

November 2006 Minutes

Full Board Meeting Sheldon Fine, Chairman

November 8, 2006

Jewish Home & Hospital

Mr. Fine called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM.

Minutes from previous full board meeting were approved: 29-0-3.

Chairman's Report: Sheldon J. Fine

- Mr. Fine announced that John Howell has organized a CB7 CERT team. Three training sessions have been held, with the group averaging 45 people.**
- CB7's Housing Committee urged single-room-occupancy and residential hotel residents to attend a meeting with HPD and the SRO Law Project on November 13th, 7:00 P.M, at Goddard Riverside Community Center, about their rights and protections.**
- Commissioner Robert Hess, Department of Homeless Services, agreed in writing to stop using 315 West 94th Street, the Montroyal, as a shelter for homeless adult families by April 29th.**

Public Session

- Julia Nevarez—Requested help from CB7 to prevent the closing of "The Movie Place" on Broadway and West 105th Street. She is concerned that it is a loss of a cultural institution**
- Mikala Gerwin—Also requested that "The Movie Place" be saved because of its importance as a cultural institution**
- Shira Telushkin—Collecting signatures, so far has 2,000, to save "The Movie Place" because of its cultural importance to the neighborhood**
- Sam Jayaram—Restaurant Opportunity Center, created after 9/11 to advocate for rights of restaurant workers formerly employed at World Trade Center. Café Fiorello, Broadway and West 63rd Street, is being blamed for racial discrimination, theft of tips. Asked the Community Board to deny liquor license waiver to Café Danielle, who they claim made a deal with Café Fiorello.**
- Bernadette Boyel—Concerned new McDonalds on West 104th and Broadway, is not sticking to agreement that a fair amount of jobs at the location would be offered to neighborhood residents**
- Mark Meyers, 400 West End Avenue – Heard First Baptist Church on Broadway and West 79th Street is considering placing a Starbucks in their façade, which would ruin a piece of Upper West Side history. Recommended landmark status to preserve the church.**

- Cheryl Strong, Park West Village - Developers are ruining their open space, their green space is gone. She claims that they are creating a dangerous environment, including blocked fire egress. New developments are going to overwhelm the neighborhood.
- Sarah Wood, Park West Village - Concerned tenants are being left in the dark and that the plans for development have not been approved by the City. She wishes to have the plans reviewed.
- 17 people from Park West Village came to the November board to seek help from the Community Board in stopping the developers.
- Susan Singer, Librarian at NYPL Bloomingdale branch - Children's room will be closed during renovation.
- Gary Dennis—Thanked people who have fought so hard to save "The Movie Place." He wishes to push for commercial rent protection to save the cultural institutions from being pushed out.
- Willie Gonzalez—Little league was unable to play baseball this summer because of reconstruction of Morningside Park. Thanks to the Community Board the 108 kids were able to take field trips and to have a block party. He received three summonses from the police while protecting a group of the elderly playing chess.
- Shonda Streete, Lincoln Square BID - Introduced herself as the new director of "Opening Doors, Building Bridges" at Martin Luther King, Jr. High School.
- Kristine Pankow—Concerned about possible loss of the First Baptist Church.
- Michael Chentman, Park West Village- PWV has a case in the NY State supreme court. Urged the Community Board to inform the judge hearing the trial that they have an active interest in the current case.
- Dan Berger, Congressman Charles Rangel – Won election with 94% of the vote and will be chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. He plans on working Medicare, trade policy, simplifying taxes, and minimum wage.
- Ede Fox, Councilmember Melissa Mark-Viverto - Supporting the exclusion zone throughout the City to increase affordable housing. On Friday November 3rd there was a meeting about privatization of ball fields on Randall's Island for private schools.
- David Weinberg, State Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal - Examining certain voting machine possibilities, including optical scan machine. On November 15th there will be a forum on the future of the Hudson Rail Yards.

Manhattan Borough President's Report

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer reported.

- Working with State Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal to find a new OTB location. OTB left its location on West 72nd Street due to demolition of the building and is seeking new space at 143 West 72nd Street. OTB should not be at 143 West 72nd Street because it is in an historic district.

- Mr. Stringer will be holding a town hall meeting at Goddard Riverside on December 4th. Urged people to come and express concerns.
- His recent Transportation Conference was successful. A report will be issued.
- Mr. Stringer will sponsor a reception for the re-opening of CB7's offices at 250 West 87th Street.

Legislators' Reports

Councilmember Gale Brewer reported.

- The Beacon High School on West 61st Street will lose its lease next year and needs to find a new location on the West Side. The Riverside South developer is required to offer space to the Department of Education for a school.
- In December there will be a community meeting on DOT's traffic and transportation study of the area between West 57th and 86th Streets, maybe at John Jay College.

Business Session

Strategy & Budget Committee

Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson

1. The resolution to approve CB7 priorities for the NYC Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 was adopted: 34-1-1-0.
2. The resolution to approve CB7 priorities for the NYC Expense Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 was adopted: 30-0-4-0.

Youth, Education & Libraries Committee

Alberto Cruz and Luis O. Reyes, Co-Chairpersons

3. The resolution to approve the after-school use of District 3 public school yards was adopted: 35-0-0-0.

Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

4. 300 Central Park West, The El Dorado (West 90th Street.) The resolution to approve application #C060392ZSM to the Department of City Planning by 300 CPW Apartments Corp. for a special permit to allow enlargement of an existing attended accessory parking garage with a maximum capacity of 120 spaces in the cellar was adopted: 32-0-0-0.

5. Broadway, West 58th - 68th Streets, "Winter's Eve at Lincoln Square." The resolution to approve application to the Mayor's Office by the Lincoln Square BID for various street closures from West 58th to 68th Streets on Monday, November 27, 2006, from 8:00 AM until midnight was adopted: 34-0-0-0.

6. 200 West 60th Street (Amsterdam Avenue.) The resolution to approve renewal application DCA# 0984345 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Heledona, Inc., d/b/a Olympic Flame Diner, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 32 seats was adopted: 28-4-0-0.

7. 2787 Broadway (West 107th Street.) The resolution to approve renewal application DCA# 1147364 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Hillview Specialty Foods, Inc., d/b/a 107 West Restaurant & Bar, for a two-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 13 tables and 26 seats was adopted:

29-4-2-0.

8. The resolution to approve application #1236878 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Dewan Chowdhury to construct and operate a newsstand on the west side of Columbus Avenue between West 92nd and 93rd Streets was returned to committee.

Business & Consumer Issues Committee

Jeffrey Bank and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

9. 100 West 72nd Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.) The resolution to approve the new application to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Green Mountain Productions LLC, dba Columbus 72, for a cabaret license was adopted: 33-0-1-0.

10. 988 Amsterdam Avenue (West 108th Street.) The resolution to approve renewal application #1154345 to the NYS Liquor Authority by 988 Amsterdam LLC, d/b/a Mona, for a two-year liquor license, as amended, was adopted: 20-9-1-0, conditioned on receipt of a letter from the applicant agreeing to the provisions in the resolution.

The reference to a public assembly permit was struck and the need for a letter from the applicant was added.

Parks & Preservation Committee

Lenore Norman and Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chairpersons

11. Central Park. The resolution to approve reconstruction of the Oak Bridge and Bank Rock Bay, the northwestern-most extremity of the Lake, near West 77th Street was adopted: 27-0-0-0

12. Central Park. The resolution to approve revisions to final design for the Ancient Playground at East 85th Street was adopted: 28-0-0-0.

13. 22 West 75th Street (Central Park West- Columbus Avenue.) The resolution to approve application #07-1538 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for reconstruction of stoop was adopted: 27-0-0-0

14. 200 West 84th Street, dba Spiga Restaurant (Amsterdam Avenue.) The resolution to approve application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission regarding violation for restaurant's window installed without LPC permits was adopted: 27-0-0-0.

15. 101 West 87th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.) The resolution to approve application #06-6776 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for rear-yard and rooftop additions was adopted: 27-0-0-0.

16. 119 West 87th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.) The resolution to approve application #07-0224 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for rear-yard and rooftop additions was adopted: 26-3-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Present: Sheldon J. Fine, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Jeffrey Bank, Page Cowley, Alberto Cruz, Islande Dupoux, Josh Feldman, Guillermo Gonzalez, Phyllis E. Gunther, Marlene Guy, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Benjamin Howard-Cooper, Lawrence Horowitz, John D. Howell, Chaumtoli Huq, Joyce S. Johnson, Ulma Jones, Bobbie Katzander, Barbara Keleman, Eric Nelson, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Gabrielle Palitz, Sharon Parker-Frazier, Melanie Radley, Anne Raphael, Luis O. Reyes, Oscar Ríos, Helen Rosenthal, Ethel Sheffer, Jeffrey Siegel, Charles Simon, Elizabeth Starkey, Barbara Van Buren, D. Maria Watson, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Dan Zweig. Absent: Hope Cohen, Lance Dashefsky, John Donohue, Victor Gonzalez, Marlene Guy, Lawrence Horowitz, John D. Howell, Madge Rosenberg, Ethel Sheffer, Charles Simon, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Melanie Wymore. On Leave: Jean Green-Dorsey.

Steering Committee

Sheldon Fine, Chairman

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Strategy and Budget Committee

Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson

Youth and Education Committee

Luis O. Reyes and Alberto Cruz, Co-Chairpersons

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

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Business and Consumer Issues Committee

George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Parks and Preservation Committee

Lenore Norman and Klari Neuelt, Co-Chairpersons

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Housing Committee

Victor Gonzalez and Charles Simon, Co-Chairpersons

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Health and Human Services Committee

Barbara Van Buren, Chairperson

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Land Use Committee

Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

Environment and Public Safety Committee

John Howell, Chairperson

District Service Cabinet

The Cabinet did not meet in November.