

**Full Board Meeting
Lawrence Horowitz, Chair
June 4, 2002**

Chair Larry Horowitz called the meeting to order.

Chair's Report

Mr. Horowitz announced at the last Manhattan Borough Board meeting a presentation was made by the NY State Liquor Authority. He also stated that Columbia University has submitted a written confirmation that they will keep the commitment regarding admissions policies for the new school at Broadway and 110th Street.

District Manager's Report

Penny Ryan reported the residents seem to be accepting the new alternate side parking regulations. She extended an invitation to the board member to attend a GIS meeting at the Municipal Art Society. She asked the committees to look at how they can use the mapping system.

Election for Office of 3rd Vice-Chair

Hope Cohen was elected 3rd Vice-Chair.

Public Session

Chi-Lu Chiang, Health First, introduced his organization and described free or low cost health insurance.

Brian Sogol, Senator Duane's office, ask the Board for assistance in bring the Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act to the Senate floor.

Jason Haber, Assemblyman Stringer's office, discussed the work release program for battered women and announce upcoming Town Hall meeting.

Alyson Spindell, Senator Schneiderman's office, informed the Board about complaints from seniors regarding access to public transportation. The Senator participated in the process to raise minimum wage to \$6.75.

Reinaldo Huges, Maria Trinidad Sanchez Association, informed the board of the problems at 201 West 108th Street. Six merchants received a notice to vacate their stores in 30 days. Asked the Board for support.

Gary Bernstein, Wingspan Arts, announced they are hoping to build an art center in the neighborhood and in the meantime they are running summer programs at PS 87.

Alan Flacks spoke about problems with security measures at the Municipal Building.

Business Session

Parks, Cultural Affairs and Libraries Committee

Co-Chairs: Barbara Adler and Bob Herrmann

1. Resolution to approve the final design for the reconstruction of the East Meadow in Central Park was adopted: 30-0-0-0.

Transportation Committee

Co-Chairs: Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig

Cynthia Doty, Assemblyman Ed Sullivan's office, spoke against the renewal application.

2. Resolution to approve the renewal application #B00256 *for one year license* to NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission by Carmel Car and Limo Service at 2642 Broadway for a For Hire Base Station license was adopted: 26-1-3-0.

Land Use Committee

Co-Chairs: Hope Cohen and Richard Asche

3. Resolution to approve the renewal application DCA#1028803 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by West Burritoville, Inc. d/b/a Burritoville at 451 Amsterdam Avenue, for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 12 seats was adopted: 26-3-1-0.
4. Resolution to approve the renewal 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 five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 23 seats was adopted: 26-3-1-0.
5. Resolution to approve the renewal application DCA#738544 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 320 Columbus Avenue, Inc. d/b/a Mughlai Indian Cuisine at 320 Columbus Avenue, for a one-year (revised to five-year) consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 26 seats was adopted: 28-2-1-0.
6. Resolution to approve the new application DCA#1103658 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by CMR Corp. d/b/a Puerto Argentino at 249-251 Columbus Avenue, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 20 seats was adopted 26-3-1-0.
7. Resolution to approve the new application DCA#1103575 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 466 Amsterdam Avenue, LLC d/b/a Sushi Hana at 466 Amsterdam Avenue, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 22 seats was adopted: 26-3-1-0.
8. Resolution to approve the new application DCA#1104296 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Wing Li Loug, Inc. d/b/a Yuki Japanese Restaurant at 656 Amsterdam Avenue, for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 14 tables and 28 seats was adopted: 27-2-1-0.

Present: Lawrence Horowitz, Chair, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Janet Alvarez, Richard Asche, Dan Cohen, Hope Cohen, Georgette Gittens, Guillermo Gonzalez, Jean Green-Dorsey, Doug Griebel, Phyllis Gunther, Marlene Guy, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Ulma Jones, Barbara Katzander, Barbara Keleman, Marc Landis, Eric Nelson, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Sharon Parker-Frazier, George Price, Melanie Radley, Barry Rosenberg, Hector Santana, Jr., Elizabeth Starkey, Barbara Van Buren, D. Maria Watson, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Robert Zuckerman.

Absent: Annette Averette, Beth Berns, Sheldon Fine, John Howell, Joyce Johnson, Betty Katz, William Meyers, Oscar Rios, Helen Rosenthal, Ethel Sheffer, Patricia Stevens, Evelyn Tamarin, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Dan Zweig.

Transportation Committee
Co-Chairs: Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig
June 11, 2002

BICYCLE RACKS

Dan Orlando from DOT gave an update on the bicycle rack program. There is a process for requesting bike racks from the City of New York. After some discussion, it was agreed that Community Boards would get one month to review proposed locations. DOT doesn't check the reason for the requests. They try to ascertain whether there is a need for the racks. Some rules apply: They must be on sidewalks that are at least 12 ft wide. Unfortunately, sidewalks are sprayed with orange paint where the racks will be sited! We are trying to get DOT to use a less permanent marker, especially where racks are disapproved. Lastly, there is a newer design bike rack, which has square rungs, instead of round ones.

103rd & 110th STREET STATION REHABS

Rob Marino & David Fell, of NYC Transit, gave a presentation on the proposed 103rd & 110th St. station rehabs that will begin shortly. The rehabs are on the fast track due to Columbia University's contributions to these stations, as well as to 116th & 125th St. stations, all on the #1 line. These station rehabs are, in part, a celebration of Columbia University's 250th Anniversary, and the subway system's 100th birthday. Both stations should be completed by 2004. 110th Street is a landmarked station, 103rd Street is not. New floor tile will be installed at both stations. New white glass tile will be installed at 110th Street, reflecting the landmark status. Ceramic tile will be used at 103rd St.

Mosaics will be restored or replaced at both stations. At 103rd Street, in the middle of the Broadway Malls, where there used to be a head-house (demolished in 1967), a skylight will be installed, allowing natural light to enter the station. This skylight will be very low to the ground, and will not block any sightlines. It will also allow some ventilation into the station. Some concerns were expressed regarding the loss of four potted trees in the malls where the skylight will be located. The trees will be replaced. The 104th Street exit on the uptown side will get two exit wheels, instead of the single one presently used. 110th Street will get new finishes, new electric systems, and new scrubber rooms, as well as new TA facilities. A new stairway on the south side of 110th Street on the downtown side was mentioned by the Committee as a possible addition to the 110th St. renovations, but NYC Transit declined to include that in the renovations, citing existing sewer lines as a possible problem. When asked if origin/destination studies were undertaken by NYC Transit to ascertain where passengers who use the station were coming from, the response was no. The schedule for the station rehabs is as follows: The project will be advertised in September, Awarded in December, and construction will begin in January 2003. During construction, one side of the stations will have closures for six weeks at a time. Some weekends will also see closures - including ALL FOUR STATIONS - 103-110-116-125 Sts.

ANTENNAE

Ed Willner, President of E.A. Technologies was present to explain the need & location of the antennae, which will allow Police radios to communicate both above & below ground. The antennae, which look like the base & pole of street lamps (without the lamps themselves, and somewhat lower) must be located within a certain proximity of the communications rooms, which are being built in each subway station. They will usually be located on grates, both in the Broadway Malls, and sometimes, within Central Park. The height is 30 ft, mounted on 1 ft. bases. They will be maintained either by the stations dept. or the maintenance of way dept. All locations were shown with maps, with the exception of the 72nd & Broadway location, which is yet to be determined. (although near 73rd St on the uptown side is a likely location).

BUS SHELTERS

The Committee proposed the following locations for including seating in bus shelters: W side of Broadway on the eastbound M66; NE Corner of Broadway/106th St. on the northbound M104, M60; and 59th & 10th Avenue, on the northbound M11.

STREET LAMP BASES

The Committee is inspecting street lamp bases throughout the district to identify how many and where the bases are either missing covers, or are open.

NEW BUSINESS

John Cochran - Mr. Cochran spoke on the lack of enforcement of existing traffic laws, and the failure of motorists to yield to pedestrians on turns. He also spoke about the problems with bicycles on sidewalks.

Peter Jenkins - Mr. Jenkins spoke again about the problems with traffic issues in the Freedom Place & West 66th St. areas, specifically about u-turns on 66th Street, and what will happen when the reconstruction of 66th Street begins.

Klari Neuwelt spoke briefly about the Waterfront Task Force.

Committee Members Present: Andrew Albert, Dan Zweig, Bobbi Katzander, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman.

Committee Members Absent: Joyce Johnson, Barbara Keleman, Marc Landis, Oscar Rios, Elizabeth Starkey, Barbara Van Buren, Tom Vitullo-Martin.

Parks Committee
Co-Chairs: Barbara Adler and Robert Herrmann
Minutes: June 18, 2001

1. New Fencing Around Reservoir in Central Park. Central Park Conservancy representative Ed Benson, along with landscape architect Julia Bassett, presented diagram, history and other information regarding the proposed fencing around the perimeters of the Central Park Reservoir. The black iron fencing subscribes to standards maintained by DEP, but at 5-feet-high, is taller than the 3 ½-feet-high fencing required by New York City Code. Mesh will be placed at the lower level of the fencing to prevent debris from falling into the water, although the reservoir is no longer used as a water supply to New York City.

WHEREAS, the proposed new fence for the perimeter of the Central Park Reservoir is a sympathetic restoration of the original fence; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new fence is stylistically sympathetic with other permanent fencing in Central Park,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan, approves the design for the restoration of the fence around the Central Park Reservoir.

Committee Vote: 7-0-0-0

2. Presentation of Proposed Soccer Field Renovation in Riverside Park at 107th Street. Mark Friedman, Westside Soccer League, presented plans for the renovation of the existing soccer field in Riverside Park. The League's plans, which were drawn up by architect John Betts and recommended by former RSP Manager Charles McKinney, include a state-of-the-art surfacing known as Field Turf, which is currently being used successfully in the soccer field at East Sixth Street. The field would have a multi-use application for soccer and softball and be available for use by local schools. It has been designed in the size of a varsity soccer field, i.e., 63-yards-wide by 115-yards-long and the Westside Soccer League is about to embark upon a fund-raising program. Permitting of the field will not change after the improvements are made. Permitting is now in effect for periods of time on the weekends in spring and fall. When not permitted, the fence will be open. Although the cost is expected to be \$1.3 million, (\$600,000 from private contributions) there will be a major savings in the operating budget, as this turf need no maintenance. It has an 8-10 year guarantee.

Be it Resolved that the Parks Committee of Community Board 7 Approves the proposal to resurface the soccer field in Riverside Park at 107th Street with Field Turf, and wishes the Westside Soccer League well in their fundraising efforts on behalf of this project.

Committee vote: 7/0/0/0

3a. Presentation by Riverside Park Manager KC Sahl. Presented concept of playground concession for unused space in Riverside Park between 105th and 106th streets, adjacent to Café. Various vendors have approached Mr. Sahl and proposed such activities as trapezes, trampolines and wall-climbing equipment. Moreover, all liabilities would belong to the vendors. Mr. Sahl's presentation was not without controversy: one committee member strongly objected to any kind of concession/money-making activity in the Park, with the exception of restaurants. Another

committee member pointed out that this was a common practice in many European parks and that it would give access to amusement park-type activities for a nominal fee that many neighborhood children would not be able to otherwise enjoy due expensive rates charged by most amusement parks, as well as the long distances that are accessible only by car.

3b. Review of Threatened Lawsuit by Building Owner Near 72nd Street/Riverside Park Dog Run. Mr. Sahl was able to report that the lawsuit has been avoided through negotiations by such public officials as Councilmember Gail Brewer and Assemblyman Scott Stringer. In addition to reduced hours of operation and other compromises, the dog run will be moved to a spot further away from 72nd Street, just north and west from the current one.

3c. Review of Artwork. Mr. Sahl presented several photographic samples of possible artists capable of displaying sculpture in Riverside Park. Co-chair Robert Herrmann suggested that Mr. Sahl present additional animal themes at next meeting, and other committee members expressed their feelings about the works of different artists they viewed. The committee was generally enthusiastic about the idea of art in general in Riverside Park, and encouraged Mr. Sahl to move forward with this idea, making a specific presentation when he had chosen an artist.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Committee Members Present: Barbara Adler, Bob Herrmann, Linda Alexander, Dan Cohen, Phyllis Gunther, Betty Katz, Klari Neuwelt.

Committee Members Absent: Doug Griebel, Joyce Johnson, Bob Zuckerman.

Land Use Committee
Co-Chairs: Richard Asche and Hope Cohen
June 19, 2002

1. 201 Columbus Avenue

The applicant was not present.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application DCA# 907282 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by World on Columbus Inc., d/b/a World Cafe at 201 Columbus Avenue (West 69th Street) for a three-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 10 tables and 30 seats.*

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

2. 377 Amsterdam Avenue

Gurmit Singh presented the renewal application for an unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application DCA# 926105 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Mridula Restaurant Corp., d/b/a Shining Star Restaurant at 377 Amsterdam Avenue (West 78th Street) for a five-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 14 tables and 28 seats.*

Committee Member vote: 6-0-0-0 Board Member vote: 1-0-0-0

3. 620 Amsterdam Avenue

Simon Nget, owner, and Steve Wygoda, architect, presented the new application for an unenclosed sidewalk café with 31 tables and 63 seats. The proposed café would be situated on West 90th Street as well as on Amsterdam Avenue. The plans showed a depth of 10 feet, 4 inches on Amsterdam Avenue.

Neighbors Eugene Flan, Barbara Hunter, and Marilyn McClaren spoke in opposition to having the café ‘wrap around’ onto West 90th Street. They were also concerned about noise and fumes from the restaurant. Neighbor Diana Devlin spoke in opposition to any sidewalk café at this location.

Richard Asche and Hope Cohen advised the applicant that having bicycle storage on the sidewalk is not acceptable. Nor is it acceptable to allow patrons to line up for tables outside the café boundaries. Mr. Asche and Ms. Cohen advised the applicant that CB7 policy requires that all of a restaurant’s private use of the public sidewalk must be limited to the space within the boundaries of any café it is permitted to have.

The Committee decided to postpone action on the application. The applicant was invited to return to the July 2002 Committee meeting after having worked with the neighbors and revised the proposed plans to:

- eliminate the wraparound onto West 90th Street
- reduce the depth of the café to 9 feet
- account for bicycle storage in the plans
- account for lines of patrons in the plans.

4. 2737 Broadway

Larry Good, owner, presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café. The applicant agreed to reduce the depth of the café to 9 feet; this reduction requires the loss of 1 table and 4 seats.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to reduce the depth of the proposed sidewalk café to 9 feet (and has agreed to eliminate 1 table and 4 seats from the original plans to accomplish this) 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;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the new application DCA# 1109932 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by The Westside of Broadway Restaurant Group, Inc., d/b/a Carne Restaurant at 2737 Broadway (West 105th Street) for a one-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 16 tables and 30 seats.*

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

5. 261 Columbus Avenue

Sir James Robinson, architect, presented the application for a new unenclosed sidewalk café. Richard Asche advised him to eliminate 2 seats to allow for a full-width waiting aisle.

Michael Pawel spoke in opposition to the application, citing the terrible pedestrian congestion on that particular block (72nd-73rd Streets).

The Committee had a number of operational questions and so postponed action on the application until the owner appears at the July 2002 Committee meeting.

6. 223 West 80th Street, formerly Phoenix House

Michael Goldman, attorney, and Michael Barratt, architect, presented the application for a variance for height limitation for a 'sliver building' zoning lot. The property was previously Phoenix House, and would require extensive remodeling to meet requirements for a commercial building. The building is technologically obsolete, lacks an elevator, and has only a partial basement (i.e. lot is not fully excavated). The applicant proposes to build instead a residential building with 12 market-rate condominiums. The 12 apartments are needed for the development to be economically feasible. The building would be 145 feet high, with 12 stories and a penthouse. This is shorter than its adjacent neighbors to the west and to the north, but taller than the adjacent neighbor to the east, which is 7 stories. The 'sliver building' provisions of the NYC Zoning Resolution apply to the use of this 25-foot-wide lot for residential purposes; these provisions limit development to the height of the shortest adjacent building. The applicant is seeking to exceed the permitted 7 stories, and build 12 stories plus a penthouse.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS Cavan Development Corporation (i.e. the applicant) proposes to construct a 12-story residential building at 223 West 80th on a site whose narrow frontage causes it to be ruled by the Zoning Resolution's 'Sliver Building' provisions, including limitation of height to match the lowest adjacent buildings; and

WHEREAS Community Board 7/Manhattan makes these technical findings in accordance with Section 72-21 of the Zoning Resolution:

- a) *The applicant has not clearly demonstrated that there are unique physical conditions peculiar to and inherent in its zoning lot which conditions prevent the applicant from complying with the Zoning Resolution; however, the conditions of narrowness of the lot, partial excavation of the basement, and obsolete technology of the building may be enough to satisfy the requirements of this finding a)*
- b) *If the applicant has in fact met finding a), then it has also met this finding b) concerning a reasonable return on development of the zoning lot*
- c) *The applicant has demonstrated that the structure for which the variance is being sought will not substantially impair the appropriate use of adjacent property and has demonstrated that the structure will not be detrimental to the public welfare*
- d) *The applicant has not created the difficulties and hardships that the applicant claims as ground for a variance*
- e) *The application appears to be the minimum variance necessary to afford the relief the applicant seeks; and*

WHEREAS award of a variance depends on an applicant meeting all five tests of Section 72-21 of the Zoning Resolution; and

WHEREAS Community Board 7/Manhattan finds that the applicant has met findings c), d), e), and may have met findings a) and b);

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application [BSA #?] to the Board of Standards & Appeals (BSA) by Cavan Development Corporation for a variance to exceed the permissible height limitations to permit the construction of a residential building with 12 floors and penthouse at 223 West 80th Street (Broadway – Amsterdam Avenue), conditionally upon BSA finding that the applicant has met finding a).*

Committee Member vote: 5-0-1-0 Board Member vote: 2-0-0-0

7. Monterey Garage, 137 West 89th Street

In a continuation from the May meeting, the Committee collected testimony from the community concerning the pending disposition of 137 West 89th Street by the Department of Housing Preservation & Development (HPD).

Kenny Mance, owner of the Monterey Garage, submitted written testimony attesting to his desire to continue operating the garage. Approximately 20 members of the public were in attendance for this item. A number of long-time neighbors and patrons of the garage, including Merv Hall, Steven Kundruther, Harold Richman, and Jane O'Shaughnessy, support the continued presence of the garage and the type of local, family-run businesses it represents. Mr. Kundruther cited the loss of 150 spaces with the previous destruction of the Equadorian Garage; he asked the Committee not to repeat the mistake of forcing cars onto the street. [Name?] asked the Committee to consider the garage employees; Mr. Mance is a good employer and runs a unionized shop.

This will be a continuing issue for the Committee. There has been no notification from HPD concerning the timetable for the disposition process.

8. Water Taxi Amendment

The Department of City Planning is proposing to amend the Zoning Resolution to increase the capacity of the smallest type of ferries, to be used for water-taxi service. This is a city-wide

amendment applicable to docks in commercial and residential zones. All of CB7's waterfront is along parkland, and so is not immediately impacted by this minor change.

The Committee favored encouraging waterborne transportation and adopted the following resolution:

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application #020569 ZRY by the Department of City Planning to amend the NYC Zoning Resolution with regard to water taxis to increase the vessel capacity from 50 to 99 passengers.*

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Hope Cohen, Doug Griebel, Lenore Norman, Melanie Radley. **Land Use Committee Members Absent:** Janet Alvarez, Peter Bailey, Betty Katz, Ethel Sheffer, Maria Watson.

For Water Taxi item:

Transportation Committee Members Present: Andrew Albert.

Parks Committee Members Present: Linda Alexander, Doug Griebel.

Board Members Present: Sheldon Fine, Marc Landis.

Landmarks Committee
Lenore Norman, Chair
June 20, 2002

1. 153 West 85th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues).

The applicant did not appear.

WHEREAS, the applicant did not attend the hearing;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **disapproves**, without prejudice, application #006671 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to legalize the installation of aluminum windows on the parlor and second floors windows, and asks the Commission to keep the record open until the applicant does appear before the Committee.

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

2. 161 West 78th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues).

Sheila Bauchman painted brownstone pink with LPC objections. Filed application to approve painting. Hearing is pending.

WHEREAS, the color is not in character with the neighborhood, and neither is painting the brownstone;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **disapproves** application #016698 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to legalize painting of the façade without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits.

Committee: 5-0-1-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

3. 485 Amsterdam Avenue (West 83rd-84th Streets).

Larry Lane, Lane Architecture, and Andrew Dvorkin, Owner, presented the application. The exterior design of the former Alligator Alley Bar was not LPC approved. New owner is attempting to make a new bar with more historical appearance, including more appropriate glass and wood storefront painted navy blue with gold lettering.

WHEREAS, the new owner is attempting to make new bar with more historical appearance, including more appropriate glass and wood storefront painted navy blue with gold lettering.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **approves** application #026336 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the installation of storefront infill.

Committee: 5-0-1-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

4. 170 West 83rd Street aka Hi-life Bar and Grill.

Earl Geer, owner, presented the application. Clearing up earlier violations involving paint color, brick design, outdoor café materials. Letter provided clarification to work undertaken by Mr. Geer. Committee approved painting brickwork cream color to match original building color; mahogany color-wood outdoor café to remain unpainted versus painted-over white or cream color, which was not as attractive.

WHEREAS, the brickwork is to be painted cream color to match original building color, and the mahogany color-wood outdoor café to remain unpainted versus painted-over white; and

WHEREAS, the Committee suggests that the stucco on the Amsterdam Avenue frontage remain unchanged, and instead of piecemeal changes supports the owner's desire for more historical overhaul in upcoming new lease renegotiations with landlord.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **approves** application #022685 to modify alterations to the ground floor in non-compliance with Certificate of Appropriateness 93-0008.

Committee: 5-0-1-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

5. 170 West 74th Street aka 287-295 Amsterdam Avenue.

Anna Abramowicz of Abramowicz & Goble Architects presented the application. Maintaining stores with existing leases, which constrains architectural changes, while overhauling Amsterdam Avenue frontage.

WHEREAS, the new design has historical elements, including glass transoms and understated lighting and signage; and

WHEREAS, instead of the buff-colored awnings, which will have signage on the "drop", the Committee proposes a darker color to allow store name to stand out more clearly;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **approves** application #024484 for building-wide storefront infill replacement.

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

6. 170 West 74th Street aka 287-295 Amsterdam Avenue.

WHEREAS, the Master Plan calls for slowly replacing the original "3-over-1" frames with large "1-over-1" windows with smaller side windows; and

WHEREAS, the design, while not historically accurate, is practical and aesthetically inoffensive.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7's Landmarks Committee **approves** application #022370 to create a master plan governing the future installation of windows.

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.

7. Broadway IRT Station at 110th Street. Application #025733 to modify the station walls.

Robert Marino, assistant director for community relations for MTA, and David Barabas, staff architect for MTA. APPROVED removing and replacing with identical glass tiling along entire walls of station, both sides. Brick wainscoting, terra cotta tiles will be cleaned and retained in place. A small portion of a wall will be moved out on both sides of the station for greater room for staff needs, requiring new wall to be constructed, which will be identical to existing station walls. The committee adopted a resolution to approve the application. (Subsequent to the meeting, LPC decided to consider the application at staff level.)

8. Discussion of the status of the Rice Mansion, Riverside Drive and West 89th Street.

Joan Rome, resident of 160 Riverside Drive and the "Committee to Preserve the Rice Mansion" spoke about noise, dust and dirt, as well as perceived poor condition of school property. The following residents expressed similar concerns:

- Eugene Sullivan, resident 585 WEA
- Michael Levine, area resident
- Jackie Hoffman, 160 WEA
- Pricilla Tate, 160 WEA

Ira Lask, a resident of 160 WEA, whose children attend the Yeshiva, spoke about his attempts to raise his concerns, and suggested they were not received or responded to by the Yeshiva staff. Proposed that Committee will write a letter to the LPC requesting a site visit to evaluate current conditions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Lenore Norman, Dan Cohen, Ulma Jones, William Meyers, Patricia Stevens, Marlene Gay. **Public Member:** Michelle Kidwell-Cohen.

Health and Human Services Committee
Minutes 6/25/02
Co-Chairs David Harris and Barbara Van Buren

The meeting was opened by the Co-Chairs; introductions were made.

1) The first item on the agenda was a presentation from David Thompson, of Marriage Equality New York. The group is seeking approval for same sex marriages, and is reaching out to the Community Boards to open the discussion among local communities. Manhattan Boards 2, 3, and 4 have issued resolutions approving same sex marriages. It was reported that 5 and 8 have it on their Board agendas.

David proposed that:

Marriage is a fundamental human right. The US Supreme Court in 1967 declared that the “freedom to marry” belongs to all Americans. As a fundamental right, there is a special imperative upon the state to demonstrate overwhelming harm caused by the unrestricted exercise of that right, if the state chooses to limit that right in any way. As there has been no proof that same sex marriages cause harm to anyone, the state should not deny their existence.

Although marriages are traditionally between men and women, there is nothing inherent in the concept of marriage that places it exclusively within the heterosexual community.

On a daily basis, same sex committed couples face challenges unknown to opposite sex married couples. Complications arise in visiting their partner in the hospital, applying for immigration residency, adoption, foster care, inheritance, insurance, taxation.

The marriage of two adults of the same sex who seek to make a lifetime commitment to one another, takes nothing away from the marriage of anyone else, but rather affirms the importance of marriage.

Efforts to establish “civil unions” will not bestow the rights of marriage on same-sex couples.

The Committee discussed the issue and was in full agreement with the concept of same sex marriage. Personal experiences of individuals who had been shut out by families when their long-term partners died, partners who had been kept from the hospital bedsides because there was no legally identified family, were discussed. Civil rights issues were considered.

A resolution supporting the full legal rights of marriage of same sex couples was passed. Comm: 6-0-0-0

Pub Mem 1-0-0

2) The second item was a continuation of the discussion of the use of Pesticides to control the mosquito population and the threat of the West Nile disease. Last month there had been presentations by groups opposing spraying, including the NoSpray Coalition and NYPIRG. This month, representatives from the Health Department and the Parks Department presented.

Dan Markowski, the Deputy Director for Mosquito Control for the Health Department, gave the current plans for control. The Department, which did not spray last year, is now emphasizing source resolution, or larva control. They are spraying the marshlands of Staten Island, where mosquitoes are breeding, by air. It is an area where no people are expected to be affected. They will also be spraying the marshes in the Rockaways. They are tightening up the issuance of notice of violations to people who have standing water in which the mosquitoes breed. The Parks Department representative said they were following the same guidelines.

If these precautions are not successful in controlling the mosquitoes, methods will have to be used to kill the adult mosquito. This is the chief area of concern for most environmentalists and the general public. The Health Department's initial efforts, two years ago, were done in a hasty, poorly managed way. Misinformation was given as to when public spraying would take place, Streets and parks were sprayed indiscriminately without consideration of the effect on people of the pesticides in the air, and on the foods in the markets. Many people's health was affected, and people felt no assurance that there was a thoughtful approach to the problem, but rather that there was a panic response.

Since that time, the Department hired an experienced specialist in mosquito control, and consideration is being given to the most effective means of control, with the least harm to people. Although few people have died of the West Nile disease, the Health Department has decided it must take some action to control it, given the fact that they know it is spread by mosquitoes, and that there is no vaccine or known treatment if people contract it. They are exploring new methods of control, such as mosquito magnets, and sound waves. There was concern expressed that the side effects on living things be a part of the evaluation of any new products. There was some question as to how much the Health Department put into evaluations of new methods.

The group was impressed by Mr. Markowski, but wanted reassurance that he was being given the back-up he needs from the Department.

A resolution was passed, criticizing the Department for their previous handling of the situation, and encouraging them to continue their current efforts to produce the least harmful methods of control. They were urged to consult with other health and scientific groups in order to have state-of-the-art information. Proper citizen notification was also emphasized as a necessary element in reassuring the public that proper precautions were being taken. (It should be noted that the Health Department representative said despite the many media releases they are making, the media is not picking them up, and so people don't know what is happening.)

A resolution with these concerns was passed. Comm: 6-0-0-0
Non-Comm Bd Member 1-0-0-0

3) New Business

Tom Vitullo Martin brought to the Committee concerns expressed at the last 24th Precinct Council Meeting. A large number of community representatives attended, and expressed concern that the police were ignoring the many problems presented by residents of the SROs in the neighborhood, both criminal activity, and quality of life issues.

No one present at this meeting had been present at the Council Meeting, so specific issues could not be addressed, but Committee Members had looked at the SRO issue many times in the past. The issues brought to the Committee have been primarily related to the City's placement of individuals needing help with special problems, such as AIDS, in the SROs, but then not providing the services which would address those problems. A meeting is being planned with the City agencies involved to consider ways the problem can be addressed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

A poll was taken after the meeting to determine if there should be a meeting during July. It was decided not to have one.