

## Minutes

Housing Land Use Committee June 20, 2006

Committee Members Present; J. Reyes-Montblanc, co-chair, Yvonne Stennett, co-chair, Michael Palma, Callie Branch, Tisha Jackson, Ernestine Welch, Patricia Lewis, Anne Whitman, Diane Wilson, Tamara Gayer, Chriata Giesecke. Excused; Christina Lee.

The meeting was called to Order by Yvonne Stennett at 6:40 P.M.

1) Presentation by Columbia University on the New Science Building at the Southeast corner of West 120<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway.

Mr. Marcello Velez of Facilities indicated that Columbia needed to create a lab space which "cuts across various science disciplines" for research at "the intersection of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Engineering". Columbia has facilities for specific disciplines, but none that supports overlapping research.

The Architect Rafael Romero (?) in association with Davis, Brody & Bond have designed a structure with two goals;

1. To transform the campus by providing a portal TO THE CAMPUS FROM THE North.
2. To meet the research requirements of the zoning variance as the need for a building set back would be eliminated.

The University filed a variance application with the Board of Standards & Appeals on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Velez indicated that they were seeking the Community Board's support.

William Paxon of Davis, Brody & Bond used visuals to provide details. The site would rise over Dodge Hall (Gym) and take in the area near the corner which is open space not really utilized. It would also be in keeping with the original Master Plan from 1915 which called for the Sciences running along the north along West 120<sup>th</sup> street., as well as providing accessibility where there now is a thirty foot wall.

The two variances deal with the set back, and the height. This would greater use corner lot coverage enlarging floor space while allowing them to reduce the heights. This would allow the base to be 65 feet x 100 feet thus having the buildings stand at approximately 270 feet as opposed to 317 – 320 feet. This allows 21 – 25 labs per floor with six professors on each floor.

There were comments from the floor, up to including materials being used to the opinion that the structure was ugly.

Mr. Velez reemphasized that this was a work in progress and they would return for updates. Mr. Montblanc said that when the Board received the application it would act on it.

Mr. Montblanc as a quorum was now present officially adopted the Agenda, and minutes.

UHAB was not present to report on 640/644 reside.

Ecumenical Development Corp. – Lydia Blakely indicated at a request by the chair that they are taking applications for the HUD 203 K buildings, notification should have come from NRP. She said that she will get the Board some of them.

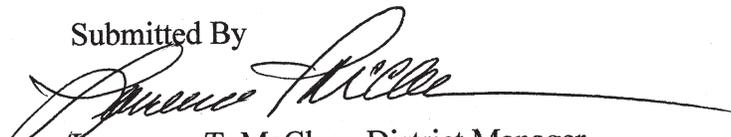
On a question from Y. Chin about City College, Mr. Montblanc said that Mr. Rogers informed him that he was leaving and had his replacement call. Mr. Montblanc said he advised them that they needed to comeback and report the Board with full portfolio of information, as required by the NYC Charter.

Ms. Addison of 3333 Broadway gave an update on her building. This included the formation of the “New Concerned Tenant’s Association”. They are working to reorganize the tenants. She indicated the management is refusing to recognize the new association. There was a discussion of the problems with vendors.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Board listing the problems they were facing so that the Board could officially hold a meeting with them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Submitted By



Lawrence T. McClean District Manager