

Landmarks Preservation/Parks Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 8, 2014 at Broadway Housing, 135th and Riverside Drive
Meeting called to attention at 6:42pm
Meeting called to order at 6:43pm

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

Public attendees: Savona Bailey-McClain, Sung Min Lee, Alan Pelifer, Amy rea, Jacqueline Perry, Kate Dwyer, Clyde Tate, Shamell Martin, Sabine Franklin-community liaison for Councilman Mark Levine, Anthony Achille, Dee Dee Mozelewski, Liz Waytkus

Adoption of Agenda
Adoption of Minutes

Discussions:

Colin L. Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership-CCNY-Anthony Achille and Dee Dee Mozeleski gave a presentation on the construction plans for the building which will be located at 280 Convent Avenue. Rapid growth in enrollment has made expansion of the campus necessary. New space was needed off campus to accommodate the increased enrollment. Building isn't landmarked but is located in a historic district. Size of the building means about 10-12 full-time staff members can be accommodated. The building needs to be handicap accessible and have emergency exits that can accommodate the number of people working and visiting space. The elevator that is going to be constructed will have to be outside of the building and has to be new construction due to the landmark district status of the building. Question from Arnold Boatner: Will building be connected in any way to Congressman Charles Rangel? Answer: Building will not house any of Rangel's papers as was previously planned. Students who attend the Rangel program on campus will be using the building at times. Boatner went on to outline the notification process for the building in relation to the building approval process and the lack of detail that was sent to CB9. Question James Amodeo: How tall will the elevator building be? Answer from Mozelewski: The elevator will be 3 to 4 feet above the original structure. Follow-up question from James Amodeo: Why was this design selected over other versions? Answer from Mozelewski: Not sure why this particular design was settled upon as the final version. Discussion followed from audience members on why the selection process was seemingly circumvented. Savona Bailey-McClain suggested that City College aid the community by giving back some advice on property value increases. It was pointed out that any deviation from landmark guidelines for historic districts can lead to other groups seeking variances from the same guidelines. Mozelewski said no definite timeline for construction to begin has been set yet. She also said that a public meeting "open house" will be scheduled after this meeting. Question: Does Colin Powell have any direct involvement in school design and construction. Answer: No direct involvement but he has been told about the acquisition and renovation of the building. Building will be used for office space and meeting space. Question: Joel Mentor: What times will building be utilized? Answer: Mozelewski: Primarily 9a-5p M-F with some evening programs. No anticipated programming on weekends.

West Harlem Art Fund: Public Art Exhibit in Riverside Park- Presentation by artist Sun Min Lee of proposed art exhibit in Riverside Park. Exhibition utilizes art displayed on fences. Committee voted unanimously for letter of support from community board to parks department be drafted and submitted to general board for a vote.

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Hamilton Palace Theater: Brief discussion regarding why they didn't come as scheduled to tonight's meeting. They have rescheduled for the February meeting due to a revision in plans presented to the LPC.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm
Submitted by Arnold Boatner