

**Full Board Meeting
Eric M. Nelson, Chairman
May 1, 2001**

Eric Nelson opened the meeting and informed the public of the rules and procedures for gaining access to speaking at the meetings. He introduced newly appointed Board Members: Linda Alexander, William Meyers, Helen Rosenthal, and Erana Stennett. Each new board member presented a brief autobiographical sketch.

Committee Announcements

- Andrew Albert announced that the Director of Aviation from the Port Authority would be attending a joint meeting of Housing and Transportation on Tuesday, May 8, 2001 at 7:30pm at the Board office.
- Barbara Van Buren (Health and Human Services Committee) announced that at the committees' May 22nd meeting, representatives of the NYS Department of Health will talk about its study, joint with Mt. Sinai, of the effects of dry cleaning fluids upon the health of people in our community.
- Lenore Norman (Landmarks) announced the Heschel School's proposal for a rooftop addition has been laid over for 60 days to allow the school and community to work on improvements in the plan.
- Ethel Sheffer (Riverside South Task Force) announced a task force meeting on May 7, 6:30PM at CB7 offices. The agenda includes the 72nd Street on- and off- ramps and the connection to Riverside Boulevard and the design of the remainder of the Riverside South Park.

Public Session

- Rowena Daly of the West Side YMCA reported on the Y's week of celebration, marking the opening of their new facilities. The week begins on June 4th with a community event in and outside the Y.
- Mary Lewis Steiner raised the issue of lack of wheelchair accessibility to the Riverside Park waterfront, which seriously restricts access for the elderly and physically disabled.
- Brad Usher of State Senator Duane's office reported that on April 15th - Tax Day - Senator Duane called for a reinstatement of the Commuter Tax.
- Susannah Vickers of Assemblymen Scott Stringers' office spoke about pressuring the Governor's office about a bill that would protect domestic violence victims.
- Barbara Adler of the Columbus Avenue BID announced a festival on May 17th, 6-9pm on Columbus Avenue from 67th-82nd Streets, called "Movin', Groovin', Schmoozin'".
- Ronald Boerke of the Central Park Conservancy announced that on Saturday, May 19th, at 1PM at North Meadow Recreation Center there would be a "getting ready for summer recreation program". Inquiries: 212-360-2788.
- Arlene Morini of the New York Public Library-St. Agnes' Branch announced a book sale this coming weekend.
- Pauline Skalar talked about events on 77th-75th Streets and complained about the movie companies, traffic problems, noise problems and the preponderance of events in the immediate area. She reported several accidents and safety problems.
- Noah Pfefferblit of the Manhattan Borough President's Office welcomed new Board members. He also reviewed the Borough President's report and her recommendations for improvements in taxi service. He also brought our attention to a second major report, "Doing Business in Manhattan", which includes the results of a borough-wide survey of business people.

- Linda Rosenthal of Congressman Jerrold Nadler's office reported that the Congressman has called for 100,000 new Section 8 housing vouchers.

Nominations for 2001-2002

Chair:

Larry Horowitz
Marc Landis

Vice Chairs:

Beth Berns
Dan Cohen
Steve Carbo
Sheldon Fine
Georgette Gittins
Jean Green-Dorsey
Robert Herrmann
Hector Santana
Melanie Wymore

Secretary:

Sheldon Fine
David Harris
Erana Stennett

Business Session

1. 59th Street Recreation Center Task Force.

Melanie Wymore spoke for the Task Force and its other co-chairs: Peter Bailey, CB7 Youth Committee, and Pamela Fredericks and John Doswell, CB4 Waterfront and Parks Committee. She presented a clear, understandable and thoughtful report, utilizing overhead transparencies.

Public Speakers:

Fiona Oliphant stated that Councilmember Ronnie Eldridge supports the project but recommends that the Recreation Center be built as part of a residential development.

Mary Feliciano a resident of Amsterdam Houses spoke.

Mary Rosado, President, Friends of the West 59th Street Center, spoke about the "Hybrid" alternative and stated that it respond to as many constituent groups as possible.

Eric Nelson, on behalf of the Board, acknowledged the outstanding work of Melanie Wymore and Peter Bailey on this important community issue.

2. Resolution to approve the renewal application to NY Taxi and Limousine Commission by West End Car & Limousine Service Corp. at 73 West 83rd Street for a For Hire Base station license was adopted: 35-0-1-0.

3. Resolution to approve application #015220 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a penthouse and rear-yard addition 106 West 76th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues), was adopted: 36-0-1-0.

4. Resolution to approve application #012782 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to enlarge three window openings to accommodate larger windows and a door at 461 Columbus Avenue (West 82nd-83rd Streets), d/b/a The Corner, was adopted: 36-0-0-0.

5. Resolution to approve renewal application DCA# 0895637 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Burrito Junction Inc., d/b/a Harry's Burrito Junction at 241 Columbus Avenue, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 36 seats was adopted: 36-2-0-0.
6. Resolution to approve new application DCA#1068439 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Seraj Food, Inc., d/b/a Columbus Café at 556 Columbus Avenue, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 14 tables and 28 seats was adopted: 36-1-1-0.
7. Resolution to disapprove renewal application DCA#955751 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by The Honest Food Corp., d/b/a Nicks & Toni's Café at 100 West 67th Street, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats was adopted: 22-10-7-0.
8. Resolution to approve renewal application DCA#960823 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by HDN Corp., d/b/a Café La Fenice at 2014 Broadway, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed café with 14 tables and 28 seats was adopted: 32-2-1-0.
9. Resolution to approve renewal application DCA#0990613 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by New Store Restaurant, d/b/a EJ's Luncheonette at 447 Amsterdam Avenue, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 table and 15 seats was adopted: 39-0-0-0.
10. Resolution to approve new application DCA#1075283 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Café Con Leche, Inc., d/b/a Café Con Leche at 424 Amsterdam Avenue, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 18 seats was adopted: 32-4-2-0.
11. Resolution to approve application #25-01-BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals by David Vandor for DOROT Inc. for a variance pursuant to Sections 72-21 to enable DOROT Inc., an existing not-for-profit social services provider, to expand elevator service within its existing 6-story building was adopted: 36-0-0-0.
12. Resolution to approve application #010200ZSM to the Department of City Planning by Carol Management Corporation for the Alfred Garage for a special permit, pursuant to Section 82-60, 13-562 and 74-52 of the Zoning Resolution, to allow a below-grade attended public parking garage with a maximum capacity of 140 spaces at the northeasterly corner of Amsterdam Avenue and West 61st Street in the cellar and sub cellar of an existing building located at 161 West 61st Street was adopted: 33-1-1-0.
13. Resolution to disapprove the Adult Use Text Amendment #N010508ZRY by the Department of City Planning was adopted: 25-7-7-0.

Present: Eric Nelson, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Annette Avarette, Peter Bailey, Beth Berns, Gale Brewer, Steve Carbo, Dan Cohen, Hope Cohen, Sheldon Fine, Georgette Gittens, Guillermo Gonzalez, Jean Green-Dorsey, Phyllis Gunther, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Larry Horowitz, John Howell, Joyce Johnson, Ulma Jones, Betty Katz, Marc Landis, William Meyers, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Sharon Parker-Frazier, George Price, Oscar Rios, Barry Rosenberg, Helen Rosenthal, Hector Santana, Jr., Ethel Sheffer, Elizabeth Starkey, Erana Stennett, Patricia Stevens, Evelyn Tamarin, Barbara Van Buren, Tom Vitullo-Martin, D. Maria Watson, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Robert Zuckerman, Dan Zweig.

Absent: Janet Alvarez, Richard Asche, Doug Griebel, Barbara Keleman, Melanie Radley.

Transportation Committee
Co-Chairs: Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig
May 8, 2001

The meeting was called to order by Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig at 7:10 PM.

1. Eleven Riverside Drive: Request for a 12-foot No Parking zone in front of the West End Avenue entrance.

Madeleine Polayes presented testimony concerning the need for this change. The building occupies the block bounded by West 73rd - 74th Streets, West End Avenue and Riverside Drive, and has 1800 residents, many elderly. Current traffic regulation is alternate side. Ms. Polayes presented pictures showing double parking along WEA when vehicles are dropping off people at that location. A member of the coop board, which itself is in favor of this change, spoke in support of the request.

Fran Kemmer, a resident of the building spoke in opposition to making this change, saying it was unnecessary and the parking space that would be eliminated was a more important need in this location.

Barbara Keleman spoke in support.

Hope Cohen said it is the general policy of CB7 not to grant these "no parking zones" in front of building entrances. There was concern that every building would be asking for such parking changes.

Klari Neuwelt stated that there was no compelling reason to grant this request. She also stated that physically disabled people, professed to be the primary need for this change, can use the access ramp that is 35 feet south of the entrance.

Oscar Rios stated that, in his opinion, the best place to pickup handicapped persons would be by the fire hydrant on the corner of West 73rd and WEA.

Fran Kemmer agreed that the hydrant was a ready made spot for pickup and drop off.

Tom Vitullo-Martin spoke in favor of granting the parking change, emphasizing that given the needs of 1800 people in a full block building, the board should be granting a space of 20 feet, not 12 feet as requested.

Dan Zweig agreed that 12 feet wasn't enough for a vehicle to pull in and out of WEA traffic. He also agreed with Ms. Neuwelt's observation that main entrance was no more than 30 feet from the handicap ramp and 10 feet from West 73rd Street hydrant. Additionally, citing concerns regarding the precedent this might set, he was opposed to granting this parking change. Mr. Zweig proposed additional police enforcement near the hydrant on West 73rd Street to insure that space around the hydrant was kept clear both for fire use and curbside pickups and drop offs.

Divided opinion was reflected in the subsequent voting.

A resolution in favor of granting this parking change did not pass:

Committee Vote: 2-4-1-0. Non-Committee Board Vote: 1-1-0-0.

A resolution opposed to granting this parking change also did not pass:

Committee Vote: 3-2-2-0. Non-Committee Board Vote 1-1-1-0.

It was announced that the failed resolutions would not be presented to the full board. There was no objection.

2. William Decota, Director of Aviation, New York and New Jersey Port Authority.

Summary of LaGuardia Airport facts - Top 25 nationally in passenger volume. Smallest in space with 600 acres and no place to expand (NWK has 2000 acres, JFK has 5000 acres). Prior to "Air21", a bill that was passed April of last year (2000), LAG was limited to 1064 flights per day. By Nov.'00, flights had increased 26%; by Jan.'01, they were up 31% and the airport had experience massive increases in delays over this period.

The Port Authority issued a moratorium on new flights to provoke action by other parties. They proposed a lottery system that would limit flights to 1223 per day (16% more than the pre- "Air21" level). The Port Authority is proposing a permanent plan to be implemented by Sept.15, 2001, the expiration of the lottery plan.

The Port Authority's general goals include recognizing that LAG is a very popular and convenient airport, but its space puts real limits on the number of flights that can be effectively serviced. They would like to carry more people from LAG on fewer flights by encouraging the use of larger and fuller planes. They would also like to promote incentives to the airlines to fly newer model aircraft, which are quieter and less polluting, in this densely populated area.

Airspace redesign target is 4-5 years from now. The redesign will have 2 main advantages: bad weather capacity will equal good weather capacity; steeper ascents and descents will reduce the area around the airport affected by noise.

Concerns were raised at the meeting about routing planes over Manhattan. Mr. Decota indicated that it should not be necessary.

3. Livery cab drivers.

Hector Santana reported on a Council Bill introduced by Councilmembers Eldridge and Linares. The bill would allow livery drivers to pick up hails in areas in Manhattan north of 96th Street and in all outer boroughs, with the exception of the airports, Astoria, downtown Brooklyn, and Staten Island. To qualify drivers would need to keep trip sheets, have meters, and have cameras or partitions for driver safety. Cabs would be inspected 3 times per year, and other restrictions would be included to make this service safer.

The following resolution was proposed, passed by the committee and will come to the Full Board:

Whereas the majority of city residents do not have access to yellow cab service, and

Whereas livery cabs are now prevented by law from picking up hails on the streets, and

Whereas the livery cab industry has agreed to make many improvements in return for the right to pick up hails in selected parts of the city, but specifically excluding Manhattan south of 96 St., downtown Brooklyn, Astoria, Staten Island, and the airports;

Therefore, be it resolved that CB7 supports the bill proposed by R. Eldridge and G. Linares allowing livery cabs to accept street hails.

Committee vote: 6-0-0-0.

Non-Committee board member vote: 4-0-0-0.

Public Member vote: 1-0-0-0.

4. Short and narrow bus shelters.

NYC Transit has designed bus shelters for locations where full size shelters cannot be accommodated and has requested two proposed sites in CD7. The committee wanted to see the shelter design before further discussion. The topic was put off until a future meeting.

5. ConEd work.

Dan Zweig read an update by ADM John Martinez on Con Edison's project on Broadway between 107th and 110th Streets. John Tranchina, Con Ed's Project Manager, has stated that all work will end by 10:30 PM, that double day shifts will be employed, and that every effort will be made to meet their target end date of May 15, 2001.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Committee Members Present: Andrew Albert, Dan Zweig, Gale Brewer, Barbara Keleman, Klari Neuwelt, Oscar Rios, Barbara Van Buren. **Committee Members Absent:** Joyce Johnson, Elizabeth Starkey. **Board Members Present:** Tom Vitullo-Martin, Hope Cohen, Marc Landis, Hector Santana, Jr., Evelyn Tamarin.

STEERING COMMITTEE
Eric M. Nelson, Chairman
May 23, 2001

Eric Nelson opened the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Riverside South RFP

The Riverside South RFP is out for funds available through the development of Riverside South. A total of \$500,000 to be paid in four installments as the development progresses is provided for in the Restrictive Declaration. The funds are for job training (\$200,000), youth programs (\$150,000) and senior programs (\$150,000).

A committee composed of the three City Council members who represent the Community Board 7 district will disburse the funds and two members of Community Board 7 itself as designated by the Board's Chairman.

Lincoln Center Redevelopment Project

Lincoln Center Redevelopment Project conducted a meeting. The issues included the alternation of many theatres to improve the acoustics, back-stage and public facilities, and the possible movement of the New York City Opera from the New York State Theatre. Changes may impact a host of community interests including transportation, parks, land use and landmarks.

Livery Cab Resolution

Andrew Albert presented a resolution calling for permitting livery cabs to be hailed in all but designated areas of the City. Rates will be posted as an aspect of this resolution. The resolution passed 6-0-0-0.

Board Elections

After much discussion, it was decided that we would not regulate the time devoted to questions to candidates and answer by the candidates. Candidates for Chair will be able to make a statement first for up to five minutes; other candidates three minutes. No announcements will be made about vote count or the number of disqualified ballots. We will use this election as a basis for evaluating and reconsidering election rules.

Full Board Agenda

Eric Nelson decided where on the agenda the Election should be placed.

New Business

Tom Vitullo-Martin spoke on the FAA Airspace Redesign Study and presented the draft of a letter to the appropriate authorities. The letter will be distributed to all Board members at the June 5th Full Board meeting for their perusal and recommendation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Present: Eric Nelson, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Beth Berns, Sheldon Fine, Robert Herrmann, Larry Horowitz, Lenore Norman, Tom Vitullo-Martin, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero.

Absent: Richard Asche, Peter Bailey, Dan Cohen, John Howell, Melanie Radley, Ethel Sheffer, Hector Santana, Barbara Van Buren, Melanie Wymore, Dan Zweig.

Board Member Present: Marc Landis.

Riverside South Task Force
May 30, 2001
Chair: Ethel Sheffer

Charles Reiss of the Trump New World Organization made a preliminary presentation on proposed modifications to the design and phasing of the Riverside South Park.

He reviewed the history of the original plans approved in 1991 and the current need to make changes in the earlier plan. The original plan called for two parks: an Interim Park with the elevated Miller Highway in place, and a Final Park with a relocated highway. There were a number of factors and conditions that affected the design of both park designs. Among these are the sharp differences in grade and elevation which range from 20 feet to 50 feet from Freedom Place and the new Riverside Boulevard to the new park to the west; the presence of an operating railroad running through the site; the uncertainty about if and when the Miller Highway would be relocated; and the presence of an 180 foot open trench running through the site to accommodate a possible relocated highway.

The Restrictive Declaration stipulated specific trigger points and phasing for the building of the park which related amount of building floor area completed to phased park completion. When the development is 75% completed, the park has to be 100% completed.

As we all know, the first phase of the park running from 68th Street north is complete and open to the public.

It is now clear that a hard look had to be taken at the practicality of the phasing and the design of the interim park in light of new conditions, studies and the building of the project over the last decade. The open trench presents certain hazards to the columns and foundations of the existing Miller Highway and it also reduces the area available for parkland. The slope from the existing street system to the park is also very steep.

The modifications to the Interim Park design include filling in the trench, which results in a decrease in the sharp grade differences, easier access to the waterfront and an additional two to four acres of parkland. A variety of passive and active park facilities and features are now incorporated in the design. The phasing and "trigger points" for completion of the park have also been modified. The Parks Department reviews all of these changes.

The City Planning Commission will be reviewing these minor modifications on June 4th and it will certify the proposal for Community Board 7 review on that day. CB7 will review the proposal and offer comments in the next 45-60 days.

Present: Ethel Sheffer, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Hope Cohen, Gale Brewer, Marc Landis.

Riverside South Task Force
Chair: Ethel Sheffer
May 7, 2001

Discussion of roadway plans, including the West 72nd Street off-ramp and the on-ramp, and the Riverside Boulevard-Riverside Drive connection.

Frank Fish of Buckhurst, Fish & Jacquemart (BF&J), consultants to CB7 for Miller Highway Project, reviewed the project. The 72nd Street on-ramp would be eliminated with the relocation of the Miller Highway. In a February 15, 2001 memo to CB7, BF&J cited the lack of justification for the closure of the on-ramp and recommended an alternative ramp design. The Miller Highway Project expressed interest in the alternative, but did not include it in the FEIS. Mr. Fish also reported that NY State DOT is planning a redesign of the Henry Hudson Parkway north of 72nd Street, and the on-ramp could be closed as part of this project because it does meet highway safety standards.

Mary Barber of Councilmember Eldridge's office reported on concerns about the closing of the 72nd Street off-ramp. To mitigate an anticipated increase of traffic on West End Avenue and other local streets, the Riverside South Restrictive Declaration and Mapping Agreement provide for the closing of the off-ramp and the linking of Riverside Drive and Riverside Boulevard. West Side elected officials have written to City Planning and DOT questioning how and when this provision will be implemented.

Charlie Reiss of Trump New World (TNW) said the documents are not clear on the implementation. When the 1st phase of construction (which is not defined in the documents) is almost complete, TNW must ask the City for permission to close the off-ramp. The City may decide to deny the permit.

Olive Freud of Coalition for Environmentally Sound Development recommended extending Freedom Place north to Riverside Drive.

Batya Lewton requested the engineering studies that led to the decision to close the off-ramp.

Te Revez called for a reduction in traffic on West End Avenue, which has a high number of children and older people crossing the street.

Lenny DeChico recommended limiting 70th Street from Amsterdam to West End to local traffic because of the number of children who attend P.S. 199 and the reconstruction of Playground 70.

Mr. Reiss stated that TNW is prepared to make the connection, but will do whatever the City and the community want. The connection may change the character of 66th and 70th Streets, which will become direct routes to the Parkway.

The Task Force will follow-up with City Planning, NYCDOT and State DOT on these issues.

Discussion of the development of the next phases of the park and the overall design.

Mr. Reiss reported on the opening of Phase 1 of the Interim Park and the temporary bike/pedestrian path from Pier I to 59th Street.

He also reported that TNW has submitted plans to City Planning for modifications of the design and phasing of remainder of the park. Modifications are allowed under the RSS Restrictive Declaration if they do not reduce the size or the amenities or extend the phasing time.

The approved Interim Park design cannot be built because the berm would place too much pressure on the footings of the Miller Highway. The modified design will increase the acreage as well as park and waterfront access. The modified phasing will permit contiguous construction from north to south along the river and an accelerated schedule.

The Task Force will ask for a pre-certification review.

New Business.

In response to a question about a sewage-type odor at 72nd Street, Mr. Reiss said it resulted from combined-sewer overflow. The sewage pipe, which empties into the Hudson, would have to be extended and lowered. State DEC is responsible.

Present: Ethel Sheffer, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Gale Brewer, Hope Cohen, Phyllis Gunther, Marc Landis, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Evelyn Tamarin. District Manager Penny Ryan. Charlie Reiss, Trump New World; Michael Bradley, Riverside South Planning Corporation; Sue McCoy, P.E., Philip Habib and Associates; Charles McKinney, Administrator, Riverside Park, Frank Fish and George Jacquemart, Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart.

Parks, Cultural Affairs and Libraries Committee
Co-Chairs: Barbara Adler and Robert Herrmann
May 10, 2001

The Department of Parks and Recreation made a presentation on the proposed new location for the Nobel Obelisk in Theodore Roosevelt Park. Community Board 7 had previously approved the design of the Obelisk and its location on 81st Street and Central Park West, but The Landmarks Preservation Commission rejected the Central Park West location. The Parks Department proposed a different location in the park on the Columbus Avenue side close to 80th Street at the convergence of two paths. Adrian Benepe, Manhattan Borough Commissioner of Parks, made the initial presentation describing the Obelisk as a "shrine to the mind" which celebrates intellectual achievement. The Deputy General Consul of Sweden and the Public Information Officer from the Consulate both spoke briefly. Mike Brown from the New York State Department of Parks Olmstead Center spoke about some of the changes in the design, including that the monument was now 17'8" high instead of 20' feet. In addition, the name of the donor, the Merck Foundation, would be identified on the Obelisk.

Several Board members and community members spoke in opposition to the idea of placing the monument in Theodore Roosevelt Park and also spoke in opposition to the specific location. Barbara Adler spoke in favor of the location, saying the living monument would be an inspiration to school children visiting the American Museum of Natural History, that it was fitting for the monument to be placed near the Museum, and the location chosen, on the Columbus Avenue side of Theodore Roosevelt Park, was an ideal site for it.

Bob Herrmann proposed a resolution to approve the location of the monument as presented by The Department of Parks. The Resolution failed 2-2-2 in committee. Board members voted 0-1-0 and public members voted 0-2-0. *

There then followed a presentation by The Department of Parks and Recreation regarding proposed installation of a dragonfly dome sculpture by Voss Finn from June to October 2001 at the end of the new pier in Riverside Park South. Adrian Sass, Public Arts Coordinator for The Parks Department, made the presentation. The sculpture is 22' diameter, 11' high and is made of steel. The artist is responsible for obtaining the appropriate insurance and any maintenance. The sculpture would be fastened into the concrete on the pier and after removal the concrete could be easily patched.

A resolution to approve the location and design of the sculpture was approved 3-2-0 in Committee, Board members voted 0-0-1.

There then followed a report by Klari Neuwelt on the Riverside South Task Force meeting held earlier in the month. Klari reported that there is a proposed revision to the Phase 2 work for the Park, which will result in work being done between 64th and 68th Street. There will be another meeting of the Task Force later in May when more details regarding Phase 2 will be presented.

In the new business session of the meeting, Klari Neuwelt raised a concern regarding the need to provide more pictographs showing bike lanes on the new bike paths in Riverside Park and Riverside Park South. She said that the Committee should consider a letter to the Riverside Park administrator. She also raised a concern regarding the need for more benches on the new pier.

* Please note that in an effort to bring the Nobel Monument issue to Full Board, the entire Board and community has been invited to meet with Manhattan Commissioner of Parks Adrian Benepe, for a site visit to consider various placement locations. This visit will take place on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Present: Barbara Adler, Robert Herrmann, Betty Katz, D. Maria Watson, Klari Neuwelt.

Absent: Doug Griebel, Phyllis Gunther, Joyce Johnson, George Price, Barry Rosenberg.

Board Member: Linda Alexander.

Parks Committee and Landmarks Committee Minutes
May 30, 2001, 6:00 PM
Theodore Roosevelt Park between 79th-80th Streets

The Parks Committee, joint with the Landmarks Committee, held a special meeting on site to see the proposed location for the Nobel Monument. The design for the monument was approved by Community Board 7 several months ago.

The group assembled at the proposed site, just inside the park on the Columbus Avenue side, in an open spot where three paths converge nearby the Arthur Ross terrace (between 79th-80th Streets), a location where the ground is paved.

A short presentation, with plans and scale drawings, was made by the Parks Department. The monument has been reduced in height and bulk to better fit its new proposed location. Representatives from office of the Consul General of Sweden also made remarks and answered some questions, along with Adrian Benepe, Manhattan Commissioner of Parks.

After viewing the chosen location, Mr. Benape asked if anyone else had a location to suggest. Barbara Adler suggested one which was thought by several people present to impact negatively on the Times sculpture outside the new entrance to the Planetarium, and Peter Wright mentioned one he was thinking about on 77th Street, but then withdrew it from consideration.

The group voted to approve the Parks Departments' preferred location. The vote is as follows: Committee members: 4/2/0/0
Board Members :0/2/0/0
Public members: 0/3/0/0

Arlene Simon, from Landmark West, made a statement that her group is opposed to having the monument anywhere in Theodore Roosevelt Park.

Present: Parks Committee members: Barbara Adler, Linda Alexander, Doug Griebel, Bob Herrmann, Klari Neuwelt.

Landmarks Committee Co-Chair: Lenore Norman

Board members: Hope Cohen, Elizabeth Starkey

Public members: Mike O'Neal, Peter Wright

Land Use Committee
Co-Chairs: Richard Asche and Larry Horowitz
May 16, 2001

Richard Asche chaired the meeting.

1. **302 Columbus Avenue** (West 74th-75th Street). New application DCA# 1077541 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Janine's Place Inc., d/b/a Diwan's Curry House, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 13 seats.

The committee adopted a resolution to approve a 9' cafe: 5-0-0-0.

2. **2740 Broadway** (West 105th-106th Streets). New application DCA#1073294 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Silver Moon Bakery, Inc. d/b/a Silver Moon Bakery at 2740 Broadway, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 36 seats.

The committee adopted the following resolution to disapprove:

Whereas, the Silver Moon Bakery was established as a bakery and retail store set up to bake and sell a variety of baked goods to its clients and has provided only three small tables inside as a convenience to its clients to eat "take-out" pastry on the premises; and

Whereas, the interiors premises is too small and too busy to add more tables or to permit waiter service; and

Whereas, the owner/operator has no experience in providing either waiter service or accommodating customers with the requisite china and glassware for outdoor service although the owners/operators have guaranteed and will provide written assurance that they will provide both a staff person to function as a waiter and another as a dishwasher; and

Whereas, the application would permit the owner to in effect operate a wrap around restaurant on the exterior of the premises while reserving the interior for primarily production and retail functions which would be a precedent for a CB7 outdoor street permit, which assumes the primary business of the owner is the restaurant business;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan disapproves the new application DCA#1073294 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Silver Moon Bakery, Inc. d/b/a Silver Moon Bakery at 2740 Broadway, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 36 seats.

Committee: 2-2-1-0. Board Members: 0-1-0-0.

3. **La Cocina, 217 West 85th Street** (Amsterdam Avenue -Broadway).

Whereas, La Cocina has agreed that delivery bicycles will no longer be locked to the fence and trees; and

Whereas, the owner has agreed and will provide in writing to the community board that he will provide a bike rack;

Whereas, delivery personnel will desist from riding on the sidewalk;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the renewal application DCA#914984 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by La Cocina Mexican Inc., d/b/a La Cocina Mexica at 217 West 85th Street, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 13 seats, conditional on receipt of a letter outlining the owner's agreement to police his delivery people and provide a bike rack.

Committee: 4-1-0-1.

4. **340 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 76th Street). Renewal application DCA# 917771 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 340 Brew Pub, Inc. d/b/a Westside Brewing Company at 340 Amsterdam Avenue, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 14 tables and 47 seats. The applicant did not attend. The application was laid over.

5. **2180 Broadway** (West 77th Street). Renewal application DCA# 1021206 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 2180 Broadway Restaurant Inc. d/b/a Manhattan Diner at 2180 Broadway, for a five-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 18 tables and 38 seats. The committee adopted a resolution to approve the application: Committee: 5-0-0-0. Board members: 1-0-0-0.

6. **433 West End Avenue (West 81st Street), The Calhoun School** (West 80th-81st Streets).

Presentation by the Calhoun School on as-of-right plans to fill in the southwest corner of the building and to add four levels above the entire structure.

Calhoun was represented by Land Use Counsel, Shelly Friedman; Sylvia Smith, a representative of the architecture firm of Fox and Fowler; Eric Ryan, Chairman of the Board of Calhoun; and Stephen Nelson, Headmaster.

The presentation was arranged by CB7 at the request of the community because of continuing community dissatisfaction with the perceived indifference of Calhoun to the impact that adding height to create in effect an 11-story building and bulk to a 5 1/2 story structure will have on the surrounding neighborhood and Calhoun's seeming intransigence in partnering with the community to minimize the impact of the building, or the inconvenience of its construction despite several meetings with the community at the school and a previous one at CB7 Land Use.

The perception that Calhoun students are disruptive and rude in the neighborhood and repeated requests by the community to control smoking on the street and noise emanating from the school have met with little response on the part of the school and have contributed to the perception that the school is not acting in good faith toward the community. Although Calhoun contends they began notifying the community more than a year ago, neighbors said the school's efforts were not aimed at wide outreach. The proposed building is as-of-right and building permits have been reserved and construction on phase one is slated to begin June 11.

Calhoun presented arguments to the fact that impact on the neighborhood was a consideration and the proposed building which will add science labs, a theatre and new gymnasium and rooftop gathering area variously described as a science resource center and play areas with a capacity of 70 students, is not being built to the limits of the allowable FAR and the new spaces will not add enrollment to the school although spaces used for these functions in the school will now be free and acquisition of the adjacent townhouse create opportunities to increase enrollment.

Representatives from Assemblyman Scott Stringer's office and Congressman Jerrold Nadler's office questioned whether adequate studies had been done to assess the impact of light and shadows on the adjacent buildings. Calhoun was requested if necessary to bring their animated computer simulation of light to the next Land Use meeting.

Calhoun has hired a construction quality control firm to insure that construction will neither disrupt the neighborhood, endanger students or residents. Although construction will begin at 8:00 a.m., the school offered reassurances there would be no external construction on weekends. Walkways will be created for residents of West 81st Street to skirt construction and deliveries, which must be made through the 81st entrance. No parking permits will be obtained for both sides of the street to insure the garage entrance to 440 is not blocked.

Richard Asche pointed out that the school and community should regard this as a common cause to work together. He urged the community to set aside its anger and work with the school to resolve

problems relating to the choice of materials, construction scheduling, the rooftop play area, continuing problems with students and admonished the school that it was in its long term interests to cooperate with its neighbors. Marc Landis was appointed to organize and oversee a task force of school and neighborhood representatives to monitor the construction process and work through disagreements.

Committee Members Present: Richard Asche, Melanie Radley, Lenore Norman, Betty Katz, D. Maria Watson. **Committee Members Absent:** Larry Horowitz, Hope Cohen, Doug Griebel, Ethel Sheffer.
Board members Present: Marc Landis, Hector Santana.

Landmark Committee
Co-Chairs: Lenore Norman and Dan Cohen
May 17, 2001

1. Jerry Calderi and Christian Richins spoke about their plans for the Greek Orthodox Church on West 91st Street and West End Avenue. The ramp will run along West 91st Street side of the church, halfway down the block from the more visible corner on WEA. Committee members favored the ramp, provided the design was altered to so that the metal pickets of the ramp were equally spaced, even if it meant lengthening the ramp "landing" at the midpoint, and the pickets should line up with the church's vertical stone facade lines. The architects also said the facing of the ramp would be matched to the facing of the church using a synthetic stone product. APPROVED 3-0-0-0.

2. Ronald Massie of Global Network Communications spoke about his plans to move a phone from its current location close to a building on Amsterdam to the curbside. The phone was installed in 1995, legalized the following year. Eleven phones along Columbus from West 72nd Street to West 66th Street. Five phones within a block of this phone, not including one Verizon phone that does not work. Massie made a convincing argument that his phone was heavily used, malfunctioned less than other phones and was never out of order for more than 6 hours due to the deployment of "smart phone technology." Despite some initial opposition, APPROVED 3-1-0-0.

New Business:

Dan reviewed the Manhattan Avenue Historic District letter and talked about landmarking PS 165. Lenore brought up the Calhoun School review - 8 stories as-of-right and the Heschel School at the next meeting, and would check on the status of the school/community negotiations.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Present: Dan Cohen (minutes), Lenore Norman, Patricia Stevens, Ulma Jones.

Housing Committee
Co-Chair: Beth Berns and Tom Vitullo-Martin
May 3, 2001

Discussion tenant leaders from New York Housing Authority developments in CD7:

There is asbestos in 830 Amsterdam Avenue. NYCHA is currently doing a survey and plans call for contractor to come and remove the asbestos.

Data stated that the biggest problem was crimes such as drugs, prostitution and homeless living in the buildings, lack of elevator service. It was stated that additional cameras and private security is needed especially in 201 West 93rd Street. There was discussion about the need for more effective screenings of prospective residents. Community Board 7 advised the tenants about the "right of quiet enjoyment" and that perhaps it might help to improve their quality of life.

Patricia reported a problem, which makes for excessive garbage, and both the Department of Parks and Recreation and NYCHA say that the other agency is responsible.

Hector spoke about the drug problems. Bawdy House Law allows the Police Department to work with the building's management office to get eviction. New York landlord has to go through the District Attorney's office. He also brought to the Committee's attention that a person was injured by newly installed elevators.

The tenants were advised that there should be a joint action coalition approach.

There was a suggestion that the police sub-station be revitalized so that they have a more dramatic presence in the buildings.

The need for the rehabilitation for physical plants was expressed.

Follow-up on development of city-owned vacant lots on West 110th and 109th Streets, Manhattan Avenue:

John Waters, project manager from HPD gave an update. ULURP will be June 4th DCP Review Session. Non-subsidized proposal only; 112 units total: 25 condos (\$110K), 87 rentals, day care center, 1 additional community space, garden playground space (which will be open to the public).

Resale covenant to prevent "flipping" of ownership and getting the resultant housing out of affordable housing space.

Nobody was actually displaced-vacant for more than 12 years.

One proposed alternative was a center for children with learning disabilities. Community residents say that public space used for children is necessary. The project is welcomed for its economic base.

Focused discussion on how to finance bottom line to get low-income residents into homes.

Generally, those in attendance favored the project. The main concern is how to protect those living in the area and those who lost homes.

Report by residents of 108 West 80th Street:

Owner occupied eviction, 12 apartments and everyone served. The residents have retained an attorney and are looking to form a coalition to change the existing laws.

Rent Guidelines Board:

Residents feel its not helping anyone the way it currently functions. It is important for everyone to attend and testify.

SCRIE:

Grant to disabled and raise income issues for seniors. We'll vote to support in the next general meeting.