

Co-Chairs:

George Goodwill
Michael J. Palma

Committee Members:

John Dooley-on leave
Maritta Dunn
Carolyn Hammond
Sylvia Robinson
Walter South

Community Members:

Gloria Allen
3150 Broadway

Tom Demott
West Harlem Coalition

Joan S. Levine
Morningside Heights/West Harlem
Sanitation Coalition Morningside Gardens
Community Relations

Sara Martin
Grant Resident Association

Martha Levy
3150 Broadway

Diane Turner
3150 Broadway

**Minutes of the
The Harlem Piers and Waterfront Committee
6:30 PM, Wednesday, March 5, 2003**

Attendance:

Committee Members: Maritta Dunn - Excused
Carolyn Hammond - Present
Sylvia Robinson - Present
Walter South - Excused
Michael Palma - Present
George Goodwill - Present

AGENDA: Motion: To adopt Agenda. Seconded and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion: To approve Minutes from our last Meeting, with all the necessary corrections and emendations as briefly noted and discussed. Seconded and passed unanimously.

CO-CHAIRS OPENING COMMENTS:

Goodwill reported on a meeting with Congressman Rangel with regard to the Harlem Piers area, with some members of EDC present and architects. Through his representative, Mr. Cappel, Rangel let everyone at the meeting know that he is aware of CB9 efforts in planning the development of the Harlem Piers area with the community and other local organizations,

Rangel expressed the opinion that the plan for the piers, as it has developed thus far, is "too small." Rangel wants to bring more funds to the project, having already allocated 12 million dollars, and accordingly wants the project to represent a major economic development to the area and not just a park that will help the entire Harlem community. Rangel stated that the community must think a lot bigger in terms of economic development. He is giving all concerned with the development of the Harlem waterfront area two years to come together on a plan. Rangel stated that he wants to see "major" economic development in that area that will benefit the entire Harlem community and not just community district 9.

Rangel charged Mr. Goodwill to arrange a community meeting to discuss development of the waterfront area, and that it be all inclusive of the different interests of the community, from citizen to merchants. The meeting should be on a Monday, as this is the day Congressman Rangel is in New York City. If the community/merchants/CB9/EDC could not get together on a comprehensive plan, Congressman Rangel will use eminent domain to obtain the land for development.

Sara Martin expressed that Congressman Rangel seems to be dictatorial in his demands for the area, considering his is jumping aboard on the project in this late date. Tom Demott stated that Rangel should not belittle the community efforts in years and years of planning thus far, and that his very recent interest should not put a damper on the current project as it stands. Mr. Demott said that as a community board we should be very skeptical and very wary and that we should be on our heads and toes about Rangel's belated and recent chiming in on the Harlem waterfront development. Rangel should be specific on what he says the community wants for the area. Tom stated that we want what we currently have to go forward and that if Rangel has any further ideas, that fine and we will work with him on those ideas, but let's get what we have done. Savana Bailey stated that we should be proactive in letting Rangel know what we want and how we want the area to be developed.

Cecil Corbin-Marks stated that the community is not starting from scratch on this issue and that everyone should revisit the charette (spelling?) and accordingly we are not an unprepared community to be told from upon high how we should plan development. Zoning is one way we can control what happens in the area and that the community needs to get involved in this process. WEACT is here to help in the process of getting the community involved the way Rangel wants it to get involved. However, Rangel should know that the community is operating from a different position of strengthen on these development related issues, and the community will not take anyone rolling over the community and its long invested efforts.

OLD BUSINESS:

Continuation of the Committee's work session with EDC and W Architects: final draft for submission to OMB

Barbara Wilkes from W Architects made the "wrap-up" presentation, incorporating as much of the community's input on what the waterfront area should look like. What's new?

- The view corridors have thinned out trees for better viewing of the waterfront.
- The plan does have steps, but none on the pathways to the ferry. Where there are steps there are adjacent ramps.
- The "cove" area, which is down around waterfront level will not have a railing but a wide planting edge to keep people back at a safe distance from the water's edge.
- Dock poles are added to give people a sense of the tides, marking the rise of water and flood lines.
- Added a water-feature at surface level for children to play in.
- An amphitheatre was better defined for barges to come in for live performances.
- Woodland area is better defined for a better habitat for animals and birds, a goodly mix of trees.
- Seating more natural, large mogs and sculpture made into seats.
- Bike trail redefined with appropriate signage for them to slow down

One change Barbara wants to suggest is the placement of a tall light-house type structure 10 to 12 feet in diameter and 65 feet tall, as a way to denote the area from afar, as an attractive beacon. Cecil remarked that maybe the beacon could be used to denote the diverse community.

Meetings have started with NYC Dept of Parks to extend the area for development. There is concern how far to go over with riprap, and how to minimize areas of conflict. The kayak area placement is moved further down but cannot be near the PAL building.

Peggy Shepard asked who W Architect was working with for the historical signage. Barbara said they would be working with a graphic consultant called 212 Associates (pronounced Two-Twelve). History of the waterfront is what will be the subject matter of the signage.

Cecil Corbin Marks reiterated the community's desire to have Marginal Street closed to traffic, and perhaps provide a service road just before Fairway for the supermarket.

NEW BUSINESS:

Margarital Lopez

Councilperson Margarita Lopez (who is also the NYC Council Committee Chair for Peoples with Disability) addressed the Committee with regard to a recent legislation (local law) to make sure that the piers and ferry boats are wheel-chair accessible. The local law will reinforce federal standards for wheel chair accessibility and force compliance to any agency or entity using the piers to make it so. Ms. Lopez asked CB9 support in making sure that our plans for the piers is accessible to all peoples with disability.

Savana Bailey McClain

Savana Bailey McClain announced that an application was made by her community group (West Harlem Arts Fund) and a grant made by the Borough President's office to plan waterfront development north of Riverbank State Park.

FAIRWAY OWNER, Tom Hoover

Stated his problem with parking within the scope of the planned development and wanted CB9 help in relocating leaseholders in a building Fairway plans to knock down for parking. Mr. Hoover also wanted assistance in redesigning the sidewalk by making it a little narrower to increase the parking area by an additional 25 spots.

Mr. Hoover was asked to submit plans and show EDC, the Architects and CB9 what FAIRWAY wants to do in order to better assess changes to the sidewalk. Those present at this meeting stated very clearly to EDC, the community's desire to work with FAIRWAY to accommodate their needs as much as possible within the design of EDC's plan.

Tom Hoover said he would submit plans from his architect.

AJOUNTMENT: 8:30 PM

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9
HARLEM PIERS & WATERFRONT COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE SHEET

DATE: March 5, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

George Goodwill, Co-Chair George Goodwill

Michael Palma, Co-Chair Michael Palma

~~Ash Wednesday~~
Carolyn Hammond Carolyn Hammond
~~service~~
~~running late~~

Sylvia Robinson Robinson

Walter South Excused

Maritta Dunn Excused

BOARD MEMBERS:

Savona Bailey McClain

PUBLIC MEMBERS:

Gloria Allen _____

Tom DeMott Tom DeMott

Joan Levine _____

Martha Levy _____

Diane Turner _____

Sarah Martin _____

Harlem Piers & Waterfront Committee Meeting

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Fredric Weisler Urban Kayak

Betty Chen

Sera Baldwin } W Architecture

Barbara Wilks

Harold Glickberg - FARWAY

Cecil Corbin-Mark - WE ACT, Inc.

LEN ARECO - EDC.

Cheryl Kent CB # 9

Alyssa Cobb EDC

Sarah Martin - Grant/W.H.S.C.

JEANNETTE RUSCH EDC

Gene & Sidney Eisenman Councilmember Margari Tabarez rep. (Name)

PAMELA BATES - 504 NORTH STAR DR. CLWA - CB 9