# Full Board Meeting Eric Nelson, Chairman July 5, 2000

Chairman Eric Nelson convened the meeting and announced new Board co-chairs:

Budget Committee- Ethel Sheffer and John Howell

Health Human Services & Environment Committee- George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero & Barbara Van Buren

Uniformed Services- Melanie Radley & Hector Santana

Landmarks Committee- Lenore Norman & Dan Cohen

Housing Committee- Beth Berns & Tom Vitullo-Martin

Communications Committee- Melanie Radley

Membership Committee- Bob Herrmann

Council to the Chair- Sheldon Fine

Bob Herrmann, Chair of Membership Committee, reported that there is a need for mentors for the new Board Members. At the July Steering Committee meeting, new Board Members will have an opportunity to speak with representatives from each committee to discuss its functions.

www.cb7.org New Board website in under testing and is expected to be ready August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Former Board member Shirley Silverberg was recognized and commended for all her activities on the Board, in particular the concerns about social services facilities being located in the Upper West Side.

### **Updates:**

• Amendment of the Restrictive Declaration for 101 West End Avenue.

The Department of City Planning has incorporated Community Board 7's recommendation to extend the decision on the Open Space Plan until August 2001. Peter Bailey, Melanie Radley and Dan Cohen agreed to create at 59<sup>th</sup> Street Rec Center Task Force, which will be composed of Land Use, Youth, and Parks Committee members, as well as Amsterdam Houses, Friends of the 59th Street Rec Center, and Center users.

• Community meeting on the Lincoln Square Bow-Tie Parks and Streetscape Design.

Barbara Adler reported that the Community Advisory Committee, convened by Councilmember Ronnie Eldridge, and conducted by the Parks Foundation, interviewed firms and selected the Beyer, Blinder and Bell. Preliminary schematics will be presented at a special community meeting of the Parks and Transportation Committees on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at American Bible Society (61<sup>st</sup> Street and Broadway). Councilmember Ronnie Eldridge has provided funding for the design.

Borough President's Report- Noah Pfefferblit reported that the following funds have been allocated in Community Board 7 for FY2001:

\$500K for Lincoln Center subway entrance.

\$250K for expansion of education.

\$100K for children museum.

\$150K P.S. 199 playground renovation for disability access.

\$250K 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Subway

### Public Session:

Elizabeth Alvarez, Director of Community Relations, Atria West Side Assisted Living Facility reported that September 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> is National Assisted Living Week. Programs will be available to the community.

Marion Stone raised concerns about traffic congestion and parking on West 66<sup>th</sup> Street with regards to the Philips Club and Millenium application for loading zone.

Brad Usher, State Senator Duane's Office, reported that the productive session in Albany passed the Hate Crimes Bill. Senator Duane supports a bill to allow work-study to count as work for those on public assistance.

Rowena Daly, West Side YMCA, reported that the building is up to the 37<sup>th</sup> floor; 40<sup>th</sup> and final floor will be completed in August. The 52 condos are sold, and applications for 62 affordable-housing units will soon be available.

Norma Dunkelbenger, Association for Energy Affordability, called attention to energy efficient products and options.

Julie Greenberg, Scott Stringer's Office, gave an update on three bills in session:

- Gun Control Package: ballistic fingerprints and background checks for gun shows.
- In light of the Central Park assaults, the sexual assault laws are being tightened and improved.
- Fire-safe cigarettes now include provisions that are acceptable to the governor.

Alan Flacks spoke about his on-going saga with Starbucks.

Gale Brewer gave an update on websites and Community Boards in New York City. Public Advocate's, Comptroller's, and Mayor's Office have new website <a href="www.nyc.gov">www.nyc.gov</a>. – Community Boards will be offered space on the site.

### **Business Session**

Resolution requesting that Office of Film and Theater's not issue permits for filming in CD7 from midnight-7AM and on major religious holidays was adopted. *Vote:* 27-7-2-0.

Resolution to disapprove application DCA# 980147 to renew Department of Transportation consent by the Starbucks Corporation, d/b/a Starbucks at 1841 Broadway, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 16 seats was adopted. *Vote: 32-0-1-0*.

Resolution to approve the application to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA163-99-BZ) by New York Sports Club to seek and amendment approve the enlargement of the existing facility, which will include occupation of the second floor of the building on the lot that fronts on Broadway, was adopted. *Vote:* 30-3-1-0.

Resolution to disapprove the application to the Board of Standard and Appeals (BSA 30-99-BZ) by Columbia Grammar & Preparatory School for height, set back, rear-yard equivalent zoning variances to allow for the construction of a cellar and five-story addition, was adopted. *Vote: 26-7-1-1*.

Resolution to approve the application #C990055ZSM to the Department of City Planning by Belnord Realty Associates, L.P. for a special permit to waive use restrictions in conjunction with the development of 30, 598 sq. ft. of space on the cellar level and 4,881 sq. ft. on the ground floor of 201-225 West 86<sup>th</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 30-3-0-2*.

Resolution to approve the request by the West Side YMCA for hotel-loading zones on West 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> Streets was adopted. *Vote: 30-0-1-0*..

Resolution to approve the application to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Sajjad Zaheer to construct and operate a newsstand at the S/W/C of Broadway and 78<sup>th</sup> Street was not adopted. No action was taken. *Vote: 16-17-2-0*.

Resolution to approve the application to the Department of Transportation for a revocable consent to construct a front entrance stoop at 52 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 32-1-0-0*.

Resolution asking the MTA to prohibit illuminated signage at subway entrances in historic districts was adopted. *Vote: 32-1-0-1*.

Resolution to approve application #007087 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a time capsule, designed by Santiago Calatrava, on the Museum grounds on the axis of West 79<sup>th</sup> Street and Columbus Avenue was adopted. *Vote: 33-0-1-0*.

Resolution to approve application #006107 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a master plan governing the future installation of through-the-wall air conditioning units at 17 West 67<sup>th</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 32-0-0-0*.

Resolution to approve application #006537 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for replacement of windows at terrace setback; replacement of window with door at setback; installation of greenhouse on rear portion of terrace at 320 West 76<sup>th</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 32-0-0-0*.

Resolution to approve application #995721 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to alter the areaway and ironwork, and to install a lift at 48-50 West 74<sup>th</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 32-0-0-0*.

Resolution to approve application #005635 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a master plan governing the installation of through-the-wall air conditioning units at 336 Central Park West was adopted. *Vote:* 32-0-0-0.

Resolution to approve application #004314 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a rooftop addition at 159 West 71<sup>st</sup> Street was adopted. *Vote: 32-0-0-0*.

Resolution to approve installation of Bollard-shaped lights in P.S. 166 Playground, West 89<sup>th</sup> Street, Central Park West-Columbus Avenue, was adopted. *Vote: 30-0-0-0.* 

Substitute resolution to approve installation of World's Fair benches on the perimeter of Theodore Roosevelt Park was adopted. *Vote:* 21-11-1-0. A substitute resolution to approve installation of benches only on 81<sup>st</sup> Street and on Columbus Avenue was not adopted. The committee's original resolution, which set limits and conditions on the installation, was not considered.

Resolution to approve the proposed amendment to CB7 By-Laws regarding disclosure of affiliations/interests was adopted. *Vote: 30-0-1-0*.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Dan Cohen and Sheldon Fine, Co-Secretaries

<u>Present:</u> Eric M. Nelson, Chairman, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Richard Asche, Annette Averette, Peter Bailey, Gale Brewer, Dan Cohen, Hope Cohen, Beverly Feingold, Sheldon Fine, Guillermo Gonzalez, Phyllis Gunther, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Lawrence Horowitz, John D. Howell, Ulma Jones, Betty Katz, Barbara Keleman, Marc Landis, Jan Levy, Lenore Norman, Lydia Padilla, Melanie Radley, Oscar Rios, Ethel Sheffer, Elizabeth Starkey, Evelyn Tamarin, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Jeffrey Zahn, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Robert Zuckerman, Daniel Zweig.

District Manager Penny Ryan, Assistant District Manager John Martinez.

<u>Absent:</u> Beth Berns, Georgette Gittens, Jean Green-Dorsey, Douglas Griebel, Joyce S. Johnson, Klari Neuwelt, Sharon Parker-Frazier, George Price, Barry Rosenberg, Hector Santana Jr., Patricia Stevens, D. Maria Watson, Angela Wiggins, Melanie Wymore.

# Uniform Services and Environment Committee Co-Chairs: Melanie Radley and Hector Santana, Jr. July 12, 2000

# 1. Night Light Task Force

Melanie Radley reported on the meeting at the Manhattan Borough President's office on the draft report of the Night Life Task Force. Lisa Lehr, a member of the task force concurred that the pending report does not adequately address issues of current enforcement although it does offer positive guidelines for zoning changes, more oversight of the SLA, and greater involvement and centralization in the police department that could in the future improve conflicts between communities and clubs. As soon as the report is issued, the committee will ask the office to circulate it for discussion on the September agenda. It was agreed that the Board should weigh in on the report.

# 2. DOITT siting of PPTs

Hector Santana said he had a sense of déjà vu. He has chaired the committee twice and each time, this reappears. He pointed out that the community board has virtually no power to either site or remove a phone booth because the process is controlled by federal, not state or local law. Although in theory PPT's, both existing and proposed, are regulated by the city's franchise agreement. If there are too many reports of problems to DoITT, the vendor's contract can be revoked. Since under the agreement, the board will be notified of all applications, and asked to comment, it was suggested the committee continue to comment on new placements and register protests against sited ones and develop a more direct relationship with the vendors while drafting a separate resolution to be submitted to our congressional representatives asking for changes in the law that would permit communities to have more direct control over public phones.

# 3. Street Closing During Multi-Block Fairs

Lisa Lehr expressed regret that the 24 Precinct was not in attendance. After discussion, the committee concluded that the traffic problems, particularly on West 96th Street, through the summer weekends, were exacerbated by the multi-block street fairs and the Fifth Avenue parades, and compounded by traffic to the Rose Center, and warranted immediate attention from DOT and the police. Hector and Melanie will draft a letter for D.I. Gary McCarthy, Chief of Operations, Chief Nicholas Estavillo, Commander, Borough Manhattan North, and others including the Mayor's Street Activity Permit Office, requesting variable message boards to divert traffic from West 96th Street and traffic officers at strategic points on the Upper West Side.

# 4. FY 2002 NYC Budget and update of the 2001 DNS

Hector and Melanie will review last year's budget and DNS and brief the committee in September.

### 5. New Business

Hector outlined his priorities for the committee, and Melanie concurred. These include a special task force for above West 96th Street to meet first with D.I. Leonard Roppa, commander of 24 Precinct to discuss the need for more stringent enforcement of quality of life issues. Willie Gonzalez pointed out the increase in prostitution and drug dealing in the Manhattan Valley neighborhood which done covertly inside buildings could be controlled with more attention to the spill-over effects that created

"quality of life" issues outside such as drinking on the street. The task force would also examine other uniformed services and environmental issues above West 96<sup>th</sup> Street.

Hector expects the committee to become more proactive, reaching out directly to communities that need to be involved in the decision-making process of the Board rather than relying solely on the office.

Melanie suggested that the committee begin holding hearings in the various neighborhoods. Hector also said the committee would need to tackle some environmental issues that were plaguing the West Side.

Jeff Zahn reported on the town-hall meeting hosted by Top Dog with Councilmember Bill Perkins, representatives of the parks department and representatives from the local electeds to talk about complaints Top Dog has received about the over-zealous enforcement policies of PEP. The committee agreed to monitor the situation, although not address it formally at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.

Present: Melanie Radley, Hector Santana, Jr., Willie Gonzalez, Beth Berns. Absent: Georgette

Gittens, John D. Howell, Oscar Rios. Public Member Present: Lisa Lehr.

# Transportation Committee Minutes Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairs July 11, 2000

1. U.C. Columbus Radio Dispatch Inc. has an application for a For Hire Vehicle Base Station at 100 West 106th Street. The applicant, Carlos Heras, was present at the meeting. The Committee agreed to a two-year license.

Vote: 5-0-0-0 (committee)

3-0-0-0 (non-comm. board members)

3-0-0-0 (public members)

- 2. Request by Millennium Partners for a loading zone in front of The Phillips Club, 1965 Broadway. Speakers on this topic included:
- ➤ Alan Tenet, general mgr. of The Phillips Club, who requested that the existing 50 ft. loading zone be increased by an additional 37 ft.
- ➤ Batya Lewton, Coalition for a Liveable West Side, suggested that NYCDOT update its 1995 transportation study and noted many complaints about the new Balducci's, including double parking.
- ➤ Pauline Sklar, who noted that the block is suffering from double-parking by stretch limousines, and she called for a traffic study.
- ➤ Barbara Adler expressed concern about the situation and agreed with Ms. Sklar.
- Monica Blum, President, Lincoln Square B.I.D. expressed support for the Phillips Club's proposal, and said it should help traffic flow more smoothly on the block.
- ➤ Fred Green, president of the board of managers of 3 Lincoln Center (160 West 66th St.) supports the Phillips Club's request and believes it will improve conditions.
- Elizabeth Starkey inquired if it would be possible to restore overnight parking.
- ➤ Richard Juliano of the Lincoln Square B.I.D. stated that the "No Standing" signage prohibits the limousines from remaining in the loading zone.
- Marian Stone, 165 W66 St, suggested prohibiting parking in front of her building.
- Alison Spindell, of 165 W66 St, called for a further traffic study.
- Marc Landis also suggested banning parking in front of 165 W66 Street.
- ➤ Barbara Keleman said it was important to find a solution to address the multiple issues facing the block.
- Constance Mench submitted a letter for consideration.
- ➤ Klari Neuwelt suggested that the parking situation be studied further before eliminating any parking areas.

The Committee adopted the following resolution approving the expansion of the loading zone: Be is resolved that CB#7 approves the request for an extension of approx. 37 ft. of the loading zone in front of the Phillips Club.

Vote: 4-0-2-0 (committee)

0-0-2-0 (non-comm. board members)

2-0-1-0 (public members)

3. Emily Lloyd of Columbia University made a preliminary presentation concerning the traffic study commissioned by Columbia in connection with the proposed construction of a 12-story

building for faculty housing on Broadway between109th & 110th Sts. There is traffic congestion on southbound Broadway, exacerbated by traffic turning east onto 110th Street. Buses are a particular problem, as the M4 makes this move. The preliminary finding of the study is that the congestion would be eased with the installation of an advanced left-turn signal at on southbound Broadway at 110th Street. Columbia anticipates that plans for the building will be heard at Land Use Committee and the traffic study will be presented to the Transportation Committee in September. Presentations will also be made to MCB#9.

- 4. Removal of the bus stop on the northbound side of Broadway between 67th & 68th Streets, as well as which traffic regulations should go there were discussed. Opinions were divided as to whether to extend the "No Standing" zone in front of the Sony theatres or to install parking meters. DOT has recently decided it will ban all parking on 68th Street between Broadway & Columbus Avenue. Complaints about idling school buses (& tour buses) has raised concerns that the entire block front would be occupied by buses. On the other hand, if parking were permitted, it could create congestion as taxis & other vehicles double-park to drop people off at the Sony theatres. This item was held over.
- 5. Discussion of newsstand regulations was held over. The Committee briefly discussed the newsbox issue. Legislation to regulate newsboxes has been drafted by Councilmember Noach Dear, but is bottled up in committee. The committee will get a copy of the proposed legislation and review it. Councilmember Moskowitz is working on newsbox problems on Madison Avenue. A personnel change in Councilmember Gifford Miller's office has set back, somewhat, the ongoing effort to change the parameters by which Community Boards can approve or disapprove newsstands.
- 6. Newsstand application by Shadur Nabi, for the west side of Broadway between 67th & 68th Street. The committee decided to inspect the site, and caucus before Steering to vote on this application.

Vote: PENDING

- 7. Don Belth, following up on a letter to CB#7, raised the issue concerning the number of parking spaces reserved for Trinity School between 7AM & 4PM on school days; 33 spaces on the south side of 92nd St., & 5 spaces on the north side of 91st Street, west of Columbus. He would like to return some of these spaces to community parking.
- 8. Peter Jenkins brought photographs showing that the entrance to 180 Riverside Blvd is blocked by potted palms. The Committee agreed to send a letter to the management opposing this.

**Present**: Andrew Albert, Dan Zweig, Barbara Keleman, Marc Landis, Elizabeth Starkey, Barbara Van Buren. **Absent**: Joyce S. Johnson, Oscar Rios, Bob Zuckerman. **Board Members Present**: Barbara Adler, Hope Cohen, Klari Neuwelt.

# STEERING COMMITTEE Eric M. Nelson, Chairman July 26, 2000

Eric M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM and explained that Steering would be acting on behalf of the full Board since the Board does not meet in August.

Tom Vitullo-Martin, Co-Chair, Housing Committee, announced that on Monday, 7/31, 6:00 PM, at Goddard-Riverside Community Center, the Housing Committee will host a community forum on the NYC Housing Authority's Annual Plan for 2001. Under The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 ("QHWRA"), which changed the way public housing operates, NYCHA must submit an annual plan that sets goals and policies for the coming year. The Plan includes residency requirements and pricing in public housing. NYCHA's plan for 2000 received a negative reception, and the plan was changed through community negotiations. Victor Bach, Community Service Society, will compare the current plan with last year's

Beth Berns, Co-Chair, Housing Committee, announced that the Committee was creating a task force to follow the Cornerstone RFP process. The RFP includes sites on West 110th and 109th Streets, near Manhattan Avenue. Developers' proposals are due August 31. The task force will write all developers submitting proposals about their concerns.

Melanie Radley, Chair, Communications Committee, and Dan Zweig announced the Board's Web Site is up and running. It is a work in progress. The address is www.cb7.org. They asked members to review it and submit comments and recommendations to Assistant District Manager John Martinez.

Larry Horowitz, Co-Chair, Land Use Committee, briefed the committee on the Lincoln Center redevelopment project meeting. Lincoln Center has hired an architect to prepare a master plan. The Center has promised that community input will be sought from the early stages of the project. Hope Cohen, Ethel Sheffer, Barbara Adler, and Eric Nelson will be the Board task force.

Mr. Nelson announced the Fund for the City of New York has selected CB7 for the pilot of COMNet, an outgrowth of Project Punch List. The Fund will provide handheld computers with software to identify different infrastructure conditions such as broken streetlights, garbage, sidewalks and other conditions that affect residents' quality of life. Teams of 2 (compromised of at least one CB7 member) will walk the blocks inputting information. The information will be downloaded at CB7 and used to persuade agencies to improve conditions. The software also has digital photography capability.

Mr. Nelson asked that Board members list at least 3 committee preferences. Committees need at least 7 to 12 members with two co-chairs. Environment has moved back to Uniformed Services.

Board 7 has been asked to join Community Boards 4 and 5, and to submit a letter to the Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Department of Buildings, asking that Saturday and late-work variances not be issued to Related Companies for work at Columbus Centre unless these are presented to affected parties through the Tri-Board Construction Task Force. The Task Force can consider the requests on a case-by-

case basis, provide advance warning of construction work, and keep the community in the loop by explaining any requests for variances that deviate from the normal City work hours.

Business Session *Resolutions:* 

Riverside Floating Theater in the Hudson River at West 74<sup>th</sup> Street. The resolution to approve was not adopted. Vote: 7-13-2-0. No action was taken.

Installation of public art works on Broadway Malls.

Vote: 21-0-0-0.

Application to the NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission by U.C. Columbus Radio Dispatch, Inc. for a For Hire Vehicle Base station license, at 100 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vote: 20-0-0-0.

Application #1038041 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Shadur Nabi to operate a newsstand at the northwest corner of Broadway and 67<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vote: 18-2-2-0.

Request by Millennium Partners for an extension of the hotel loading zone in front of the Phillips Hotel, 1965 Broadway.

Vote: 12-2-7-0.

**462 Amsterdam Avenue.** New applications to the Department of Transportation to install a handicapped accessible ramp; and to DCA#1034982 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Café Salsa Entertainment, Inc., d/b/a Azucar at 462 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82<sup>nd</sup>-83<sup>rd</sup> Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats.

Vote on cafe: 20-1-0-0.

Vote on ramp:

9-4-7-0. (Resolution to disapprove ramp/platform)

0-10-8-0. (Resolution to approve ramp/platform)

No action taken on the ramp application.

**200** West 60<sup>th</sup> Street. Renewal application DCA#0984345/ULURP#N000227ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Helodona, Inc, d/b/a Olympic Flying at 200 West 60<sup>th</sup> Street, for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 32 seats. Vote: 13-2-3-0.

**2672 Broadway.** Renewal application DCA#0984023 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Plaza Mexico Inc., d/b/a Mama Mexico at 2672 Broadway (West 101<sup>st</sup>-102<sup>nd</sup> Streets), for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 16 seats.

Vote: 10-4-5-0.

**51 Columbus Avenue.** New application DCA#1035647 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the West 62 Operating LLC, d/b/a Rosa Mexicano (West 61<sup>st</sup>-62<sup>nd</sup> Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 13 tables and 28 seats.

Vote: 15-0-1-1.

**370** Columbus Avenue. New application DCA#1038882 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the S&C, Corp., d/b/a Potion Lounge at 370 Columbus Avenue (West 77<sup>th</sup>-78<sup>th</sup> Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats. Vote: 14-5-0-0.

**428 Amsterdam Avenue.** New application DCA#1039396 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Amsterdam Avenue Brother Jimmy's LLC, at 428 Amsterdam Avenue (West 80<sup>th</sup>-81<sup>st</sup> Streets), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 16 tables and 34 seats. Vote: 16-1-1-0.

**364-366 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street.** New application DCA#1039389 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Spoonbread Inc., d/b/a Spoonbread Too at 364-366 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus-Manhattan Avenues), for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats. Vote: 18-0-0-0.

**2465/69 Broadway** (92<sup>nd</sup> Street). Application #182-95 BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals by Rothkrug & Rothkrug for Equinox Fitness to amend the special permit to allow the expansion of the existing physical culture establishment on the second floor 2465/69 Broadway. Vote: 7-8-3-0. No action taken.

**Museum of Modern Art.** Application #N000650ZRM to the Department of City Planning by the Museum of Modern Art in conjunction with its proposed expansion for modification of certain provisions of Section 81-066ZR, applicable to the Special Midtown District, one block of which is located in DC7 at Central Park West, 60<sup>th</sup> to 61<sup>st</sup> Street.

Vote: 15-3-0-0.

### American Museum of Folk Art.

Vote: 19-0-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Sheldon Fine and Melanie Radley

**Present**: Eric M. Nelson, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Beth Berns, Dan Cohen, Sheldon Fine, Bob Herrmann, Larry Horowitz, Lenore Norman, Melanie Radley, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas-Vitullo Martin.

**Absent**: Richard Asche, Peter Bailey, John Howell, Hector Santana, Ethel Sheffer, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero.

**Board Members Present**: Steve Carbo, Hope Cohen, Douglas Griebel, Phyllis Gunther, David Harris, Marc Landis, Jan Levy, Klari Neuwelt, Elizabeth Starkey, Evelyn Tamarin, D. Maria Watson, Robert Zuckerman, Dan Zweig.

# Community Board 7/Manhattan Parks, Libraries, and Cultural Affairs Committee Barbara Adler & Bob Herrmann, Co-chairs July 13, 2000

- 1. Discussion with Department of Parks and Recreation regarding drainage problems on Riverside Drive, and the impact on Riverside Park. Ellen Crain, who lives at 99th Street and Riverside Drive spoke on the issue, saying that after a rain, mud pours out of the median strip, goes into the storm drains, and then into the Hudson River. She explained that all the mud interferes with sunlight getting to plants in the river. This prevents them from making oxygen, which is essential for fish to live. Charles McKinney, Administrator of Riverside Park, spoke on the issue, saying this has been an ongoing problem, and that erosion control has been attempted since 1984. Although DEP has improved drainage somewhat by cleaning the sewers and drains, many catch basins are inoperative and in need of immediate cleaning or replacing. The area from midblock 97th Street to the end of 99th Street has been reseeded recently, and soon shrub planting will take place there, which will help the erosion problem. The worse area is at 115th Street, where water floods the entire area and cascades down the steps into the park. Mr. McKinney also stated that the Parks Department is very concerned about the dangerous conditions during moderate rains that are caused by inoperative drainage, causing water to flow over the curbs and median, and is undermining paving on the new bicycle route known as Cherry Walk. The condition is worst from 105th Street to 111th Street along the Henry Hudson Parkway. Additionally, the ponding condition has caused accidents and the closing of the highway. Currently, drop inlets are in existence here, which need to be replaced with catch basins. The Parks Department's assessment for Riverside Drive is that some catch basins are sub-standard in size and failing structurally. These need to be replaced, at a cost of approximately \$2 million (capital budget). Others are in need of immediate cleaning (expense budget). Both must be requests of DEP, and it is recommended that CB7 prioritize these items in our budget considerations, as well as for the replacement of the existing drop inlets with catch basins. The committee was in agreement to prioritize the necessary budget for these improvements.
- 2. Presentation by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) on the proposed Riverside Floating theatre in the Hudson River at 74th Street. Richard Sedlisky from DPR made the presentation. The proposal is to construct and operate an open-air theatre on a spud barge that would be towed in the off-season or perhaps to several different locations during the height of season. Jim Dowell, Executive Director of the Riverside Park Fund, expressed concerns about the height of the theatre, and whether it would block views. He stated that most of the complaints he receives comes after large events have occurred in the park. Klari Neuwelt and others expressed similar views, saying they feared the bucolic nature of the park would be diminished. Mike O'Neal was favorably disposed to the project, as was Barbara Adler, who said it would be a nighttime venue, and wouldn't really interfere with those using the park by day, and would add a level of safety to the esplanade after dark. The following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation proposes to solicit Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the operation of a Floating theatre in the Hudson River in the vicinity of West 74th Street for a number of months each year; and

WHEREAS, the Department of parks and Recreation has solicited input from Community Board 7/Manhattan as well as the public on the terms and conditions under which such a theatre might operate; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation has agreed to submit the final proposed RFP to the Parks Committee of Community Board 7 in September, 2000 for its approval before publishing it; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 7/Manhattan approves in principle the concept of a floating theatre in the Hudson River in the vicinity of West 74th Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a subcommittee of the Board, consisting of Barbara Adler, Bob Herrmann, Maria Watson, and public member Mike O'Neal shall provide guidelines to the parks Department for the operation of the theatre, so that DPR can incorporate such guidelines into its final RFP, which will be submitted to the Parks Committee of Community Board 7 at its September 2000 meeting for consideration.

Committee: 4/1/0/0; Board: 0/1/0/0; Public 1/3/0/0.

3. Presentation by the Department of Parks and Recreation on the installation of public art works, "Termite Hills," by Steve Tobin on the Broadway Malls. Caroline Edmonds for DPR made the presentation, along with the artist Steve Tobin, and his manager, Kathleen Rogers, to display the works publicly for a minimum of six months. The art works, rubber molds cast in bronze of actual African termite mounds, range in size from 5' to 13 'high, and 4' to 6' wide. The works are interesting, with an educational component to them as they are taken from nature, yet they are large and very imposing. Although the original request was to place the works on the Broadway Malls, the consensus was that they are not appropriate for this location for several reasons, including: blocking traffic visibility at intersections, damage that would occur to the plantings on the Malls, inaccessible to people who might want to read an explanatory material adjacent to the forms, dangerous to children who might be tempted to climb on them in traffic, and just too massive for the urban environment of the Broadway Malls. The applicants were open to other locations, and Jim Dowell of Riverside Park Fund suggested putting the six mounds on the promenade in Riverside Park. This idea was enthusiastically endorsed by many of those present. A suggestion was also made to inquire as to whether some of them could be displayed in Theodore Roosevelt Park (Museum Park), as they have a natural relationship with the American Museum of Natural History, and Phyllis Gunther suggested placing them in various school yards in the district. The following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the cast bronze art works by the artist Steve Tobin are interesting and a unique form, in that they are made from rubber molds of actual African termite mounds,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 7/Manhattan APPROVES the request to show six pieces of the collection somewhere within the community at a location(s) still to be determined, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 7/Manhattan DISAPPROVES the request to place these works on the Broadway Malls for the following reasons: they are too massive in size, and will block traffic visibility at intersections; they will damage the plantings to the Malls; they will be inaccessible to people who may want to read explanatory material accompanying them; they may be dangerous to children tempted to climb on them in traffic; they are too massive to fit in well with the urban environment of the Broadway malls.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 7/Manhattan recommends that the works be placed along the median of the Riverside Park esplanade or inside Theodore Roosevelt Park (Museum Park).

Comm. Vote: 5/0/0/0; Board: 1/0/0/0; Public 2/0/0/0

- 4. Review of Budget Consultations for FY 2002 and District Needs Statement for FY 2001. Copies of the proposed priorities from last year's FY 2001 were handed out to committee members, who were asked to fax or email their suggestions to the co-chairs of the committee as soon as possible.
- 5. New Business. Phyllis Gunther gave a short report on a conversation she had with Charles McKinney. Recycling has been ongoing at the Boat Basin for four years, and a pilot recycling program is about to get underway at the 83rd St. playground in Riverside Park.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Adler

Committee members present: Barbara Adler, Bob Herrmann, Phyllis Gunther, Betty Katz, Maria Watson. Absent: Annette Averette, Dan Cohen, Georgette Gittens, John Howell, Patricia Stevens. Board member present: Klari Neuwelt. Public members present: Mike O'Neal; John Dowell, Riverside Park Fund; Robert Shanley.

# LAND USE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: RICHARD ASCHE AND LARRY HOROWITZ July 19, 2000

#### 1. Museum of Modern Art

Michael Sillamon, attorney for the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) presented the application for a change to the zoning text governing special permits for split zoning lots in the Special Midtown District. The Special Midtown District includes a single site in Manhattan Community District 7 (Central Park West, between West 60<sup>th</sup> Street and West 61<sup>st</sup> Street). That site and its building, the Trump International Hotel & Tower, would be ineligible to use the special permit in question because it is not located on a split zoning lot. Community Board 5 approved MOMA's application 28-3.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS Central Park West, between West 60<sup>th</sup> Street and West 61<sup>st</sup> Street—the only Midtown Special District site located in Community District 7/Manhattan—would be ineligible to use the special permit affected by the zoning change #N000650ZRM proposed by the Museum of Modern Art;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan waives its right to comment on the proposed change #N000650ZRM to Section 81-066ZR of the New York City Zoning Resolution.

Committee Member vote: 5-0-1-0. Board Member vote: 3-0-0-0.

# 15. 15 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street (joint with Transportation Committee)

Architect Peter Herschman and attorney Ida Greer presented the application #433-65-BZ to the Board of Standards & Appeals by Omar Fenick Architects for 15 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street Owners Corp. to reopen and extend the term of variance which expired on June 22, 2000, which variance allows transient parking for the unused and surplus tenant space in an existing multiple dwelling accessory garage. The variance needs to be renewed every ten years. The garage is required to use 126 of its 176 spaces for building residents; the remainder, under the terms of the variance, may be used for transient parking.

Approximately five building residents came to the meeting to oppose the application. Speaking for these building residents, Max Eisen claimed that only 20 spaces are leased by building residents, as they have been "hounded out of the garage" by non-competitive prices designed to discourage monthly parkers. The applicant claims that there are more than 100 monthly parkers. The basic monthly rate will rise to \$660 on 1 September 2000.

The Committees requested the following evidence to be provided:

- monthly rates at comparable, nearby garages (both sides)
- population of spaces leased by monthly parkers (applicant)
- population of monthly parkers who are also building residents (applicant).

As this applications is not yet calendared at the Board of Standards & Appeals, the Committees postponed further action on it until the September 2000 meeting of the Land Use Committee (i.e. 20 September 2000). Should the application be calendared earlier than that, the Land Use Committee will hold a special meeting to consider it.

### 3. 462 Amsterdam Avenue (joint with Transportation Committee)

Owner Avi Najar and architect Arthur Harris presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café to be situated on a concrete ramp/platform designed to provide permanent accessibility to the restaurant for the disabled. The Committee was strongly opposed to the ramp/platform, and voted down a proposed resolution to approve a café situated on a ramp/platform. (Committee Member vote: 0-4-3-0. Board Member vote: 3-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-1-0.)

The Committees adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to eliminate the ramp/platform entirely from his plans, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this change and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the new application DCA# 1034982 to the Department of Transportation by Café Salsa Entertainment, Inc., d/b/a Azucar at 462 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82<sup>nd</sup> - 83<sup>rd</sup> Streets) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 9 tables and 18 seats, and **disapproves any ramp/platform** (i.e. whether temporary or permanent) proposed to be associated with the cafe.

Committee Member vote: 6-0-1-0. Board Member vote: 3-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-1-0.

### 4. 51 Columbus Avenue

Owner Doug Griebel presented the application for a new enclosed sidewalk café. Mr. Griebel noted that the café would brighten a relatively dark, untrafficked block across the avenue from the rear of the New York State Theatre. He further explained that the configuration of the ground-floor space of the restaurant made necessary the additional space offered by an enclosed sidewalk café.

The Committee did **not** adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the new application DCA# 1035647 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the West 62 Operating LLC, d/b/a Rosa Mexicano (West 62<sup>nd</sup> - 63<sup>rd</sup> Streets) for a one-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk cafe with 13 tables and 28 seats.

Committee Member vote: 3-2-1-0. Board Member vote: 2-0-0-2. Public Member vote: 2-0-0-0.

# 5. 200 West 60th Street

Architect Arno Fischer presented the renewal application for an enclosed sidewalk café. The original application for this café was disapproved by CB7 in November 1999, but approved by New York City agencies.

The Committee did **not** adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application DCA# 0984345/ULURP# N000227ECM to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Heladona, Inc., d/b/a Olympic Flying at 200 West 60<sup>th</sup> Street (Amsterdam Ave.) for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk cafe with 11 tables and 32 seats.

Committee Member vote: 3-1-2-0. Board Member vote: 1-0-1-0. Public Member vote: 2-0-0-0.

### 6. 2672 Broadway

The applicant did not appear. The original application for this café was disapproved by CB7 in November 1999, but approved by New York City agencies.

The Committee did **not** adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application DCA# 0984023 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Plaza Mexico Inc., d/b/a Mama Mexico 2672 Broadway (West 101<sup>st</sup>-102<sup>nd</sup> Streets) for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk cafe with 5 tables and 16 seats.

Committee Member vote: 0-2-4-0. Board Member vote: 1-1-2-0. Public Member vote: 0-1-0-0.

### 7. 370 Columbus Avenue

Architect Steve Wygoda presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café. The plans showed a café greater than 9 feet in depth.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to reduce the depth of the sidewalk café in question to 9 feet, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this reduction and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the new application DCA# 1038882 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by S&C Corp., d/b/a Potion Lounge at 370 Columbus Avenue (West 77<sup>th</sup> – 78<sup>th</sup> Streets) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 6 tables and 14 seats

Committee Member vote: 4-1-1-0. Board Member vote: 4-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-1-0.

### 8. 428 Amsterdam Avenue

Owner Josh Liebowitz and architect Steve Wygoda presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café. The plans showed a café greater than 9 feet in depth.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to reduce the depth of the sidewalk café in question to 9 feet, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this reduction and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs; and

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to reduce the number of tables and chairs to fit within the 9-foot depth, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this reduction and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the new application DCA# 1039396 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Amsterdam Avenue Brother Jimmy's LLC at 428 Amsterdam Avenue (West  $80^{th} - 81^{st}$  Streets) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 12 tables and 26 seats

Committee Member vote: 6-0-0-0. Board Member vote: 3-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-0-0.

# 9. 364-355 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street

Owner Norma Jean Darden and architect Steve Wygoda presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café. The plans showed a café greater than 9 feet in depth and situated on a removable platform.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to reduce the depth of the sidewalk café in question to 9 feet, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this reduction and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs; and

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to eliminate the proposed platform, and has agreed to submit to Community Board 7/Manhattan plans revised to document this change and stamped by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the new application DCA# 1039389 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by the Spoonbread Inc., d/b/a Spoonbread Too at 364-366 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus – Manhattan Avenues) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 9 tables and 19 seats

Committee Member vote: 6-0-0-0. Board Member vote: 3-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-0-0.

### 10. 2465/69 Broadway

\_\_\_\_\_ of Rothkrug & Rothkrug, attorney for Equinox Fitness, presented the application for enlargement of an existing physical-culture facility on the second floor of 2465/69 Broadway (West 92<sup>nd</sup> Street). The application is for legalization of work already performed without the required special permit.

Hope Cohen urged disapproval to send a message to future applicants that such illegal behavior will not be tolerated. In response to the applicant's excuse that "everybody does it," Ms. Cohen noted that

Land Use Committee July 19, 2000 Page 4

New York Sports Club had a similar enlargement application before the Committee last month, and had followed all required processes and worked with its neighbors.

The Committee did **not** adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the application BSA# 182-95-BZ to the Board of Standards & Appeals by Rothkrug & Rothkrug for Equinox Fitness to amend its physical-culture special permit to enlarge the existing facility on the second floor of 2465/69 Broadway. Committee Member vote: 3-1-2-0. Board Member vote: 2-0-1-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-0-0.

### 11. Museum of American Folk Art

Attorney Howard Zipser and Museum Director Jeremy Wertkin made an informational presentation of a proposal for a zoning amendment that will be made offically in the fall by the Museum of American Folk Art. The Museum, as a not-for-profit community benefit, occupies a building arcade that once provided a development bonus to its building, located at Columbus Avenue & 65<sup>th</sup> Street. The Museum is able to serve the public entirely free of charge at this location, in part because of the revenues raised from the gift store next door. Rising rents make occupancy of the store location impossible after 31 December 2000. Thus the Museum proposes to reconfigure its own space, moving the gift store there as well as making the entry more welcoming.

Although this presentation does not require Board action at this time, the Committee strongly wished to endorse the Museum's importance to the community and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Museum of American Folk Art provides a unique benefit to the community by offering educational and cultural programming free of charge;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 7/Manhattan supports the Museum's efforts to serve the public in its current location at Columbus Avenue & 65<sup>th</sup> Street, and endorses the overall plan for reconfiguration of its space at that location.

Committee Member vote: 6-0-0-0. Board Member vote: 4-0-0-0. Public Member vote: 1-0-1-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Richard Asche, Hope Cohen, Larry Horowitz, , Betty Katz, Lenore Norman, Melanie Radley. Land Use Committee Members Absent: Beth Berns, Joyce Johnson, Ethel Sheffer, Maria Watson. Board Members Present: Barbara Adler, Doug Griebel, Gale Brewer, Dan Zweig (Transportation).

# COMMUNITY BOARD 7 MANHATTAN HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 7/25/00

The meeting was opened by Co-Chairs George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Barbara Van Buren.

The group was brought up-to-date on plans for the presentation to the Board by St. Luke's/Roosevelt on the impact of the Federal Balance Budget Act on the hospital services. This will be done at the September Board Meeting, by the President and CEO of the hospital, Dr. Sigurd Ackerman. The presentation and questions will be allotted thirty minutes. If that turns out to be too little time, the discussion will be continued at the next Committee meeting.

The bulk of the meeting was dedicated to concerns about services and quality of life in the commercial SROs in the district. In the past, HRA has placed case managers in the SROs who provided services to the tenants. These have been removed. Community residents have noticed a change in life style, and have expressed concerns about the impact on the tenants and on the community. It was recognized that many people living in SROs have special needs, and there was a concern about how they were being met. It was agreed that the committee would begin the process of collecting information on the SROs so the recommendations for action could be made to the full Board. This is not a task that could be completed in one meeting.

The people presented at tonight's meeting were particularly concerned with the Yale Hotel Security Guards. It was reported that these men wash cars in the street around midnight every night, with radios blaring. Complaints have been made to the police with varying results. Sometimes there is a police response, sometimes not. On occasion when community residents expect in that neighborhood.

The impression has been received that the security people intimidate the tenants, and may themselves be involved in illegal activities. There was no verification of this, and it was suggested that we ask Penny to check on whether there has been an increase of police reports on the building. Community people have observed the guards asking the tenants to share food they have purchased with them before they let them in the building.

There was concern that many of the tenants at the Yale Hotel are placed there by the City Agencies, and are in need of special services. Who is providing this service? Is there a need that isn't being met? In the past we have had a Task Force that reviewed the placement by City agencies of person needing special services. Can we find out that information now, so that the appropriate agency can be contacted to learn what services they are providing? Does the City still have an office of SRO Services, which can be helpful in making sure that tenants are not being exploited? Do the managers of SROs still arrange for police drug sweeps, to minimize illegal activity? In the past many of the tenants have been terrorized by activities in the SROs. Is that still happening?

John, a representative of the City-Wide Harm Reduction Coalition, spoke of the lack of services in the SROs. His agency is funded to provide services to substance abusers, and goes in to those SROs where management has agreed. They often are asked for services by tenants who do not fit their special population, but who do not know where else to go. Services for the

Underserved is another program which goes in to the SROs. They have indicated they would be glad to meet with the Committee to discuss the state of affairs in SROs.

The pastor of Ascension Church, Father John Duffell, has also expressed concern about overcrowding in the SROs in the community. He was unable to come to the meeting tonight, but will come in the future.

It was agreed we would attempt to gather more information before the next meeting on

- ➤ Whether there is a listing of SROs in the community
- ➤ Whether the City still has oversight of the SROs
- ➤ What services the City is funding for people living in SROs
- ➤ Whether police have been receiving complaints about the SROs
- ➤ Whether the City is placing people in the SROs whom they know need special services

We will also ask some of the other community people who have expressed concerns to come to the next Committee meeting.

There was a brief discussion of the District Needs Statement which CB& submits each year. People were asked if they had ideas as to the best way to get a full picture of the needs of the community. Martha Tobolini suggested that religious institutions be contacted, as they re often asked to fill unmet needs. David Harris suggested that we explore whether the City is taking advantage of all the Federal funding that is available, such as the CHIPS program, (Child Health Insurance Program).

It was announced that at the next meeting there would be a presentation on EPIC, a government program for medical prescriptions for seniors. There will also be a follow-up on the SROs.

Meeting was adjourned.

Present: COMMITTEE- Barbara Kellerman, Barbara Van Buren, George Zeppendfeldt-Cestero NEW MEMBERS- David Harris, Evenly Tamarin

PUBLIC MEMBER- Shirley Silverberg

COMMUNITY MEMBERS- Miriam Febus, Richard Lanahan, Pierre Lorsy, Martha Tambolini

DOROT REPRESENTATIVE- Jan Blumenstein