

April 2006 Minutes

Full Board Meeting Sheldon Fine, Chairperson

April 4, 2006 at Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center

Mr. Fine called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

The following corrections to the March 7 full board minutes were made: Riverside Park temporary art vote was 37-0-0-1; vote for 210 West 102nd Street was 25-6-2-0; deletion of references to design concerns about fireplaces at 120 West 72nd Street. The minutes, as amended, were approved: 30-0-1-0.

Chairman's Report: Sheldon J. Fine

Mr. Fine announced reappointments and new appointments of board members. New members are: Islande Dupoux, Anne Raphael, Jeffrey Siegal, Josh Feldman, John Donahue, Jeffrey Bank, and Benjamin Howard-Cooper. He welcomed Messrs. Donahue and Siegel, who were at the meeting. He asked Board members to volunteer to serve as mentors to new board members.

Mr. Fine announced that approximately 800 people attended the March 29 West 96 th _1101h Street Planning Task Force meeting, chaired by Ethel Sheffer, and asked her to report. Ms. Sheffer reviewed the issues being considered and reported that the March 29 meeting showed the interest of the community in rezoning and in issues such as affordable housing and economic development. The next meeting will be on April 11, when Task Force members will begin specific deliberations. The Task Force will make recommendations to the full Board and to the Department of City Planning. Elizabeth Starkey asked about the length of time the rezoning would take and about the community's request for a moratorium on development. Ms. Sheffer said that City Council members have been asked to look into this. City Planning's presentation and a summary of the March 15 th meeting are at www.cb7.orcL.

Mr. Fine asked for reports from the following: the Strategy & Budget Committee, the Youth & Education Committee and the School at Columbia Task Force.

Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson, Strategy & Budget Committee, asked committees to begin updating the District Needs Statement, which is at www.cb7.org. The FY2008 DNS is due at City Planning in mid-June. Ms. Rosenthal is available to attend committee meetings and assist with the updates.

Luis Reyes, Co-Chairperson, Youth & Education Committee, announced the April 6 forum on the District 3 Kindergarten Lottery process. Council Members Gale Brewer and Melissa Mark-Viverito have confirmed that they would attend.

Mr. Fine reported that David Harris and he met with an official of the School at Columbia to discuss issues regarding the Board's agreement with the school as well as some

concerns raised by parents. He then called on Mr. Harris.

David Harris reported on the School at Columbia. 48% of the slots are for the community; 35% of the students receive a full subsidy. Next year, the total financial aid will be \$3 million.

District Manager's Report: Penny Ryan

Ms. Ryan encouraged use of City Planning's Census FactFinder, NY Map Portal, and Zoning Resolution. The office will provide the link to the website from www.cb7.org. Applications for summer youth employment may be accessed through a link at www.cb7.org. The office is now processing summer bus requests. Call 212-603-3080.

With Council Member Gale Brewer, the City-wide 311 advisory task force, composed of District Managers, held its first meeting. The task force will advise the Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications on data needs and on ways to improve the processing of 311 calls. First of data should be available in late April. Ms. Ryan has asked the community to inform the CB 7 office about problems with 311 calls.

Manhattan Borough President's Report

Joshua Bocian reported. The MBP has finished community board appointments. MCB7 has seven new members, including one teen-ager. The MBPO received 624 applications; total new applications were 375. The office conducted 1-1 interviews with 463 applicants. There were 112 vacancies; all are filled. The next step is to revamp the training for new community board president. Mr. Bocian urged the public community to sign up for e-mail updates at www.manhattanbp.org.

Reports by Legislators Council Member Gale Brewer: Announced her \$500,000 program that will provide laptop computers for students as well as for teacher-training and tech support at four middle schools. Computer companies are making in-kind contributions.

Working on improving movement of buses and general traffic.

Concerned about illegal tourism in SROs, residential hotels, and apartment buildings. She has called for expansion of Midtown Enforcement.

Has compiled a list of banks and managers and has been approaching them for donations.

Public Session

- Michael Meade, State Senator Eric Schneiderman's office, reported the legislature passed an on-time budget.
- Ede Fox, Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito's office, read letter to City Planning regarding Broadway zoning; group of electeds met with City Planning on what would trigger an environmental impact statement; announced community forum between Douglas Housing Tenants Association and NYCHA at the end of the April. Dan Berger, Congressman Charles Rangel's office, announced newsletter. Carrie Schmitz, Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell's office, announced newsletter. Cynthia Elliot and Isaiah Sheffer of Symphony Space announced the Upper West Fest, from April 28 to May 15.

Lisa Wager, Diane Louard Michel, Deborah Howes, and Maggie, parents at the School at Columbia School, expressed concerns about changes in financial aid policies. David Harris will follow-up and report to the Board in May.

Diana Schneider, ROAR, spoke about redesign of air space and comment period on FAA's draft environmental impact statement. Transportation Committee plans to discuss this on April 11.

Chris Westly, Tribeca Film Festival, announced the festival and its extension to Upper West Side.

Ernestine Gallagher, complained about dog feces in park at 55 West End Avenue. Board office will follow-up.

Alan Flax addressed local telephone service.

Melissa Thornton, Lincoln Center, introduced new staffs; announced summer programs at Lincoln Center. Community Board members asked about redevelopment plans and asked for updates.

Eva Swan, Vocal Ease, requested for assistance on funding.

Business Session

Full texts of the following resolutions are available at March Transportation Committee minutes

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

1. Newsracks: "Recapturing Our Streets - Fighting Newsrack Clutter." The resolution to approve the newsracks resolution was adopted: 35-0-1-0.

2. 434 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81st Street.) The resolution to approve renewal application DCA#1002039 to the Department of Consumers Affairs by Pensu Corp., d/b/a Roppongi, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 10 tables and 25 seats was adopted: 35-1-0-0.

3. 2452 Broadway (West 90th - 91st Streets.) The resolution to approve renewal application DCA#0907818 to the Department of Consumers Affairs by Mary Ann's Mexican Restaurant Inc., d/b/a Mary Ann's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 14 tables and 28 seats was adopted:

35-1-0-0.

4. 660 Amsterdam Avenue (West 92nd-93rd Streets.) The resolution to approve new application DCA#1218922 to the Department of Consumers Affairs by P.H.A. Inc., d/b/a Lisca, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 10 tables and 20 seats was adopted:

33-2-0-0.

5. 300 Amsterdam Avenue (West 74th Street.) The resolution to approve new (modification) application DCA#1218880 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by American Specialty Foods, d/b/a Josie's, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk cafe with 11 tables and 27 seats was adopted: 29-5-1-0.

6. 502 Amsterdam Avenue (West 84th -85th Streets.) The resolution to approve renewal application DCA#1146560/ULURP # N060282 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Romagica Corp., d/b/a Celeste Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk cafe with 4 tables and 10 seats was adopted: 25-11-0-0.

There was discussion about the rationale for approving the cafe since the Board disapproved it in 2004 with a vote of 27-0-0-0.

Parks & Preservation Committee

Lenore Norman and Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chairpersons

7. 646 West End Avenue, West Side Kollel (West 91st-92nd Streets.) The resolution to approve application #05-6447 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for construction of side- and rear-yard addition and modification of the front areaway was adopted: 32-0-0-0.

8. 466 Columbus Avenue, d/b/a Kidville, NY (West 82nd-83rd Streets.) The resolution to approve application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a storefront infill and partial third-story addition was adopted: 32-1-0-0.

9. 65 Central Park West (West 66th Street.) The resolution to approve application #06-3716 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to, enlarge window openings was adopted: 34-0-0-0.

10. 248 Central Park West (West 84th-85th Streets.) The resolution to approve application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace windows and construct a front-gate and penthouse addition was adopted: 33-0-0-0.

Solid Waste Management Plan Task Force Charles Simon

11. NY City's Proposed Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Simon reviewed the background of SWMP and reported the City Council was preparing to take action on the plan. The resolution requesting further study of various alternatives was adopted: 35-0-1-0.

Present: Sheldon J. Fine, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Hope Cohen, Page Cowley, Alberto Cruz, Lance Dashefsky, John Donahue, Guillermo Gonzalez, Phyllis Gunther, Marlene Guy, David Harris, Lawrence Horowitz, Robert Herrmann, Chaumtoli Huq, Ulma Jones, Bobbie Katzander, Eric Nelson, Klari Neuwelt,

Lenore Norman, Gabrielle Palitz, Sharon Parker-Frazier, Melanie Radley, Luis O Reyes, Oscar Rios, Madge Rosenberg, Helen Rosenthal, Ethel Sheffer, Jeffrey Siegel, Charles Simon, Elizabeth Starkey, Steve Strauss, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, D. Maria Watson. 'Absent: John Howell. Joyce S. Johnson, Dan Zweig, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero. On Leave: Jean Green-Dorsey, Barbara Keleman, Melanie Wymore.

Strategy and Budget Committee

Helen Rosenberg, Chairperson

April 4, 2006, Minutes

CB7 Budget Priorities:

Meeting Dates with Elected Officials

Council Member Gale Brewer, April 17, 12:30 at District Office (note: additional issue she raised of additional inspectors required for hotels and illegal immigrants).

Council Member Inez Dickens: Michah to confirm time for April 11th.

Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito, May 2, 10am at District Office.

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, meet with Josh Bocian and David Cohen.

Need to send letter to electeds to confirm meeting dates, and with budget priorities attached to highlight the needs in their district.

District Needs Statement update Due June 2006.

An announcement was made at the Full Board meeting that updating the DNS will be on the April and May committee meeting agendas

Committee assignments: Elizabeth Starkey with work with the Health Committee, Helen Rosenthal will work with the Youth Committee. All committee members will review the DNS on-line.

Additional sections: 96th-110th street development (Ethel Sheffer); 311 update (John Howell or Penny Ryan); Charles Simon (SWMP); Land Use (Hope Cohen).

Block Association meetings and follow-up

Phyllis Gunther will meet with the 69th Street Block Association.

Helen Rosenthal will follow up on punch list items with Penny Ryan and Council Member Gale Brewer.

We agreed that the Strategy and Budget Committee will have standing meetings at 6pm prior to each of the Full Board meetings on the first Tuesday of each month.

Present: Phyllis Gunther, Bob Herrmann, Helen Rosenthal and Elizabeth Starkey.

Youth and Education Committee

Luis O. Reyes and Alberto Cruz, Co-Chairpersons

**Transcript of Center for Immigrant Families Presentation on April 6th 2006
Community forum on the District 3 Kindergarten Lottery.**

Presenters for CIF: Yandra Mordan, Donna Nevel, Priscilla González

Yandra Mordan:

Good evening!

We are here tonight to share with you our evaluation of the lottery admissions process for out of catchment seats in the public elementary schools of District 3. We will focus on the impact of this process on low-income families of color.

First of all, I want to give a brief introduction of what our community has lived through before the lottery and what the lottery means for us. For many years our elementary schools in upper Manhattan have been tremendously segregated. Our families have shared many stories of how they were shut out when trying to apply for their children to these schools.

We were given different excuses about why we should not apply to these schools. They recommended that we should register our children in schools that where our language is spoken, that it would be better for our child since parents would feel more comfortable. When we visited the schools to know more about them, they ignored us. They even asked us how much we would be able to contribute, and these needed to be monetary contributions.

At the Center for Immigrant Families, we talked with different parents and also found out that we needed to have contacts in the schools that would be able to help us. In the face of all this, we said, "ENOUGH! Public education is not a luxury, it's a human right!"

We raised our voices and broke from this injustice. Everyone knew that this was happening and no one said anything. Everyone began to talk about it when we began organizing. We organized and documented hundreds of stories – stories of humiliation that we endured to apply to the public schools. We made our voices heard.

When we heard about the lottery, we were very happy. The lottery is a very important first step, which has made the process of applying to out of catchment fair for everyone so that now everyone will have the same opportunity to have our children accepted.

Applying for these schools will no longer be determined by school administrators. We will all have the same opportunity to choose schools that won't depend on how much money we can contribute, if we speak English, which race you are, or which socio-economic level you belong to.

The lottery is only a beginning. Indeed, there were problems in the process that we must resolve, and Donna will now speak about this in more detail. But we have to be very clear that these are problems that we can address and will address together as a community...as we have been doing and will continue to do.

Donna Nevel:

I'm going to speak briefly about CIF's findings and recommendations from our assessment and evaluation of this year's lottery process. (The Superintendents have touched on a number of the issues, but I'll briefly reiterate them from our perspective.)

As a result of the problems and challenges we identified through our surveys and discussions with parents, and pre-school teachers and administrators, we have a number of recommendations that we believe will help make the lottery work more effectively in the coming few years and insure that more families in our District will have greater access to all our schools.

Our seven main recommendations are:

1st. Begin the process much earlier—before the current school year begins. This year there was inadequate time for people to receive information about the lottery and take the necessary steps to apply.

2nd. Now that families are really going to have a choice about where to apply, we need to make sure information about the schools is accessible and plentiful, especially for those who have historically not had access to that information. Materials about school fairs and school tours should be widely distributed. One problem for this year was that the booklet describing all the schools came out very late.

3rd. Given the history of exclusion that low-income families of color have experienced from some of our District's schools, there needs to be a very clear and detailed outreach plan that specifically targets those neighborhoods that have been most under-served. We need representatives from schools to consistently come to Head Start centers and community centers to talk with parents, particularly to parents who find it difficult to attend school tours. Translation is necessary at all presentations.

4th. In response to feed-back about a number of issues parents found confusing, the information packet or application itself needs to be clear about the number of schools one needs to apply to; how to apply to dual language programs; whether siblings need to fill out an application; and when you will hear from the Region telling you the results of the lottery. There also needs to be a map of the district that makes much clearer than it has been what your catchment school is.

5th. We believe it is essential to create one or more parent information centers that will reach out to parents who have traditionally been under-served and where parents can come, learn more about the process, get information about the schools in a number of different languages, and get help filling out the application. We have seen from our research of other school districts how much greater parent participation is if there are designated places devoted to this process.

6th. It is our view that, in the coming year, we should seriously evaluate the benefits of having what's known as a "controlled choice" lottery, that is, where a variety of different factors are taken into consideration. We already give preference to siblings and have a policy that allows everybody to go to their catchment school. We believe that socio-economic status should also be included as a factor to insure that there is economic diversity in each of our schools and

that our schools truly reflect our communities. We urge the admissions task-force to look at the outcomes of other school districts across the country that have successfully implemented such

programs.

And, finally, for all of this to happen, there will need to be a commitment of substantially greater resources from the Department of Education. Having a lottery without committing the resources to make sure that it happens—and happens well—just creates false expectations.

We recognize that this is the first year of the lottery and that meaningful change does not happen overnight. If we did not get all the results we had hoped for in this first year, it is no reason to abandon the project. To the contrary, that should encourage us to redouble our efforts and our commitment. History tells us that when inequitable systems have endured for years, it takes years to undo them. School desegregation did not follow immediately upon the heels of *Brown v. Board of Education*. Rather, it was achieved through a long and arduous process that required years of ongoing organizing and work.

And so it will be with the lottery in District 3. It may take a few years until we can experience the full benefits of the process. We urge everyone involved with the process to be committed to it for the long-haul. Important change always demands that.

Priscilla Gonzalez:

For our community, the lottery has represented an important beginning for addressing the ways that segregation and inequality have affected our public schools. We live in a district where it is easy to travel to our different community schools, so now with the lottery families will be able to have real choices when it comes to selecting a school. Over the coming months and for however long the struggle takes, we are going to focus on making sure the lottery works properly and gets the resources it needs to do so.

The goals we want to achieve through the evaluation of this process are: to have equitable access for all our families; to have schools that reflect our communities (our district is about 80% children of color); and, now that no one will get special privilege in some of our schools, we believe it will result in a greater investment in ALL our schools in the district. With the lottery – since no one can get themselves into a few exclusive schools by virtue of who they know or other connections – there will inevitably be a greater commitment by the district and all our families to ensure that more of the schools are strong and good.

As a community that's currently facing the threat of displacement through the process of gentrification, we are committed to staying united and doing everything we can to continue building a movement for justice that includes, among other basic human rights, the right to quality public education for our children.

The struggle for the lottery is ultimately about ensuring that all of our schools be strengthened by making our system one of equal partnership among all families and communities. As part of this struggle:

- we will continue to challenge any and all programs and policies that are attempting to privatize our public schools and further segregate and discriminate against our community;

- we will also examine how zone lines have been drawn in our small district where schools are easily accessible – these zone lines seem arbitrary and may play a role in furthering segregation;
- we intend to focus on the uneven allocation of resources in our schools, including the role of parent contributions in furthering inequality; that is, some schools have a wealthy parent population that can raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for themselves while other schools with largely low-income communities don't have that capacity; and
- we will continue to insist that the Department of Education commit to providing an excellent education for all our families, and not just in the hopes of retaining the middle class in a system that is majority low-income children of color.

We are living at a time when our government is anti-immigrant, anti-poor, and anti-people of color. As the community making up District 3 – which prides itself on being one of the most diverse – we have the opportunity right now to fight for change for our children and our families. We are inspired by the thousands upon thousands of people coming out across the U.S. in support of respect and dignity for immigrant families and communities everywhere. Our fight for decent and equitable education is one part of that struggle.

Indeed, this lottery is about much more than access. It's about beginning to make a system fair and responsive to our communities. It is about a vision for an educational system that is truly public – that is, for the people – and that actually works to serve the needs of students and communities. We hope you will commit yourselves to make our vision of hope and dignity a reality!

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Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

Co-Chair Andrew Albert called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

AIRSPACE RE-DESIGN

Andrew Albert presented the four alternatives currently under review by the FAA. Key components of the re-design for the NY area airspace is the stacking of flights to allow more commercial flights, continuous descent, allowing planes to continually descend until landing, rather than circling the area, a 3 mile separation between planes, instead of the current 5 miles, and using the Integrated Control Complex, allowing for closer take-offs/landings. Alternatives not being considered are the no-action alternative, modifications to existing airspace, and the Ocean Routing alternative, favored by New Jersey, but not by New York. The hearing for all alternatives and public input is

Thursday, April 27, 2006. We have encouraged our elected representatives, especially our Congress people and US Senators, to testify. Arturo Garcia-Costas, of Representative Jerrold Nadler's office, attended the meeting, and will be at the public hearing. It is expected that Congressman Nadler or Mr. Garcia-Costas will testify.

BIN 71

Lawrence Bondulich appeared before the Committee (owner.) Also speaking for Bin 71 was Steve Wygoda, architect. Public speakers in support of the Cafe were Eran Dougherty, Andy Kirwan, Pamela Bloom, Patrick Bickford. Jan Levy also appeared, and appeared to be opposed to the Cafe. It was mentioned that this Cafe had applied last year and been told to wait a year, as they were too new. The Committee suggested that the tables close to the existing enclosed cafe be removed, and the owner agreed. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Bin 71's request for an unenclosed sidewalk cafe, subject to the redrawing of the plan showing fewer tables and seats.

Comm: 3-2-0-0. Pub: 0-1-0-0

TOKYO POP

Nadine Chevreux and Jeremy Satkiewitz appeared for Tokyo Pop. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Tokyo Pop's application for an unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 4-1-0-0. Pub: 0-0-1-0

FIORELLO

Carlo Fusco appeared for Fiorello's. As this was a renewal, the Committee passed the following:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Fiorello's application for a renewal of their sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 4-0-1-0. Pub: 0-0-1-0

ELITE CAFE

Dimitra Malliaros, and Rebecca Voula appeared for Elite. The Committee passed the following resolution on Elite Cafe's renewal of their unenclosed cafe.

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Elite Cafe's renewal of their unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 3-2-0-0

BURRITO JUNCTION

Ronnie Almgren, General Manager, appeared for Burrito Junction. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Burrito Junction's renewal of their unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 3-1-1-0

CITRUS

Jennifer Ng, Manager, appeared for Citrus. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Citrus's application for a renewal of their unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 5-0-0-0

E.J.'s LUNCHEONETTE

Steve Elkings appeared for EJ's. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves the renewal of EJ's unenclosed cafe:

Comm: 4-1-0-0

HI-LIFE

Earl Geer, owner of Hi-Life, appeared. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves the renewal application for Hi-Life's unenclosed cafe.

Comm: 5-0-0-0

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT

Bill Penley, owner, appeared for Good Enough to Eat. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Good Enough to Eat's application for a renewal of their unenclosed cafe.

Comm: 4-1-0-0

NONNA

Phil Balatore, co-owner appeared before the Committee. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves the renewal of Nonna's unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 4-1-0-0

LA COCINA

George Urzula appeared at the Committee. The Committee passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves La Cocina's application for a renewal of their unenclosed sidewalk cafe.

Comm: 4-1-0-0

TIME CAFE

No one appeared for Time Cafe, so the application was not considered.

HENRY'S

No one appeared for Henry's, so the application was not considered.

MERIDIANA

Giovanni Nicolisi, owner, appeared before the Committee. The following resolution was passed:

Be it resolved that CB#7 approves Meridiana's application for a renewal of their unenclosed cafe.

Comm: 5-0-0-0

NEW FAMILY RADIO DISPATCHER

As the applicant did not appear, no action was taken.

Present: Committee members Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Ulma Jones, Bobbie Katzander, Oscar Rios. Absent: Guillermo Gonzalez, Dan Zweig. On leave: Barbara Keleman.

Business and Consumer Issues Committee

George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

April 26, 2006

Edward Kramer explained the authority of the NYFS Department of Banking in regulating fair lending, overseeing compliance by banks to state laws and supplying information for consumers. The Department mandates and monitors the time for checks to clear from one bank to another. New technology scans checks, allowing immediate transfer from the buyer's account to seller's account. On the website www.banking.state.ny.us is the Survey of Retail Bank Products, which deals mainly with bank services for immigrants. The site has a small business section as well as listing of bank rates and financial education resources.

Every bank must offer a basic checking account with a minimum starting deposit of \$25.00, a fee of \$3.00 per month and eight checks.

On the website www.housinghereandnow.org there is a list of the 100 worst landlords in NYS and the banks that give mortgages to them. Mr. Kramer said that when banks ask the Dept. of Banking for permission to merge, the Department can refuse until banks stop lending to bad landlords until they repair violations and stop harassing tenants. Comptroller Bill Thompson refuses city deposits to banks lending to bad landlords. HPD offers property inspection, and ACORN (grass roots organization) is a source for tenants concerns.

Bank ATM safety is mandated and monitored by NYS Banking Dept. Rules are set for lighting, safety, security, video taping, mirrors and open view into ATM area from the street. Andrew Albert said CB7's Transportation Committee never approves newsstands in front of ATM's.

Through the Community Reinvestment Act, banks are encouraged to give loans to people of low and moderate incomes and to provide funding for financial education, affordable housing and community economic development. One bank supports affordable childcare in order to earn CRA credits. Some banks have foundations to help their ratings. CRA evaluation is posted on the Department's website. Ridgewood Bank is starting a mobile unit for senior centers in the Bronx. Adult Protective Services also helps senior citizens do their banking.

All of the bankers present said that they have no fee savings accounts to youths under 18 years of age, and all offer summer internships or jobs to community youth. HSBC offered the use of its bulletin boards to post community notices.

Present: Committee members George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Madge Rosenberg (Co-Chairs), Ulma Jones; CB7 Chairman Sheldon Fine; Councilmember Gale Brewer; Monica Blum, Lincoln Square BID; Peter Arndtsen, Columbus-Amsterdam BID; Andrew Albert, Westside Chamber of Commerce; Alfred Placeres, President of the NYS Federation of Hispanic Chambers of Commerce; Edward Kramer, Deputy Superintendent of Banks, State of New York Bank Department. Bank Representatives from Banco Popular, BCP, Commerce Bank, Fidelity, HSBC, and Wachovia (Banks Absent: Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Citibank, Northfork, Apple, Washington Mutual.)

Parks and Preservation Committee

Lenore Norman and Klari Neuelt, Co-Chairpersons

April 17, 2006

American Museum of Natural History

1. Presentation by the American Museum of Natural History on the restoration of its historic West 77th Street Façade.

Dan Slippen, Director of Intergovernmental Relations at the Museum, presented a historic overview of the West 77th Street façade design, including its construction chronology. He then turned the presentation over to Tim Allanbrook, from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, architects for the façade restoration.

Mr. Allanbrook described the thorough survey his firm conducted to evaluate the existing façade conditions. He then listed the problems detected: numerous cracks and efflorescence throughout the masonry; structural deficiencies in the porte cochere; and general deterioration throughout the many windows.

A full restoration and cleaning (using inert, micro-abrasive cleaning methods) is planned. The work is estimated to take three years. The time frame for the project is as follows:

--Fall 2006: site mobilization

--2007-2008: bulk of the repair work, beginning with east end of the façade and center section in 2007; continuing with the center section and moving to the west end of façade in 2008.

--2009, through spring and summer: clean-up, punch list, site repair.

Throughout the construction project, the West 77th Street entrance will continue to be accessible along the U-shaped drive, functioning as it currently does: for deliveries, exhibition entrance, egress.

During the project, the central flower circle will be used as a staging and storage area for the porte cochere restoration; it will be restored at the end of the project.

The 77th Street side of the Theodore Roosevelt Park will be closed throughout the project, but only a ten to twelve foot strip of land immediately adjacent to the façade will be used for the restoration work.

Parks Department plans to restore the four perimeter sidewalks and tree pits around the museum block will occur in parallel with the project, although the exact start dates have not yet been worked out. Only work on the center section of the West 77th Street sidewalk may have to be delayed.

The project is estimated to cost \$35 million: New York City is providing \$28 million, and the Museum is providing \$8 million.

Mr. Slippen mentioned that some time in the near future, the Museum would be looking into adding some “gentle lighting” to the West 77th Street façade as well as proposing some enhancements to the 77th Street plaza. The Museum will work with CB7, the Parks Department and the Landmarks Preservation Commission as these plans are developed.

No resolution was required as this work is full material restoration under staff review at LPC. However, Klari Neuwelt and Lenore Norman stated that the Parks and Preservation Committee appreciated being kept apprised of the work and praised the project, which is supported wholeheartedly by the Committee.

2. 136 West 72nd Street, 2nd Floor, d/b/a Uptown Pilates. Application to Landmarks Preservation Commission for installation of a 3-foot by 14-foot sign.

Mika Street, the owner of Uptown Pilates presented the proposed sign, submitting a drawing and photo with the proposed sign super-imposed on the existing façade.

The entire sign will be made of painted wood: dark blue main background and logo image, light blue logo background, metallic letters. The sign will be

screwed to the façade using the existing screw hole openings from the current temporary sign. The central 10% of the new sign will be 3 feet tall, exceeding the current two-foot height limit for signage along West 72nd Street. Ms. Street explained that this was necessary to allow the Pilates logo to be clearly recognizable. (Shrinking it to two-feet made the logo image too small.)

Resolution:

Community Board 7, Manhattan, approves the application for a certificate of appropriateness for the installation of a new 3-foot by 14-foot sign for Uptown Pilates at 136 West 72nd Street, 2nd Floor.

Vote: Parks & Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0. General CB7 members: 1-0-0-0

3. 2112 Broadway, Apple Bank. Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the installation of a new sign above the West 73rd Street bank entrance, a new canopy at the Broadway bank entrance, and a new marquee at the Broadway residential entrance.

Prior to the applicant presenting the proposed project, Lenore Norman said that the District Manager, Penny Ryan, had asked her to remind the applicant that the architect had previously been asked to request that the owner remove the advertisements from the existing sidewalk bridges. Lenore had a copy of the Building Department print-out which listed a number of existing open violations that needed to be removed.

The applicant, Lars Moestue, a graphic designer from Beyer Blinder Belle (standing in for the vacationing architect in charge of the Apple Bank project) was not aware of these violations but assured the Committee that he would pass along the information to the architect and the owner.

Before beginning his scripted presentation, Mr. Mostue submitted a typed copy of the notification list, as well as copy of the Landmarks Preservation Commission application. He also had several 11" x 17" presentation booklets, small scale versions of the drawings and photos shown on his large presentation boards.

Mr. Mostue described the historic significance of the building (originally the Central Savings Bank), concluding with the fact that it is one of the few designated banking hall interiors that continues to function as a bank. He explained the rationale for adding new bank signage above the 73rd Street entrance to the bank, and adding a canopy with bank signage at the Broadway bank entrance: the desire to give the bank a stronger street presence within the fortress-like façade.

The new sign on 73rd Street would be made up of internally-illuminated white channel letters with black outlines/ side returns, next to a red apple logo. The

letters and apple would rest on slightly curved black horizontal support bars which would be anchored to the side walls of the arched window above the 73rd street bank entrance. The committee felt the signage design was appropriate, although there was some discussion about whether or not its presence made the existing Apple Bank sign (located at the top of this façade, to the right of the time/ temperature box) redundant, pointing to its removal. The majority of the committee supported its retention.

The new canopy proposed to demarcate the Broadway bank entrance would be constructed to be free-standing. Octagonal aluminum poles, painted black would support a glass and forged iron canopy structure. (The applicant informed the committee that the granddaughter of the original ironworker Samuel Yellin would be doing the ironwork here.) The overhead canopy would be clear glass, while the canopy sides would be decorative: forged iron finials and open iron framework around etched glass rosettes, flanking an Apple Bank sign of aluminum letters painted black, with a red aluminum apple. The sign would be backlit using LED.

The marquee demarcating the residential entrance at the north end of the Broadway façade would be constructed using similar materials (glass, aluminum and forged iron), connected to the façade within the side walls of the entrance recess.

While the committee applauded the elegant design of the canopy, they found no justification for erecting a canopy along Broadway; they instead felt that it would be more appropriate to install a second curving sign above the Broadway bank entrance, similar to the one proposed for the 73rd Street facade. They found the marquee was appropriate for the residential entrance.

Resolution:

Community Board 7, Manhattan, approves the application for a certificate of appropriateness for the installation of a new sign above the West 73rd Street bank entrance and a new marquee at the Broadway residential entrance, and disapproves the installation of a new canopy at the Broadway bank entrance.

Vote: Parks & Preservation Committee: 5-1-0-0. General CB7 members: 1-0-0-0

4. 308 West 78th Street. Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rear-yard extension.

While originally on the agenda third, the committee delayed hearing this application until after 7:45 pm, which one neighbor said was the time listed on the Public Hearing notice, since a number of neighbors and residents of the building were planning to attend the hearing. By the posted time, there were two residents from 308 West 78th Street, as well as seven residents of the three neighboring brownstones (304, 306 and 310 West 78th St.) and several residents of the corner apartment building (365 West End Avenue).

The architect Kris Kozlowski submitted a handwritten notification list and then presented the proposed work: a fourth story addition to the previously-approved three-story rear-yard addition, still currently under construction. The rear yard addition is clearly visible from 77th Street, where there is a driveway opening to access the courtyard of 365 West End Avenue. The driveway has a roll-down gate which neighbors say is rarely closed, so the three-story addition is frequently visible from 77th Street. Even when closed the fourth story addition would protrude above the gate, making it fully visible from 77th Street at all times. Because of its high visibility, the committee found the fourth story addition inappropriate.

Resolution:

Community Board 7, Manhattan disapproves the application for a certificate of appropriateness for a rear yard extension to 308 West 78th Street because of its high visibility along the 365 West End Avenue driveway opening on West 77th Street.

Vote: Parks & Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-0

5. 141 West 81st Street. Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rear-yard extension and penthouse addition.

The applicant did not come to the meeting, so the project was not discussed. [Subsequently, applicant asked to attend the May committee meeting.]

Before concluding the meeting, Lenore Norman reminded the committee members to review the LPC Presentation Materials checklist she had handed out at the March Parks and Preservation Committee meeting. Comments and suggestions related to what presentation materials the Parks and Preservation Committee would like to receive from applicants need to be submitted to Lenore and to Penny Ryan within the week.

The meeting concluded at 9:15 pm.

Present: Committee members Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Lance Dashevsky, Phyllis Gunther, Gabrielle Palitz; Board Chairman Sheldon J. Fine; Board Member Hope Cohen.

Absent: Linda Alexander

Submitted by Gabrielle Palitz

April 18, 2006

Housing Committee

Victor Gonzalez and Charles Simon, Co-Chairpersons

Monday, April 17, 7:00PM

West Side YMCA, 5 West 63rd Street.

Agenda

- 1. Identify specific roles to be played by CB7 to assist in protection of SROs as an affordable housing resource, based on previous Committee conversations with Molly Dougherty of the SRO Law Project and Matt Shafit, General Counsel of NYC HPD.**
- 2. Follow-up on Frederick Douglass Houses.**

Health and Human Services Committee

Barbara Van Buren, Chairperson

Tuesday, April 18, 2006 7:00 PM

Agenda

Do people have to move on to institutional living in order to get needed services as the years go by?

Discussion of how we can insure that the resources needed by residents, as they grow older in our community, are available to them where they live now. Some are served by NORCs (naturally occurring retirement communities), which are funded by the City and State, but many people don't have ready access to services. What changes in service delivery have to be made? How can the people most in need of help be reached?

Special Guest will be Fredda Vladick, Project Director of the Aging in Place Initiative of the United Hospital Fund. Other agencies invited include the Department for the Aging, and Adult Protective Services.

Land Use Committee

Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons

April 19th, 2006 7:00 PM

- 1. 2465/73 Broadway (West 92nd-93rd Streets)**

Adam Rothkrug, attorney for the applicant, presented the application for extension of the special permit approval for an existing physical culture establishment. As the entire Committee agrees that true gyms such as the applicant should not need a Board of Standards & Appeals (BSA) special permit to conduct their business, Steve Strauss suggested that the Board recommend that such establishments need not go through the special permit process in the future. Mr. Rothkrug noted that MCB5 waives its right to hold hearings on such applications. Richard Asche indicated that MCB7 may adopt that approach in the future.

Outcome/Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the applications #182-95-BZ and #183-95-BZ to the Board of Standards & Appeals by Equinox Fitness, 2465/73 Broadway, for an extension of the special permit approval for an existing physical culture establishment.

Committee: 7-0-0-0 Board: 1-0-0-0

2. 1991 Broadway (West 67th-68th Streets)

Members of the residential Bel Canto Condominium board presented the application to allow installation of a glass wall, new tables and chairs, plantings, and improved signage in an existing covered plaza. Mr. Asche questioned the extent of public access in the current configuration. After discussion, the Committee requested/recommended to the Bel Canto board that the planters be distributed throughout the public space (i.e. rather than creating a kind of passageway to the restaurant entrance at the back, western, portion of the public space) and that in general, access to the seating area be more flexible.

Outcome/Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the application #M 790651 to the Department of City Planning by the Bel Canto Condominium to allow installation of glass wall, new tables and chairs, plantings, and improved signage in an existing covered plaza, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges the Bel Canto to distribute the proposed planters throughout the public space and ensure that access to the seating area be more flexible.

Committee: 8-0-0-0 Board: 2-0-0-0

Joint with Transportation Committee

3. 15 Central Park West (West 61st-62nd Streets)

Will Zeckendorf, developer, Michael Sillerman, attorney, and Philip Habib, transportation consultant presented the application to the Department of City

Planning (DCP) for a special permit for a public parking garage with 162 spaces, to be located in the cellar of an as-of-right, mixed-use building in the Lincoln Square Special District.

The applicant proposes to reallocate space below grade from retail to parking, which requires a special permit within the Lincoln Square Special District. The entrance to the garage would be through the same doors to be used for loading/service on West 62nd Street (eastern bay would be garage entrance, western bay would be loading dock). Approximately 23,500ft² previously allocated to retail use would be used instead for the garage, leaving approximately 86,000ft² for retail.

The analysis assumes 0.6 vehicles per dwelling unit (231 total units in building), although the developer expects actual demand to be 1 per dwelling unit. The applicant is interested in making the garage as flexible as possible, with the ability to serve employees of the building's retail tenants as well as nearby residents. The applicant is applying for a permit for a public garage to allow for simpler management considering the likelihood of occasional daytime use by customers of the retail tenants, and even customers of nearby retail.

Mr. Asche expressed a preference for limiting the garage to 'accessory' use, as such use is likely to generate fewer trips. Mr. Strauss advocated for building residents/employees/visitors to travel by public transit. Hope Cohen was somewhat opposed to the application as presented and totally opposed to the idea of a garage with the limitation to 'accessory' use only.

Outcome/Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves the application #060402ZSM to the Department of City Planning by 15 CPW Realty, LLC, for a special permit for a public parking garage with 162 spaces, to be located in the cellar of an as-of-right, mixed-use building in the Lincoln Square Special District, provided that 75% of the spaces be set aside for 'accessory' use only.

Committee: 7-2-0-0 Board: 2-0-0-0

4. Fordham Master Plan Update

Mr. Asche distributed copies of a letter from Fordham University's land use counsel to Director of the Department of City Planning Amanda Burden. The letter reviewed the communication of the past few months between MCB7 and Fordham and requested DCP to allow the Fordham applications to begin the pre-certification review process with public scoping under the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process. Mr. Asche proposed writing a letter to Director Burden, once again outlining MCB7's many concerns about this project [since done and sent].

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Richard Asche, Page Cowley, Barbara Adler, Hope Cohen, Victor Gonzalez, Robert Herrmann, Melanie Radley, Steve Strauss, Tom Vitullo-Martin.

Land Use Committee Members Absent: Lawrence Horowitz, Eric Nelson, Ethel Sheffer, D. Maria Watson.

Transportation Committee Members Present: None

Board Members Present: Jeff Siegel, Melanie Wymore

Public Safety and Environment Committee

John Howell, Chairperson

Minutes of the April 6, 2006 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Howell at 7:09 p.m. He introduced speakers from two Manhattan CERT groups who spoke about their formation, training and experiences.

East 60s Neighborhood Association CERT – Barry Schneider and Will Sanchez

The East 60s CERT was the second CERT team formed in Manhattan. In the formation process they received approximately 120 applications which were culled down to about 50 people. The City's Office of Emergency Management would only train 35 individuals so some additional selection was required. This CERT was formed in 2004 and has now become a 501(c)3 so that contributions to them are tax deductible. This helps in raising money for supplies and equipment. Filing to becoming a tax-deductible non-profit organization does, however, require some extra paperwork. One big task is finding a meeting location and a place to store search and rescue equipment. The East Siders also discussed the difficulty of insuring that all members attended all of the training sessions. They suggested that parallel CERT training would allow for trainees to attend missed sessions with other CERT groups receiving instruction.

Manhattan Community Board No. 12 CERT – Dr. Pamela North

Dr. North noted that although the CERT was started by MCB12, it is now about 50% CB12 members and 50% other residents of northern Manhattan. This has created both positive dynamics and also some negative friction. She noted that it was important to consider the command structure of the CERT when organizing it. You have to find a way to work with a wide variety of individuals and interest. The MCB12 CERT has had an attrition rate of about 35% over three years.

Questions and Answers concerning CERTs

Committee members wanted to know what type of tasks CERTs would undertake. Dr. North said that OEM sees CERTs as second responders. Among the activities they undertake have been raising community preparedness levels and directing traffic during an incident.

How do first responders contact CERTs? Current lines of communications are not often good. The MCB12 CERT has sent representatives to the Police Precinct rollcalls. Local police and fire leadership often know the CERT leaders. OEM also has a better understanding of the role of CERTs than some other agencies.

How do you deal with individuals who do not seem to fit into the role of CERTs? All three guests noted that this is a very tough area. One way to manage it is to have clear ground rules for behavior from the very beginning.

How do CERT members stay in touch and get alerted? Generally via phone trees.

How is enthusiasm and interest maintained? Regular drills are important.

March Minutes – Ms. Febus asked that the March Minutes reflect her statement that many quality of life issues do not get reported to 311 or to the 24th Precinct so there is no record of them in NYPD data collection.

Mr. Howell reported that he had made inquiries about emergency communications training with HAM radios. Right now the trainers are fully booked for several months.

Identity Theft

Tom Vitullo-Martin distributed a handout from the U.S. Dept. of Justice on identity theft. He expressed concern about the lack of interest in prosecution of these crimes. He proposed a survey of CB7 members about their experiences with identity theft. The Committee decided to invite a representative from the District Attorney's office to speak about this at a future meeting. Ms. Febus said that we should explore whether additional legislation is necessary. The Committee, by voice vote, endorsed the CB7 member survey idea.

Incident Command System training – George Contreras

Mr. Contreras, an EMT associated with NYU Medical Center and a CB7 resident spoke about training he has received in Incident Command Systems. ICS grew out of the need to manage the response to large incidents with lots of trained people not familiar with a particular area. He discussed five primary topics:

- A. Incident Commander – what is the chain of command?
- B. Logistics – what do you need to manage an event?
- C. Planning – how will you manage the event?
- D. Finance – how do you fund the system?
- E. Operations

Mr. Howell reminded everyone that the May meeting would be on Wednesday, the 3rd rather than Thursday the 4th in order to accommodate the DoITT representative. He also reported that FEMA has on-line training modules that he highly recommends. He later sent the link to Committee members.

There being no other business, the Committee adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Steve Strauss

Present: Committee members John Howell, Oscar Rios, , Steve Strauss, Tom Vitullo-Martin; Board member Madge Rosenberg. Absent: Joyce Johnson.

Others attending: Elena Lopez, Barry Schneider, Will Sanchez, Adina Obler, George Contreras, Lisa Lehr, Pamela North, Miriam Febus.

District Service Cabinet

Penny Ryan, District Manager

April 28, 2006

CB7 Report on Municipal Services

1. Introduction

Capt. Spadaro is the new commanding officer of the 20th Precinct.

2. Redeployment of PSA#6 officers to the 20th Precinct to cover Amsterdam House and Addition.

- Six PSA#6 officers were assigned to the 20th Precinct and will assume foot patrols at Amsterdam Houses and Addition. Officers will coordinate with management on patrol areas and concerns.
- 911 calls will be routed to the 20th precinct. 311 calls have always been routed to the precincts.

3. Formation of a local community emergency response team (CERT.)

OEM has asked each community board to organize a CERT for their district. Part of the responsibilities of the team, once training is completed, is to contact local first responders and establish communications and working relationships.

- NYPD – 20th Pct: A great program consisting of an eleven week training course given by professionals from various agencies – NYPD, FDNY and the Office of Emergency Management.
- Volunteers are trained in First Aid, traffic control, and triage with EMS.
- Trainers are assigned by the headquarters of each agency, not from local precincts or battalions.
- During an emergency response, CERT leaders are notified via pagers and phones. CERT staff will be issued official green vests as a means of identification.
- Individuals interested in participating should call CB7 at 212-603-3080.

4. Agency Updates and Announcements

- NYPD Transit District 3 – crime down
 - One crime in the last month at the W. 96th Street IRT station - grand larceny. Anti-crime unit has been assigned to the area.
 - Blue Light Prevention Program – Ipods, cell phones, and PSPs are each given a unique identification number which is written on the device with invisible ink. The numbers are used to track the devices in case of robbery. NYPD Transit can visit community groups with a minimum of 10 participants.
- DOB
 - Apple Bank Signage, 2112 Broadway – multiple violations issued.
 - Illegal conversions at 244 West 64th Street and 235, 239 West 63rd Street. Residential R8 zoned buildings converted to hotels. NY Secretary of State issued ECB zoning violations. Undergoing investigation.
 - Internet company is renting apartments as hotels on the upper west side. Chief Holzmeir, FDNY requested more information to do an inspection.

- Illegal conversion of 154 West 70th Street. Owner has not complied with stop work orders. C of O is contrary to use. Residential apartments converted to hotel and offices. DOB is going back out this week for inspection.

- Legality of garbage dumpster built under window of resident at 203 West 108th Street. DOH & DOS inspection. As long as permits are in order, dumpsters may be built under windows.

- 331 West 87th Street, backyard deck built contrary to amended plans. FDNY can get involved. Chief Inspector meeting with owner's architect soon.

- Data on incidents in and around IS 44, Columbus Avenue and West 77th Street; Brandeis High School, West 84th Street, Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues; and MS54, West 108th Street and Amsterdam Avenue.

- Dismissal program is working, there were no major incidents and buses arrive periodically.

- Principals are working together. Children on children crime has dropped dramatically.

- DOE is starting to enforce the no cell phone, ipod or psp rule.

- Businesses are holding cell phones for \$1 - DA's office looking into legality of this.

- Rodent infestation and DOHMH and DSNY responses: 230 West 101st Street, Broadway Studio Hotel

- Violations will be issued once a week until corrected.

- Needs another interagency focus from the Mayor's office. Run arrest record for building, big drug location.

- SRO's –Park Royal, 258 West 97th Street, Yale, 316 West 97th Street; and the Broadway, 230 West 101st Street. CAU will have a follow up meeting with SROs.

- DAs Office

- The summer internship program for junior high school and high school students is in the final stages of interviewing candidates.

- There are 171 buildings in District 7 that participate in the Trespass Affidavit Program.

- ACS – ACS representatives are reaching out to City agencies. They can supply resource tables for any agency interested.

- DEP

- There were 418 service requests last month; the main complaint in the district was noise from construction, then air/smoke complaints.

- Low amounts of rainfall have led to drought planning for the summer.

- 20 Pct. YTD 37% down in crime, 19% down for the month.

- DSNY – 311 complaints down; continuing 101st street enforcement; scorecard still good.

- FDNY – 11th Battalion, 5% up on calls.

- DDC – Fredrick Douglass Project: The work at 112th – 120th Street has been completed; 109th – 110th is undergoing water main work. Circle will be finished summer 2007. FDNY requested that Manhattan Avenue return to two-way as soon as possible.

- Riverside Park - Graffiti: 96th Street, 99th Street, Skate Park and Basketball Courts, 72nd and 79th Street.