



COMMUNITY BOARD 7/MANHATTAN
Minutes of Full Board Meeting

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Goddard Riverside Community Center in the District. Chair Elizabeth R. Caputo called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

Minutes from previous full board meeting were **approved: 29 – 0 – 1 – 0**

Chair's Report: Elizabeth R. Caputo

- The Chair highlighted the new social media push on Twitter from the Communications Committee.
- The Chair thanked board members Page Cowley, Mel Wymore and Mark Diller for representing CB7 at the City Council's ZAQ and MIH hearings.
- The Chair announced that Polly Spain has been appointed as Co-Chair of the Housing Committee.

Madelyn Innocent, Co-Chair, NYCHA Task Force

- Highlighted the goals of the Task Force, especially when it comes to community outreach and input on the work of the Task Force.
- Next meeting will be on April 27th; the agenda will include identifying the various NYCHA developments in the district and will attempt to bring more awareness to the needs of tenants.

Community Session

Fabrice Armand, Department of Corrections – the Department currently has many job opportunities available, both in and out of uniform. It is in one of its largest hiring pushes in its history and is specifically recruiting among NYCHA housing tenants.

Cris Fernandez – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History, specifically because of its impact on the local environment.

Sofia Sokolov – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History. She wanted to know who is responsible for enforcing environmental laws on the Upper West Side and encouraged other community members to also oppose the expansion plan.

Deborah McKean – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History because of its significant impact on the local environment and the quiet character of the neighborhood.

Barbara Sacks – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History and the use of tax dollars for the project.

Claude Beller – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History, specifically because it will increase traffic congestion and the number of street vendors in the neighborhood.

Claudia DiSalvo – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History, specifically because it reduces Public Park space within the community and because it's underground expansion plan is in direct conflict with the Museum's sustainability plan.

Janne Appelbaum – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History. She was very concerned about the failure of a prior panel she attended to address questions of the Museum entry fee.



Rudy Van Daele – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History, specifically because it reduces Public Park space which is used by many children within the community.

Dr. Gary Goodman – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History. He felt that CB7 was endorsing the expansion project because of the information available in the CB7 website about the plan. The Chair specified that CB7 has taken no position on the expansion project.

Brian McCullough, New York City Complaint Review Board – the NYCCRB is expanding its outreach to various representatives of the communities around the city.

Winifred Armstrong, Bloomingdale Neighborhood History Group – supports the work of the NYCHA Task Force and hopes they can find ways to work together.

Jane Thompson – brought attention to a number of issues including the M104 bus route, rent increase for rent controlled apartments, construction on 94th street and West End Avenue, beds and apartments for seniors, and the increase of bike use on the Upper West Side. Mark Diller asked for further details on the rent increase for rent controlled apartments.

Richard Barr – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History. He wants the Board to put the expansion plan on the agenda. He thought it outrageous that the DOT plan of a protected bike lane on Amsterdam Avenue passed last month, especially given the number of non-community members that supported it.

Susan Brauser – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History, because it reduces hard to find green space in our urban environment. Spending time outdoors fosters better citizens.

Martha Dwyer – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History. She believed that the museum has “bamboozled” members of the community into supporting the plan without serious thought.

Ann Russell – is against the proposed expansion of the Museum of Natural History and asked everyone to consider the plan very carefully. She is very afraid that the plan will be accepted without considering community opposition to it.

Reports by Elected Officials:

Helen Rosenthal, City Council Member, 6th District

- Monthly housing clinics are ongoing. The next one will be on March 2nd.
- Mobile care clinics continue to serve the community (the next opportunity for an appointment will be April 1st).
- There are a number of new scholarship opportunities available to residents of public housing.
- Sean Fitzpatrick noted that Participatory Budgeting is back for community members on the Upper West Side this year. Voting is from March 26th to April 3rd.
- The City Council will vote on the ZQA and MIH proposals at the end of March. Councilmembers are currently discussing and negotiating changes to the proposals. Her office is pushing to preserve the existing affordable housing within her district. She supports reforms to the DOB that would have agencies look at issues from the perspective of the tenant and not the agency itself. The Councilmember is working to protect the “sliver law” and wants to see “deeper” affordability under the proposed changes. There is an 8 billion dollar fund to create affordable housing in the up-zoned areas post-passage of these resolutions.

Board Discussion:

- Concern was expressed about contextual zoning, and the Councilmember noted that the discussion is still ongoing on the best way to protect units within the plan while also protecting the hard work of community members on zoning laws.
- Concern was expressed on the question of “8B” zoning, and how it is missing from the changes within the proposed legislation.
- Concern was expressed about the wait lists for senior housing, while noting that a number of current senior affordable housing buildings have closed wait lists.
- Permanence of affordable housing is critical to making the proposed ZQA and MIH plans work.

Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives:Diana Howard, Manhattan Borough President's Office

- When applying for renewal, current Community Board members no longer have to be interviewed at the MBP office
- Over 100 applications have been received for the 3 current vacancies on CB7
- MBP Office is holding a hearing on public schools overcrowding on March 8th from 6PM – 9PM
- The office is also holding a public hearing on the adult brain on March 20th
- Applications are still been accepted MBP Youth Council

Cherica DuBois, C-M Corey Johnson's Office

- They are holding an event supporting senior housing
- They are working on limiting the use of smokeless tobacco at baseball events within the City

Erika Overton, A-M Linda Rosenthal's Office

- The office offers a legal clinic to connect constituents with attorneys
- They will be holding additional housing legal clinics in the future
- They support that permanent affordable housing be included under MIH/ZQA

Tara Klein, State Senator Brad Hoylman's Office

- The office has published a “Senior Resource Guide” for the community
- There is an upcoming event in Albany to highlight the accomplishments of women from around the State of New York

David Baily, State Senator Adriano Espaillat's Office

- Senator Espaillat wants to see money come to the Upper West Side to support Senior Housing
- The office is working hard to raise the minimum wage

George Damalas, State Senator Jose Serrano's Office

- Senator Serrano is looking at ways to promote transparency and ethics reform within the state government
- The office is also doing a free tax preparation event

Celine Mizrahi, Congressman Jerrold Nadler's Office

- David Bocarsly was introduced as the new representative to CB7
- The Congressman is focused on issues surrounding privacy, especially as it relates to smartphones like the current Apple case in California
- The Congressman is very concerned about recent political attacks on women's health

Laura Atlas, Public Advocate Letitia James' Office

- The Public Advocate's Office is working hard on public education within the city, specifically looking at students who have IEP's within city schools. The office is looking at possible litigation to fix issues with students who have IEP's within city schools.

Dan Campanelli, NYC Comptroller's Office

- The Comptroller testified today about the City Budget, highlighting that unemployment has continued to drop and that city spending on homeless services has increased.
- There are a number of city owned vacant lots that could be used for affordable housing

Cheryl Pahaham, NYS Comptroller's Office

- The NYS Comptroller's office is doing a major survey on noise within the city, specifically because they are thinking about doing "participatory auditing" depending on how the results of the survey come out.

Business Session**Transportation Committee****Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons****Resolution Re:**

1. M5 bus route

The Chairs presented the resolution.

Community Comments:

- George Bulow asked why this bus line has changed so many times; He supported committee's recommendation.

Board Discussion:

- The Chairs noted that the committee voted 6 – 0 – 0 – 0 to approve the resolution.
- Two grammar changes were noted: In the third bullet point "reliable bus service for as many riders as possible taking them where they need to go" and after "approves" inserting "in concept."

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 38 – 0 – 0 – 0*

Business & Consumer Issues Committee**Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons****Resolutions Re:**

2. **Applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses:**

- **2170-2178 Broadway** (West 77th Street) NY Broadway Hotel Owner LLC, d/b/a NYLO New York City/
LOCL Bar.
- **795 Columbus Avenue** (West 99th Street) Columbia Village LLC, d/b/a Bareburger.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 39 – 0 – 1 – 0*

3. **Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewals:**



- **61 Columbus Avenue** (West 62nd Street.) Renewal application #1190070-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by West 62 Operating, LLC d/b/a Rosa Mexicana, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 26 tables and 50 seats.
- **249 Columbus Avenue** (West 71st -72nd Streets.) Renewal application #1103658-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by CMR, Corp., d/b/a Ella NYC, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 19 seats.
- **316 Columbus Avenue** (West 75th Street.) Renewal application #1395732-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Pappardella Rest. Corp, d/b/a Pappardella, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 10 tables and 20 seats.
- **2315 Broadway** (West 84th Street.) Renewal application #13414020-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Donizetti LLC, d/b/a Five Napkin Burger, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 34 seats.
- **517 Columbus Avenue** (West 85th Street.) Renewal application #0812902-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Re Spec Corp., d/b/a Jackson Hole, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 25 tables and 48 seats.
- **584 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 88th - 89th Streets.) Renewal application #1247422-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by T.B. 584 Amsterdam Rest. Corp., d/b/a Bodrum, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 24 seats.
- **668 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 92nd – 93rd Street.) Renewal application #1139454-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Talias Restaurant Group, LLC, d/b/a Talias Steakhouse & Bar, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 36 seats.
- **732 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 96th Street.) Renewal application #1138270-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Le-Se Amsterdam 732 Restaurant, Inc., d/b/a Dive Bar, for a four-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 17 seats.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 42 – 0 – 0 – 0*

4. New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Applications:

- **452 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 82nd Street.) New application #457-2016-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by PB Wealth, Inc., d/b/a Senn Thai Comfort Food, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats.
- **2665 Broadway** (West 101st & 102nd Street.) New application #16845-2015-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by R. Harris Enterprises, Inc, d/b/a Schatzie Prime Meats, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 43 – 0 – 0 – 0*

New/ Change of Ownership Enclosed Sidewalk Café Application:

5. **2636 Broadway** (West 100th Street.) New application/Change of ownership #15235-2015-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Spectrum Restaurant, LLC, d/b/a Manhattan Valley, for a four-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 24 seats.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 36 – 6 – 1 – 0*

Preservation Committee

Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:



6. **252 West 71st Street** (West End Avenue – Amsterdam Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rooftop addition.

- The Chairs noted that the vote sheet should not have A/B/C, and the vote would be on the application as a whole.
- The Chairs quickly went over images of the proposed changes for the whole Board.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 41 – 1 – 0 – 0*

7. **66 West 84th Street, dba Vin Sur Vingt** (Columbus Avenue) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace the storefront and to install a retractable awning.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 41 – 0 – 0 – 0*

Parks & Environment Committee

Klari Neuwelt, Chair

Resolution Re:

8. Department of Parks and Recreation proposed rules to reduce fees for veterans and people with disabilities at the Ocean Breeze Park Track & Field Athletic Complex and the City's recreation centers. The Chairs presented the resolution.

Board Discussion:

- An amendment was proposed to include free membership for senior citizens. The Chair noted that the amendment was not acceptable as it does not specifically match with the core topic addressed by the resolution. The amendment was withdrawn.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 43 – 0 – 0 – 0*

Steering Committee

Elizabeth Caputo, Chair

Resolution Re:

9. Request for a leave of absence.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted: 42 – 0 – 0 – 0*

Chair comments:

- There will be an upcoming Playground Task Force meeting later this month.
- The Chair thanked Vice Chair DeNora Getachew for her service to the community since this was her last Board meeting.

After a motion, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

Present: Elizabeth Caputo, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Isaac Booker, Tina Branham, Christian Cordova, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzero, Mark N. Diller, Robert Espier, Miki Fiegel, Sheldon J. Fine, Paul Fischer, Sonia Garcia, DeNora Getachew, Rita Genn, Marc Glazer, Benjamin Howard-Cooper, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, Brian Jenks, Genora Johnson, , Blanche E. Lawton, Klari Neuwelt, Gabrielle Palitz, Michele Parker, Nick Prigo, Jeannette Rausch, Christopher Riano, Richard Robbins, Suzanne Robotti, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Roberta



Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Eric Shuffler, Polly Spain, Mel Wymore, Howard Yaruss, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Dan Zweig. **Absent:** Steven Brown, Matthew Holtzman, Meisha Hunter Burkett and Lillian Moore.



Business & Consumer Issues Committee Meeting Minutes
Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons
March 9, 2016

Present: Michele Parker, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Christian Cordova, Paul Fischer, Marc Glazer, Linda Alexander and Brian Jenks. **Absent:** Matthew Holtzman and Christopher Riano.

The Chairs called the meeting to order after quorum was confirmed at 7:02 PM.

Members of the public were given an opportunity to speak and were warned that they could be quoted by media present.

Applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses:

1. 1991 Broadway (West 67th Street) Sugar Factory Broadway LLC, d/b/a Sugar Factory.

Frank Palillo and Tom Recine present for the applicant.

- Lincoln Square BID supports the application.
- Public can bring food and seat at tables.
- It was stated that there are no complaints from neighbors
- No food delivery service.
- Music played by DJ will not be louder than their regular background music.
- Private events like birthday parties or luncheons will be sponsored.
- The signage is located above their entrance, but not over by the street side.
- Kitchen is in the basement level.
- 150 seats
- Building has trash compactor which will be used by the restaurant.
- The restaurant includes a candy store.
- Public space opened until midnight.

Community Comments:

- Mark Dooley – Welcomed the restaurant to the neighborhood residential area. He was concerned that restaurant patrons would make noise late at night. He asked if the restaurant was willing to work with the community to resolve any issues as they arise, which the restaurant agreed to do.

Board Discussion:

- Restaurant has to monitor public space usage between midnight and 2:00 am; patrons can only be seated inside restaurant during those hours.

*After deliberation the resolution for a liquor license application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

Application to the SLA for a Change of Class – Applicant is seeking to upgrade from a Wine, Beer & Cider to a Full On-Premises Liquor License:

2. 886 Amsterdam Avenue (West 103rd Street) 886 Amsterdam Avenue Corp, d/b/a Arco Café.

Robert Callahan present for the applicant.

- There are no changes to the operation or renovations.
- Closing time will be at 10:30pm every night.
- Columbus Amsterdam BID supports the application.

*After deliberation the resolution for a change of class of liquor license was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*





3. **998 Columbus Avenue** (West 109th Street) Manhattan Valley Craft Inc., d/b/a Manhattan Brew & Wine.

Vanchl Tolomanosi present for the applicant.

- The restaurant usually closes between 1:00 am and 2:00 am.
- They agreed to close at 2:00 am on Fridays and Saturdays.
- Columbus Amsterdam BID supports the application.

*After deliberation the resolution for a change of class of liquor license was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewals:

4. **1900 Broadway** (West 63rd -64th Streets.) Renewal application #1422807-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by TS3 Hospitality, LLC, d/b/a The Smith, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 21 tables and 54 seats.

Jeffrey Lefcourt present for the applicant.

- No food delivery service.
- No credit card minimum.
- No changes in the operation.

*After deliberation the Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

5. **427 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th – 81st Streets.) Renewal application #2028372-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Taikai, Inc., d/b/a Momoya Upper West, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 17 seats.

Robert Callahan present for the applicant.

- No changes to the café.
- They have 6 delivery bicycles.

*After deliberation the Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

6. **480 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd – 84th Streets.) Renewal application #1307588-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 480 Rest Amsterdam, Inc., d/b/a Soldier McGee, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 14 seats.

Robert Callahan present for the applicant.

- D/b/a being changed to Joe's Burger from Soldier McGee
- The restaurant closes at midnight.
- The restaurant closes at 1:00 am Fridays and Saturdays.

*After deliberation the Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

7. **245 West 104th Street** (Broadway-West End Avenue.) Renewal application #1187714-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Broadway 104, LLC, d/b/a Café du Soleil, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 18 tables and 36 seats.

No one showed up for the applicant.

*After deliberation the Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal application was **disapproved without prejudice** 7-0-0-0*

New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café:

150 West 62nd Street (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) New application #1342-2016-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by BAHN, MI, LLC, d/b/a Bonmi, for a four-year consent to operate an



unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 16 seats.

Vincent Gillespie present for the applicant.

- The restaurant has been opened for a year.
- 2 delivery people.
- South East Asian food.
- 26 seats inside.
- Lincoln Square BID wrote a letter supporting the application.
- Tenant of Fordham University.
- Fordham University supports the application.
- No liquor being served.

Board Discussion:

- This is a Mid-zoned side street with a wide sidewalk.
- There are no residential units above the restaurant.

*After deliberation the New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

8. **462 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 82nd Street.) New application #1492-2016-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Jin Upper West Side, Corp, d/b/a Jin Ramen, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 18 seats.

Robert Callahan and Sam Wong present for the applicant.

- Wide sidewalk (19' 8").
- They are trying to found out who can get rid of the corner phone booth that has not been used in years.
- They will make sure that there is plenty of room between sidewalk café and phone booth.

*After deliberation the New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café application was **approved**: 7-0-0-0*

9. **366 Columbus Avenue** (West 77th Street.) Shake Shack 366 Columbus, LLC, d/b/a Shake Shack – quarterly follow up regarding approval of enclosed sidewalk café.

Justin Dysktra, Manager, reporting.

- They looked into replacing entry/exit door to alleviate patron line congestion outside restaurant. The \$20,000 cost is prohibitive. They will change a glass panel into a door instead by late April or May.
- They had installed two solar powered trash compactors (\$9,000 each) by the park which the sanitation department removed. Now they will install 22 solar powered trash compactors around the park.
- They will use Mint-Ex minted peppermint trash can liners to repel rats.
- They will assign one person between 11:00 am and 10:00 pm to manage trash around park area, and if necessary will assign two.
- They will come back in June 2016 for the next quarterly report.

The committee thanks Shake Shack for their efforts.

New Business

Marc Glazer:

- Spoke for a business located at 66 west 84th street. In front of the business there is a Citi Bike station that is negatively impacting the business. He will like to have DOT remove the Citi Bike station.

Board Discussion:



- Real Estate broker has not heard that Citi Bike is negatively affecting businesses.
- It was commented that many of the Citi Bike stations between 67th and 70th streets are frequently empty because they are being used.
- It was suggested to arrange a joint meeting with the Transportation Committee to discuss the effect of the Citi Bike program on the community and businesses; and to discuss the lengthy amount of time that scaffolding remains installed at many buildings which has a negative impact on the community and businesses.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.



Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Elizabeth Caputo, Chair
March 15, 2016 6:30PM

After quorum was verified the meeting started at 6:33 pm

1. There was discussion and consideration of a resolution in support of an International Passive House Standard for NYC in observance of Earth Day 2016, which will be celebrated worldwide on April 22nd.

Presentation on Passive House Standard by Andres Benzig (from MCB5) and Bob Scheck (from MCB1).

- Buildings using Passive House Standard will use 90% less energy than conventional buildings.
- Existing buildings can be retrofitted to the standard.
- The Passive House Institute maintains international standards.
- The Presenters are preparing a letter to offer at the borough board.
- Bob Scheck has so far retrofitted both a duplex and family house.

Board Comments:

- **Question:** What is CB7 being asked to support?
- **Answer:** The Presenters are asking the city to do a feasibility study of Passive House, to do a project, and see how it works. They would like CB7 to support this effort and to pass a Passive House resolution similar to the ones they passed already at CB1 and CB5.
- The City Council passed a law for new construction of public owned buildings to adhere to standards similar to Passive House.
- Passive House standards cannot be implemented in the current building code; it would imply revamping the current infrastructure.
- The standards are easier to implement in bigger buildings.
- It currently costs 5% to 10% over regular building costs to build to Passive House standards.
- The city is not currently providing loans to convert a building to Passive House standards.
- It is important for people to learn and understand this standard.
- There was discussion if NYCHA could be approached to retrofit a building inside CB7 to the Passive House standard.
- The Chair asked if a Passive House resolution should be offered by the Steering Committee, The Parks and Environment Committee, or postponed for a later time. It was decided to postpone a decision on the resolution until a draft can be written to make it more general and concise than the resolutions already passed by CB1 and CB5.

After deliberation a resolution to support investigation by the City of the Passive House Standard was approved:

15-0-1-0

2. Planning for CB7's comments on the draft scope of work for the AMNH EIS. Public hearing will be April 6th. Documents are available at www.nyc.gov/mcb7.
 - The Chair explained that we wanted to discuss what comments CB7 should offer at the April 6th Public Hearing, and that we should choose which CB7 members should testify at the hearing and on which topics they should focus.
 - The City Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold hearings on the issues after the scope EIS process is finished.
 - The City Parks Department is the leading agency on the EIS process.



- At some point CB7's Land Use Committee will get the opportunity to discuss the issue.
 - The Chair indicated that there are several areas of the Environmental Impact Statement Draft Scope of Work for the American Museum of Natural History's Gilder Center for Science, Education and Innovation for which CB7 wants to submit written comments for the record. Specifically CB7 wants to ask questions, draw conclusions, propose missing pieces and state where the areas of interest reflect CB7 concerns or not. These comments will not imply approval or disapproval of the proposal by CB7.
 - Penny Ryan confirmed that Full Board approval was not needed to submit the comments for the Public Hearing.
 - After proper discussion, it was agreed that the following board members should initially comment on the following points:
 - Land Use Zoning and Public Policy – **Land Use Committee**
 - Open Space – **Klari Neuwelt, Christopher Riano**
 - Shadows – **Mel Wymore**
 - Historical and Cultural Resources – **Linda Alexander, Jay Adolf, Gabrielle Palitz, Mark Diller**
 - Urban Design and Visual Resources – **Land Use Committee**
 - Natural Resources – **Klari Neuwelt, Christopher Riano**
 - Hazardous Materials – **Mark Diller, Roberta Semer**
 - Transportation – **Dan Zweig, Andrew Albert**
 - Traffic – **Richard Robbins**
 - Transit – **Andrew Albert**
 - Pedestrians – **Sue Robotti**
 - Vehicular and Pedestrian Safety – **Sue Robotti**
 - Parking – **Sue Robotti, Richard Robbins**
 - Air Quality – **Klari Neuwelt, Christopher Riano**
 - Noise – **Polly Spain**
 - Public Health – **Health and Human Services Committee**
 - Neighborhood Character – **Michele Parker, Linda Alexander, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero**
 - Construction – **Roberta Semer, Penny Ryan**
 - Alternatives – **Elizabeth Caputo**
 - It was agreed to have draft suggestions prepared and emailed by Thursday March 24th.
 - A meeting will be held on Monday March 28th at 6:30 pm to finalize the comments to be submitted in order to decide who will testify on behalf of CB7 at the April 6th Public Hearing.
 - A message will be sent to all board members about this plan.
3. Minutes, resolutions and other communication issues – Communications Committee.
- The taking and submission of minutes in a more timely fashion has improved overall.
 - Committee chairs should make assignment lists so that every committee member gets to take minutes.
 - Complaints made that some members may be illiterate or hearing impaired and thus may not be able to take minutes were deemed without merit.
 - Press Policy: individual CB7 members are discouraged from talking with the press so that their comments are not construed as official CB7 positions. Press inquiries should be referred to the board office. Alternatively, press inquiries can be referred to the Committee chairs. The Committee chairs can decline to make comments to the press.



- It is important that if an individual board member makes a comment to the press that it is understood that it is a comment from a private citizen and not as a comment from a CB7 member.
 - The Chair requested that all Committee chairs remind their committee members of this policy, which is in the CB7 bylaws and part of City Charter.
 - The Communication Committee will make sure that new CB7 members have a copy of the bylaws.
4. Welcoming new board members.
- The Manhattan Borough President is responsible for appointing new members to the 3 current vacancies on the CB7 Board.
 - It is expected that current board members that are re-applying will be re-appointed to the board.
 - The Chair reported that she had talked with the 6 or 7 board members that had attendance issues in order to resolve such issues.
 - The Chair asked the Steering Committee members to relate preferences for possible new members based on specific expertise. Dan Zweig expressed a need for someone with a background in Statistics.
 - The MBP office has reviewed 57 applications for the 3 vacancies.
 - It is expected that we may be able to welcome new board members by the middle of the 3rd week in May and possibly at the next Steering Committee meeting.
5. Review of April 5th Full Board agenda.
- The Housing Committee will postpone the “Inclusionary Housing Plans for Riverdale Center Buildings 1, 3 & 4” resolution until receiving and reviewing such plans.
 - The Parks and Environment Committee may add a resolution to the April’s agenda.
 - Dan Zweig asked that a Broadway address for Café du Soleil should be included in the listing for its renewal application for an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café. The current address is listed as 245 West 104th Street. Mr. Zweig indicated that the main entrance for the Café faces Broadway and as such a Broadway address should be provided.
6. Committee updates.
- Madelyn Innocent announced that the April 27th meeting of the NYCHA Taskforce will not be a kickoff event, but a planning session with various Tennant Associations presidents.
 - There will be a March 16th trip to Albany to advocate for Public Housing. There will be many buses available and 46 NYCHA residents will attend.
 - The Chair will have the NYCHA Taskforce present comments at the beginning of the next FB meeting.
7. New business.
- Klari Neuwelt commented that the City Council had not as of yet provided any comments in writing in regards to the MIH & ZQA proposals and was concerned as to the implications for all of us.
 - Ethel Sheffer commented that CB7’s 5 or 6 points on MIH & ZQA were addressed by the City Council.
 - Audrey Isaacs will conduct a tutorial presentation about the Land Use Committee on April 7th for board members. The details of the presentation are being finalized and will be announced at the next FB meeting.



- Blanche Lawton is working with the PD 20th Precinct on a 4th Youth Expo to be held at the Church of the Redeemer. The Expo will include internship and career opportunities.
- The Business and Consumer Issues Committee will hold another Business to Business event at the end of October.
- New York City's Comptroller Scott Stringer Red Tape Commission will hold an event on April 7th at Tavern on the Green.

After a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Present: Elizabeth Caputo, Andrew Albert, Page Cowley, Mark Diller, Audrey Isaacs, Blanche Lawton, Klari Neuwelt, Michele Parker, Suzanne Robotti, Polly Spain and Dan Zweig. **Board Member:** Christian Cordova, Madelyn Innocent, Genora Johnson, Christopher Riano and Roberta Semer.

**Parks & Environment Committee****Klari Neuwelt, Chairperson****March 21, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Committee Members present: Meisha Hunter, Klari Neuwelt, Christopher Riano, Ken Coughlin, Brian Jenks, Steven Brown. Non-Committee Board member Paul Fischer was also in attendance.

1. Reports by P+E Committee Members On P+E “Fieldwork”:

- a. Riverside Park Master Plan Advisory Council meeting – Ken Coughlin and Brian Jenks
 - At the Advisory Council meeting, Ken and Brian provided feedback regarding the presentation of the Master Plan as well as the organization of the information in the Master Plan.
 - Master Plan to be presented at the April meeting of the Parks & Environment Committee.
- b. Plastic Bag Forum – Ken Coughlin
 - The forum, which covered proposed legislation to impose a fee on plastic bags to reduce use, was hosted by State Sen. Brad Hoylman last month. Several cities have already implemented the practice, which has resulted in a decrease in use of plastic bags. Legislation is also pending in City Council, where there are 22 co-sponsors. Negotiations with the Mayor are on-going.
- c. Theodore Roosevelt Park Working Group – Klari Neuwelt
 - Plans related to the Park are subject to an environmental impact statement (“EIS”). Museum issued draft scoping document. Museum is hosting a meeting on April 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History where members of the public will be allowed to comment on the draft scope. All of the paperwork can be found on CB7’s website and information is also available on the City’s Parks Dept. website.
 - Approximately 11,000 square feet of the park would be included in the envelope for the new building. Believes that currently on CB7’s website there is a (now out-of-date) drawing for what the landscape architects have been suggesting on a conceptual basis to be the layout in the park area. The Museum, together with Friends of Roosevelt Park, is holding meetings from time to time with a variety of constituencies on the park design. There have only been a couple of these meetings to date. This process is likely to be ongoing for a while. By the time the Parks & Environment Committee considers the proposal, it is likely that the EIS will have been finalized and the design will certainly have been refined.

Public Comment

- Richard Barr—Asked whether there is a projected timetable for discussing this issue at the Parks & Environment Committee or the Full Board. Answer: No schedule yet. Believe the EIS process will have to be completed before a plan is submitted to the Parks & Environment Committee and the Full Board. The Preservation Committee is also likely to be involved in the process. The museum project does not go to the City Planning Commission or the City Council. The CB will not be left behind as its role is triggered at the time the EIS is reviewed.
- Barbara Sachs—Asked why has this been going on for so long before the community received notice. Klari explained that the Board learned about the project when the rest of the community learned about the project.



- Dr. Cary Goodman—Stated that he believed that CB7 has aligned itself with the Museum and the proposed changes to the park as is and does not believe that the Board is proceeding in a neutral matter.
 - Seth Kaufman—From the Alliance to Protect Theodore Roosevelt Park. Asked whether any opinion regarding conflicts of interest related to the project had been rendered. Klari believed that CB7 staff sought an opinion after someone from the community raised the issue, but was not involved in that process; suggested Mr. Kaufman follow up with Penny Ryan.
 - Jen Applebaum—Inquired into the location of the April meeting at the Museum. Referred to the CB7 website. .
 - Musa Klevnikov—Asked whether CB7 would be weighing in on the proposal to use the park as a major entrance. Klari explained that the purpose of the EIS is to study and evaluate the likely impact of the proposed changes on the park and other conditions, including traffic, noise, pollution, etc. Klari stated that she did not believe that the Museum intended the Columbus Ave. entrance to be the major entrance, but that instead Museum believes that most people will be still be entering on 77th street and on Central Park West.
 - Claudia DiSalvo—Stated that there appeared to be conflicts relating to the EIS. Asked whether CB7 was aware of the City/State tax money that was allotted to be given to this private institution. Klari referred back to the Museum’s original stated plan to obtain NYS and NYC funding. In terms of mechanics/timing for allocation of the funding, that is not anything over which CB& has any particular knowledge or any control over.
- d. Cherry Walk Initiative – Ken Coughlin
- Initiative to identify funding for Cherry Walk path. Path needs renovation, useful life is at an end and there is insufficient lighting – no lighting on the path itself. Needed renovations would cost approximately \$5 million. Meeting Wednesday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. with various stakeholders at the CB7 office to discuss. Working closely with Community Board 9, which shares Riverside Park with CB7. Renovating Cherry Walk has been the Parks & Environment Committee’s top budget priority for the past two years and likely to be next year’s as well.
- e. Tavern on the Green Public Comfort Stations – Klari Neuwelt.
- Part of the concession agreement for Tavern on the Green includes requirement to provide public comfort stations year round. Klari recently saw that the comfort stations were closed all week. Tavern on the Green now understands that these



comfort stations have to be open to the public (now 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.), with posted signs indicating as much.

- f. Basia Nikonorow, of the Partnership for Parks, an organization that engages community members in park stewardship, announced a workshop for Bloomingdale Playground on Amsterdam Ave., to be held on 4/18/2016 from 6-7:30 p.m. at P.S. 145 (150 W. 105th Street). This is the playground that has been the focus of CB7's Inclusive Playground Task Force

2. Bus Stops Between **West 100th and 110th Streets** on Riverside Drive. Presentation by the Department of Parks & Recreation on safety improvements to bus stops at various locations between West 100th and 110th Streets on Riverside Drive. (The project also includes stops between 110th and 122nd Streets.) Work will include installation of new paving and curb cuts at various bus stops which currently have either no paving or uneven paving conditions.

- Margaret Bracken, from Parks Dept., and Beth France, the project manager for the landscape architect consultants, presented on this project.
- 97th-about 125th street is the range; looking at bus stops where there is no pavement, poor paving conditions, and/or ADA access issues. Grant funding from the Feds with a local match.
- Beneficial project for us because the bus stops are substandard. Also will be presenting to CB 9. Approximately 6 stop renovations will be in CB7. Looking for a resolution from the Parks & Environment Committee and the Board because the project will be going to the Landmarks Preservation Commission and Public Design Commission.
- PowerPoint presentation given. Margaret and Beth went through each site to discuss the issues that would be addressed by the project; issues varied by site, but a consistent goal was to increase access. Showed pictures of proposed pavers that would be used at the various sites. DOT is comfortable with the choices.
- Meeting with LPC/PDC will occur in the next couple of months.
- 104th Street southbound stop being moved to 103rd Street in order for stops to be spaced every three blocks in accordance with current practice. Will gain crossing with accessibility.
- City DOT and ADA have very particular requirements for bus stops. These requirements are being met by Parks Dept,
- A member of the public questioned whether the bus stop at 103rd Street required the proposed path along the curb to 104th Street if a rider could simply walk around the back of the stop. Also noted that the proposed bus stop could prevent the installation of Citi bikes at that area, which had been proposed.
- Question regarding whether passing distance and safety of cyclists were considered where there will be a bumpout added northbound at 100th Street; Margaret and Beth presumed such concerns would be considered by the advocacy groups who work with DOT, but otherwise had not addressed this issue, so would check with DOT on this.
- The renovated stops will not have shelters. It is Parks Dept. policy not to have shelters along the perimeter of landmarked parks.



- A member of the public asked that pipe rail fences be welded together so that the pipes would not be knocked loose, as they sometimes are now.
- Meisha commented that this bus stop project was a good process and a good design; proposed solutions are appropriate considering the historic context in and around the Park.
- Ken commented that there should be a lot of attention paid to traffic concerns and issues with cyclists and the proposed new bus stop bumpout.
- A member of the public asked whether anything had been done to calm the traffic at the 100th Street stop. Margaret and Beth will speak more with City DOT on this issue.
- Margaret will send along an abbreviated deck of visuals that will be presented to the Full Board.
- Resolution to support the Park Department's preliminary and final design was approved: Committee 6-0-0-0; non-committee board members 1-0-0-0.

3. **La Perla Garden**, 76 West 105th Street. Request to the Economic Development Corporation by the Manhattan Land Trust (MLT) to release Manhattan Block 1840, Lot 61 from its open space restriction and to allow MLT to swap this lot (with a private owner) for the adjacent Lot 62, with the stipulation that Lot 62 will be encumbered by the same open space restriction (as currently contained in the deed for Lot 61).

- Andy Stone presented; directed NY City Program for the Trust for Public Land. Here to discuss agreement between the private land owners and the community garden trust.
- Both parties are comfortable with the agreement.
- Economic Development Corporation required that Council Member and CB okay what is being proposed.
- Council Member Levine supports this proposal.
- Map shows the property at issue.
- Trust for Public Land acquired 62 gardens, but has since transferred the lot in question to MLT City. The lot on the other side of the privately-owned lot is owned by NYC.
- Elizabeth Kellner – one of owners of private lot - spoke about purchasing private lot for \$500 in 1978 from NYC. Had paid \$250 in real estate taxes per year; currently paying \$15,000 in property taxes per year. This tax burden is unbearable, so the owners plan to sell the lot.
- Swap of lot ownership respects the intent of the open space restriction.
- Zoning is R8A, next to Manhattan Avenue Historic District.
- Elizabeth Hall – member of La Perla for 10 years, many good community members have contributed to this gardens maintenance; happy the garden will survive in new configuration
- Bertha Rady, member of La Perla garden, would like a private angel to purchase the private garden lot.



- Resolution to approve: Committee members 5-0-0-0; non-committee board members: 1-0-0-0 (Paul Fischer).

4. Discussion of World Water Day. View video of EXIT – Virilio, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Hansen, Kurgan, Rubin, Pietrusko, Smith 2008-2015; video was presented at the Palais de Tokyo, Fondation Cartier during the COP21 Climate Change Summit in Paris in 2015. Portion of the Video includes display of sea level rise.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:00.

Health and Human Services Committee Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7 pm by Co-Chairs Madge Rosenberg and Catherine DeLazzero.

Committee Members attending: Madge Rosenberg, Catherine DeLazzero, Christian Cordova, Sheldon Fine, Sonia Garcia, Audrey Isaacs, Genora Johnson, etc.

Non-Committee Members: Mark Diller, etc.

PANEL ON ACCESSIBILITY

Panelist Zachary Campbell, Assistant Director, MTA Transit, Government & Community Relations remarked:

- A. Accessibility involves 3 issues: accessibility of subways, accessibility of buses, and paratransit
- B. MTA had to determine what subway stations in NYC are accessible?
- C. MTA engaged in an outreach process to determine which would be the MTA's top 100 stations throughout NYC to be made accessible and ADA compliant. It selected the top 100 stations based on the amount of persons entering and leaving the stations, and the number of other subway lines and bus lines to which a passenger can transfer via that station.
- D. NYC buses are fully ADA compliant.
- E. Paratransit is available for those who cannot use public transit.

Panelist Margaret M. Groce, Director, Office of Travel Training, District 75 (educational, vocational, and behavior support programs for students who are on the autism spectrum, have significant cognitive delays, are severely emotionally challenged, sensory impaired and/or multiply disabled.), NYC Department of Education remarked:

- A. She teaches in District 75. One skill she teaches her students is how to use public transit.
- B. Public transit must be accessible to students. As of 2010 there were 31,000 residents in NYC under 18 years of age.
- C. There has to be inclusiveness for all citizens, regardless of their physical or cognitive challenges.
- D. We must ask what are barriers to accessibility? We must be aware those barriers can be physical, safety or attitudinal (for those with cognitive disabilities).
- E. Each Community Board should check its District to see if accessibility is blocked due to construction, road work or anything else.
- F. We must determine what will make the world accessible to those with cognitive limitations.
- G. In overcoming limitations to accessibility, we must consider the needs of everyone. We must reduce barriers as much as possible. This is a legal requirement.
- H. When building, it is just as easy to build it as an accessible spot as to make it inaccessible.

- I. Universal design for learning: uses techniques to make everything accessible even to those with physical and cognitive challenges, by adapting books, words, and teaching mechanisms.

Panelist Christopher Noel, Access Coordinator, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, indicated:

- A. As a person with a disability, he uses his personal experiences to weigh in on DPR's capital projects.
- B. Works with landscape architects, engineers & designers so that when parks are redesigned, they are accessible.
- C. Even after ADA was adopted, public and private entities did not necessarily comply.
- D. Renovation of playgrounds presents a new opportunity to make playgrounds accessible so those with disabilities can play with those without disabilities.
 - a. DPR keeps that in mind when select play equipment.
 - b. Children cannot determine what is accessible and what is not.
 - c. All children like accessible equipment.
 - d. Have accessible swings specifically for children with challenges. But that is most popular swing with all children.
 - e. Don't want children with challenges to watch their classmates play: all can play in these renovated playgrounds.
 - f. Recreation Centers: reducing annual membership fees for those with disabilities.
 - g. Programming: Activities for persons of all levels of physical abilities. Non-disabled often want to play in programs for those with disabilities. Want everyone to engage in activities together. (Person without disabilities use sports wheelchair to play basketball with those who always use wheelchairs.)

Panelist Michele Noris, Norfast Consulting Group, is on the Citywide Council of Special Ed. She declared:

- A. She has a child with physical disabilities who uses a wheelchair.
- B. Identifying a school for those with accessibility requirements is not easy.
- C. While the DOE website lists "accessible schools," it is listing schools with particular IDEA programs.
- D. The list does not indicate what spaces/offices one can reach without using steps; whether one can use a restroom comfortably if one uses a wheelchair
- E. The only way to determine the physical condition of the school (reflecting its accessibility to those with physical challenges) is to review pages 3-4 of the architectural document
- F. To fully determine accessibility one must visit the school itself
- G. The DOE website must list all information needed via an accessibility rating system indicating whether you can, notwithstanding indicated challenges, get in front door; go to main office, go to restroom; go to nurse's office, etc., etc.

Panelist Brittany Perez, Research Associate, OTD, OTR/L, Center for Inclusive Design, University of Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning's Idea Center, explained:

- A. The Idea Center is an interdisciplinary research center.
- B. Its staff includes an array of specialists
- C. It trains people in universal design
- D. It studies the effectiveness of universal design.
- E. Universal design is a process which enables a diverse population of persons to participate; which makes the environment more and more usable for this diverse population; which develops an inclusive environment in which everyone can participate
- F. Its 8 goals include developing equipment and spaces for an array of human bodies and the spatial needs of a wide user group
- G. A national institute funds the Center.
- H. It specializes in accessible design in general and as applied in transportation in particular.
- I. For it examples, in the Idea Center the staff reconfigures a sample bus to make it more user friendly to persons with different physical capacities
- J. It studies effectiveness of examples of universal design
- K. It provides consulting services to those institutions seeking to adopt it (Ys, schools, transportation authorities, etc.)
- L. It tests products & transportation facilities to see if a wide variety of persons can use product & transportation facilities
- M. It wants environments to be inclusive for all persons (regardless of physical capacity, age, etc.)

Panelist Ronnie Ellen Raymond, Board of Directors, United Spinal Association, who lives in CD7, stated:

- A. Everyone assumes NYC buses are accessible
- B. She is looking forward to day when all taxis, subways stations and buildings are accessible
- C. She focuses on taxis
- D. City decided 50% of taxis should be accessible by 2020
- E. Uber has put this on hold; none of Uber vehicles are wheelchair accessible
- F. Mel Wymore and Ronnie mapped UWS restaurants; found a lot of accessible restaurants on UWS and many inaccessible
- G. She is trying to make more accessible

Panelist Antoinette-Marie Williams, CEO, Doors Wide Open, LLC, indicated:

- A. She has created a restaurant guide for those who need special accommodations so those with disabilities are not limited
- B. When she initially came down with MS, she called restaurants to determine their accessibility
- C. Unfortunately self-reporting by restauranteurs provided inaccurate information
- D. That is why she created guide

- E. There are over 800,000 persons with disabilities in NYC area; visitors also may have disabilities; 17% of population are seniors; recent City Council initiative indicates many NYers want to age in place
- F. She canvassed restaurants; conducted surveys; has a website; asked for feedback
- G. There are different types of accessibility; accessibility is not just a ramp at entrance.
- H. Questions include: Are common spaces navigable; can tables be rearranged; are restrooms on main floor; can chairs turn around in restrooms; are there grab bars; insist all restaurants, schools, banks, and religious institutions are accessible for all; ADA has brought some changes; but not all accommodations are fully accessible

Sheldon Fine: We need information indicating how accessible schools, etc. are, and to what extent are they accessible. Government and applicable private properties are not in compliance with ADA yet. We should aim higher than ADA; we should aim for full accessibility.

While he was disabled for about 9 weeks he tried to get Access-A-Ride but could not get to the appointment in which he would be evaluated (in Wall Street area) to determine whether or not he qualified for Access-A-Ride. During the evaluation, the evaluator asked him to walk up 3 steps. He could not do that. The evaluator told him that after approval, it would take 6 weeks for him to receive the card indicating his entitled to Access-A-Ride. When he finally used Access-A-Ride car did not arrive on time, and when he went upstairs to call to ask when the car would be arriving, he was told the car was downstairs and would not wait for him to get back downstairs. At that point he hired a car. Most people cannot hire a car to overcome these transportation obstacles.

Christian Cordova: He would like information on curb cuts and audible crossing signals.

Margaret Groce:

- A. District 75 has an assisted technology group consisting of therapists with an array of schools; children are evaluated; apply technology to enlarge functionalities of those receiving those services (e.g. ability to engage in art, etc.)
- B. Mobility management: review ways community resources (e.g., church van) can contribute to accessibility of those in the community; is there an accessible route from public transit to school; if not, school not accessible

Michele Norris: Son uses communication device to speak. DOE evaluates your child for a device. Children need services; parents, teachers and children need trainers and teachers to come to their home to do the training, and to use technology to enable children to learn (beyond reading and writing) and fully access curriculum

Antoinette-Marie Williams: There is no courtesy call if Access-A-Ride is going to be late. Wheel chair user can get stuck while in subway system if elevators broken or unavailable as you proceed on your route. Twospaces on bus for wheelchairs are insufficient; can't necessarily back wheelchair into allocated space

Genora Johnson: For those who do not qualify for Access-A-Ride, they are told to take the bus. That often means walking several blocks to the first bus; then walking several blocks to the 2nd bus. This becomes a long trip (in terms of time and amount of walking).

Sonia Garcia: When will subway be fully accessible?

Zachary Campbell: The first 100 stations to be made accessible have been identified; of these 100, the MTA has already made 89 stations accessible; once the last 11 (of the 100 stations with top priority) have been renovated, the MTA will ask for community input as it determines which additional stations to renovate. Through the internet, you can find out which elevators and escalators on your route are out of service. The internet information is quite up to date

Liz Jackson: is the head of a fashion trade association comprised of persons with physical challenges. She wants her trade association to be incorporated into the mainstream Council of Designers. During Fashion Week, a badge (designed by a respected designer) will be worn by those willing to give up their seats for persons with disabilities; the persons with disabilities who would like to sit down merely says "Nice badge" to someone wearing a badge, at which point the badge wearer will give up his/her seat for person with disability

Chris Spraggs: need training to improve sensitivity towards those with disabilities; bring wheelchairs into schools so those who are fully functional can become more sensitive. Only a few restrooms in parks are accessible; need signage about what is accessible.

Christopher Noel: DPR is eliminating steps into Parks Dept restrooms; changing stalls so fully ADA accessible. Have to monitor interior of pre-ADA buildings. Construction of a new comfort station costs \$2.2 million. Parks Dept. has a very small budget, so the Parks Dept. tends to renovate existing comfort stations instead of building new comfort stations. Mayor and CM Rosenthal sponsored bill (passed) to have Accessibility Coordinator in each agency. CM Rosenthal sponsored bill (passed) indicating each ad for City event must indicate what accessibility services are available at that event

Antoinette-Marie Williams: Why doesn't MTA allow vans to drive in restricted bus lanes? Why can't vans use highways? That would speed the rides and make them late less often.

Zachary Campbell: Need PD to enforce prohibitions against motorists who block bus stops; problem for all customers, but particularly for those with disabilities; MTA does not engage in enforcement; will look into vans' usage of restricted bus lanes

Ruth DiRoma: Include NYC provides advocacy services for parents of children with disabilities.

Margaret Groce: Attitude of large number of persons are not sensitive to those with special needs; must all agree that those with disabilities will not be segregated or left out from all activities

Catherine DeLazzero: Inclusive Playground Task Force has been working on redesign of Bloomingdale Playground to make it fully accessible via international design; working with Brittany Perez's group

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Isaacs