

*Minutes,
Harlem Piers, Economic Development
& Waterfront Committee
November 7, 2006*

Citarella: No representatives for Citarella attended the November meeting. We are still awaiting further information as to the status of their deed modification. Citarella has been sent a copy of the minutes that outlined our concerns so they are aware of them. They should have been able to give us an update at this meeting. Members seem to feel that Citarella "blows off" this committee quite a bit. It was noted that Citarella has had employee problems in the past and this committee should keep a close watch on their operation and the operation of their proposed developer, Bluestone Corporation. It was stated that Roger Fortune, of EDC Real Estate needs to be present for these meetings. It was EDC who pushed Citarella to attend and report at our meetings.

Harlem Piers: Mr. Len Greco of EDC Waterfront, stated that the piers are moving along pretty much as planned and that the Marine contractor is on or ahead of schedule. Marginal Street has been put back into its original position. It was hoped that it would be fully paved by Thanksgiving but there is a special connection on the north and south end and EDC is waiting for that to be completed before paving the roadway. It would require closing the street and Fairway asked that this not be done because Thanksgiving is one of the busiest times of their year. The roadwork should be completed before Christmas.

EDC and the Parks Department are experiencing a 3.5 million financial shortfall. There is a needs request being submitted to OMB regarding the shortfall. A motion was made and passed that a letter should be sent to all our elected officials informing them of this shortfall. Dr. Gholson, Norma Ramos and Savana Mc Clain are to prepare a draft letter so that the Chair of the committee may review it and then submit it to the Chair for final decision.

The upland contractor has been put on hold. He was only required to hold his prices until the end of October but he has agreed to hold his prices for another 60 days. They are hoping to have a contract signed before the end of this year. Members once again asked that Len look into getting us pictures from the water looking toward the land. He said that he would check and let us know, Con Ed had requested that EDC put up an 8' fence so that no one would look at their facility. This request was denied.

It was requested that this area be reseeded for oysters. It was stated that there are several programs and projects that we should investigate for marine life in this area. *(Note: See NY/NJ Baykeeper Oyster Restoration Plan attached)* Various committee members knew of several studies in the Harlem Piers waterfront area. It was decided that the Committee would take advantage of the expertise of Norma Ramos, Savona Bailey-McClean and Helen Chin to find out who should be contacted, prepare a draft letter, with addresses, inviting them to the January meeting and forward the draft letter to the HP Committee Chair. The committee is requesting that NOAA, DEP and Harbor Estuary be invited to the January meeting.

It was requested that this committee monitor the emissions of any water taxi and ferry landing at the Harlem Piers. The new members requested a copy of the West Harlem Waterfront information sheet. The information sheet is attached to these minutes.