there was no quorum present.

1. Alene Moroni and Laura Sullivan gave a brief **presentation on behalf of the New York Public Libraries**, to bring everyone up to date on their programs. Adult literacy awareness week is October 16-21, they have received a \$6.2 million grant to teach computer education through the libraries, the libraries are now back on winter hours, they are holding adult book discussions, and much more. Their website, www.nypl.org will have complete information.
2. Ed Benson, Director of Government and Community Relations for the Central Park Conservancy, gave an **update on current projects in the park**: Granite coping has been replaced at the Conservatory Water on East 74th Street, and it's now open. The reservoir landscape surrounding the reservoir and running track has had ongoing erosion problems. Correction of the problem is now 95% complete. The pond at 59th Street and 5th Avenue near the east drive has just begun construction. Discovery of faulty sewage drains previously under water delayed the start of the project, but it is now underway. The East 72nd Street playground is under construction now, and is receiving a complete renovation. Next month, Ed will be make a presentation on the reconstruction of the pool on Central Park West between 100th –103rd Streets. Ed also reported that there is no recycling at the four visitor's centers and a committee within the Conservancy has been formed to explore recycling in other areas of the park.
3. There was a brief discussion on the proposed **plan to change the reunion area at the end of the New York City Marathon to Central Park West**, as was done last year. Previously, the reunion area was staged along the West Drive and the Great Lawn. The discussion was tabled, as no one from either the Parks Department or the New York Road Runners' Club was present to discuss the issue. (This issue will be discussed joint with Parks, Transportation, and Uniformed Services at the Steering Committee Meeting on September 27th.)
4. Charles McKinney, Administrator of Riverside Park, was present to give updates on Riverside Park projects. All athletic facilities and playgrounds that were under construction are now completed. They are now working on the pedestrian areas of Riverside Drive between 72nd –79th . Funding for the stairs at 89th Street has been received, so work can begin. The bicycle and pedestrian route is completed between 100th – 125th Streets. The next portion, which involves having to cantilever out over the water, between 83rd – 91st, is in design. Design of the rotunda at 79th Street has just begun. This \$30 million project will include a visitor center, a new fountain café three seasons of the year, new historic lighting, railings, and many other details. A new mezzanine floor is planned over the garage. One side will house the kitchen for the café, the other will be the new visitor center, administrative office, etc. The project also includes ADA compliant restrooms. The architect for the project is Jan Pokorny. Volunteer House at 107th Street has received its funding, and is also ready to have work

begin. Trump's addition to Riverside Park is scheduled to open in mid October. Charles also announced that Riverside Park is now divided into 29 zones, so that the entire park can be inspected.

5. **New Business.** Lynn Walsh and Tia Dublin, performers who drum and dance with a large group in Central Park addressed the committee. They are being prohibited from performing, even though there is no amplification. They say they have been unable to get a permit, and correspondence they've undertaken has fallen on deaf ears. The committee co-chairs asked them submit any documentation they have to the Board office. We will either try to find out why they have not been successful in their quest, or perhaps put the item on the agenda in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Adler

Committee members present: Barbara Adler, Bob Herrmann, Dan Cohen, Jeffrey Zahn.
Committee members absent: Douglas Griebel, Betty Katz, Joyce Johnson, George Price, Barry Rosenberg, Maria Watson.

Land Use Committee
Co-Chairs: Richard Asche and Larry Horowitz
September 20, 2000

1. 44 West 63rd Street, Iridium.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application #895537 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the ERS Enterprise, Inc., d/b/a Iridium at 44 West 63rd Street (Broadway - Columbus Avenue), for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 17 tables and 43 seats.*

Committee Member vote: 9-0-0-0 Board Member vote: 1-0-0-0

2. **451 Amsterdam Avenue, Burritoville.**

The applicant is willing to commit to providing waiter service in the outdoor café and to using only non-disposable dishware and tableware in the café. However, there was confusion about whether patrons would be allowed to forgo waiter service, and bring their own purchases from the counter inside to the café tables. Richard Asche and other members of the Committee felt that lack of waiter service inside an establishment indicates that commitment to waiter service outside is unlikely (i.e. economically not viable). The Committee suggested that the applicant test the viability of waiter service inside during the winter months and apply again for a café permit in the spring.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant does not currently have waiter service inside the establishment;
*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the new application #1028803 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by West Burritoville Inc., d/b/a Burritoville at 451 Amsterdam Avenue (81st-82nd Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 12 seats.*

Committee Member vote: 5-2-2-0 Board Member vote: 0-1-0-0

3. **Sign Regulations.**

Menakshee [last name??] of the NYC Department of City Planning presented the application for a zoning text amendment concerning sign regulation. The amendment imposes C8-zone regulations on signs in areas zoned for manufacturing; there are currently no regulations on signs in those zones. The amendment also strengthens restrictions on signs visible from parks and arterial highways, and updates existing regulations in the context of new sign technology, including illumination. Although there might be areas where the proposed new regulations could be even stronger, the Committee felt that the proposal can only be an improvement of the current situation, and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Department of City Planning is proposing a zoning text amendment to

- *impose regulations on signs in areas zoned for manufacturing*
- *strengthen restrictions on signs visible from parks and arterial highways*
- *update existing regulations in the context of new sign technology;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the new application #N010065ZRY by the Department of City Planning to the City Planning Commission for a zoning text amendment that would modify the City's sign regulations.*

Committee Member vote: 8-0-0-0 Board Member vote: 1-0-0-0

N.B. The New York City Council is considering legislation, Intro No. 809/00, to amend the Building Code, allowing the Department of Buildings to enforce stricter sign regulations (i.e. in greater alignment with the rules proposed in the zoning text amendment). However, Intro

No. 809/00 is silent on the issue of illuminated signs, an important and laudable element of the zoning text amendment.

Joint with Landmarks Committee

4. 201-225 West 86th Street, The Belnord.

This item was fully considered in June 2000, and approved by the Full Board in July 2000. For technical reasons, the Landmarks Preservation Commission required the applicant to return to Community Board 7/Manhattan for approval again.

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the modification to application #C990055ZSM to the Department of City Planning by Belnord Realty Associates, L.P. for a special permit to waive use restrictions in conjunction with the development of 30,598 sq. ft. of space on the cellar level and 4,881 sq. ft. on the ground floor of 201-225 West 86th Street.*

Committee Member vote: 9-0-0-0 Board Member vote: 1-0-0-0

Joint with the Housing Committee

5. Columbia University.

Emily Lloyd, Vice President for Administration at Columbia University, gave a preliminary presentation of an application being made to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) by Columbia University for variances to permit the construction of a mixed-use building on the southeast corner of Broadway and 110th Street. Columbia expects to make the application to BSA in early October 2000.

The 12-story building would feature 33 units of faculty housing and a K-8 school, modeled on the University of Chicago's Laboratory School. The school would have 650 students, with first preference given to children of Columbia faculty. There would also be commercial space, including the continued presence of Chase Bank on the second floor of the existing neighboring building that would be adjoined to the new structure.

Columbia will be applying for four variances from BSA:

- relief from setback requirements (the proposed structure would be 'contextual', i.e. no setbacks)
- relief from lot-coverage requirements (the proposed structure would cover 90% of the lot)
- permission to continue to have commercial use on the second floor (i.e. the Chase Bank)
- covering lot-line windows of the existing neighboring building.

Although the presentation was preliminary, the Committees made clear their concerns about covering the lot-line windows, and building an outdoor play area at the fourth-floor level of the school.

Joint with the Transportation Committee

6. 462 Amsterdam Avenue, Azucar.

The applicant did not appear.

This item has come before the Com140mittees and the Full Board several times. The applicant proposed building a 'handicapped-accessibility' ramp that would also serve as a permanent platform for an unenclosed sidewalk café. Despite the claim that the ramp's purpose was handicapped accessibility to the restaurant, the planned ramp did not include the required handrails. The applicant proposed to have tables on the ramp/platform, thus leaving the 'handicapped-accessible' pathway to serve simultaneously as the café's waiter aisle. Furthermore, the Committees believe that the applicant brought any problem of sidewalk slope upon himself by situating the door to the restaurant at the south end of the frontage, rather than at the north end, i.e. opposite to the existing slope of the sidewalk.

Each time this item was considered, the Committees and Board voted against the applicant's proposed ramp/platform, and in favor of an unenclosed café without the ramp/platform. Despite repeated urging by the Board that the applicant revise his café application to eliminate the proposed ramp, the current application again includes it.

WHEREAS Community Board 7/Manhattan has repeatedly urged the applicant to revise his plans for an unenclosed sidewalk café to eliminate the sidewalk-obstructing ramp/platform running the length of the restaurant frontage; and

WHEREAS the current plans continue to feature the ramp/platform; and

WHEREAS the configuration of the ramp/platform would require the 'handicapped-accessible' pathway to double as the waiter-service aisle, thus undermining its purpose of providing access to the restaurant; and

WHEREAS the proposed ramp/platform would be a permanent obstruction of the sidewalk (i.e. even when the café is closed, including during inclement weather); and

WHEREAS there would be no need for any adjustment to the slope of the sidewalk if the door to the restaurant were moved from the south end of the frontage to the north end of the frontage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan disapproves the new application DCA# 1034982 to the Department of Transportation by Café Salsa Entertainment, Inc., d/b/a Azucar at 462 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82nd - 83rd Streets) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 9 tables and 18 seats.

Committee Member vote: 10-0-0-0

Joint with the Transportation Committee

7. 15 West 72nd Street, Mayfair Towers Garage.

Attorney Ida Greer presented the application #433-65-BZ to the Board of Standards & Appeals by Omar Fenick Architects for 15 West 72nd Street Owners Corp. to reopen and extend the term of variance which expired on June 22, 2000, which variance allows transient parking for the unused and surplus tenant space in an existing multiple dwelling accessory garage. The variance needs to be renewed every ten years. The garage is required to use 126 of its 176 spaces for building residents; the remainder, under the terms of the variance, may be used for transient parking. Several building residents came to the meeting to oppose the application, saying that the garage operator keeps monthly rates uncompetitively high to drive away monthly parkers and make room for transient parkers.

Although the two sides differed on the exact numbers involved, it seems that approximately 50 building residents are park in the garage with monthly contracts. The garage operator claims that at any particular time, there are approximately 185 monthly contracts active (i.e. more than the total spaces available in the garage, demonstrating that the monthly rates are competitive).

The Committees failed to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the Application #433-65-BZ to the Board of Standard and Appeals by Omar Fenick Architects for 15 West 72nd Street Owners Corp to reopen and extend the term of the variance which expired on June 22, 2000, permitting the addition of transient parking for the unused and surplus tenant space in an existing multiple-dwelling accessory garage.

Committee Member vote: 4-4-0-0

Landmarks Committee
Lenore Norman and Dan Cohen, Co-Chairs
September 21, 2000

1. 323 West 74th Street.

Application to LPC to add 6th floor to multi-dwelling, five-story building. Allan Strassen, Architect.

Planned structure will add 9' in height, is 12' deep and will be set back 21' from existing facade. Plans (altered to reduce structure since preliminary meeting with LPC) call for two pairs of doors, one window and skylight for the fifth floor. In rear, there will be overhang and whirlpool; parapet wall will be extended. Most prominent part of new structure will be chimney masonry. From vantage points in the Riverside Park, a strip of the roofline is visible. AC units are partially visible. Owners say noise from AC has not been a problem to date. Neighbors have been notified of alteration and wooden model is still up. Materials: Facade of new structure will be brick. Pilasters, window wraps and metal facie will be a putty color. All windows will be stained mahogany red (existing are black).

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the new structure is set back 21 feet and only a small portion of it is visible from the public thoroughfare; and

WHEREAS, the materials are appropriate;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Committee Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #004232 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a rooftop addition at 323 West 74th Street (Riverside Drive-West End Avenue).

Committee: 5-0-2-0.

2. 55 Central Park West.

Application to enlarge and alter existing penthouse, Peter Guzy, Architect.

Applicant purchased penthouse level and bulk of rooftop, with distinctive lean-to greenhouse, and is working around two existing stair bulkheads and two-story water tower. Two proposed extensions on roof and penthouse level. Working closely with LPC.

Visibility: From north structure is visible but looks like existing floor "stepping"; from south, a small piece of the penthouse use is visible from 66th Street. Three mock-ups have been done so that LPC is comfortable with visibility from public thoroughfare.

Committee voiced concern with front extension because of visibility. Although windows maintain master plan of building, the committee believes the windows are too obtrusive with non-contextual materials. The question of non-reflective glass was raised. The resolution was done in two parts.

Resolutions:

WHEREAS, the proposed addition to the 17th floor, facing West 65th Street, compliments the pairing and stepping back of the original design; and

WHEREAS, the materials to be used are consistent with the existing palette;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the portion application #010358 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct an addition on the 17th floor at 55 Central Park West (65th-66th Streets). 12.

Committee: 6-0-1-0.

WHEREAS, the proposed addition on the penthouse level is somewhat visible from both Central Park West and Central Park; and

WHEREAS, the materials for this part of the addition are not totally consistent with the existing palette, nevertheless,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the portion of application #010358 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a rooftop addition, provided that non-reflective glass is used for windows and doors.

Committee: 4-1-2-0.

No presenters for agenda items numbered 1, 2, 3 and 6 resulted in their being disapproved without prejudice.

New business:

Elizabeth Starkey reported on a meeting with Landmark West!, and announced a forum planned for 11/9 with Manhattan Borough C. Virginia Fields and the IRS at City Grill to discuss tax credits for historic districts. More info to come.

The walking tour on Sunday 9/17 was led by Tom Killian and Francios Bollack. A number of sites above 96th Street were seen. More input is needed from the Manhattan Valley community for designation. Sites above 96th Street do not get much attention. Under consideration for next tour are: Central Part West and 106th Street (excluding SW corner - Towers site, already designated); Manhattan Avenue and 104th; 310-322, 321-327 and 210 West 101st Street; 858 West End Avenue; 352 and 353 Riverside Drive; 316 West 103rd; 444 Central Park West.

Endangered Building Initiative. The NY Landmarks Conservancy has asked the Board to notify it of any designated building that is being altered or demolished.

Jan Levy discussed continuing recognition plaques for designated buildings and objections to illuminated MTA advertising in historic districts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Stevens

Present: Co-Chairs Lenore Norman and Dan Cohen, Beverly Feingold, Ulma Jones, Jan Levy, Patricia Stevens, Angela Wiggins.

Absent: Klari Neuwelt, Tom Vitullo-Martin, Jeff Zahn.