

COMMUNITY BOARD 9

MANHATTAN

LANDMARKS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Date: Monday, March 12, 2012

Location: Broadway Housing, 583 Riverside Drive

Present: Walter South
Simon Thoresen
Kimberly Cameron

Absent: Larry English

Guests: Gretchen Borges, Morningside Association, Gabriel & Noel, Hunter College Media interns, Catherine Abate, public member, Matt Taylor & Eric Paige- Apex Corp., Brad Taylor-Vice Chair CB9, Christa Giesecke- CB9 member, Georgiette Morgan-Thomas-Chair CB9, Peggy Sheperd-West Harlem Environmental Action.

- 1. Chairman Thoresen called the meeting to order at 6:45PM**
- 2. The agenda was adopted.**
- 3. Discussion of presentation at St. John the Divine for proposed development on 113th St between Morningside and Amsterdam:**

Committee Chair will write a letter asking for clarification of the “restrictive declaration” which is a legal agreement between LPC and the Church, as well as ask the Cathedral representative to come and clarify details of development, which will probably require an Environmental Impact Statement. Further, committee would like

representatives to bring more developed architectural plans to the next meeting in April 2012.

4. Discussion on Beaumont Building at 730 Riverside Drive and 150th Street:

Committee will bring resolution to have this building landmarked.

John M. Green, tenant is known to CB9 members, will ask him who the owners are of the building.

5. Presentation by Apex Company, a full-service, minority owned construction company looking for support from Landmarks committee in finding employment and construction contracts for its workers. Community Board is working on getting a prototype for minority businesses to find work within CB 9.

6 PS 186 presentation:

Chairperson Morgan-Thomas has a letter asking for a written commitment from the development team of 2-3 members and their Executive Director to come to the April General Board meeting and present the latest plan.

7. Discussion of demolish of townhouse in the Hamilton Heights historical district- 467 140th street and Convent/Amsterdam Avenues

HPD plans to demolish a townhouse due to severe structural damage from fire. This will destabilize the whole block however, homeowners need to do a title search to locate the legal owner so that the demolition can be halted.

Chairperson proposes getting HPD to stop this practice of demolishing buildings in the historic districts by telling the Community Board beforehand. Landmarks Committee will asking for a letter from

Landmarks about other buildings being planned for demolition in historic districts of Community Board 9 Manhattan.

COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2012

- to continue working with PS 186 to get landmark status**
- create a policy to protect abandoned buildings that adversely impact other buildings**
- to get professional advocacy for 41 Convent Avenue and Old Broadway Synagogue and get them landmarked too**
- Support Morningside Historical District Committee and help further the cause of landmarking in the District**
- Continue to hold St John the Divine to a responsible development approach**

8. The meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

9. Next meeting: Monday, April 9, 2012 at Broadway Housing