

Minutes
Harlem Piers, Waterfront
Economic Development
August 2, 2005

There was some confusion regarding this meeting and as a result we did not have a quorum.

Citarella: Ms. Nancy Palmarini, the assistant to the owner of Citarella, Mr. Joe Guerra, informed the committee that Mr. Guerra could not present because he was opening a new store outside of the City. Ms. Palmarini stated that Citarella hired legal and planning consultants to look at the property on 126th Street and expected to have a report at the September Harlem Piers meeting. They are also speaking with developers from inside and outside of the Harlem Community regarding the development of this property.

They are still hiring for the 125th Street Citarella and have been working with SOBRO and UMEZ in filling positions. The Chair of the Committee asked for the disposition of applications from members of this community, some of which she had the names of. Ms. Palmarini requested that she forward these names to her and would have an update at our September meeting. Ms. Palmarini stated that Mr. Guerra would not be able to attend the September meeting because it will be held the day after Labor Day but someone from Citarella will be present. He will definitely attend the October Meeting.

Harlem Piers: Alyssa Cobb of EDC stated that the new completion date for the Harlem Piers is 2007. It was stated that the Board and the Community is very disappointed with this extended date and would appreciate every effort being made to complete this long overdue project in 2006. Ms. Cobb stated that if the permit is received from the Army Corp of Engineers some upland work could begin this fall. However, this would also be dependent on re-negotiations with the Contractors since the project is well pass agreed upon contract terms and cost.

125th Street Westside River to River Streetscape: Sailaja Kurella of EDC, and Signe Nielsen and Vincent Di Fusco of MNCA Consultants informed the committee that they were not making a report at this time. What they were interested in was obtaining some Board feedback on existing conditions and help in identifying the strengths, weaknesses, concerns and opportunities in the Westside River to River area. This was a very informative session where various planning concerns were shared and discussed. It was generally felt by all that this was a productive effort and an important first step for this project.

Next meeting is September 6, 2005.

Respectfully submitted by:
Maritta Dunn, Committee Chair