

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2020 at 6:30pm

Mark N. Diller, Chairperson

Mark Diller called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Approval of minutes from previous full board meeting

The minutes were approved with changes to the list of present Board members. The vote was taken by a show of hands: 34-0-0-0.

Report from NYPD

Captain Matthew Byrnes of the 24th Precinct presented the CompStat report for the 28 day period. Burglaries increased by 127.3%. An individual who committed four of the 25 burglaries committed in the past 28 day period was arrested. Three people who were stealing packages from an apartment building were also caught.

Mark Diller shared a constituent concern that youths are congregating and smoking marijuana on the doorstep of someone's home. Captain Byrnes responded that constituents should call 911 when such incidents occur.

Captain Neil Zuber of the 20th Precinct stated that the neighborhood has been doing well but with a few spikes, including in Grand Larceny Auto, which has seen spikes around the city. Causes for this include cars being left unattended and running on the street as well as cars being stolen from parking lots, garages, and in street parking. Motorcycles are also frequent targets. Some tech-savvy criminals can use technologies to take advantage of cars with key fobs. The 20th Precinct's recommendation is to return to using tools such as a steering wheel club to deter and prevent high tech theft. Package thefts are also increasing, as they always do at this time of year. Captain Zuber called on people to tell their neighbors and buildings to keep lobby doors locked, not buzz people in who don't belong in the building and move packages out of lobbies onto 2nd or 3rd floors.

Roberta Semer shared that she has been getting increased spam calls. Captain Zuber said he would reach out to Community Affairs to see if there's any new information to distribute.

Captain Zuber shared that the increase in outdoor dining has increased unattended property and its theft.

Rich Robbins asked Captain Zuber and Byrnes for their understanding of the state of road safety and crashes and collisions. Captain Byrnes responded that the 24th Precinct is overall down in crashes and collisions, but are currently at similar levels as they were last year due to road use increases.

Business Session

Business & Consumer Issues Committee

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

1. New application to the SLA for two –year liquor licenses:

- 49 West 64th Street (Columbus Avenue) 49 West 64th Street LLC, d/b/a To be Determined.
- 148 West 67th Street (Amsterdam Avenue) 148 West 67th Street LLC, d/b/a To be Determined.
- 240 Columbus Avenue (West 71 st Street) Felice 240 LLC, d/b/a Felice.

The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 42-0-0-0.

Preservation Committee

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

2. 2211 Broadway, The Apthorp (West 78th– 79th Streets.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the removal of deteriorated existing sidewalk lights on the northeast corner of the building.

The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 42-0-0-0.

3. 8 West 75th Street (Central Park West-Columbus Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to recreate the stoop in a historically accurate manner.

Madge Rosenberg shared that she voted against this at the committee. She expressed that she wanted the building to do the restoration correctly, and thought the proposal to not restore the vault lights was short-sighted.

Page Cowley asked for an explanation as to why the vault lights were not considered integral to the design of the Apthorp in the minutes.

Mark Diller replied that he had written the minutes and had intended to convey that these vault lights aren't a defining characteristic in the Upper West Side as they might be in SoHo or Tribeca. They're also hidden behind a four and a half foot tall wall of granite.

Page Cowley stated that while the Apthorp is not like a commercial building in SoHo, it serves a similar function. The purpose of the vault lights was to function as a skylight for the basement below during the day, with the added glow of light that came at night. It's a lovely effect on the building and deters people from jumping behind the wall. She agrees with Madge and doesn't think it is good to pick and choose what is worth restoring an individual Landmark.

Jay Adolf agreed with Page and Madge and also dissented to the proposal. The benefit of the vault lights is not only physical but also historical. Other than the expense, the presenters of the Apthorp did not have a good reason not to do it.

Klari Neuwelt agreed with Madge, Page, and Jay, and added that we should have a higher standard for individually landmarked buildings.

Richard Asche asked if there was any explanation to the committee as to why the building felt it was impractical or unnecessary to restore the vault lights.

K Karpen replied that the presenters at the committee had shared that the vault lights would not be able to be restored (they would have to be replaced) and that they are located above a boiler room, which makes replacement more difficult.

Michele Parker thought that the applicant was sensitive not to mention the cost in the proposal. She doesn't think it makes a difference whether the vault lights are there or not because nobody can see them. This is a place where there is dangerous leakage into the boiler room.

Barbara Adler shared that she loves the vault lights and remembers seeing more in the neighborhood as a kid. She added that they are historic and it would be a shame to lose them.

Page Cowley clarified that it is the responsibility of the owner to maintain the property as an individual landmark. She doesn't think that it is our generation that should dictate the arbitrary removal of things like this. The LPC does not entertain discussion of cost.

Rich Robbins commented that if we are truly not considering cost, it would make sense to support the preservation. And given that we *are* supposed to not consider cost, he will be voting against.

The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 14-27-3-0. The resolution failed.

Klari Neuwelt motioned for the resolution to be re-written as an approval of the bench proposal and disapproval of the removal of the vault lights.

Christian Cordova explained the online voting form procedure.

A vote was taken on Klari Neuwelt's resolution: 30-12-5-0. The resolution carried.

4. **328 West 108th Street** (Riverside Drive-West End Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for approval of painting of the front facade brickwork.

Klari Neuwelt asked if the building received a violation. Michele Parker replied that they have not to the committee's knowledge. Klari noted that the resolution reads like an expected paint job and proposed a friendly amendment to alter it that was accepted by the chairs.

Page Cowley stated that this was a huge mistake. She inquired what type of stone the building was made of, which Mark Diller answered was common brick. Page noted that using this type of paint is like putting a plastic bag over one's head: it creates a biochasm between the paint and the brick, preventing moisture from moving between the brick and mortar. This can accelerate the deterioration of the brick. There are easy methods to remove it without harming the facade of the building. Leaving the paint on will cause it to peel and create mold in the future.

Rich Robbins noted that LPC's guidelines specifically state that they "do not use paints described as waterproof as they may trap water inside materials and may accelerate deterioration."

Ira Mitchneck seconded Page's comments.

Doug Kleiman agreed with Page and recalled the discussion at the committee of the thickness of the paint. He shared that he will either be voting against or in abstention on this proposal.

Jay Adolf noted that he couldn't say for sure whether the committee had voted on misinformation. What has been heard tonight is inconsistent with what formed the basis of the committee's opinion.

Linda Alexander replied that the paint job looks good and that though the building will have to deal with it down the road, and now is not the right time to make them repaint it.

Ken Coughlin seconded Linda's comments.

Jeanette Rausch noted that this sounds like a technical concern that isn't fair to place responsibility on the owner. She also doesn't think it's right for the Community Board to decide on this highly technical issue and would ask for a clarified certification from the developer.

Richard Asche noted that there are two issues: aesthetic and technical. He suggested a friendly amendment to approve the resolution on an aesthetic front and defer to LPC on the technical component. The friendly amendment was accepted.

Steven Brown noted his concern that the line between personal opinion and what is within the jurisdiction of the committee gets crossed quite often.

Page Cowley stated that the paint is explicitly against Landmarks rules and that this should never have happened and shouldn't be approved.

Richard Asche suggested a second friendly amendment to note the Community Board's understanding that this paint is not allowed by LPC for this use. The friendly amendment was accepted.

The vote to approve the amended resolution was taken by a show of hands: 36-5-4-0. The resolution carried.

Directed by the City Charter mandate that Community Boards review matters prior to consideration by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Preservation Committee reviews the "appropriateness" of proposed changes to individually designated landmarks as well as to properties listed within the Upper West Side's Historic Districts.

Parks & Environment Committee

Klari Neuwelt, Chairperson

Resolution Re:

5. Reconstruction of stairs at 107th Street in Riverside Park.

Jeanette Rausch noted that the drainage is really bad at a location further North, and asked if something can be done about it.

Klari Neuwelt replied that the Parks Department has money coming along for drainage and redoing pathways, particularly in the area Jeanette is referring to.

The vote was taken by a show of hands: 42-0-0-0. The resolution carried.

Youth, Education and Libraries Committee

Steven Brown and Blanche Lawton, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

6. Recent closing of NYC public schools on 11/18/20 due to citywide Covid-19 test positivity rate exceeding 3%.

Christian Cordova noted that some of the content of the resolution is obsolete given the recent DOE announcements, but that there are still important elements that should be passed.

Steven Brown replied that friendly amendments have been accepted, making the resolution relevant given the recent changes.

Ethel Sheffer stated that she does not think it is necessary for Community Boards to be writing resolutions with footnotes. As wonderful as they are, they do not help with communication, which is the Board's role. She echoes Christian's comments and thinks it is important to acknowledge what has occurred. She thinks it should be acknowledged that there has been considerable coordination among and between the unions and the city.

Steven Brown replied that there is a difference between the criteria and what people are talking about, and currently the criterion is the 3% across the 7-day rolling average.

Christian Cordova clarified that the city has abandoned the 3% criteria but that no new system has been implemented.

Shelly Fine highlighted that Principals have not been consulted on decisions and that the core issue is the use of a single criterion.

Catherine DeLazzerio thanked everyone for their comments. She noted that the use of footnotes and links to sources is done to be responsible and address the concern that Board members are not public health experts. She also stated that private schools are taking a more nuanced approach to reopen and that information from public health experts as well as the rights of students and families need to be taken into consideration.

Bev Donohue read her friendly amendment, which added an understanding of the current status of schools after the writing of the resolution.

Elizabeth Caputo asked whether the Board would consider a friendly amendment that shows a sign of support for the parents that have lobbied the Mayor and Governor to reopen schools. Steven Brown accepted the amendment.

Ira Mitchneck spoke to his experience as a parent of children in remote learning and blended learning, neither of which are functioning. He also explained the current DOE policy regarding the reopening of elementary schools and the future reopening of other schools.

Ken Coughlin stated that he thinks it's clear that the city has moved beyond the 3% and that we should give the decision-makers credit. Elementary school students are at a lesser risk of transmission and a greater risk of educational damage. In terms of the process, it is good to have as many stakeholders as possible, but decisions also need to be made fast. He

is inclined to vote no or abstain.

Rich Robbins added that the teacher's union has massive control of the situation and that de Blasio's hands are tied. Lack of transparency is our major concern, and we should think of what we are hoping to get out of this resolution.

Steven Brown replied in agreement that the union has a large role in this but noted that de Blasio did not plan the process well. We know that no Principals or Superintendents have been involved in the process and that there has been a no-confidence vote against de Blasio by the Principals. He also clarified that the 3% criterion is still in place until a new rule is decided on.

Catherine DeLazzero responded to Ken and Rich and acknowledged that there has been debate over Mayoral control of schools, but that this resolution does not address that, instead of addressing the inclusion and consultation of Principals and others in decision making.

The vote on the amended resolution was taken by a show of hands: 33-1-10-1. The resolution carried.

Health & Human Services Committee

Catherine DeLazzero and Sheldon Fine, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

7. Condemnation of hate crimes and support for education and training.

Linda Alexander commended Catherine and Shelly and noted that in the future the resolution can be sent by email beforehand for Board members to read and does not need to be presented at the Full Board.

Catherine DeLazzero and Sheldon Fine

William Ortiz noticed that lower-income and homeless people were not included within the context of hate crimes in the resolution, and wondered if there's a way we can offer protection to these people.

Catherine DeLazzero replied that these groups are not included within the protected classes but that we can include something to the effect of "anyone that is vulnerable because of their position." This will be typed up and included as a friendly amendment.

Ken Coughlin noted that the WHEREAS clauses only address hate crimes, but the RESOLVED clauses include diversity, equity, and inclusion training. He wonders whether both of these belong in the same resolution.

Shelly Fine replied that these issues multiply upward and that they are all connected, just at different levels.

Catherine DeLazzero agreed and clarified that the FBI defines hate crimes as being motivated by these biases, which the trainings are designed to address.

The vote on the amended resolution was taken by a show of hands: 38-2-2-0. The resolution carried.

New Business

Mark Diller presented Amy Hyman's request for a 3-month leave of absence due to medical/personal reasons.

The vote to approve the leave of absence was taken by a show of hands: 34-0-0-0.

Chair's Report

Mark N. Diller

Mark Diller congratulated Ethel Sheffer for her presentation on the Zoning, Land Use, and History of Riverside. The slides and recording can be found on the CB7 website. Mark also congratulated Madelyn Innocent for her work as a poll worker.

Mark reminded Committee chairs that everything posted on the website must go through DoIT, meaning that committees need to submit their materials further in advance.

Mark shared that he has been having health issues since last summer that have interfered with his ability to work. These are not life-threatening, but caregivers are advising him to step down to prevent them from becoming more serious. He is committed to a smooth transition and interprets the bylaws as having a good deal of flexibility. He intends to resign at the January Full Board meeting and efficiently transition to the new Chair. The floor will be opened at the December Steering Committee to receive nominations for chair with a vote at the January Full Board meeting. Mark acknowledged Josh Cohen and Susan Schwartz's work on the Elections Committee.

Catherine DeLazero thanked Mark for his devotion, integrity, kind heart, and commitment on the Board and thanked him in advance for everything he'll give to the transition process. Susan seconded that.

Community Session

We welcome all members of our community (residents, businesses, CBOs) who would like to speak on issues of interest to them. Members of the community are granted one minute for remarks, and we will also accept a written copy for the record.

Manhattan Borough President's Report

Gale Brewer addressed the issue with helicopter complaints and shared that she will be putting together a discussion for NYC and New Jersey residents in December and January respectively. She sent a letter to the Mayor with other elected officials regarding the cut of childcare slots. She added that she is continuing to address the lack of devices for students and is working to gain access to a portion of her budget to fund these devices. She provided an update on the state of the Lucerne and noted that it will be hard for the Upper West Side to lose them if they move downtown. In terms of Riverside South and affordability, she stated that a high number of residences have expired from 421a. Community Board applications are due February 1st. On December 8th there will be a session on MBPO capital funding for schools and on December 10th for nonprofits, cultural institutions, and city agencies.

Reports by Elected Officials

Councilmember Mark Levine, District 7

Mark Levine noted that there are 1,200 Covid-19 cases in NYC hospitals tonight, and we haven't even seen the results of the Thanksgiving surge yet. The Health Department is advising the elderly and those with health conditions to stay inside. We need to do much more to flatten the curve. He noted that NYC will receive a significant number of vaccines for health care workers soon and that there are real questions of equity that need to be addressed in terms of vaccine distribution and other Covid-19 issues.

Jeanette Rausch asked about City Council legislation regarding visitation at hospitals and whether it was moving forward. Mark Levine replied that the matter is entirely within the purview of the Governor.

Seema Reddy asked if vaccines will be mandatory (not determined yet) and whether teachers are considered essential workers. Mark Levine replied that whether or not vaccines will be mandated has not been determined yet, but that most employers will likely require it. Teachers are included as essential workers.

Andrew Rigie referenced the state's not including restaurant workers in Phase 2 on their graphic and noted that it is unclear whether they will be included in Phase 2 or Phase 4. Mark Levine replied that he will bring this up in the hearing on Friday.

State Senator Brad Hoylman, District 27

Brad Hoylman thanked Mark for all of his work and the wonderful job he's done as a community leader. He noted that today is World AIDS day, and we have to think of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and how it has led us to this moment in the Covid-19 pandemic. He announced a package of bills making PrEP universally accessible to New Yorkers. He has also introduced legislation to end storage foreclosure options during the pandemic. He had two bills signed into law by Governor Cuomo: one allowing constituents to quit their gym memberships online and one on strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP). He also participated in a Covid-19 vaccine trial with NYU and is hopeful that the results over the past couple of weeks will hold, particularly with a new federal administration.

Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives (One-minute remarks)

Jacques Brunvil, Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance

Jacques Brunvil encouraged folks to check out the updated hotline and resources page at www.manhattanda.org/victim-resources/. You can also subscribe to the newsletter and follow on Twitter to stay up to date with what the office is doing. The office provides a series of presentations on hate crimes, domestic violence, and other topics. They are looking to increase engagement and provide more presentations.

Bryce Peyre, Assemblymember Dick Gottfried, District 75

Bryce Peyre thanked Mark for his distinguished service to the community. Gottfried expressed concern and joined the city in supporting the effort to increase the blood donation supply from the current 3 day supply to the usual 7 day supply. Encourages people to go online nybc.org/donate. Wished happy holidays

Liam Galligan, Assemblymember Daniel O'Donnell, District 69

Liam Galligan thanked Mark for his work. He shared that they are hosting a rat academy tomorrow at 1 pm. On November 20th, Trans Day of Remembrance, O'Donnell passed legislation to make all single-stall bathrooms in New York gender-neutral, and it is currently on Governor Cuomo's desk. He wished everyone happy holidays.

Erica Overton, Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal, District 67

Erica Overton shared that they hosted a rat academy last week following complaints of rat activity in Riverside Park, which they are following up on. The Assemblymember has heard people's thoughts on the West End open streets, which are not safe because of a lack of a community partner. The Assemblymember convened a meeting with the interested community group, the DOT, and the NYPD to find a solution. The Assemblymember also sent a letter to the New York State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene about adding more Covid-19 testing sites on the Upper West Side. This will prevent long lines like pre-thanksgiving.

Shana Harmongoff, State Senator Brian Benjamin, District 30

Shana Harmongoff thanked Mark for his leadership and kindness. Today is World AIDS day and Senator Benjamin co-sponsored a bill providing medicare payment for comprehensive HIV special needs plans. In November, Senator Benjamin partnered with Whole Foods and gave out turkeys and groceries throughout the district. The office is giving business empire awards. If you know a business that has done outstanding work during the pandemic, please reach out to her.

Michael Stinson, Comptroller Scott Stringer

Michael Stinson thanked Mark for the work he's done as chair. The Comptroller took court action two weeks ago to force the city to comply with the subpoena issued pursuant to his investigation of the city's preparedness for and response to the Covid-19. To understand how New Yorkers' relationships to work and family have changed due to the pandemic and to identify policy recommendations, the Comptroller's office in partnership with A Better Balance is conducting a survey on workplace flexibility: comptroller.nyc.gov/2020-work-and-family-survey.

Julien DellaPorta, Councilmember Helen Rosenthal, District 6

Julien DellaPorta thanked Mark. He noted that tomorrow night they are hosting a housing clinic at which constituents can speak to lawyers and ask questions. More information in the newsletter and on the website.

Public Comments

Nicole Paynter shared an art project happening on Columbus Avenue called Art on the Ave. Some vacant storefronts have been filled with art from local artists with the theme of the art of healing. The artwork can be found between 70th and 77th street, with a map and more information at www.artontheavenyc.com.

Haleigh Tutrow, a CUNY Public Health student, shared her advocacy work on City Council resolution 1320-2020 to expand the number of retailers permitted in the SNAP online purchasing program.

Anaika Hyppolite, a classmate of Haleigh's, added the importance of teaching students nutrition education, especially during the pandemic. She urged the Community Board to support City Council legislation to require schools to report to the DOE what they're teaching on nutrition education and its frequency to prevent children from developing obesity or diabetes.

Robert Espier asked if this is the same bill (1326-2019) that Mark Levine presented at a past HHS committee. Anaika replied that this is a different bill (Intro 1283-2018).

Zach Campbell, the community liaison from the AMNH, sent his best wishes to Mark and provided the monthly update on the Gilder Center. The excavation and foundation phase work is substantially complete and the superstructure is underway. Work in December will include rebar and formwork installation as well as structural steel and concrete pouring for walls and columns in the cellar and moving up to the first floor. Approximately 20-30 trucks per day and around 100 workers on site per day in November.

SPECIAL FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2020 at 6:30pm

Mark N. Diller, Chairperson

Present: Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Rosa Arenas, Richard Asche, Steven Brown, Courtney Clark Metakis, Josh Cohen, Christian Cordova, Ken Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzero, Mark Diller, Beverly Donohue, Robert Espier, Shelly Fine, Paul Fischer, Julian Giordano, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, K Karpen, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, Blanche Lawton, Sara Lind, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Rich Robbins, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Meg Schmitt, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Howard Yaruss

Mark Diller called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the special meeting is to nominate candidates for Chair of the Community Board, to be voted on during the January 5 Full Board Meeting. First, he provided two updates:

1. A Community briefing on the vaccine hosted by Manhattan Borough President Gayle Brewer will be held Monday, December 21 at 6:30. The briefing can be accessed at Neighbors.Columbia.edu/events
2. A violent altercation between two residents of the Lucerne Hotel took place on Saturday evening. The aggressor was arrested and will not return to the hotel. The victim will be moving on to live independently and also will not continue to live at the hotel. Officials are investigating the incident.

The meeting was then turned over to Josh Cohen, head of the Election Committee. He reported that the Committee met and proposed a process for the election. He opened the floor for nominations:

Catherine DeLazzaro nominated Richard Asche. Multiple members seconded the nomination.

Page Cowley nominated Roberta Semer, followed by seconds.

Barbara Adler nominated Steven Brown, followed by seconds.

Josh Cohen ascertained that there were no additional nominations and thanked members for attending the special meeting. He made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:54.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2020

Mark N. Diller, Chairperson

Steering Committee Members Present: Mark Diller, Andrew Rigie, Doug Kleiman, Julian Giordano, Beverly Donohue, Christian Cordova, Linda Alexander, Sheldon Fine, Catherine DeLazzaro, Louisa Craddack, Melissa Rosenberg, Richard Asche, Klari Neuwelt, K Karpen, Andrew Albert, Howard Yaruss, Blanche Lawton, Steven Brown, Rebecca Semer

Mark Diller called the meeting to order immediately following the Special Full Board Meeting.

He then announced the first item on the agenda:

Presentation and consideration of a resolution concerning the concept of a permanent exhibit in Central Park relating to the “Exonerated Five” (formerly known as the “Central Park Five”).

Mark then introduced Karen Horen, the Parks Committee Chair for Community Board 10. She then presented a Proposal to commemorate the Exonerated 5 by creating a commemoration site in Central Park by April 2022, the 20th anniversary of the legal exoneration of the five Harlem residents originally convicted in the case of the Central Park Jogger. The goal of the commemorative site is consciousness raising and commemorating, to spur advocacy and justice reform. The proposal calls for a location in the North East section of Central Park. The plaza at 110th and Fifth Avenue would be ideal, close to where the five young boys, all Harlem residents, entered the park, which they viewed as their backyard. The pattern of injustice they experienced is not unique, involving racial profiling, stereotyping in the media and bias in the criminal justice system. There was a huge toll on their families. Eventually, in 2003, the guilty party made a confession that was supported by DNA. The story of the Exonerated Five has been retold on TV and in print. In 2012, *The Central Park 5* was released and won awards. In 2019, the miniseries *When They See Us* was released. Oprah Winfrey then presented *When They See Us Now*, including interviews with the Exonerated men, in 2019.

Why have the commemorative site in the park? It is the most natural location and can build a path to healing. African Americans constitute 36% of the incarcerated but only 13% of the population nation-wide. Improvements in the north end of Central Park began in 1989. Programming around the site could provide a forum for discussion on criminal justice reform which is part of a larger system that produces daily injustices. The site would address four audiences: local residents, 42 million visitors a year who visit the park, the media, and young people. There is a need to embrace the presumption of innocence and teach youth to be engaged in social change.

The site is proposed as permanent and physical. There will be an inclusive art selection process. The hope is to include elements like the family suffering and the Trump full-page ads attacking the five as part of the experience, primarily to educate and honor resiliency.. Programming could link the site to the Seneca Village (destroyed in 1857), the women’s suffrage statue and the J. Marion Sims statue replacement (2018) tied to medical apartheid (he practiced on black women in the south without anesthetic). There could be tie-ins to the Rikers public memory project and NY Historical Society exhibits. The proposal for the Exonerated Five is supported by the Innocence Project, the NY Theological Seminary, the Manhattan Borough President and many other organizations.

Three public panel discussions on the topic have been hosted by Community Board 10. In October 2019, a full Board meeting addressed the matter. In March 2020, CB10 formed a subcommittee to further the project. The subcommittee established site selection criteria--110th and Fifth is the ideal site fitting all criteria. CB10 has been meeting with surrounding Community Boards to request support.

Mark Diller thanked Karen for the presentation and asked her to confirm which Community Boards have expressed support. She responded that CB 11, CB4, CB9, CB2 had provided letters of support, that she had just presented to CB8, and that she was planning to present to CB5, CB12, CB1, and CB3.

Cicely Harris, Chair of CB10, then thanked Karen and CB7 for helping to expand support to all of Manhattan. Karen noted that they were speaking to the Parks Department and Central Park Conservancy regarding potential sites.

Robert Espier noted that entrance plazas are magnets while the interior of Central Park can be overwhelming. Fifth Avenue and 110th Street is where marches turn. That site can concentrate attention and would be a beautiful venue, a portal. When you concentrate statues in one place the impact can be effective like sites to the gods in Italy. He voiced his support for 110th St and Fifth Avenue.

Ken Coughlin thanked Karen and Cicely for bringing the proposal. He didn't see the Museum of the City of NY on the list of sponsors and asked if they had been approached. He also asked whether CB7 would be endorsing specific reforms by endorsing the project. Karen responded that she has reached out to the Museum of the City of NY and the Historical Society. The exhibit would be to provoke thought and would not be tied to specific legislation.

Klari Neuwelt expressed concern that Central Park would be turned into a sponsor of advocacy campaigns. She asked what the project was thinking of physically, like panels. Karen responded that the agenda was humane, not political and that she was seeking a very inclusive process in selecting the design. Klari asked whether the design, when selected, would come before the surrounding Community Boards for a vote. Karen responded that they could make arrangements to visit the Community Boards again.

Jeanette Rausch apologized that when she was 24 she was not out demonstrating in support of the Exonerated Five.

Doug Kleiman expressed hope that CB7 will be able to participate in the design. He cited *Imagine* honoring John Lennon in the Park as a model -- nature, permanent, peacefulness. He suggested five evergreen trees as a possibility, Karen said she wants to respect Central Park as a rural oasis.

Julian Giordano thanked Karen for the presentation. Growing up here, the Upper West Side feels like a bubble distant from systemic racism. He supports the proposal's focus not on not politics but on basic human rights.

Roberta Semer thanked Karen for presenting a fabulous project. The attack on the Central Park jogger occurred shortly after she moved to NYC. She would like to see the maximum educational impact from the site.

Jay Adolf noted that this example of a miscarriage of justice is a link in a chain going back hundreds of years. Hopefully, a commemorative site will lead to a better realization of how these terrible incidents arise. A second step would be links to organizations where people could be referred for additional information. The Museum of the City of NY would be an ideal partner where all linked information could be in one place. The Park project could serve as a guidepost.

Blanche Lawton thanked Karen for the presentation and followed up on Jay's remarks. Monuments and statues are inanimate while the Exonerated Five case brings home history since 1610. In Karen's presentation, she didn't see any academic participation. She suggested developing a teaching and learning link at an academic institution. Prior to the presentation, she didn't know the history behind Rikers Island. The recent incident of the Birdwatcher in the Ramble was part of the same syndrome. Karen stated that she would explore the idea of an institutional partner and noted that PBS would work on an educational component.

Paige Cowley: The messaging has to be not too teachy. Keep the project moving but do not worry about including too much. It should be a place of collection, friendship and poetry.

Richard Asche: It will be different from any other monument in the park. It is not about the past, rather a portal to the future. It must be a place for contemplation and education. The attack on the jogger took place around 100th street. There should be a marker there. Thank you for a wonderful presentation. Karen responded that she wanted to incorporate the path by which the boys entered the park, documenting their experience.

Sheldon Fine: Most of us here have been moved by the injustice and cruelty. Younger people will not have the story. The most effective way to educate them is a link they can listen to on their phone. A digital component would make it relevant to today's young people. Karen stated that there were plans to incorporate digital experiences.

Madelyn Innocent noted that the media exploded this story. Young people who frequent the park must be able to see that there is hope if they are wrongfully accused. Most kids are not going into the museum.

Robert Espier asked if the target date for the completion of the project was 2022. Karen responded that yes, the goal was to complete by the 20th anniversary of the exoneration. He then enquired what the process and committee structure for the removal of the J. Marion Sims memorial was.

Karen stated that she was involved with the art selection process around Marion Sims. She has invited people involved with the women's suffrage monument and the Seneca Village recognition. While understanding the need for an art selection process, she is waiting to get feedback from the Parks Department and the Central Park Conservancy. Robert then asked how long the Sims removal process had taken. Karen responded that it was several years.

Mark Diller noted that families counseled their children not to use Central Park after the arrests. They looked at the park as a dangerous place. Karen stated that young people were uncomfortable because of racial profiling in the northern end of the park.

Mark then proposed a vote to approve placing the following resolution on the agenda for the January full Board meeting. Roberta Semer seconded the resolution.

Resolution: Community Board 7/Manhattan supports the installation of a permanent exhibit to capture the experiences of the Exonerated Five to be located in Central Park, with the specifics of design, location and other details to be subject to future reviews and approvals.

Steering Committee members: **15-0-1-0**

Non-Steering Board Members: **15-0-0-0**

The resolution passed

Mark Diller announced that the Election for Community Board Chair will be the first item on the Full Board meeting on January 5. He then asked for hands for any new business items.

Paige Cowley provided an update on the Children's Museum. They have proposed changing aspects of the design and are circulating letters. Changes are mostly to the roof, which will remain copper. Jay Adolf added that Landmarks would provide a briefing on this issue in January.

Mark Diller noted that the Landmarks Commission had taken the same position as Community Board 7 at the December Full Board meeting regarding the approval of the paint used on 328 West 108th Street.: Landmarks told the building to hire a consultant to assess the paint's impact on the facade.

At 8:08, the meeting was adjourned.

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

December 9, 2020

Business & Consumer Issues Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met via the Videoconferencing application Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Co-Chairperson Christian Cordova.

Present: Linda Alexander, Christian Cordova, Barbara Adler, Joshua Cohen, Madelyn Innocent, Doug Kleiman, Seema Reddy and Andrew Rigie. **Chair:** Mark Diller. **Committee Members Absent:** Erana Stennett and Paul Fischer.

The following matters were discussed:

New application to the SLA for a two-year On-Premises liquor license:

1. **434 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st Street) Jugaad LLC d/b/a Laut.

Presenting for the Applicant was his attorney Kathleen E. Negri Stathopoulos, Esq. – negriesq@aol.com

- Ms. Stathopoulos said it would be the applicant's third restaurant. Currently, he has two in Chelsea, i.e., Lotus 17 and Lotus 20, but is planning to close one and open the Upper West Side unit in the former Tangled Vine space. The cuisine will have an Indonesian street fare theme. The closing hours will comprise 10PM on weeknights, 11PM on Friday and Saturday nights, and 9:30PM on Sundays. The restaurant's owner is hoping for a late spring opening.

CB7 Comments:

- Mark Diller pointed out there was a long-standing problem with the previous tenant's side street staircase, which is composed of wood and does not meet code. The applicant's attorney said she would look into it and make sure it was corrected.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted*

Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-0

Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

2. **Multi-block street fairs.** Public hearing on applications to the Street Activity Permit Office for Multi-block Street fairs in 2021.

DATE	SPONSOR NAME	LOCATION	PRODUCER
4/18/21	Samaritan Daytop Village	Bway, West 96 th -102 nd E	Clearview Productions
4/18/21	Duke Ellington Blvd. Neighborhood Association	Bway, West 102 nd - 106 th E	Clearview Productions
4/18/21	24th Precinct Community Council	Bway, West 102 nd - 106 th E	Clearview Productions
5/09/21	Committee for Environmentally Sound Development	Bway, West 60 th -65 th E	Clearview Productions
5/23/21	Project Open at Lincoln Center Towers	Bway, West 65 th -72 nd W	Clearview Productions
6/06/21	Mitchell-Lama Residents Coalition	Amst, West 73 rd -74 th	Clearview Productions

6/06/21	Safe Haven West Side Basketball League	Amst, West 73 rd -79 th	Clearview Productions
6/13/21	West Side Federation of Neighborhood & Block Assoc.	Bway, West 73 rd -82 nd E	Clearview Productions
8/15/21	Broadway Mall Center	Bway, West 86 th - 93 rd E	Clearview Productions
8/22/21	Goddard Riverside	Amst, West 79 th -86 th	Clearview Productions
9/05/21	Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center	Col, West 66 th – 72 nd	Clearview Productions
9/11/21	Valley Restoration, LDC	Col, West 97 th –106 th	Mardi Gras Productions
10/10/21	Coalition for a Livable West Side	Bway, West 72 nd -82 nd W	Clearview Productions
10/17/21	Bloomingdale Area Coalition	Bway, West 96 th – 106 th W	Clearview Productions
10/24/21	The Broadway Mall Association	Bway, West 86 th -90 th W	Clearview Productions
10/24/21	Symphony Space	Bway, West 90 th – 96 th W	Clearview Productions

SPONSOR	CONTACT	APPLICANT	EMAIL	PRODUCER
Samaritan Daytop Village	Roy Kearse Roy.Kearse@samaritanvillage.org	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Duke Ellington Blvd. Neighborhood Association	Jean Jaworek Jean.Jaworek@gmail.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
24th Precinct Community Council	Tom Burnett Tom.Burnett@wsaccess.com	Additional Sponsor to DEBNA		
Committee for Environmentally Sound Development	Olive Freud OliveFreud305@gmail.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Project Open at Lincoln Center Towers	Rochelle Shereff rochelle185@verizon.net	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Safe Haven West Side Basketball League	Eileen Palley shwsbbiz@aol.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Mitchell-Lama Residents Coalition	Carmen Ethier CarmenEthier@gmail.com	Additional Sponsor to Safe Haven		
West Side Federation of Neighborhood	Miriam Febus WestSideFed@aol.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions

d & Block Assoc.				
Broadway Mall Center	Miriam Febus WestSideFed@aol.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Goddard Riverside	Trish Anderson tanderton@goddard.org	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center	Susan Maltoff- Nieves SMaltoff-Nieves@goddard.org	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Valley Restoration, LDC	Dan Cohen newyorkcitydan@yahoo.com		jgiovanni@nycstreetfairs.com	Mardi Gras Productions
Coalition for a Livable West Side	Batya Lewton BatyaLewton@icloud.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Bloomingdale Area Coalition	Miriam Febus WestSideFed@aol.com	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
The Broadway Mall Association	Robyn Bellamy RBellamy@broadwaymall.org	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions
Symphony Space	Edward Budz ed.budz@symphonyspace.org	Todd Berman Mort Berkowitz	sapo@clearviewfestival.com MortandRay@aol.com	Clearview Productions robertashe@clearviewfestival.com Mort & Ray Productions

CB7 Comments:

- Street fair producer Mort Berkowitz announced the merger of Mort & Ray and Clearview Productions, after more than 40 years in business.
- Valley Restoration is the only street fair not run by Mr. Berkowitz and his new partner Todd Berman.
- Dan Cohen appeared for the Valley Restoration street fair.
- Because street fairs were cancelled in 2020, the available financials sent to Committee reflected 2019 earnings.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted*

Committee VOTE: 7-0-0-0

Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

3. New business.

- The Committee discussed the importance of the impending stimulus bill for restaurants. In addition, views were expressed regarding the potential moratorium on indoor dining, as it pertained to Manhattan restaurants where the infection rates are among the lowest in the country.

The meeting ended at 7:00 PM.

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 21, 2020

Richard Asche, Chair

Present: Richard Asche (Chair), Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Sheldon Fine, Douglas Kleiman, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Melissa Rosenberg, Roberta Semer and Ethel Sheffer

1. Coastal Flood Resiliency:

The principal topic for discussion was a proposal by the New York City department of City Planning for an amendment to the Zoning Resolution to address Coastal Flood Resiliency. The proposal was presented by Nabeela Malik of DCP who provided a power point summary of the goals of the proposed amendments. Ms. Malik pointed out that the only areas in Community Board 7 which would be within the expanded flood plane proposed by DCP are portions of Riverside Park, not subject to the Zoning Resolution and a garage in an already constructed building at 59th Street and Riverside Boulevard.

Ms. Malik explained that the proposed amendments had four general goals:

- 1) expanding the definition of the flood plane from areas with a 1% per annual likelihood of flooding (100 year flood-plane) to areas with a .2% annual likelihood of flooding (500 year flood-plane);
- 2) providing for an “enhanced” building envelope which exempts from floor area certain ground floor retail spaces for existing and new buildings;
- 3) permit the relocation of mechanical, electrical and plumbing equipment from basements to other locations in the building or lot; and
- 4) provide a framework to ease recovery from future floods.

After discussion, board members present agreed that the overall objective of City Planning is laudable, but that we are not in a position to—and should not—opine on the application of the details of the amendment to specific neighborhoods outside Community Board 7.

The attached resolution was agreed upon by unanimous vote.

2. Retail vacancy:

Mr. Asche noted that even prior to the pandemic there was an unusual and unhealthy retail vacancy rate, and suggested that an attempt be made to study the problem and propose solutions. Doug Kleiman emphasized that there are many causes for the high vacancy rate, some of them beyond the control of landlords or tenants. Ms. Semer suggested that the issue was within the jurisdiction of the BCI committee, not land use. Other committee members expressed the view that the problem implicates land use and zoning issues, and suggested that BCI and land use jointly address the issue, which all members agreed is a serious problem.

Richard Asche, Chair