



COMMUNITY BOARD 7/MANHATTAN
Full Board Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2013

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, September 3, 2013, at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in the District. Chair Mark N. Diller called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

Approval of minutes from previous full board meeting

VOTE: 24-0-3

Chair's Report: Mark N. Diller

- The primary for various city-wide and local elections is coming up. Many polling places have changed. Please find the flyers in the back of the room for voting locations and a phone number/web site for further info.
- Please allow a moment of respect for Islan Nettles who was beaten to death for no reason other than she was transgender and of color.
- Speed cameras were approved by the state legislature. Four cameras will come to the borough of Manhattan. They are a pilot to be used by public schools. We have proposed PS 199 based on the unique location and street layout. Sen. Brad Hoylman has endorsed our proposal. We will continue to lobby for that location.
- Pedestrian Safety Study consultants met with the Transportation Committee in July and will meet again with them in September. On our web site will be information on how to attend a site visit and access the consultants' report. Any citizen can comment on the report with issues of safety on particular intersections.
- The public hearing on the scoping document for the environmental impact statement for the proposed Jewish Home Lifecare facility on West 97th Street will be held on Tuesday, September 17th, at PS163. . This date was moved from July. Thank you to all public officials and community members who helped move the date.
- Scheduled committee and other meeting date changes were announced. Please check CB7's website for further updates.
- There are issues with restaurants and bars using rear yards for patrons, contrary to a building's certificate of occupancy. Noise from the outdoor space disturbs nearby residents. The borough commissioners of the Department of Buildings is issuing letters of no objection to a change in the CofO if the building is commercially zoned and the rear yard use is an extension of the inside business. Will bring this to Borough Board for further discussion.

Nominations of Board Officers for 2013-2014 *Evan Rosing, Chair, Elections Committee*

The floor was opened for nominations for officers of the Board by Elections Committee Chair Evan Rosing. Nominations were taken first for the office of Chair, then for two Vice Chairs, then for two Co-Secretaries, in succession. The following individuals were duly nominated and had their nominations seconded, and the individuals were accepted



Chair: Elizabeth Caputo; Roberta Semer.

Vice Chairs: Marc Glazer; Suzanne Robotti [Louis Cholden-Brown was also nominated but has subsequently declined the nomination due to a conflicting commitment].

Co-Secretaries: DeNora Getachew; Brian Jenks.

Elections will be held at the October 2 full Board meeting. The candidates can submit written statements for distribution to board members and speak at a candidates' forum on September 25 and at the October full board meeting.

Community Session:

- Peter Arndtsen, District Manager, Columbus-Amsterdam BID - Announced events coming up in the fall.
- Manhattan Valley Grant Association is seeking grant applications for improving the living conditions in the public housing buildings in the Upper West Side.
- Steve Harris, resident of The Ansonia - We suffer from the intense flashing lights emanating from the Beacon Theater marquee. The flashing has increased in the past few months. These signs are different from past signs. The ability to control and manipulate them from computer makes them much busier. Can the CB regulate the signs and bring them into harmony with the residential nature of the community?
- Liz Mary Harris, The Ansonia - As a painter she works at night. The past few months the intensity and the flickering of the marquee lights are relentless. There is no cut off time; it runs 24 hours. The flashing is the new aspect.
- Jane Thompson, 736 WEA - The neighboring construction, 732 WEA, worked all through every weekend of the summer. The building is only 2 inches from the adjacent building. The pigeons are roosting in the construction debris. Please vote against all sliver buildings.
- Rebecca Donsky, manager of the Bloomingdale branch of the NYPL. The library is back open. Programs are starting up again. Flyers are available for the schedule. We are re-vamping our teen programming. Please send your teens.
- Cleo Dana, Friends of Damrosch Park - Update on the lawsuit against the City, Parks and Recreation. Newsletter available for all that is going on in the lawsuit. The streets are dangerous for pedestrians and have been closed to cars for more than five weeks. The pedestrian walk is filled with garbage. The Fashion Week tents now have extended past the sidewalks onto the street.
- Joanna Fantozzi, West Side Spirit reporter - Please contact her with any issues or events that should be covered. WSS is starting a column on the "mayor" of the block. If you'd like to write about your block, as "mayor" we are interested.

Manhattan Borough President's Report - Rebecca Godlewicz

- The Borough President has put out a report on broadband speeds throughout the City in public spaces and schools. The differences in speeds are incredible and not linked to income areas. These schools and libraries are not on track to meet national standards.
- The Borough President has written a letter opposing the separate entrance on 40 Riverside Blvd. for lower/middle income housing residents.

Reports by Legislative Representatives:



Funsho Owalabi from Linda Rosenthal's Office

- Hosting free breast cancer screening van at district office on Oct. 5th. More information on website.
- Since the session ended, urged that Extell's proposal for 40 Riverside Blvd. be rejected. Lower income housing should not be segregated.
- NYCHA held annual meeting in July. The format was changed and many residents were not able to speak. It seems that NYCHA will be slowing down on the infill issue.
- Genetically modified organisms should be labeled and the consumer should be aware.
- Roundtable on 3D technology.

Dominick Lee from Senator Daniel O'Donnell's Office

- Dates were announced for Legal Tenant Clinic. Newsletter coming out.

Jose-Ramon Perex-Lopez from State Senator Jose Serrano's Office

- Newsletters are on the table in the back table. Please contact the office directly with issues.

George Oliver from A-M Richard Gottfried's Office

- Issue on early morning and weekend DOB building permits.

Ellen Louis, Senator Brad Hoylman's Office

- Working with Amtrak on "Bikes on Board" to retrofit existing Amtrack trains to fit bikes. Presently they can fit only four bikes per train.
- Supported and helped get Landmark status for St. Paul the Apostle Church.
- Hosting Frackonomics informational session. Flyer in back.

Business Session

Parks & Environment Committee, Klari Neuwelt and Elizabeth Starkey, Co-Chairpersons

1. Riverside Park South. Plans for Construction of Phases 5 and 6.

Ms. Neuwelt provided background regarding Riverside South development, which dates back to 1992. The original agreement required development of parkland, which is now coming to fruition. Riverside South is now a very desirable destination. The outstanding required construction plans relate to Phases 5 and 6. The proposed resolution calls on the Parks Department to keep the committee and community informed about the development process, ensure that parks are accessible as soon as possible, and do not disrupt the use of the bike lanes.

Q. Is Pier I available as a commercial ferry landing? A. there is no update in this regard, but will try to obtain this information.

Q. Are there demarcated bike lanes below 72nd Street?

A. Yes there are and hopes that this remains the same during construction.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 33-0-1-0



Land Use Committee

Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons

2. **752-758 West End Avenue, d/b/a Paris Health Club** (West End Avenue - Broadway.) Application to the Board of Standards and Appeals by 752 Paris WEA II, LLC and 752 Paris WEA, LLC for a variance to legalize use of the existing commercial Health Club on part of the cellar, first floor and the first floor mezzanine of the 24-story residential Building in an R10A zoning district.

Co-Chair provided history of the Paris Health Club, which has been operating illegally up until recent ownership change. The new owners promptly came to CB7 to seek approval of a special permit.

The applicant demonstrated to the satisfaction of the committee after a lengthy presentation that the project meets the five factors required for the issuance of a special permit.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 33-0-1-1

3. **157 Columbus Avenue** (West 67th Street.) Application #228-13-BZ by NYC Boards of Standards and Appeals by Herrick Feinstein LLP, on behalf of 45 West 67th Street Development Corporation/Cross Fit NYC, for a permit to operate a physical culture establishment at 157 Columbus Avenue.

The Land Use Committee met prior to the full board meeting to consider and vote on this application.

At the pre-meeting members of the public expressed concerns about the effect of the proposed CrossFit exercise facility on an already congested street where local television station ABC is located. ABC currently produces a lot of commercial traffic on West 67th Street.

Co-Chair read resolution into the record, which made especially clear that there will be no deliveries or garbage collection on West 67th Street. There will be particular attention paid to ensuring that no garbage disposal will take place on West 67th Street, especially given that they do not sell food. The applicant agreed to the restrictions expressed in the resolution.

Community and CB7 members also raised a concern about whether the facilities are presently operational. The facilities are not operational and that people are likely seeing are staffers who are working to get the gym finalized.

A board member asked a question about signage. The response was that it will be a glass door with "Crossfit New York" and there are signage regulations that the owner must comply with.

Committee vote was 6-0-0-0 and non-committee board member vote was 2-0-0-0.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 35-0-0-0

Business & Consumer Issues Committee

Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

4. Applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses:

- **226 West 79th Street** (Amsterdam Avenue) Explore NYC Corp d/b/a Burke & Wills.



- **917 Columbus Avenue** (West 105th Street) Gusto Thai, Inc. d/b/a Tum & Yum.
- **2672 Broadway** (West 102nd Street) Mexican Festival NYC LLC d/b/a Mexican Festival NYC.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

Co-Chair noted that 226 W. 79th Street was formerly the Sun Burnt Calf. 2672 Broadway was formerly Mama Mexico & Maria Bonita. The owner of the latter is a new owner.

New Unenclosed Café Applications:

5. **387 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 78th – 79th Street.) New application DCA# 1467896 to the Department of

Consumer Affairs by Caffe Noi Amsterdam, LLC, d/b/a Caffe Noi, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 12 seats.

This area is currently plagued by scaffolding.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 35-0-0-0

6. **487 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd – 84th Street.) New application DCA# 1467685 to the Department of

Consumer Affairs by Hey Mambo, LLC, d/b/a Hey Mambo, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 12 seats.

Community Comment:

Batya Lewton & Kitty Williston expressed their support for this application.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

On October 29, 2013 the BCI Committee will hold its 4th Business to Business Session at American Youth Hostel, Amsterdam Avenue and 103rd Street. Will be featuring representative from NYC Tourism on how to navigate the City's system, internship, etc.

Preservation Committee

Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

7. **140 West 79th Street** (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a horizontal extension on the penthouse level.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

8. **125 West 69th Street** (West 69th – 70th Streets.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission

for the addition of a light roof top atelier and a modification of the rear façade.



This is a rear yard addition and also an addition to building next door, which is owned by the same applicant. The design was intended to create more open garden space. The Preservation Committee unanimously voted to approve as reasonably appropriate.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

9. **349 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 76th – 77th Streets.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rear-yard enlargement.

This application is for the former Time Out Bar, which was first considered by BCI Committee. It is a bar that has rear yard that the owners are proposing to enclose. It is totally enclosed and fills out the entire footprint of the space. Committee found proposal reasonably appropriate as long as owner takes remedial measures to control the sound.

Q. Is the roof and accessible?

A. It is merely a service roof and is not publicly accessible.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

10. **61 West 83rd Street** (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for renovation of the front and rear façades.

This application is a brownstone renovation with a couple of components, including adding an AC unit on the roof and modifying front façade at the top.

Committee recommended a few modifications to the proposed plan to ensure greater consistency with neighboring buildings. Most importantly, suggested the applicant reconsider the roof design to ensure design elements were consistent.

Board Comment:

The resolution does not require the applicant's agreement with respect to the roof design, so has even less binding nature. Recommended a friendly amendment to the resolution to clarify that the first three clauses were binding. The co-chair clarified that the first three components whereas clauses were in fact agreed to, but the roof clause with respect to "explore" was not agreed to. LPC usually obtains the full resolution assuming all goes well with administrative calendaring at LPC. The resolution was amended to make this point clear.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve**, as amended, was adopted.

VOTE: 33-0-1-0

11. **17 West 87th Street** (Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a new stoop and windows, replacement of the rear facade from the basement to the 3rd floor, and a rooftop addition.



The quality of workmanship was very detailed and thoughtful, and it was overall a very sensible addition. Their rear yard addition was consistent with the adjacent grouping of homes to the left and to the right as well with the manner it intrudes into the donut.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 34-0-0-0

12. **116 West 71st Street** (Columbus Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for legalization of a wall in the rear yard, erected without a permit.

This is an application to legalize a renovation by the previous owners. This home was originally before the Preservation Committee in 2008 when it was approved as minimally appropriate with the historic district. The original application was approved at Landmarks on the same basis as CB7. The standard is to apply same standards as would have been done if it were a new application. Committee voted to disapprove because it was inconsistent with design.

Specifically, the prior owner built a lot-line brick wall on east side of the rear yard addition above the garden level. The enclosing wall extends deeper into the rear yard than permitted by zoning, and it required the stucco-ing and obscuring of a series of tall lancet stained glass lot-line windows on the neighboring building's rear yard extension.

Board Discussion:

Q: What is the consequence of CB7 issuing a disapproval? A: LPC could compel the owner to remove the portion of the lot-line wall that was not in the approved drawings and plans.

The CB7 Board Chair clarified that this is a one brick wide wall surrounding the terraces and renovated rear facade, which covered up lot line windows. Terrace would not have to be torn down. At most, would have to remove wall that is not necessary for structure.

Q: What was the sequence of events? A: Architect hired to work on the project discovered this issue when working on a gate.

Q: Is this inconsistent with other buildings in the rear? A: The condition as built is inconsistent with typical rear yard facades.

After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove** the legalization was adopted.

VOTE: 36-0-0-0

Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

13. **M 86 crosstown bus.**

Co-Chair explained the proposal to enable off-board payment on the M86. Off-board payment could likely happen soon given some upcoming construction on West 86th Street. This would allow individuals to pay in advance and board from 3 doors decreasing departure times. This is an honor system, but



sometimes there are Transit staff on the bus checking tickets. If a person did not pay the fare, the fines start at \$100. It was unknown how many machines would be implemented at each stop, but the belief is that this would substantially ease congestion.

Board Discussion:

- Support for the resolution and suggested that the resolution go further. There are sometimes 3-4 buses in loading area on West 86th Street between Broadway and West End. The bus is often standing room only at the first stop. Believe that this may not ease congestion because schedule is the real problem.
- On W. 34th there are no signs to instruct bus riders and should make clear that there is signage to ensure the bus riders know that they should use this method. Co-Chair noted that MTA does deploy “ambassadors” as long as they should to ensure riders are informed and will also push for this as well.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 30-0-2-0

New Business.

14. Support for Manhattan Valley Development Corporation's application for grant funding under New York State Main Street (NYMS), New York State Technical Assistance (NYMS-TA), and New York State Urban Initiative (UI) Programs.

Mr. Diller brought this proposed resolution to the full board because of time constraints. The Chair thanked Shelly Fine for his helpful background information and for sharing important information about the history of the organization and its efforts in the community.

- The “Main Street” grant is for improving commercial street front. The best way to think of this that the commercial fronts on Columbus between West 108th-109th Streets were blighted and inconsistent. They were renovated and for the first time in a long time, the street is fully rented. Proposing similar effort from on Columbus between West 105th and -106th Streets.
- The “Urban Initiative” grant will provide funds to renovate kitchens and bathrooms in buildings in this corridor that offer affordable housing.
- The “Main Street – Technical Assistance” grant seeks funding to plan for the types of renovations and improvements on to Columbus between 106th -107th Streets to develop plans similar to those now being used for the Main Street grant above.
- The resolution would endorse MVDA’s application to increase attention paid to this part of the District.

Board Discussion:

- Involved in preservation services advisory team. This is very worthy of support.
- MVDC has long and storied history in community and developing affordable housing. Despite past problems, it has reconstituted itself sufficiently and is capable of executing this successfully. Disclosed that as a member of board of Westside Senior Supportive Housing, one of senior centers that borders it will benefit.
- Lives in the neighborhood and has seen benefit of this development. This corridor really needs uplifting.



- Is this the same proposal made by community member Miriam Febus who came before the board previously advocating for this on Amsterdam and Columbus Avenues? Will this ensure that small businesses will have their voices heard? Chair noted that this would go a long way to reaching goals called for in her report. Also the technical assistance grant will ensure community input.
- Question regarding the grants for upgrading kitchens and bathrooms. Chair clarified that HFDC buildings allow for residents to own their units like a coop, but there are restrictions on how much can charge and sell for so they remain affordable.
- Are there additional obligations on the owners through the MVDC since MVDC is a nonprofit? The grant goes to MVDC who administers funds and works with the landlords to execute the work.

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.

VOTE: 32-0-0-0

Unanimous consent to adjourn at 8:24p.m.

Present: Mark N. Diller, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Richard Asche, Isaac Booker, Elizabeth Caputo, Louis Cholden-Brown, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley, Sheldon J. Fine, Paul Fischer, DeNora Getachew, Matthew Holtzman, Meisha Hunter, Joanne Imohiosen, Madelyn Innocent, Brian Jenks, Genora Johnson, Lee Ping Kwan, Blanche E. Lawton, Lillian Moore, Klari Neuwelt, Gabrielle Palitz, Michele Parker, Nick Prigo, Anne Raphael, Suzanne Robotti, Madge Rosenberg, Evan Rosing, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Mel Wymore, Howard Yaruss, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Dan Zweig. **On-Leave:** Elizabeth Starkey. **Absent:** Linda Alexander, Laura Atlas, Brian Byrd, Robert Espier, Miki Fiegel, Marc Glazer, Phyllis E. Gunther, Marisa Maack, Haydee Rosario, Helen Rosenthal, Eric Shuffler and Jaye B. Smalley.



Business & Consumer Issues Committee Meeting Minutes
Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons
September 11, 2013

1. Applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses:

- **427 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st Street) J of K Corp, d/b/a Momoya Amsterdam. Applicant was present, Jeong. She stated that she already had received her liquor license. No vote taken
- **483 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street) Nicky Meatballs, Inc, d/b/a Polpette. Represented by Mr. Nick Mermande. Seeking liquor license for new restaurant with 49 seats at tables and 15 seats at bar.

Committee votes to approve 10-0-1-0.

Unenclosed Café Renewal Applications:

2. **313 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 75th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1471902 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Baby Oliver, LLC, d/b/a Piccolo Cafe, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 24 seats.

Committee votes to approve. Committee 11-0-1-0.

3. **359 Columbus Avenue** (West 76th - 77th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 0953473 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 359 Columbus Avenue, LLC, d/b/a Isabella's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 28 tables and 74 seats. Represented by Kim Gerard, manager
Committee votes to approve Committee 12-0-1-0. Non-Committee 1-0-0-0.

4. **522 Columbus Avenue** (West 85th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 0895505 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Barjer Corp., d/b/a Firehouse Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 29 seats. Represented by Scott Chilvers, manager. Ms. Susan Urich, a neighbor was present and complained about the intrusion on the sidewalk by strollers, a situation that was exacerbated by the restaurant next store, Good Enough to Eat. Applicant agrees to remove two tables from the café.

Committee votes to approve 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

5. **568 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 87th - 88th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1273996 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Mermaid 88, LLC, d/b/a The Mermaid Inn, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats.

Committee votes to approve 9-1-0-1. 0-0-1-0.

Enclosed Café Renewal Applications:

6. **2020 Broadway** (West 69th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 0769760/ ULURP# N110004ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by First 69th Street Realty Corp., d/b/a Westside Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 17 tables and 34 seats.

Committee votes to approve 11-0-0-1. 1-0-0-0.

7. **300 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 74th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1218880/ ULURP# N120359ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by American Specialty Foods, Inc., d/b/a Josie Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 27 seats. Issue



arose from Mr. Elcino Reyes concerning food odors from kitchen exhaust which was directly over the restaurant. The applicant and Mr. Reyes to investigate odor removing equipment to solve the problem.

Committee votes to approve 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

8. **441 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1283643/ ULURP# N120344ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by JPS Ventures, Inc. d/b/a St. James Cafe, for a two year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 16 seats.

Applicant did not show.

Committee votes to disapprove without prejudice 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

9. **502 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 84th-85th Streets.) Renewal application DCA#1146560/ ULURP# N120361ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Romagica, Corp., d/b/a Celeste, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 10 seats.

Committee votes to approve 11-0-0-1. 1-0-0-0.

10. **2483 Broadway** (West 92nd- 93rd Street.) Renewal application DCA# 0916146/ ULURP# N120331ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Hussien Environment, Inc., d/b/a Cleopatra's Needle, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 16 seats.

Committee votes to approve 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

11. **2787 Broadway** (West 107th Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1147364/ ULURP# N120346ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Hillview Specialty Food Inc., d/b/a 107th West Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 13 tables and 26 seats.

Committee votes to approve 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

New Unenclosed Café Application:

12. **414 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th Street.) New application DCA# 1471611 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 4SK-414 Amsterdam Avenue LLC, d/b/a Pinkberry, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 11 seats. Applicant did not show

Committee votes to disapprove without prejudice 12-0-0-0. 1-0-0-0.

Present: George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Michele Parker, Linda Alexander, Elizabeth Caputo, Paul Fisher, Marc Glazer, Matthew Holtzman, Joanne Imohiosen, Brian Jenks, Anne Raphael, Suzanne Robotti and Eric Shuffler. **Chair:** Mark Diller



**Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes, with descriptive resolutions appended
Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz
September 12, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

1. 1 Riverside Drive ---- Application #14-5757 to LPC (Landmarks Preservation Commission) to replace exterior hatch exit with a staircase to and from cellar.

Presenting the application Rizwan Salam, PE, Principal Engineer.

The building in question, a house of worship. Existing hatch to cellar to be replaced with concrete steps, below ground level, limestone finish on west-facing lower wall, matching the wall above the stairs. A metal rail to be installed around the stair opening to match existing window grille painted green. Stairs not for public access. The work has already been done without DOB permit. Applicant will need to file this work with the DOB.

Application APPROVED:

Committee----5-0-1-0 Non Committee Board----1-0-0-0

2. 135 Central Park West, The Langham ---- Application #13667 to LPC to restore original entrance.

Presenting application Elwen Joaquim, Clinton & Russel, Architect.

Work to include removing non-historic architectural elements from entrance gate to include mesh infill and iron frame. Install iron vertical pickets and decorative elements reflecting the original historic gate with a portion being raised by `14" to fill in portion being removed. The gate has been painted.

Application APPROVED:

Committee----6-0-0-0 Non Committee Board---- 1-0-0-0

3. 211 Central Park West ----Application to LPC to replace windows and terrace doors of Apartments 21&22 E. a duplex.

Presenting the application Zack McKown, FAIA, of TsAO & McKown, Architects

On the Courtyard facade the applicant seeks to replace the original casement windows with new aluminum windows. These windows are not visible from the street. Similarly, the Central Park West windows are to be replaced. While not visible from street level, there is clear visibility from approximately 100 yards in Central Park.

The original window design throughout the building is single-pane casement, including the original penthouse design. The application proposes changes in the fenestration not in keeping with the building's original design and is central to its architectural integrity.

The Committee strongly recommends that proposed replacement of windows and doors be aluminum modeled on the design consistent throughout the building and matching the original design and functionality and finished in light gray as the original. It was also suggested that the building management to locate or re-do the building's master plan for window replacement.

Application DISAPPROVED:

Committee----4-2-0-0 Non-Committee Board----1-0-0-0

4. 128 West 82nd. St.----Application to LPC for installation of window in rear facade of a existing rowhouse undergoing gut renovation.

Presenting the application Gwendolyn Connors, AIA, Associate Principal, 1100 Architect. The renovation and



restoration plans have been approved at staff level at LPC. The row- house is one of five built in 1885-6. Three have been demolished.

The building in question is presently a six-family multi-dwelling to be converted to two-family.

The plan calls for lowering the roof by 2 feet, removing the rear extension to accommodate a deck. The windows on top floor to be restored to 25/1 in mahogany. The front door to be replaced with single panel glass with ne lighting added. Any damaged brownstone to be replaced with new brownstone. The old slate roof to be replaced with new slate. In the rear, top floor mahogany windows will replace existing vinyl clad. On the third floor, windows replaced by doors and Juliet balcony installed with glass railings. On the second floor. single pane glass doors to be installed and at the kitchen level, bronze railings at rear extension.

Application APPROVED:

Committee---6-0-0-0 Non-Committee Board 1-0-0-0

Committee recommended strongly that the proposed glass railing on the second floor be replaced with steel or bronze railings. Also, that the glass detail on the ground floor of the rear yard extension be articulated as a butt joint.

5. 514 West End Ave.---Application to LPC for penthouse addition and rooftop extension.

Presenting the application Bogue Trodowski, Architect.

The existing 16th. floor penthouse to be extended, finished in beige stucco to blend with existing structure. Extension not visible from street level. The existing roof deck to be partially enclosed to accommodate a greenhouse which will be visible from street level. Greenhouse to have glass and zinc finish.

An interior staircase to be constructed linking the 16th. floor penthouse with the 17th. floor addition of a sunroom. Sunroom will have glass bi-fold doors.

Public comments :

- Avery Shapiro commented that the 17th. floor addition is visible from 85th. St. Also, the design and materials for the greenhouse not consistent with the neighborhood.
- Josette Amato, Landmark West! said that the proposal details met the requirements of her organization.

Application APPROVED:

Committee---6-0-0-0 Non-Committee Board---1-0-0-0

6. 272-4-6 West 86th. St.Application#14-35-39 to LPC for rooftop and rear yard additions.

Presenting for applicants Rick Azar, Consultant, M..Kemeny, Architect, Joe Cohen, Owner, Jenny B....., Owner, Associates.

Application covers the restoration of three contiguous Renaissance Revival rowhouses built in 1895.

Initial step is power washing the facade to remove old paint ; to preserve old wood that could be recycled; preserve reusable hardware; repair masonry.

Old windows to be replaced with new double-hung wood windows; replace entry doors keeping in mind ADA requirements.

Rooftop additions set back from front of facade with metal ladders from sundeck down facade for emergency exiting. Additions in light colored stucco to match the brick facade. Additions not visible from immediate street level but visible from adjacent streets.



Front window replacements to be wood. Rear replacements in aluminum.

Rear-yard additions to be made uniform with the entire area to excavated. The cellar extended by 20 feet from rear additions to create additional interior space. The extended area into the rear yard would leave a 10 foot space from the lot line presumably for additional plantings.

Public Comments :

- Livia Donovitch, 545 West End Ave.15th. floor concerned that the additions are a major change in the streetscape. Also, air and light deprivation
- Sandra Carter,250 West 86th. St. commended the Architect on the design
- Katarena Posch, 278 West 86th. St. concerned that light would be blocked
- Batya Lewton presented study by Mary Dierickx, Historic Consultants, on the importance of the properties on the West End Ave. Historic District
- Petra van Noort, 278 West 86th.St. concerned about lack of communication with developer; downing of trees; blocking light; alignment of new additions to adjoining buildings
- Rick Spinell, 278 West 86th.St. concerned about poor communications and public relations on the part of developers
- Sydney Brelek, 278 West 86th.St. questioned how the excavation would be handled and dirt disposal; doughnut being eroded; light and air compromised
- Ben-Ami Friedman, 261 West 86th.St. submitted written statement decrying the removal of trees and lack of regard for landscape
- Ellen Kessler, 280 West 86th. St. concern for structural damage' doughnut violated; no communication
- Melissa Elstein- 355 West 86th.St. willing to work with developer with emphasis on landscaping
- Nancy Hodin questioned development in view of historic district status
- Josette Amato, Landmark West! commented on loss of grade space and landscaping
- Joe Cohen, Developer and Owner, wants to work with the community on restoration of dilapidated buildings

The Preservation Committed to the approval process for this application was in four parts.

1.Front Facade----Committee

APPROVED----6-0-0-0 Non-Committee Board 1-0-0-0

2.Roof-top Addition ----Committee

DISAPPROVED ----6-0-0-0 Non-Committee Board 1-0-0-0

(too

visible; design lacks creativity; bulky; materials inappropriate; not in keeping with building)

3.Rear-yard Expansion ----

Committee APPROVED ----6-0-0-0 Non-Committee Board 1-0-0-0

4.Excavation/Cellar extension ----

Committee NO CONCENSUS



Meeting adjourned at 10:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Blanche E. Lawton

Present: Jay Adolf, Gabrielle Palitz, Meisha Hunter, Lee P. Kwan, Blanche E. Lawton and Thomas Vitullo- Martin. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller. **Absent:** Miki Fiegel.

Preservation Committee Sept. 12, 2013 Meeting Resolutions

1. **1 Riverside Drive (West 72nd Street.)** Application #14-5757 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for Replacement *and expansion* of an exterior hatch exit with a staircase leading to the cellar.

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- The existing exit hatch area will be expanded to the west.
- A new concrete stair will be constructed to provide improved egress form the Cellar.
- The east wall of the stair recess which is visible from the street will be faced in limestone, similar to the material with which the walls above the stairway is faced.
- Design and green color of new metal railing at grade level will be modeled on existing window grilles.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the new exterior stair down to the Cellar is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the replacement and expansion of an existing exterior hatch with a new staircase.

Preservation Committee: 5-0-1-0
Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

2. **135 Central Park West (West 73rd – 74th Street.)** Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for proposed amendment (Docket #136667) to the top of a "historic" entry gate at rear entry to The Langham.

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- Existing arched and vertical metal framework and mesh infill which had been added to the top of the historic gate will be removed.
- For augmented security, the original topmost curving metal bar and attached decorative elements will be raised 14 inches to allow for the introduction of additional vertical and curved metal components below, spiked projections above.



The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the modifications to the top of the existing service gate on West 73rd Street are reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the modifications to the top of the existing service gate on West 73rd Street.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

3. **211 Central Park West #21-22E** (West 81st – 82nd Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for replacement of windows and terrace doors in Apt. 21-22E.

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- The original steel windows were designed as a pair of single-pane casement windows below a single pane transom.
- This window design is retained throughout the building, both in the remaining original steel windows, and in the replacement windows.
- The original penthouse apartment windows were of a similar design.
- The existing penthouse windows and terrace doors are all single pane (not casement) with no transoms. They are in poor condition.
- The proposed new replacement windows look not to match the original penthouse fenestration but to the a-typical existing replacement windows and doors.
- While not visible from the surrounding streets, these windows are clearly visible from an open lawn and the bridle path inside Central Park.
- The fenestration pattern of the building is central to the legibility, articulation and historic significance of this iconic building.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the replacement windows and doors in Apt. 21-22E, **is** not in keeping with the original window design and is not appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District. The Committee strongly recommends that the replacement windows and terrace doors be new aluminum windows modeled on the typical window design prevalent throughout the building, matching the original design in configuration, operation, details **and** in a light gray color to match the original finish. The Committee also urges the co-op to locate or redo the building's Window Master Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **disapproves** the replacement windows and terrace doors in Apt. 21-22E.

Preservation Committee: 4-2-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.



4. **128 West 82nd Street** (Columbus – Amsterdam Avenues.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the installation of a window in the rear façade as part of an approved gut renovation of the existing rowhouse.

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- The existing double-hung one-over-one vinyl-clad windows at the top (fourth) floor will be replaced with new mahogany one-over-one double-hung wood windows to match all the new windows at the front façade.
- The existing third floor window openings will be enlarged, widened and expanded downward to create new door openings for inward-opening, door-height steel casement windows, with Juliet balconies.
- The three existing punched window openings at the second floor will be combined and expanded to create one large central glazed opening with full height steel fixed windows and doors.
- The existing rear yard addition will be reduced in mass, with a side projecting bay window and part of the enclosed space removed.
- At the Ground level, the entire side-facing facade of the modified addition, and the majority of its rear façade will be fully glazed, with floor-to-ceiling glass panes and doors which connect back to a full-height glazed element on the main rear facade
- At the Basement level, the fenestration pattern of punched single-pane window openings will be regularized.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the fenestration in the renovated rear façade and modified rear yard extension is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District, with two strong recommendations:

- The glazed corner detail at the Ground floor of the rear yard extension be articulated as a butt joint (rather than as a thickened vertical mullion)
- The glass railing proposed for the Second floor terrace be replaced with the same type of painted steel or bronze guardrail proposed for the Ground floor terrace and the Third floor Juliet balcony railings.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the new windows at the rear yard and modified rear yard extension, with the two strong design recommendations – to butt joint the glazed corner, and to **replace** the proposed glass railing with a metal **railing** to match the other two proposed railings.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

5. **514 West End Avenue** (West 85th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a penthouse expansions and rooftop addition.

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- The existing 16th floor penthouse will be expanded in two separate areas:
 - i. The southern section will be expanded several feet east, clad in beige stucco to match the existing penthouse. It will not be visible from the public way.



- ii. The existing eastern roof deck will be partially enclosed with a new metal greenhouse structure, minimally visible from the east at Broadway and 85th Street.
- An exterior stair connecting the 16th floor penthouse terrace to the 17th floor roof will be removed.
- A new interior stair will be constructed, linking the expanded 16th floor penthouse to a new rooftop addition on the 17th floor.
- The new rooftop addition will be shaped by sight-lines from the street, in order to be completely invisible from the public way.
- The new rooftop addition will be clad in pre-weathered grey zinc panels, with a large glazed element of full-height, folding glass doors. The doors are to have low E tinted glass set within light metal frames that will darken over time.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the 16th floor penthouse expansion and 17th floor rooftop addition are reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District. The Committee commends the design of the rooftop addition for its clean lines, inspired shaping and simple but elegant material choices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the 16th floor penthouse expansions and 17th floor rooftop addition.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

6. **272, 274 & 276 West 86th Street** (Broadway – West End Avenue.) Application #14-3539 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for rooftop and rear yard additions.

The proposed renovation and expansion work affects three of the original four-unit rowhouse grouping.

There are four distinct components of the proposed renovation work:

- i. Restoration work on the front facade
- ii. New rooftop addition.
- iii. Rear yard building expansion.
- iv. Excavation of the rear yard to expand the existing cellar, and to create a ten-foot planted area at the rear of the property.

- i. Regarding the restoration work on the front façade, the following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

--Thorough restoration work is proposed for the front facades, including removing paint from brick and limestone surfaces, repairing and repointing of existing masonry, stabilization of stone details, replacement of existing windows with new double-hung wood windows, patching cornices, removal of surface-mounted conduit, etc.

--Replacement of existing entry doors with new wood entry doors of unequal width for improved accessibility and ADA compliance.



The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the front restoration work is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District. The Committee strongly recommends that while needing to replace the front doors to improve accessibility to the buildings, greater consideration be given to historic design precedents within the ADA-compliant requirements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the front restoration work, with the strong recommendation to investigate the historic design precedent for the new front doors.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

ii. Regarding the rooftop addition, the following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

--The new rooftop additions will be set back from the front facades the same distance as the existing rooftop addition at 276 West 86 St.

--They will all be one foot taller.

--They will have occupiable roof decks above, necessitating the addition of metal access ladders mounted to the front facades for egress.

--The additions will extend significantly further back than the existing roof top addition, nearly to the rear facade line.

--The addition will be clad in light color stucco to match the Roman brick color of the front facades below.

--The new windows will be articulated as punched openings, picking up on the three-window pattern below. The front windows will be one-over-one clad wood. The rear façade windows will be one-over-one aluminum

--While not visible from directly across the street, the additions will be visible from a number of nearby streets and avenues.

Because of the simplistic architectural design and features, the bulk, and the resulting marked visibility, the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the proposed rooftop addition is not reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District. While not all members of the Preservation Committee objected with equal force to each of the identified concerns, the Committee reached consensus that the addition as proposed was not appropriate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **disapproves** the current form of the rooftop addition because of its design, materials, bulk and its resulting visibility from the public way. The Committee further urges the applicant to consider eliminating the occupiable roof decks in order to eliminate the need for surface mounted, visually-displeasing ladder structures.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.



iii. Regarding the rear yard building expansion, the following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

- The original existing, brick-clad dog leg additions will be retained.
- The small, later additions constructed between the dog legs will be removed.
- New additions will be constructed between the doglegs, “infilling” the gaps. The plane of the infill facades will set back several inches from the plane of the existing dog leg facades.
- The “infill” facades will be clad in beige stucco to match the color of the Roman brick on the front facade.
- The brick cladding of the existing dog-leg façade pieces will be re-parged in a similar beige color.
- A regularized pattern of fenestration will be imposed across the entire rear façade - a combination of single and paired one-over-one aluminum windows.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the rear yard infill addition is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District, provided that the following two modifications are adopted:

- The plane of the rear infill facades is set back sufficiently from the original rear yard dogleg facades to be legible **and to** convey a sense of the tripartite A-B-A rhythm of the three original structures.
- The fenestration pattern at the fourth floor be retained, with two separate punched masonry openings per building, maintained as windows or with sills lowered to become terrace doors.
- The Committee also strongly recommends that the existing parging at the rear facades be removed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** with two conditions:

- That the plane of the infill facades be more clearly distinct from the plane of the existing dogleg facades.
- That the existing fenestration pattern at the top floor be retained as punched openings.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-committee Full Board: 1-0-0-0.

iv. Regarding the excavation of the rear yard to expand the existing cellar, and the creation of a ten-foot planted area at the rear of the property, the following facts and concerns were taken into account in:

- The entire rear yard will be excavated.
- The existing cellar will be extended approximately 20 feet out from the plane of the rear yard addition.
- The cellar roof will be approximately three feet higher than the existing rear yard grade.
- The final ten feet of the rear yard will become cellar-level terraces, with plantings.

The Committee could not reach consensus in favor of either approval or disapproval of the rear yard excavation and expansion of the existing cellar.



**Parks & Environment Committee Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2013**

Co-Chair Klari Neuwelt called the meeting to order at about 7:15 p.m.

1. Gale Brewer Money – Riverside Park South Improvements

Presentation and discussion with Margaret Bracken of Riverside Park.

- “Gale Brewer Money” refers to appx \$2.5MM secured for additional funding for RSPS by C-M Brewer in the negotiations with Extell relating to Riverside Center in 2010.
- Plans in the process of completion.
- Shade structure is the part of the project that is the furthest from completion, but is currently in process.
- Consultant has retained a subcontractor who is working through designs and the engineering issues related to them.
- Desire to have the proposal ready for submission to the Design Commission in October.
- Commissioner White will review the project on 9/27/13.
- Potential for a Committee pre-meeting before full Board on Wednesday, October 2nd.
- Post the drawings on the website as soon as they are available – just shy of a week before the pre-meeting.
- Cannot take a committee action tonight because the plans are not available for viewing, comment and approval.
- Next steps assuming PDC approval:
 - design completion ca. March 2014
 - once completed, design will be put out to bid (appx 6 months)
 - potential for construction to begin late 2014
- Background: Initial ideas for the project:
 - shade structure on Pier Ii
 - re-grade soccer field
 - improvements to the little league field
 - due to site visits and input, the importance of addressing the circulation of bikes and pedestrians in that area of the Park (where pedestrian and bike paths merge).
- One tangible result will be an entirely separate path for pedestrians and bikes for some portion of the run of RSPS.
- While the initial focus was not on the dog run, the idea of taking pedestrians off the main paths to reduces the potential for conflicts.
- Another positive is the dingy areas under the highway
 - dual benefit of improving the space for basketball and improving safety and accessibility – especially for teens.
- Bob Wyman – request for using ground-source heat pumps in any buildings that require heating/cooling
 - but no such buildings in the Gale Brewer money project.
- Ken Coughlin – need to fix broken lights on the Greenway



- some in constant need of repair.
- Kayak launch site – will be moved south to avoid the confluence of the bike and pedestrian paths.
 - site is viable in terms of depth of the River at the proposed new location
 - no need to move this year since the earliest target date for the Brewer money is the end of 2014.
- Sea Rail project – a separate project also funded by C-M Brewer.
 - The project is in the process of approvals at the Law Department, and expect responses in the next two weeks.
- Jesse Bodine for C-M Brewer – C-M Brewer has been active in advocating and moving the project through the process.
- Work not expected to commence in 2013, realistically speaking.
- Margaret does expect there to be sufficient funding to include the replacement of blue slate near the Eleanor Roosevelt memorial.
- Parks/RSP working at the same time on emergency conditions related to Hurricane Sandy – using funding available from FEMA. Plan to repair cave-ins on Cherry Walk in the FEMA-financed project.
- Boat Basin – A-Dock. Consultants worked through the design, and now have designs that exceed the funding needed.
- Understanding is that the design is significantly underfunded – uncertain to what extent storm damage drove increased costs. Possible that digging into the details of needs analysis may have identified additional needs that increased costs.
- Concern – additional layers of approval slow projects' completion.
- Bob Wyman – additional delays mean lesser buying power for absolute dollars allocated. Time value of money eroding the funding.
- 102nd Field House – still under construction, but fundraising is still on-going. RSP Conservancy doing the fundraising.
- Some fabrication is being done off-site.

Presentation on Proposed Council Bill to Require a Fee be Charged for Plastic Bags

Presented by Jennie Romer – Global Green USA, www.globalgreen.org; locally: bagitnyc.org

- Presentation via PowerPoint – history of plastic and paper bag reduction efforts.
- Relating to Intro No. 1135-2013, introduced by Council Member Lander. Hope to get support from NYC Dept. of Sanitation and from Council Speaker to move the bill forward in the Council.
- California precedents and pitfalls – evolving history of efforts to reduce/eliminate use of disposable plastic bags.
- Current Council bill would require retailers to collect a 10 cent fee (with certain exceptions) – retailers would get to keep the fee, and avoid the issue of the fee being an unconstitutional tax.
- Opposition consists largely of plastic bag manufacturers, the American Chemical Council.
- Business community appears to be neutral as long as they keep the revenue.



- No significant push-back from paper bag manufacturers in NYC to date.
- Education/outreach – experience of being charged in other cities has been as effective in encouraging responsible behavior as any actual outreach.
- Future: move toward compostable plastic bags to the extent bags are required. Issue is the cost (\$.15 per bag vs \$.02).
- Open air markets and street vendors – rules would apply. But small, clear plastic bags for vegetables, etc. bought in stores would be ok. Also for takeout food at restaurants, etc.
- Exception for food stamps – based primarily on the cost issue to the customer.
- Multilingual outreach – when adopted as law, the City materials would qualify for multilingual outreach.
- Plastic bags as water-borne pollution – not-for-profits advocating for water conservation are key partners.
- Retailers keeping the money – contrast with Mayor’s initial proposal from a few years ago which would have allowed the City to keep the fee. Only precedent was Washington DC.
-- idea to allow NYC to keep the fee would require Albany approval as a tax – deemed a non-starter and not included in the current Council bill.
- Concern – having a bag at hand to avoid the need for plastic or paper. NYC shoppers cannot just keep a bag in their cars unlike other parts of the country.
-- A: decision to use a charge rather than a ban so that the bags, while discouraged, would still be a stopgap for shoppers who could not plan ahead.
- SF ban (plastic) and fee (paper) – has not been attributed to have affected bottom line sales.
- Current plastic bags are not functionally recyclable – NYC DOS cannot include in recycling, and plastic bags can actually contaminate bales of other recyclable materials.
- Case for plastic bags being a problem:
 - plastic bags as litter, especially windborne litter;
 - contamination of other recyclables if mixed in;
 - source (primarily) is from fossil fuels – itself an environmental issue;
 - impact on storm drains, which can create flooding (example of India storm drains and flooding);
 - degradation once in the ocean – photo-degrade until tiny bits that are then consumed by fish, turtles and eventually humans;
 - fee promotes the use of compostable or more responsible plastic.

Resolution to support the Council bill 1135-2013.

VOTE:

Committee members: 6-0-0-0

Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.

Updates:

Meeting with EMS re idling ambulances:

- Trying to set up a meeting.
- Continuing issue of idling.
- Food for future thought – same issue re idling for Fresh Direct, Mr. Softee.

Tavern on the Green Operators:



- Committee working on setting up a meeting to discuss issues, including Chef Katy.
- Local coop on CPW has scheduled a meeting this week with the operator.
- Meanwhile, interior work continues apace and NYC is finishing the exterior restoration.

Bull Moose Dog Run:

- CB7 recognized the need for renovations, but in its resolution recommended minimizing public funding.
- C-M Brewer has allocated \$250,000 of public funds, which may be enough to kick start raising the remainder that is needed.

Tots Playground in Central Park (now Tarr Coyne Playground)

- Ribbon-cutting for reopening after renovation took place – several CB7 members attended

Playground 89

- Not on Design Commission calendar for September or October.
- Parks appears to be working with Paul Friedberg on potentially revised plans.

Adjourned: 9:15

Present: Klari Neuwelt, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Meisha Hunter, Joanne Imohiosen and Evan Rosing. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller. **Board Member:** Marisa Maack. **On-Leave:** Elizabeth Starkey. **Absent:** Isaac Booker and Phyllis E. Gunther.



**Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes
Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons
September 23, 2013**

Item 1: 2211 Bway, The Apthorp: Application to the Landmarks preservation Commission for a rooftop addition.

The Apthorp is an individual landmark, having been designated as such in 1969.

The applicant was represented by Howard Zipser, Esq., William Higgins, Historic Preservation Consultant; David West, Architect and Bradford Wildauer of Aries Partners.

The proposal is to construct a 2 story setback (12' from WEA, 15' from W.79, 15' from W. 78) roof extension which will create, in combination with 5 vacant apartments on the 12th floor, 4 penthouse apartments. Approximately 15,568 sf will be added to the roof out of, according to the applicant, 79,000 sf available. The proposed 14th floor would be set back 25' from WEA.

In brief, the applicant's representatives described the proposed addition to be executed in a "simplified classical vocabulary" that is sympathetic to the current architecture while being clearly identifiable as contemporary. They emphasized that the proposed addition is appropriate particularly based on the fact that the Apthorp's existing original design includes classically designed rooftop pavilions which were intended to be seen above the roof. Part of the proposal is to install new glazing in the existing historic open arches at the roof. The height of the new addition is represented to be not higher than the highest point of the existing arcades.

Upon completion the new structure will be minimally visible from the public way at several points in all directions while being highly visible looking West from the inner courtyard. (There was some discussion as to whether or not the courtyard was specifically landmarked itself. The designation is in fact for the entire structure; the findings, however, described the courtyard as one of the building's "important qualities".) All of the proposed new mechanicals will not be visible.

Shadow studies conducted on behalf of the applicant indicated a very minimal, if any, effect on sunlight in the courtyard.

The applicant noted that the proposed construction will also include extensive repair and restoration of the existing roof structures.

The public session:

1. Funsho Olowabi, Legislative Director for Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal read and submitted a letter on her behalf essentially supporting the residents' concerns with the project.
2. Josette Amato, West End Preservation Society, expressed concerns about the bulk of the project and the structural viability of this "old" building.
3. Howard Yourow, 411 WEA, Bd. Member of HDC but speaking personally, is opposed to any addition at all to this "classic icon" and said there were "gaping holes" in Mr. Higgins' presentation
4. Nancy Robbins, Apthorp resident, questioned the accuracy of the model displayed by the applicant.
5. Judith Boies, 400 WEA, stated that she and her husband are partially disabled and rely on car services etc and thus are concerned about possible traffic problems during construction.
6. Mark Myers, 400 WEA, an Arts writer for the Wall Street Journal and former assistant to Ada Louise Huxtable declared that it was a "shame to touch this building at all", that this will "ruin a magnificent structure" and will create a "hulking eyesore".



7. Anthony Smith, Apthorp resident, claimed the mock-up is inaccurate, that the arches will be “sealed” by glass and the project is a “desecration”.
8. Roger Hawke, 400 WEA, disagreed with Mr. Higgins generally as to whether the design was appropriate.
9. Mark Weisbaum, Apthorp resident, was focused on the courtyard, claimed the addition would “ruin the sightlines”, that ¾ of the apartments face the courtyard and that the proposed structure would “destroy the building”.
10. Joe Winogradoff ,Apthorp PH resident, claims they had only 50,000 allowable sf, that no money will go to the Condominium Association (refuted by applicant) and engaged in an extended discussion of the various points of visibility from the public way. He also submitted multiple photographs.
11. Tony Walton, Apthorp resident and architect and artist, generally criticized the entire project and declared that, unlike the existing structures, this proposal is not designed to “embrace the sky”.
12. Tucker Anderson, 400 WEA, lives in PH across the street; does not like the design though not opposed to developing the roof and would like to keep the integrity of the pergolas.
13. Kelly Carroll, LW!; they expressed concern about the bulk of the proposal and its impact on the courtyard.
14. Ronald Sunshine ,Apthorp resident (?), rejects the proposal as being against the original architectural vision.
15. Serena Steinberg, Apthorp resident (owner), is opposed because the proposal will change the “monolithic” view of the building and its character in general.
16. Barbara Hines, Apthorp resident,-This project is like “putting a pig’s tail on a fox”!
17. Didi Levitt, Apthorp owner,-Higgins acting like a “witness for the defense” and the opposition are the “plaintiffs”.
18. Mary Riley Smith, Apthorp resident; Garden Designer; concerned that the bulk will affect “blue” light in the courtyard and may affect the plantings.
19. Tamara Holt, Apthorp resident since childhood; spent her childhood playing in the courtyard and does not want to “change the look”.

The following ceded their time to other speakers and recorded here as opposed to the application:

Deborah Ascheim

Sari Miller

Judith Maisels

Ray Fox

Cathy Lloyd

Committee discussion:

Some members expressed concern about the glazing of the arches regarding its effect on light /visibility while nonetheless recognizing that visibility generally was minimal and the design reasonably appropriate; one member objected to any addition at all; another felt the proposed addition was too much of a “hodgepodge”; another felt the glazing of the arches was acceptable, that the design is distinguishable from the existing structure, as it should be, but could be greater and recommended a complete review of visibility prior to the LPC presentation; some members felt that the project will, in fact, foster preservation of the building, that the design is appropriate



and respectful of the existing historical architecture and doesn't change the character of the building. There was some dichotomy of opinion on the issue of visibility from the court yard which is not a "public way". Despite that, some members and non-committee board members felt that the significant visibility from the courtyard was deleterious to its character. All members ultimately agreed that there was not an objection to a rooftop addition per se.

A motion was made to disapprove the application with a statement as to the various concerns and a statement as well that there was not an objection to "any" addition.

The motion was approved 5-2-0-0, Non committee: 1-0-0-0.

189 Columbus Avenue d/b/a Vive La Crepe

Presented by Guy Kohn of Kohn Architecture

- Existing storefront installed without a permit
- LPC violation.
- Seeking to legalize.
- Storefront is 9' wide.
- Fully open-able aluminum and glass storefront.
- Set of 3 tall rectangular windows/one of which functions as a door and all 3 of which accordion into a wider opening in good weather.
- One of many restaurants along the block.
- Many other storefronts in the area also use anodized aluminum glass treatments.
- Also proposing a beige fabric awning that span the width of the storefront.

Committee Questions and Discussion:

- Q: how does this relate to the other storefronts on the block and in this same building.
A: uses the same materials as next door neighbor (Bombolini) except not operable/open-able windows.
A: no consistency across storefronts in building and neighbors.
- Would have been better to view collection holistically as a part of the total mix with neighboring storefronts.
- Glass storefront reads well next to sturdy rusticated pier next door to the store.
- Replaceable storefront – even if one does not find it inappropriate, it will change with next store operator.

Resolution to approve legalization

VOTE: 6-0-0-0; 1-0-0-0.

313 West 74th Street (WEA-RSD HD)

Presented by John Davies of Hall Partnership Architects, LLP with Olga Kazlovich, designer

- CP Gilbert townhouse ca 1906
- Seeking rescission of LPC violation in 2001.
- In 2001 owner hired architects Kossar & Garry Architects.
- 2001 scope of work was to redress waterproofing problems in a penthouse and elevator bulkhead.
- Historic photo shows elevator bulkhead and penthouse in place ages ago.
- LPC contends that the penthouse was built from scratch.



- In actuality, 2001 work changed the cladding and fenestration. Changed from stucco covered with asphalt to aluminum framed glass windows on wood base.
- Brick framing at the top of the penthouse was present behind stucco, repointed. Brick framing did not change.
- Same massing – same height and footprint.
- Only part that is visible is the west edge of the bulkhead. Cannot see fenestration from the street – only the bulkhead.

Resolution to approve (or in favor of legalization):

Vote: 5-0-1-0; 1-0-0-0.

250 West 77th Street – Hotel Belleclaire

Presented by Matt Markowitz of Matt Markowitz Architects.

Individual landmark – Emery Roth's first building

- Application to upgrade storefronts that have been deteriorating.
- Seeking to re-create storefront design looking to the 1940s as a model.
- Create a signage band, reinstall elements designing.
- Seeking a master storefront plan as stores become available, with a harmonious and uniform space and signage platform.
- Doors recessed, similar to 1940s.
- Looking to adopt a uniform doorframe material – metal storefront surrounds, bays.
- Lobby renovated with restored skylight – intention is that the main entrance remain on West 77th.
- Picked 1940s because original was stone with open vaults – removed when subways were built.
- Looking to create access to the lobby from the 3rd storefront bay, but the access is not intended by the applicant to be the main entrance to the hotel (the refurbished atrium/skylight space on West 77th Street is intended to remain the main entrance).
- Not a single retail space – multiple storefronts.
- West Side Market lease expires in 2017 – not determined whether it will renew.
- No original fabric of façade is left – quite a mess.
- Master plan adopted 30 years ago – LPC staff prefers this proposal.

Committee Questions and Discussion:

- Concern that the intent or effect will be to create a main entrance on Broadway.
- Since will be an entrance (not just an emergency exit).
- Concern that the front door to the building will read the same as other stores.
A: not main entrance

- There should be a vocabulary for entrances to the hotel different than commercial storefronts. Each should relate to the building but be different.
- Recesses of doorways are very shallow; not comparable to 1940s recesses.

- Concern – original entrance at the base of the southernmost arched element on the Broadway side.



-- current proposal would not place the new lobby access under either arched element on Broadway.

- Understands desire not to return to the original because the stone fabric has been removed – then should enable designer freer hand.
- Structural columns will be visible through the glass infill.
- Looks like stone floating on top of glass wall.
- Broadway designed to be a Boulevard with fewer low-rise storefronts.
- By 1940s, Broadway became an intense commercial street. Belleclaire, like Belnord, moved its main entrance off Broadway.
- Therefore appropriate that base of building should be storefronts.
- Entrance should read differently than stores.
- Disagreement – unless restoring piers and stone, anything will seem unmoored.
- But if the stone will not return, agrees that storefronts should read different.
- Retail should not be so uniform and sanitary with uniform awnings etc. – messy vitality of varied commercial vocabulary is preferred.
- How to align that with a revised master plan.
- Treating the elevation as all stores, but one is really is access. Access way includes both a pair of doors that would match other doors.
- Concern is architecturally confusing – entrances should have different vocabulary.
- Homogeneous treatment with access doesn't work.
- Owner: Hotel loading zone is on West 77th in front of main awning / entrance.

Tom: Resolution to approve:

VOTE: 2-4-0-0; 0-0-1-0 – resolution fails.

Resolution to disapprove – relative heaviness of the storefront and need for entrance and storefronts to have separate architectural vocabularies.

- Two reasons offered for disapproval – not historically appropriate – does not work because there is a master plan with which the current proposal is consistent.
- We don't have the master plan
- We are told that LPC has taken the position that this is consistent with the master plan.
- Owner: master plan hard to find because multiple addresses.
Staff authorized owner to say that they prefer this design to the master plan.
- Historically inappropriate to make a door (not the main entrance) read the same as the storefronts. Even if secondary public doorway. Different use should be articulated in a different way.
- Defining an entrance in bank of storefronts to read differently is inappropriate.
- Concern that depth of recess is much less now than historical



- Storefront framing in the historic is light; current proposal is quite heavy, especially corner mullions.
- Removing green awning is a good idea – promoting regularization is a good thing.
- Base is just historically inappropriate – to have stone above glass is the new Penn Station. To list concerns is to suggest that with a different vocabulary this might be ok.
- So really saying they need to go back to stone.

Resolution to disapprove.

VOTE: 3-2-1-0. Resolution fails.

- Example of St. Regis with rusticated columns and piers – with broad glazing in front. Can be appropriate, but still needs separate entrance vocabulary.
- Presenter: Some interior columns were shifted in past – only the columns under the north pilasters.
- Concern that an affordable hotel could not replace the stone – so not realistic to insist upon it.

Revisit resolution to disapprove. Heaviness and read of doors and need for separate vocabulary.

VOTE: 4-2-0-0; 0-0-1-0.

Present: Jay Adolf, Gabrielle Palitz, Miki Fiegel, Meisha Hunter, Lee P. Kwan, Blanche E. Lawton and Thomas Vitullo- Martin. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller. **Board Member:** Klari Neuwelt.



Transportation Committee
September 24, 2013

1. Request for a secondary street naming of the northwest corner of West 77th Street and West End Avenue in honor of Miles Davis, who lived at 312 West 77th Street.

Shirley Zafiraw requested the Street naming because there is a problem with the placing of a plaque on the 312 West 77th Street building. The building needs to fix several items in order to receive permission from the Landmark Preservation Committee. Ms. Zafiraw said it will take over two years for the needed work to be completed. Miles Davis lived in the building for over 25 years.

A brief discussion ensued. Resolution to name the northwest corner of 77th and West End Avenue, Miles Davis Way until the 312 West 77th Street building receives permission from the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install the plaque on its' façade. Committee Board members:8:0:0:0, Non-committee Board members: 4:0:0:0

2. Request for a secondary street naming of the northwest corner of 97th and Amsterdam Avenue in honor of Ariel Russo, who lived on the Upper West Side. Sandford Rubenstein, attorney for the family, stated that flyers about the street naming were posted on multiple corners in the area. He said that not only would this be a memorial for Ariel, it would also be a reminder to youth not to disregard the law.

Sofia Russo, Ariel's mother, said the residents of the Upper West Side and have been so responsive to the family and many have suggested that the street be named for Ariel. She said her family has suffered one of the worst tragedies any family could suffer. Her mom is recuperating slowly. The family has asked the local elected officials to ensure that the police do not chase cars in school crossing zones. Ms. Russo added that her mom wanted her to mention that the UWS has a unique persona. Ariel embodied the UWS. Both mother and daughter got their first pair of shoes at Harry's and Ariel loved going to Symphony Space on Saturdays. Alan Russo, Ariel's dad, thanked the community for allowing them to speak. There was a brief committee discussion. A mother in the audience said that her 7-year-old son wanted her to speak for him (he was afraid to speak) – she said that he thinks of his former schoolmate, Ariel, every day.

It was agreed that the age of Ariel should be included on the Street naming sign.

Resolution to approve the secondary naming of the northwest corner of 97th and Amsterdam Avenue: Committee board members 10:0:0:0, non-committee board members 4:0:0:0.

3. Discussion of Nelson Nygaard's transportation planning consultants, preliminary recommendations of their pedestrian safety study of West 95-97th Streets, Central Park to Riverside Park, conducted for MCB7 and funded by Council Members Melissa Mark-Viverito, Gale Brewer, and Inez Dickens. Ethel Sheffer made the presentation. Ms. Sheffer explained that there has been public outreach, numerous meetings and public field observations. The first meeting was a study session led by a graduate fellow and other graduate students from Columbia who facilitated input from the community. She said that comment from Board members and the public are welcome. The CB7 web site has a link to the survey via survey monkey. In response to questions Ms. Sheffer explained that all prior studies of these streets were included in the Nelson Nygaard study.

Ms. Sheffer then led a discussion of each of the problem cross streets (from the Nelson Nygaard Draft of preliminary recommendations, which were projected onto a large screen. She explained that every proposed action has a consequence and must be studied as a whole and that we need to create priorities. Following the presentation there were comments:

Peter Frishauff asked that we consider citi-bikes in our neighborhood.



Cathy Unsino is concerned that traffic congestion on the 97th Street corridor, Amsterdam and Columbus Avenues will disrupt ambulance and fire department thru-put.

Dawn Berdon stated that there are pedestrian safety issues on Manhattan Avenue, because there are no traffic lights and not enough stop signs.

4. Continuing discussion of potential changes for CD7's major north-south corridors (Amsterdam, Broadway, Central Park West, West End Avenue and Riverside Drive) to functionally improve the movement of people in and around our neighborhood and city while creating safer, more pleasant transportation corridors for all.

Dan Zweig explained that a Class A lane is a protected bike lane.

Speakers included:

Alexander Medwedew asked that on street parking be reduced and off street parking be increased even for delivery vehicles

Richard Fine said he likes the look of Columbus Avenue as a complete livable street. He enjoys the protected bike lane; but finds Amsterdam Avenue to be like the "wild wild west" – a free for all.

Jody Kaufman said she loves bicycling on Columbus Avenue

Gene Aronowitz is a member of CB7 in Brooklyn. He provides presentations to senior centers on pedestrian safety. He wants to see Amsterdam Avenue become a complete street.

Liz Dean is a manager of Irving Farm Coffee on 79th Street. She would like to see Amsterdam Avenue have a protected bike lane. Many of her customers and employees are bicyclists.

George Bean is a founding member of the Columbus Avenue Bid and he said he supports a bike lane on Amsterdam Avenue.

Joe Enoch is an UWS resident and bikes daily to work. He said we need to change the status quo on Amsterdam Avenue and have a protected bike lane.

Henry Rinehart, "Thank you for the bicycle coral". He said that we need to look at street redesign - he is a businessman, a parent of a young child, has aging parents. He said we have given over our streets to cars instead of pedestrians, bike riders and public transportation. He added: "we need to make our community livable for all of us. Limiting vehicular traffic protects our families, our youth, our seniors and gives us livable streets."

David Foell lives on Amsterdam Avenue and he said: "biking on Amsterdam scares me". He pointed out the need to address wild driving.

Detta Ahl said she rides up and down the UWS all the time. She wants a protected bike lane on Amsterdam and a 2-way protected bike lane on Central Park West.

Jason Olson works for Birdbath Bakery and his company will open a new bakery on Broadway and 80th Street. He spoke in support of a protected bike lane on Amsterdam Avenue.

K.O. Campbell was hit by a car three years ago and would like a protected bike lane on Amsterdam Avenue.

Brian Hobesman thanked the committee for discussing safety and added that a protected bike lane on Amsterdam Avenue will protect everyone,

Gretchen Berger said that Amsterdam Avenue is changing. She does not use her bike on Streets. She said the infrastructure is changing and there should not be large trucks.

Cathy Unsino said that years ago we biked all over the city. She said we need to change the culture of driving and there needs to be more civility of both bike riders and car drivers.

David Zelman said that cars are one of four segments – cars, trucks, taxis and buses. He said a bike lane on Amsterdam is wrong



Penny Heyman-Schwartz said that many senior citizens left because the issue is so late on the agenda. She added that bike riders are rude and don't obey the laws and the 20th Police Precinct is upset with bike riders. She wants bike riders to have insurance.

Jem rides her bike 25 miles every day. Her husband used to ride. She stated California requires that bike riders have a license. She thinks the problem is that trucks, taxis and buses don't see bike riders. She wants a protected bike lane on Amsterdam

John Simpson wants a complete street on Amsterdam Avenue that accommodates all modes of transportation – cars, trucks, buses, bikes and pedestrians. He said "bike riding is a form of transportation". He added that we need a northbound counter part for Columbus Avenue and that it is terrifying to ride a bike up Amsterdam.

Joseph Schiff was hit by a bike at Columbus Avenue and 79th. He opposes bike lanes.

Judith Schafer said she has her mind made up "a car is a vanity item, except for special needs."

Martin Rosenblatt spoke against bike lanes

Mary Beth Kelly spoke on behalf of Mel Wymore in support of a complete street on Amsterdam Avenue. Robin Greenstein commuted by bike in the 1980 to work and is also a car owner. She said protected bike lane are necessary. She rides on Broadway and finds it very unsafe. She added "Citi-bikes are coming to the UWS. Bike riding is a healthier life style".

Larry Wood, community organizer at Goddard Riverside said they have 29 programs at 22 sites. He said that they want safe streets and understand the concerns of seniors. He has been biking since 1979. He looked at statistics – it is cars and trucks that kill pedestrians and bike riders. "Complete street redesign creates safer streets.

Committee discussion: One suggestion is to ask Taxi and Limousine Commission to tell passengers to look out before they open a door. The committee needs a process to proceed. Members were concerned with safety issues. Another suggestions is to ask that bikes be licensed. While we need to address all north south streets there are major safety concerns on Amsterdam Avenue. Other issues addressed include: retiming of lights, study of safe corridors, and enforcement of laws. This discussion will continue at the October Transportation Committee meeting.



**Health & Human Services Committee Meeting Minutes
Madge Rosenberg and Barbara Van Buren, Co-Chairpersons
September 24, 2013**

RADON EMISSIONS

Elizabeth Geltman, Associate Professor at CUNY School of Public Health (elizabeth.geltman@hunter.cuny.edu) said that the Marcellus Shale from which extraction of natural gas is proposed, has very high percentages of radon. In the fracking (extraction) radon will be brought to the surface, contaminating the atmosphere. Radon has been proven to cause lung cancer.

The area in the southeast of the U.S. that provides much of our natural gas has low radon levels. Safe level of radon 2.7 pica curies per liter. In the Shale it is 125.

Government must prove that the extraction is safe. It is not up to the community to prove that it is unsafe. Ms. Geltman proposes:

- To protect the environment drillers must put up a very large bond for a permit so that problems will be taken care of immediately.
- A stiff excise tax should be enacted to cover the cost of monitoring extraction.
- All permits should have baselines.

Angela Fox from the community (amontefox@aol.com) has been working with state electeds Brad Hoyleman and Richard Gotfried on fracking control and prevention.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
REGARDING RISK TO EXPOSURE OF RADON**

WHEREAS, Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless radioactive gas which results from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water;

WHEREAS, Radon is recognized to be the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking and is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers;

WHEREAS, Radon is present in shale gas, and is potentially more concentrated in gas from Marcellus Shale wells;

WHEREAS, the main source of potential exposure to Radon in New York City is through the domestic gas supply;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection have established that exposure levels to Pico-Curies of Radon over a certain level are hazardous,

WHEREAS, new pipelines are being constructed to bring more shale gas, especially from the Marcellus Shale wells, into the domestic gas supply of New York City;



WHEREAS, lengthy transmission times of gas, primarily from the Gulf Coast, which last days, allow for a greater breakdown and diminution of the Pico-Curies of Radon in the gas, but would-be transmission times from the Marcellus Shale wells are measured in hours rather than days thus increasing the likelihood that the Pico-Curies of Radon have less time to break down and would likely appear in more concentrated quantities in the New York City gas supply;

WHEREAS, gas distributors are unwilling or unable to predict levels of Radon that will be delivered to New York City residents and currently there are no regulations requiring the monitoring of levels of Radon delivered to New York City residents, even as the percentage of gas from the Marcellus Shale wells increases; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal has recognized the need to monitor and mitigate against Radon in the gas supply of New York City residents and has introduced legislation in the State Assembly, with same-as legislation introduced in the State Senate by Senator Diane Savino;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 7 supports Assembly Member's efforts and similar efforts in the State Senate to pursue and pass legislation requiring the monitoring of the domestic gas supply for Radon and to mandate mitigation to prevent New York City residents from being exposed to Radon through the domestic gas supply;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 7 urges efforts of New York City Council to introduce legislation with the same goals in the New York City Council;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 7 urges that New York City's public officials continue to make efforts to keep the general public informed about the risks of Radon, including through public hearings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 7 urges public officials and agencies to focus their efforts by supporting the development of safer alternative energy sources for the general public, such as wind, solar and hydropower sources of energy.

Resolution approved 7 - 0 - 0 -0 (committee), 1 -0 -0 -0 public member

ST. LUKES -ROOSEVELT (CONTINUUM) MERGER WITH MT. SINAI

Brad Korn, Community Affairs Director and his counterpart from Mr. Sinai said that the merger of the hospitals would provide more rather than fewer services with "centers of excellence" in each hospital. Continuum Partners, is now the strongest ambulatory care provider in the city, yet St. Luke's-Roosevelt has a 40% vacancy rate. The merger will bring in, the Mt. Sinai medical school and more specialties including bariatric care at St. Luke's and electro cardiac care at Roosevelt. I

Nastaran Mohit from the NYS Nurses Association (nastaran.mohit@nysna.org) said that Pediatrics and Detox at St. Luke's were closed during Hurricane Sandy and never reopened, even though this was supposed to be temporary. Brad Korn responded that no other services will close within one year of the pending MOA. But he did not say whether mental health services will be restored at St. Luke's. Since



pediatrics had only three patients, it was moved down to Roosevelt. Ms. Mohit warned that certificate of needs can be circumvented, even though the NYS Department of Health must approve any service changes.

Brad Korn will keep reporting developments to the Board.

NYC HEALTH AND NUTRITION EXAMINATION SURVEY (NYHANES)

Pascal DuBois from the CUNY School of Public Health asked that we support the HANES study of a random sample of 3000 New Yorkers to find the health needs in the city. The last survey, performed in 2004, found dangerous levels of heavy metals in fish and cosmetics, a 12.5% rate of diabetes, and adverse effects of second hand smoke. These findings encouraged testing for safer levels of mercury in fish and cosmetics, a smoking ban in parks and on beaches, and the attempt to cut back on the size of sugar-sweetened soft drinks.

The survey is totally random. Participants are offered \$100.00 and referral to low-cost health care if needed. Blood, urine and saliva are tested. Results are confidential but HIV is reported to the NYS. Immigration status is not questioned.

Resolution

WHEREAS, the 2004 New York City Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NYC HANES), tested a random sample of 3000 residents for heavy metals, second hand smoke and diabetes, collecting data that resulted in positive health reforms such as a ban on smoking on beaches and in parks, the attempt to cut back on the size of sugar-sweetened drinks, and monitoring of mercury levels;

WHEREAS, testing of 3000 blood, urine and saliva samples plus mental health questionnaires in 2013, funded by private and public grants, is already endorsed by the NYC and NYS Commissioners of Public Health, more than a dozen health centers, five city council members and five Community Boards

WHEREAS, the purpose of this list of supporters works to encourage survey participation by reassuring potential participants of its value to public health in NYC

BE IT RESOLVED: We agree to allow CUNY and the Health Department to indicate publicly the support of Community Board 7 by adding our name to the list of endorsers.

Committee approved 5 - 0 - 1 - 0 public member 0-0-1-0

Present: Barbara Van Buren, Madge Rosenberg, Robert Espier, Miki Fiegel, Sheldon J. Fine, Phyllis E. Gunther and Evan Rosing. Public member: Fern Fleckman