

Landmarks Preservation/Parks Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 2, 2013 at Broadway Housing, 135th and Riverside Drive
Meeting called to order at 6:44pm

CB9 Members in attendance: Arnold Boatner (Chair), Joel Mentor, James Amodeo, Jonathan Thomas, Michael Wells

Public attendees: Aameena Qayyum, Columbia University

Discussions:

Riverbank State Park- Arnold Boatner gave an update on email he sent to Shane Ojar of DEP requesting an update regarding a formal written notification procedure for emergency evacuations from Riverbank State Park. Boatner reviewed efforts the past two years to get alarm equipment installed in the park that could be sounded if an emergency occurred and a formal procedure adopted that would be followed to use this type of alarm equipment. There was a lengthy question and answer session regarding Riverbank State Park and the sewage treatment facility that exist underneath it. Discussion centered on hearings conducted by State Senator Espaillat after fire occurred two years ago and his request for the notification procedure to be implemented. Discussion also included a recap of NRCR meeting in the summer attended by all government entities involved in managing sewage facility. Committee voted to send a second email to Mr. Ojar reminding him that he hadn't responded to our request for an update.

Columbia University Communities in Action (CCIA) Intern Program- Arnold Boatner gave an update on the community board application that is being submitted for an intern(s) to aid the various committees of the community board. The application covers 9 projects from 4 community board committees: Economic Development, Parks & Landmarks, Health & Environment and Arts and Culture. There was also an extensive discussion of the vacant commercial space project directory headed by Boatner on the Economic Development Committee that has spurred the application for an intern.

Columbia CBA Review- There was a discussion regarding the sections of the community benefits agreement that specifically address historic preservation and parks. Jonathan Thomas will attend the next Strategic Planning Committee on October 24th along with Arnold Boatner and outline the sections of the CBA related to preservation/landmarks and parks.

Growing Together- brief overview of the brochure produced by Columbia University that outlines progress to date regarding the CBA. Extensive discussion followed over whether or not Columbia is in compliance with the CBA.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm
Submitted by Arnold Boatner