

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

George Zeppenfeldt and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

May 10, 2017

Committee Members Present: Michele Parker, Linda Alexander, Christian Cordova, Paul Fischer, Marc Glazer and Seema Reddy. **Absent:** George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Brian Jenks

Non-Committee Members Present: Roberta Semer, CB7 Chair, and Sue Robotti.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. and adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The following matters were discussed:

New applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses:

1. **21 West End Avenue** (West 61st Street.) Café 21, d/b/a Café 21. Did not show;

*After due deliberation the resolution to **Disapprove** was adopted because applicant failed to show.*

VOTE: 5-0-0-0; 1-0-0-0

2. **480 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street.) Two Melons LLC, d/b/a JG Melon.

Presenting for the Applicant : Mike Kelly, kellymlk136@gmail.com, representing Danny Allen's. It is a transfer of an existing license. 15 tables, 42 seats, 18 seat bar. Hours of operation 10-12 a.m. weekdays; 10a to 2 a.m. weekends. There will be deliveries, but not bike deliveries. No credit card minimums.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 6-0-0-0; 1-0-0-0

3. **566 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 87th Street.) La Petit Amelie LLC, d/b/a Amelie Wine Bar.

Presenting for the Applicant : Mike Kelly; kellymlk136@gmail.com. Full-service restaurant and transfer of the assets to new owner with a history restaurants in NYC, also called Amelie, at 22 West 8th Street. Hoping to open in July. At this time, they are not planning on having deliveries at this time.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 6-0-0-0; 2-0-0-0

4. **160 Riverside Blvd. aka 161 Freedom Place** (West 68th Street.) Ollie's Hiro Sushi Inc., d/b/a Ollie's.

Presenting for the Applicant : Rosa Ruiz, Rosa@RosamRuiz.com. Licensed for outside but within the footprint of the building, i.e., a front courtyard. 17 tables, 51 seats. Hours are 11a.m. to 12 a.m., seven days a week. Will have bike deliveries, no motorized bikes, and they have vests and appropriate signage for delivery personnel.

CB7 Comments: Christian asked whether it was in a public or private area. It is within a private area, near a parking lot and the park.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 6-0-0-0; Non-Committee Members VOTE: 2-0-0-0

5. **517 Columbus Avenue** (West 85th Street.) EGS, LLC, d/b/a The Viand.

Presenting for the Applicant: Eric Kontogiannis, erickk@mac.com, owner. The hours of operation will be between

7 a.m. and 12:30 a.m., seven days a week. Did not have any of the appropriate forms- his lawyer cancelled at the last minute. Linda Alexander confirmed the postings. 24 tables, 58 seats. Will have combination bike, walking and delivery services (e.g. Uber Eats). Vote was postponed until before Full Board due to lack of paperwork.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

6. **2020 Broadway** (West 69th Street.) Borja Enterprise LLC, d/b/a To be Determined.

Presenting for the Applicant: Guillermo Lesassier, glesassier@hotmail.com, who is both general manager and executive chef of what will be a new Mediterranean restaurant with wine pairings and is the former manager of Andanada and Borique. The new space was formerly Enoteca Barcibo and they are hoping to open this summer. Hours of operation:

S-M-T-W-T 11a.m. to midnight; F-S 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. No deliveries.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 6-0-0-0; Non-Committee Members VOTE: 1-0-0-0

7. **2028-2032 Broadway** (West 70th Street.) Mamexicana LLC, d/b/a Gina.

Presenting for the Applicant : Kathleen Stathopoulos, negriesq@aol.com, attorney for the applicant.

On the ground floor there will be 12 tables and 28 seats, bar with 8 seats, and mezzanine with 12 tables and 29 seats. Under construction, planning to open in the summer. Hours are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays; 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Planning on deliveries, but with services.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: Committee Members 5-0-0-0; Non- Committee Members 1-0-0-0

8. **Postponed to the June 14, 2017 BCI Meeting by applicant: 36 West 106th Street** (Central Park West) 36 West 106th Street Joint Venture, d/b/a Jazz on the Park.

New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:

9. **283 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 73rd Street.) New application #4870-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Nabucco LLC, d/b/a Salumeria Rosi, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 15 tables and 30 seats. They reduced the original size.

Presenting for the Applicant: Mike Kelly, kellymlk136@gmail.com. Switched corporate name and renewal had not been submitted, so had to submit a new application.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 5-0-0-0; Non- Committee Members VOTE: 1-0-0-0

10. **172 West 79th Street** (West 79th Street.) New application #5515-2017-AWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Amsterdam Avenue Bagels Inc., d/b/a Bagels & Co, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 28 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant : Mike Kelly, kellymlk136@gmail.com. Michele confirmed postings. Bike deliveries, no motorized bicycles. Photos submitted.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted:*

VOTE: 5-0-0-0; Non- Committee Members VOTE: 1-0-0-0

Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal Application:

11. **898 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 103rd Street.) Renewal application #2021277-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Primavera Mexican LLC, d/b/a Casa Mexicana, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 22 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant: Peter Arndtsen said the owners did not come; the owners thought their expediter would be at the meeting. He confirmed they had posted and said that the tenant was a benefit in the neighborhood and asked the board to be patient. 9 tables; 22 chairs. **Committee refrained from voting until before Full Board.**

12. Review of CB7's Core and Working Principles.

Discussion of how to help local businesses through various marketing tools and social media.

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Roberta Semer, Chairperson

May 2, 2017

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at Goddard Riverside Community Center, 593 Columbus Avenue (West 88th Street), in the District. Chair Roberta Semer called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

The following matters were discussed and actions taken:

Minutes from the April 4, 2017, full Board meeting were **approved**.

VOTE: 22-0-2-0

Chair's Report: Roberta Semer:

- The Office of Management and Budget can offer consultations upon request to each committee chair in May.
- Thanks to each committee for great participation and productive discussions on the District Needs Statement at each April committee meeting. Mel Wymore, Roberta Semer, Penny Ryan and Mark Diller will now translate the committee members' input into a first draft of an enhanced DNS for Fiscal Year 2019.
- The Steering committee meeting will be used as a pot luck to welcome new Board members [superseded as the appointments were not available in time].
- At each May committee meeting, members will be asked to revisit and discuss updates to the CB7 Core Principles and the Working Principles associated with their committee.

Community Session:

Dr. Nellie Alia-Klein – Mount Sinai Medical School

- Looking for children 9-10 years old to participate in a study on the children's brain.
- Purpose is to understand children's brains and how environmental factors affect brain development, including the relationship between certain environmental factors and susceptibility to certain types of additive behavior.
- Benefits include free MRI of child's brain.
- The study is a long-term commitment, as researches would need to follow the children for 9 years – will have long term baseline scans.

Sharon Parker-Frazier – Mott Hall II PTA (and former CB7 member)

- The Community Education Council for District 3 is hosting a symposium on promoting diversity in enrolment in District 3 middle schools. May 11, from 6-8:30 pm at the Joan of Arc Building on West 93rd Street.
- The symposium will feature presentations from a panel of experts, then breakout sessions.

Cleo Dana – COMMITTEE for Environmentally Sound Development

- Rally on May 3 at 7:30 am to object to the proposed 668-foot tower planned for 200 Amsterdam Avenue (69th Street) at the former site of the Lincoln Square Synagogue.
- The developer is relying on air rights from a gerrymandered zoning lot to assemble the "air rights" needed for the tower. A zoning challenge is being lodged at the Department of Buildings.

Elizabeth Ewell – Business Manager for Green Keepers

- Love Your Tree Day May 22. Encouraging neighbors to take care of tree pits on blocks and avenues.
- Green Keepers will supply tools, gloves and mulch. Just need participants. Great event for kids.

Dan Zweig – Hope and Heroes Walk to Fight Children’s Cancer.

- Fundraising walk along the Hudson near the Intrepid, on May 21.
- Funds used for research and treatment at Columbia Presbyterian, including the first treatment facility in the country to prepare a genome for every child.

Peter Arndtsen – Columbus-Amsterdam BID

- Activities in Manhattan Valley include card-making for Mother’s Day.
- Neighborhood history walk on May 17; Tour of Trinity School on May 16.

Jennifer Merin – Crime Victim

- Appeared at CB7 in April to explain that she lost title to real estate due to a fraudulently registered deed, and the person convicted of the theft was eligible for early release from prison after serving less time than she was evicted from her own home. The sentencing judge recommended he serve the full term; Department of Corrections agreed.
- Council Member Helen Rosenthal is carrying bill to codify reforms to the process of registering deeds.
- Support for the bill needed when it is up for a vote at the Council.

Stephanie and Greg – Silberman School of Social Work

- Conducting a survey of cost of living on the Upper West Side – seeking participants.

Manhattan Borough President's Report, Diana Howard:

- The Borough President’s office is conducting a survey of vacant storefronts on the length of Broadway in Manhattan on May 21. Sign up to participate at info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov.
- The Economic Development Council has \$50-million in grants available for projects addressing workforce development, waterfront and economic development. Learn more on May 22 at the Harlem State Office Building, 160 West 125th Street.

Reports by Elected Officials:

Helen Rosenthal, New York City Council Member (6th District):

- Lead a public hearing on the Till Buildings, which were buildings seized by the City after falling into horrific disrepair 40-50 years ago, and were rescued by tenant-managers. HPD is going back on its word and refusing to grant ownership rights to the tenants whose sweat equity improved the buildings.
- HPD will now reconsider its position.
- HPD also has agreed to reconsider draconian new regulations on HDFCs (Housing Development Finance Corporations) that would unfairly force some HDFCs needlessly to increase the expense and burden of management, and could *post facto* deprive shareholders of their equity.
- Working on legislation to make it easier for tenants to stay in their homes, including creating a tenant right to compensatory damages if the grounds for seeking eviction are frivolous (e.g. a landlord willfully failing to cash rent checks and then claiming non-payment). Empowers a Judge to impose fines on landlords.

- Carrying a bill to require the Department of Buildings to create an Office of Tenant Advocates, to put tenants on an equal footing with owners relating to construction issues.
- Participatory Budgeting – 1000 more community members voted in 2017 than 2016. Projects being funded included the library at PS 166, renovations at Frank McCourt High School, and other school initiatives.
- Conducted a successful Town Hall with representatives from 24 agencies, all of whom responded to questions.
- Co-sponsoring a Safe Families Forum with Mark Levine on May 3, including how to respond if ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) comes to your door (ask to see a warrant!).
- NYCHA – Two elevators at De Hostos and Wise Towers were out of service for more than 12 hours. Residents were stranded or could not get home. NYCHA failed to honor its own policy to deploy a temporary stair climber if all elevators are out of service. The reason both elevators were out is that maintenance failed to check the water pumps at the water tower, which then flooded the elevator shaft. Repair efforts are on-going.
- NYCHA responded only after C-M Rosenthal used Facetime in the lobby to shame NYCHA into sending someone over. Crazy that we have to babysit NYCHA, but we will do it.
- Sponsored a workshop and clinic to support small businesses. Most recent idea is to create a system so business owners receive an immediate alert if there is a 311 complaint about their business, allowing them to address the issue rather than face penalties and fines.
- The City's procurement and contracting system is broken. Legislation needed. MWBE (Minority and Women-owned Enterprise) access to \$15-Billion in City contracts is at stake.
- Questions:
- Q: How can NYCHA residents get responses like elected officials?
- A: Outrageous that residents in dire need cannot obtain relief absent an elected's intervention – and even then the elected must stay on them. Thankfully, NYCHA is replacing the manager at Wise Towers.
- Q: Commercial Rent Tax legislation to lessen a burden on our small businesses.
- A: Co-sponsoring a bill to raise the threshold for the imposition of the tax.

Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives:

Erik Cuello, Office of Council Member Mark Levine (7th District):

- Participatory Budgeting results include a winning project to fund new lighting and groundwork at Douglass Houses (\$500K).
- Safe families' forum at PS 163 on May 3, 6:30-8 pm. Offering information to families on how to respond to ICE.
- Health and Wellness Fair on May 20, including a free bike helmet, wellness screening.

Sean Coughlin, Office of Council Member Corey Johnson (3rd District):

- C-M Corey Johnson's Town Hall with Comptroller Scott Stringer on May 10, 6:30 pm at the Whitney Museum.

Gus Ipsen, Office of Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal (67th District):

- Budget update – A-Ms Linda Rosenthal and Danny O'Donnell secured \$125K for Goddard Riverside.
- The State budget doubled NYCHA capital funding to \$200-million.
- A-M Rosenthal supports raising the age at which a teen may be tried as an adult for a non-violent felony.

- The 421-a program is a dark cloud that provides tax breaks to developers but fails to deliver any meaningful amount of affordable housing. Trump profited \$150-Million for luxury buildings through this program.

Chris Chu, Office of Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell (69th District):

- The Budget passed despite A-M O'Donnell's "no" vote. Opposed the budget bill because did not go far enough for progressive reform. For example the "raise the age" bill will still send too many non-violent teens to prison.
- While the goal is laudable, the Governor's plan for free tuition at public universities will still exclude many low income families who cannot afford housing and books.
- 421-a renewal divides the 69th District in half, as the program only applies to sites below 96th Street. No incentives to build affordable housing in communities that need it.
- Community writing challenge open to all kids pre-K to 8th grade. Culminates in a festival on May 30-31 and June 1.

Alek Miletic, Office of Assembly Member Richard Gottfried (75th District):

- NY Health Care Act (a single-payer system for New York State) is only two votes shy of majority of sponsors.
- District Office moving to West 29th Street.

Peter Ajemian, Office of State Senator Brad Hoylman (27th District):

- For Earth Day, Senator Hoylman introduced legislation with Senator Liz Krueger to require SUNY and CUNY to divest from fossil fuel companies.
- Carrying a bill to require candidates to release their tax returns. Used a New York State Senate rule to force a procedural vote to report the bill from committee. The move forced Republican Senators to go on record opposing disclosure. Such disclosure is necessary because it is impossible to determine whether the tax reform advocated by President would inure to his benefit.

George Damalas, Office of State Senator Jose Serrano (29th District):

- Offsite constituent office hours at St. Agnes branch library on May 4 and 18. Includes a business solutions center.
- Connecting women in the District to legal services, including those seeking redress for employment discrimination and harassment.

Elie Peltz, Office of U.S. House Member Jerrold Nadler (10th District):

- Federal government will not be shut down – budget negotiations are going well, and the cost of the "wall" will not be included in the budget.
- Rep. Nadler is a sponsor of the Pay Equity for All Act, which would bar employers from asking for salary history from job applicants. Asking for salary history perpetuates the wage gap experienced by minorities and women.
- Supports the removal of Sebastian Gorka from any White House position. Should be barred from all federal government positions.
- Supports Rep. Suozzi's Tax Equity Act, which would adjust federal tax brackets to account for middle class realities, as well as the higher cost of living in New York City vs. Nebraska.

Michael Stinson, NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer's Office:

- The Comptroller's Town Hall was a success, with many constituent questions answered and issues aired.

- The Comptroller is developing an economic blueprint to help focus resources on strategies to empower local residents and businesses as neighborhoods grow. The blueprint charts how businesses and neighborhoods have changed since 2000.
- Thanks to Chair Roberta Semer for taking part in a press conference relating to MTA's failure to make stations ADA accessible, including failure to fix elevators taken out of service for an unacceptably long time.

Jennifer Greers, Public Advocate Letitia James' Office:

- The Public Advocate's bill passed the City Council to bar employers from asking for salary history as part of a job application. Crucial to end the cycle of wage gaps between women and men (especially among women of color). The Mayor will sign the bill into law.

Gabrielle Dann-Allel, Mayor's Community Affairs Unit:

- Looking forward to working with CB7 on inter-agency collaboration.
- Grateful for the participation of the West 81st Street Block Association in a productive meeting on M79 SBS bus service.

Business Session:

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

1. Proposed legislation that would increase of number of licenses for street food vendors.

Presentation by Andrew Albert:

- The principal issue CB7 is highlighting is the failure of the bill to couple increased vendor licenses with any manner of control or predictability as to where the vendors will operate.
- The object of CB7's Resolution is to help craft a better bill.
- A requirement coupling licenses with specific sites would help vendors as well as the community.

Community Comment:

Monica Blum and Ralph Memoli – Lincoln Square BID

- Supports CB7's resolution re Intro 1303, which would increase licensed vendors by 600 per year.
- The major reason the BID opposes Intro 1303 is that there are no siting criteria. Virtually every other permit or license needed for a business is site-specific (e.g. newsstands, liquor licenses, etc.).
- Site limits are key due to numerous encroachments already permitted to our public realm, including Citibike stations, City Benches, planters. Local communities know best where problem areas are found.
- Before such a significant increase in licenses is granted, there should be a comprehensive study of its impacts on existing businesses.

Amy Slattery – Legislative Director to C-M Mark Levine, Intro 1303 Sponsor

- Happy to answer concerns expressed in CB7's proposed resolution.
- Open to comments and to revising the bill.
- A hearing on the bill was held on October 26, 2016, which included input from both sides of this issue.
- The Council has been studying the feedback and trying to come up with a workable solution.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- All agree that current situation is a significant problem.
- The bill includes creating a new enforcement unit which should address a lot of problems.
- Passage of this reform is a priority for the Speaker.
- There is time to work through these issues, as the bill is likely to come up for a vote only before the end of the calendar year.
- The Council Member respects CB7's voice. Perhaps the resolution could be tabled pending a revised bill.
-
- Q: Requirement of 20' clearance from a bus stop is measured from the sign pole, but an articulated bus is 40' long.
- Q: What agency is proposed to be responsible for enforcement of the existing and new regulations?
- A: That is left open in the current bill.
- Q: The desire for siting requirements envisions the community boards having oversight over site selection.
- A: The C-M has heard the same issue from other CBs as well, and is considering. There may be legal issues limiting the ability to require site approval.
- Q: The concern that CB7 only is able to vote on bills once they are "gelled." Input now should guide revisions.
- A: The fairest course would be to wait for a revised bill because the final bill will be substantially different.
- A: Staff can take back CB7 input and comments without a formal resolution.
- Q: How many current permits are there?
- A: 3000 – rollout would double over 5 years.
- Q: Unable to know how many are in Manhattan or CB7?
- A: Unsure [NB: since the current law has no site limits, the answer may change from day to day.]
- A: Priority to those on the current waiting list.
- Q: The current list of sidewalk obstructions that limit the location of a vendor cart is incomplete, dealing principally with bus shelters and kiosks. Given the number of things on street, we need to know what else is on the proposed block before a site permit is given. Community Boards are uniquely suited to provide that input.
- Q: Given appeal of food trucks and other vendors, and the desire to operate in areas with demand, vendors tend to cluster in a very few areas and leave others underserved. Applicants for a sidewalk café must provide a map of all street obstructions in the chosen area.
-
- The Council Member understands the issues, and believes we must correct the broken system whereby those who actually work as vendors must pay exorbitant amounts to "lease" a license from one who otherwise has no intention of using it.
- These food carts and trucks are amazing small business opportunities and add vibrancy to the streetscape.

CB7 Comments:

- Concern for small businesses with whom vendors compete, and for the recent immigrants who work as vendors.
- Real problems must be addressed. Support concept of reforming permit process.
- Propose amendment to commend C-M Levine for taking on this important issue and seeking balance.
- A: include in cover letter transmitting the current resolution (accepted in lieu of a motion).

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- Vendor permitting is deeply flawed – cannot remedy without addressing the points in the resolution.
- Must address root problems in permitting, which is the unfair competition with small businesses.
- Carts have fewer employees and lower overhead than the small businesses being supplanted.
- Immigrants make up a large percentage of workers being exploited under the current system.
- Obtaining community board review and approval is not economically or practically feasible for vendors. Red tape in CB review can take months like newsstand.
- Studies show no competition between vendors and traditional stores – different price points and market segments.
- Carts depend on mobility – go with market forces.

Motion: Propose an amendment to the resolution to delete the “therefore” clauses calling for community board review and the assignment of specific sites for vendor licenses. Duly seconded.

After deliberation, a procedural vote on the amendment was taken and the proposed amendment failed.

VOTE: 4-28-7-0.

In summary:

Community Board 7/Manhattan **opposes** Intro 1303 in its present form unless the following issues are addressed:

1. Community Board approval of food vendor locations;
2. An entity composed of representatives of either the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Transportation, or a combination of these agencies be assigned to identify and track the locations of all food vendors, with spaces actually being assigned to each vendor;
3. Adequate distance be maintained between food vendors and subway entrances, bus stops, crosswalks, brick and mortar stores, and other sidewalk obstructions;
4. Tracking of food vendor licenses, including their renewals and non-transferability. Licenses which are actively used should be annually renewable with appropriate fees; they should not be a permanent asset.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove Intro 1303 unless the specified issues are addressed** was adopted.*

VOTE: 32-1-5-0

2. **Manhattanhenge 2017.** Request by the American Museum of Natural History to close West 79th Street between Columbus Avenue and Broadway on Tuesday, May 30, from 7-9 pm, with the sunset expected to set at 8:20 pm.

Presentation by Andrew Albert:

- Manhattanhenge is the term given to the two days per year in which the setting sun lines up perfectly with the street grid.
- The American Museum of Natural History proposes to close West 79th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues to traffic so that the entire street is available for viewing the setting sun.
- AMNH also hosts explanatory sessions in the Hayden Planetarium providing context and additional information.
- The make-shift block party on West 79th Street has become a tradition on Manhattanhenge.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- AMNH reaches out to the residents of the block and coordinates with Transit, NYPD and the Department of Transportation to ensure the event runs smoothly.

CB7 Comments:

- There is a long history of celebrating the date the sun aligns with the grid, but formerly under different names and with less coordination.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 39-0-0-0

3. **S/W/C Broadway and West 62nd Street.** New application # 3117-2017-ANWS to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Nishat Shaikh to construct and operate a newsstand on the southwest corner of Broadway and West 62nd Street, i/f/o of 1879 Broadway.

Presentation by Andrew Albert:

- CB7 asked the Department of Consumer Affairs to remove this proposed site from its database of potential newsstand locations.
- Several applicants have applied for this site and have been turned down by the Public Design Commission and others – some because of concerns that the weight of the newsstand would interfere with vaults under the sidewalk, some because it would disrupt a view corridor to Columbus Circle.
- Applicant should get a free new application.

CB7 Comments:

- One key reason this location was disapproved in the past was because it was thought to interfere with the TD Bank branch at that corner. There are valid concerns about obstructing the public's view of a bank, especially an ATM.
- This concern should not control here because the newsstand would align in front of only a small fraction of the TD Bank frontage – the front door and the ATMs have moved since the last time this location was considered, and would no longer be obscured directly by the proposed newsstand.
- No evidence it is over a vault – never seen a vault that extended 25' to the curb.
- PDC disapproved 4-5 years ago because of view corridor. Should have PDC look at it anew.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove** was adopted.*

VOTE: 24-6-8-0.

4. Pedestrian safety at the intersection of West End Avenue and 96th Street.

Presentation by Howard Yaruss:

- This is a notoriously unsafe intersection – numerous incidents and near-misses.
- The intersection is part of the route to/from the West Side highway entrance and the southbound exit.
- The resolution seeks a concerted effort by the Department of Transportation to define best method.

Public Speaker

Hilda Chasanovitz

- Struck by an SUV at West 96th Street and West End Avenue at 4 pm while in the crosswalk with the light – never saw the oncoming SUV, who was making a left turn behind her from northbound WEA to westbound West 96th toward the highway.
- Collision could have been prevented. This intersection is a real problem.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- PS 75 is at this corner, with more than 1,400 students. Principal Bob O'Brien fears for his students and parents.
- School crossing guards admit they feel as though they are risking their lives at this corner.
- Since the collision, has heard numerous "near miss" stories from neighbors.

CB7 Comments:

- Extraordinarily hazardous intersection.
- Would like to see DoT truly partner with CB7's Transportation Committee to solve this problem – Transportation Committee chairs should be included in the DoT planning and discussions. Only way to ensure our voice is taken seriously.
- Proposed addition to the resolution – should enumerate possible actions for DoT to consider.
- Advocating for a pedestrian island (that was in CB7's recommendations to DoT for this intersection since 2013) necessarily requires elimination of parking.
- Key is to act immediately.
- The amount of time to cross the intersection is not the issue. Rather, must address conflicts with vehicles.
- An elementary student was hit by taxi at this intersection.
- Simply banning left turns from southbound WEA to eastbound West 96th is insufficient.
- Must be mindful of West 97th and 98th Streets, which are equally problematic – all part of highway access congestion.
- Green left turn arrow is too short.
- Pedestrian refuge island in the middle of West 96th Street west of the intersection would channel cars, and greatly improve safety for all.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 35-0-1-0.

5. Accidents in "mixing" zones that are shared by cars and cyclists.

Presentation by Howard Yaruss:

- There was a recent incident of a cyclist killed in a mixing zone (where motor vehicles and bicycles have equal right of way – typically where a bike lane intersects a turning bay or narrowing of the roadway).
- Problems in mixing zones include obscured view of bicyclists by drivers, and confusion as to right of way.

Public Comment:

Reed Rubey:

- Mixing zones compromise the bike lane every other block on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues.
- When CB7 heard presentations about installing protected bike lanes on Columbus and Amsterdam avenues years ago, the testimony included pleas on mixing zones.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 38-1-0-0.

6. Central Park West sidewalk reconstruction and safety concerns in the bike/pedestrian lane.

Presentation by Howard Yaruss:

- Repair work on Central Park West sidewalks pushes pedestrians into the unprotected bike lane, and cyclists are expected to ride in traffic.
- The community needs a better solution since cyclists still use the bike lane, creating conflicts with pedestrians.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 34-1-1-0.

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Roberta Semer, Chairperson

Resolution Re:

7. Support of Amendments to the Commercial Rent Tax.

Presentation by Chair Robert Semer and Secretary Mark Diller:

- The initial intention was to have CB7 weigh in only on Intro 799. Since the Steering Committee vote, research in drafting the resolution uncovered related bills that support and enhance the redress needed through Intro 799.
- The current threshold for the imposition of the Commercial Rent Tax (CRT) is \$250,000, which has not been adjusted for over 15 years.
- This truly adds insult to injury – for the privilege of paying an astronomical rent, a business owner must pay tax on that rent. Most commercial leases already require the landlord to pay some or all of the landlord's real estate taxes as well.
- Intro 799-A would raise the threshold to \$500,000.
- Removing these businesses from the imposition of the CRT would result in a loss of only \$45-Million in revenue, nearly all of which comes from small business owners (a total of about 3,500 taxpayers).
- Given the commercial rents paid in our neighborhood, it is wholly conceivable that a 1,000 square foot store could command a rent of \$250K per year, making the business subject to the CRT. These are our small businesses who already struggle.
- There is also a bill highlighted in the resolution requiring reporting on how the tax is collected.
- Another bill in the resolution would exempt grocery stores from the tax.
- Seeking a resolution that supports all of these efforts.

CB7 Comments:

- Raising the threshold would exempt only about 40% of all businesses subject to the CRT, but would result in a loss of only 10% of the revenue.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 35-0-1-0.

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

8. Applications to the SLA for new two-year liquor licenses:

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- **100 West 82nd Street** (Columbus Avenue) Flame West Inc. d/b/a To be Determined.
- **685 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 93rd Street) Jin's 88 Corp. d/b/a Kouzan.

Presentation by Michele Parker:

- Both are restaurants who currently have licenses – the application is due to a change in ownership.
- No issue with the change in ownership as a ruse to avoid debts to workers.
- No change in Method Of Operations.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 34-0-0-0.

9. **566 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 87th Street) Le Petit Amelie LLC. d/b/a Amelie Wine Bar.

Presentation by Michele Parker:

- The resolution is to disapprove since the applicant failed to appear at the committee meeting.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove** was adopted.*

VOTE: 34-0-0-0.

10. **New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:**

- **2167 Broadway** (West 76th Street.) New application #3534-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Muginoho International, Inc., d/b/a Beard Papa's, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats.
- **574 Columbus Avenue** (West 88th Street.) New application #2635-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by B.L.T.G. Pizza Inc., d/b/a Bella Luna, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 15 tables and 30 seats.
- **573 Columbus Avenue** (West 88th Street.) New application #2435-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Bodega 88 LLC, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 12 seats.
- **933 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 106th Street.) New application #4260-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Hot Dawgz LLC, d/b/a NY Brat Factory, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 14 tables and 30 seats.

Presentation by Michele Parker:

- The new restaurant at 573 Columbus Avenue is from the same owners as Calle Ocho.
- Bella Luna is seeking only a beer and wine license.
- The restaurant at 933 Amsterdam Avenue has the enthusiastic support of the Columbus BID.

CB7 Comments:

- Support for Bella Luna as good neighborhood partners. When they appeared at CB7's Preservation Committee, they agreed to explore enhanced testing to determine whether there was historic fabric worthy of preservation.
- The owners found exterior detail and preserved it, and also re-opened windows on the side street long bricked over.
- They also discovered a mural behind a wall on the south interior of the new restaurant space and preserved it.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 37-0-0-0.

11. **2794 Broadway** (West 108th Street.) New application #3079-2017-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Malaxiangguo Enterprise Inc, d/b/a Malaxianogguo 108 Food Dried Hot Pot, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats.

Presentation by Michele Parker:

- This is a new restaurant featuring a spicy Chinese cuisine.
- The resolution is now to approve as the applicant complied with requests for revised plans.

CB7 Comments:

- The restaurant will replace Tara Hill, a restaurant/bar that was a constant source of problems and complaints from rowdy patrons.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 36-0-0-0.

Congratulations to BCI and Michele and George. Steve Cuzo from NY Post – great success.

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

12. **267 Columbus Avenue** (West 73rd Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission by BLDG Management Co. for replacement of cast-iron sidewalk vault light structure in front of 267 Columbus Avenue.

Presentation by Jay Adolf:

- Application concerns a vault cover that in another era was the source of light into the sidewalk vault.
- Vault lights are prevalent in SoHo and the Village – less so on the Upper West Side.
- Typically these vault light panels are flush up against the building line. This one is approximately 4' from façade; 10' in length.
- Significant historically from advent of late 1890s, in an era before prevalent electric lighting, to provide light into extended sidewalk vaults for commercial spaces.
- Vault cover broke during renovations.
- Thanks to Meisha Hunter, the committee learned of Landmark Preservation Commission guidelines, which call for the vault light panels either to be replaced in kind with panels of glass globes, or diamond-design steel plates.
- Applicant sought approval for cement.
- Narrow majority at committee to disapprove and follow LPC guidelines.
- The applicant's chief concerns were expense and delay. The steel plate solution addresses the expense issue.
- Those at committee who sought to approve were based on these vault covers not being prevalent in this District, didn't rise to level of project needing to replicate the historical configuration.

CB7 Comments:

- Should be restored to original with glass because doing so would not interfere with any other structure or operation.
- Cost is not the issue in Preservation. Should preserve at the highest level of historic significance.
- Should preserve our historic fabric. We want to be reminded of prior historic beauty. Sidewalk once did have this attribute. No reason not to preserve.
- Q: Cost -
- A: Glass is far more expensive.
- A: diamond steel plate is cheaper.
- Should not require restoration – glass lighting vault covers are appropriate when the vault is in use and the light is needed for its function – e.g. near Cooper Union.
-- this is all faux – just a lone relic that doesn't mean much and would be lost in the shuffle of a Columbus Avenue sidewalk café.
- Requiring this to be preserved when it has no function (the sidewalk vault has been filled in) and is not a part of the character of the district is excessive.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove** was adopted.*

VOTE: 24-10-3-0

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Klari Neuwelt, Chairperson

Resolution Re:

13. The Broadway Mall Association's Joy Brown sculpture exhibition is to be installed on the Broadway Malls in May 2017 and run for 6 months.

Presentation by Kenneth Coughlin:

- Sculpture installations at West 72, West 79 and West 103 Streets in the Mall on Broadway.
- Large sculptures – big hit in China. First exhibition in NYC.

CB7 Comments:

- Concern for weight (since the Mall in those locations is directly above the subway tracks).
A: The statues weigh up to 2500 lbs. The smaller statues will rest on a metal plate that will distribute its weight across the joists below.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was adopted.*

VOTE: 37-0-0-0.

New Business:

Resolution from the floor by Rich Robbins.

Resolution to call on the Department of Buildings to halt work in excess of that necessary to weatherproof the rear façade of 315 West 103rd Street. The scope of work being performed exceeds that necessary to weatherproof the structure and essentially eviscerates a Stop Work Order.

- Since the building in question is next door to his home, Rich Robbins is presenting, but is recusing himself from voting for cause.

- The project lapsed, and a new application was submitted in 2012. The DoB inspected and reinstated a prior Stop Work Order.
- The building is now part of an Historic District.
- CB7 met with DoB in Nov 2016 to make the case that because the old permits lapsed, the project must now obtain LPC approval of a certificate of appropriateness.
- The developer has harassed and chased most of tenants out; one remains.
- Weatherproofing the building's new rear facade is in essence completing the project rather than just weatherproofing.
- This amounts to an end-run around LPC and CB7.
- The wall being completed includes holes for windows – this is not weatherproofing.
- DoB does not consider the old permit grandfathered, and LPC approval is required.

CB7 Comment

- Should call for an investigation by the Forensic Unit of DoB – which is in the best position to enforce the Stop Work Order.
- Enforcement efforts have received great support from Council Member Helen Rosenthal and her chief of staff Marisa Maack, and from Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell.

After deliberation, the resolution was adopted.

VOTE: 28-0-3-1.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 9:06 pm.

Present: Roberta Semer, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Isaac Booker, Steven Brown, Elizabeth Caputo, Christian Cordova, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzerio, Mark Diller, Robert Espier, Miki F. Fiegel, Sheldon Fine, Paul Fischer, Sonia Garcia, Sarina Gupta, Meisha Hunter Burkett, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, Brian Jenks, Genora Johnson, Blanche E. Lawton, Lillian Moore, Gabrielle Palitz, Michele Parker, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Richard Robbins, Suzanne Robotti, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Polly Spain, Mel Wymore, Howard Yaruss, Dan Zweig **Absent:** Tina Branham, Marc Glazer, Benjamin Howard-Cooper, Klari Neuwelt, Ethel Sheffer, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Madge Rosenberg and Catherine Delazzero, Co-Chairpersons

May 23, 2017

Present: Madge Rosenberg, Catherine DeLazzero, Robert Espier, Sheldon J. Fine, Sonia Garcia, Audrey Isaacs, and Susan Schwartz. **Absent:** Christian Cordova and Genora Johnson.

Non-Committee Members Present: Roberta Semer and Mark N. Diller

1. Presentation of Nelly Alia-Klein, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai:

Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development: Teen Brains, Today's Science, Brighter Future

- NIH launched study
- Will last about 10 years
- Collaborators to find out how normal human brains develop:
 - NIH with 51 institutes
- 21 research sites across US
- Want to student 12000 students between 9 and 10 years of age until they complete high school
- Mt. Sinai needs to recruit 500 students
 - Offer potential recruits workshops re the brain at spots where there are programs for 9-10 year-olds
 - How to keep our brains healthy
- How fast do the brain circuits balance: balancing of circuits that inhibit certain behaviors, and reflect how we process behaviors that react to experiences we consider positive
 - Genetic variation normal in population re areas in which some are stronger than others
 - Impact of substance abuse
- Those participating answer questions and then have brains scanned, including while doing tasks
- Parent gets MRI scan read by radiologist
 - Sometimes find health issues as a result and Mt. Sinai immediately link child with physician for treatment
 - Have baseline MRI; updated every 2 years
- Shelly Fine: To what extent will results be connected to child's educational needs?
- Answer: Data will be available to all scientists participating; as children grow up, findings pertinent to education will become more helpful and useful to researchers
- Fern Fleckman: Will Mt. Sinai's children participate in study
- Answer: Want representation of NYS populations
- Catherine DeLazzero: Any medical risks from having children undergo MRIs repeatedly?
- Answer: Annoying to stay still, but no risks medically
- Catherine DeLazzero: paid
- Answer: parent and student are paid per MRI session
- Data will be released in about 14 months; at that point the data will begin to be analyzed, and public will have access to that analysis
- Brain hygiene: the brain is very soft; must try to avoid brain injuries whether from sports or otherwise; scientists are exploring how to protect brain
- Brain function: where does the blood flow; how do the circuits work; how many neurons do you have in specific regions of brain

- Epigenetic impact on persons who have experienced extreme suffering and on their children and grandchildren is visible to scientists

2. Lantern Group: Eric Rosenblum, Executive Director: Rustin House is 1 of its buildings

- Lantern Group is one of largest providers of supportive housing in NYC
- Its building have a mix of community residents based on income, and persons designated by federal funders
- When started in position as Executive Director, toured all Lantern buildings, and was impressed at how good conditions in those buildings are
- Rustin House, 319 W 94th Street, NY, NY: 120 SRO units; each with own kitchen; shared bathrooms
 - Stable population
 - 29 community units for low income persons
 - 24 units funded by NY NY Free
 - 60 units funded by federal government
 - 10 units funded by DHS for formerly homeless persons
 - Provides case management – core social services – evidence based practices; have programs re literacy; health & wellness; employment among other things
 - Drop in hospitalizations
 - Re residents' complaints re condition of apartments and restrooms: All work orders complete; residents sign off; 30% resolved same day
 - Have grievance process to resolve disputes and complaints: mandated by funders; availability posted; 28 grievances processed during time period in question; 80% based on disputes between residents; ask residents to use grievance process so Lantern Group will know about residents' concerns
 - Rustin asked residents to fill out consumer satisfaction surveys: 73% said very satisfied with building; 93% very satisfied with programs
 - Rosenblum did walk through of Rustin House with NYS Senator Marisol Alcantara: she had no problem with building
- Resident: I have 4 grievances, all the same
- Rosenblum: I am happy to take them
- Resident: I have given them in before and nothing happened
- Resident: What is next step if nothing being done to address my grievance?
- Rosenblum: go to funders/government agencies that regulate Rustin
- Resident: Why did Rustin not give me this information before?
- Robert Espier: Why not have an in-house advocate for the residents of Rustin?
- Rosenblum: funders have persons to call with complaints
- Robert Espier: What is governing structure?
- Answer: 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a Board of Directors
- Robert Espier: Does Rustin House Board include residents or community members or Community Board; Is there a Community Advisory Board?
- Rosenblum: no
- Roberta Semer: no more CBA; in agreement determined by CCM Rosenthal and former CB7 Chair Elizabeth Caputo, Lantern agreed to report on status to CB7 twice a year
- Madge Rosenberg: management is for profit
- Rosenblum: Lantern & Lantern social services are not-for-profit; Rosenblum heads both

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

But property management is for-profit; not uncommon arrangements

- Management of building approved by all funders; contractors bid for role as property management; funders approved; that is common in affordable housing
- Rosenbloom responsible for everything and is accountable to elected officials and funders, which audit Lantern
- If a resident is there to receive services through a program, person must undergo services for Rustin continue receive funding for providing those services
- Program Director: resident can have overnight visitor if resident obtains pass from his/her case manager
- Tenant Meeting is held last Thursday of each month; agenda given
- No newsletter since February
- Madge Rosenberg: want fliers in building posted when CB7 having meetings pertinent to Rustin House
- Roberta Semer: each such meeting should be quarterly with Rustin taking the vast majority of the CB7 HHS Committee meeting
- Shelly Fine: don't need CAB monthly; quarterly enough
- Rosenblum: must respect privacy of those living in building and cannot address residents' private issues in public meeting
- CCM Rosenthal's rep: No need to deal with private issues of individual residents; deal with overall issues and systems in place

3. **Review of CB7's core & working principles: Roberta Semer, CB7 Chair led a discussion.**

To be reported.

LAND USE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons

May 17, 2017

Present: Richard Asche, Co-Chair, Page Cowley, Co-Chair, Louise Craddock, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Peter Samton, Sheldon J. Fine and Ethel Sheffer **Absent:** Tina Branham, Jeannette Rausch

Non-Committee Members Present: Roberta Semer, and Mark Diller

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and was adjourned at close to 9:00 p.m.

The following matters were discussed and actions taken:

1. **21 West End Avenue.** Riverside Center (West 60th – 61st Streets.) Application #2017-98-BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals by **Soul Cycle** 21 West End Avenue, LLC, for a special permit to legalize a Soul Cycle physical culture establishment on a portion of the first floor (Opened December 2016.)

Todd Dale, representing Soul Cycle in New York, is an instructor based in Santa Monica California. The building is also known as Riverside Center Parcel 2 EMT Associates, LLP. Mr. Dale explained the purpose and type of exercise that they provide and that the building where they have a commercial lease has a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO). The establishment occupies 380 square feet with 55 cycles. The space Soul Cycle occupies is ADA compliant and complies with all fire and life safety systems. The space has been built out as a “floating” room in a room to mitigate noise transmission.

They opened in December 2016 and filed with the BSA in March, 2017, so this is why this application is a legalization. No violations have been issued.

The hours of operation are Monday to Saturday 5:30 am to 11:00 pm, Sunday 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Membership is acquired on-line and members register and pre-pay for their class on-line

Resolution to approve:

Land Use Committee Members: 6-0-0-0

Non-Committee Members: 2-0-0-0

2. **584 Columbus Avenue** (West 88th – 89th Streets.) Application to the Board of Standards and Appeals by the **Fitting Room** for a special permit to permit a physical culture establishment on the first floor of an existing 9-story building.

Jay Goldstein, the attorney representing the owner of the exercise establishment, stated that they began operations in March of 2017. Page Cowley asked if this application was in fact a legalization and not a new application. Mr. Gold said yes and that new paperwork would be forthcoming with a copy to our office.

Mr. Gold continued his summary of the type of exercise regime and how the space was fitted out for this activity. He reported that they are code compliant. In all other respects, except for the BSA approval. The room is set up for high intensity, interval training. The training room has been built as a box within a box, surrounded by soundproofing and isolation materials. The total space is 2,500 square feet, and comprises an entrance vestibule, small retail sales area and check in desk, lockers and toilets. The maximum capacity of the exercise space is 28 people working out at any one time.

The hours of operation are Monday to Friday: 5:30 am - 10:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday: 6:30 am - 7 pm.

Mr. Gold circulated a copy of the floor plan and the street elevations of the former retail storefront. The description and the documents he provided did not quite represent what several committee members, Page Cowley and Peter Samton recalled as the actual configuration, as the majority of the storefront was covered with an opaque film for privacy and noise reduction, as there is a sound proof wall that covers the entirety of a former storefront window. Louisa Craddock pointed out the importance of retail space that is visible at the pedestrian level and that this provides visibility, lighting at night as well as security as storefronts with clear glass and visibility in and out of retail space is both interesting to passersby to see the merchandise and provides a degree of surveillance and security.

Mr. Gold was able to provide some Google pictures that were found via our office computer, but these were not current as it revealed the appearance of the space when occupied by the former retailer. Mr. Gold also showed the logo and signage, which also covered the window glass, except above the storefront on the apron of the retractable awning. Almost every committee member presented a comment about the storefront window transparency (see attendance above). Various suggestions were offered as to how to animate or provide privacy from adding a tv screen inset from the interior to the removal of the sound insulated wall to create folding shutters as well as doing away with the interior wall behind the glass and using vertical blinds or some other curtain/blind combination. Mr. Gold agreed to get back to the Land use Committee with a response and revised plans to make the windows and doors more vibrant.

No vote was taken

3. Review of CB7's Core and Working Principles.

Roberta Semer gave a brief summary of how the Core Principles were being updated and revised. The most important distinction is that Land Use and Preservation were to be separated reflecting the work and actions of the two established committees. It was noted that there is some overlap in quality of life issues and this was okay to repeat.

Certain clarifications were made with the following clarifications and additions:

To paragraph 1: that any new projects or enlargement of existing structures be cognizant of it and does not negatively impact existing infrastructure or local public services (e.g. schools, ambulance / emergency service, transportation etc.); and if so, that solutions are incorporated as part of the project plan.

No changes were made to paragraph 2.

To paragraph 3: that the words "air shafts" be changed to "interior courts and side yards."

No changes were made to paragraph 4.

To paragraph 5: that the following be added (edits in italics) - New development, *especially on avenues and commercial streets*, are designed to connect with and enhance the streetscape *in a lively and pedestrian friendly manner*, enlivening street life.

No changes to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8.

It was also noted by Ethel Sheffer, that “zoning is not planning” although zoning is often confused with planning. She further advised that there has been no process or method to plan for the future of [our] community. Richard Ashe echoed this by stating that “West Side Futures” be reissued and revised.

It was agreed that Mel would work with Roberta on these revisions for clarity and coordination so as not to repeat distinct issues of other committees.

4. Final review of updates for the FY2019 District Needs Statement.

A final draft will be circulated at the next meeting.

5. Other Business:

Roberta Semer and Page Cowley reported on recent actions and concerns about the proposed project at 200 Amsterdam Avenue. Both attended the Town Hall Meeting, organized by Olive Freud, President of the Committee For Environmentally Sound Development. Subsequent activities that Roberta reported on was the Rally organized by CM Rosenthal held at the project site on the morning of May16th and the work of George Janes, who compiled and submitted the Zoning Challenge under the auspices of Landmark West!

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Klari Neuwelt, Chairperson

May 15, 2017

Present: Klari Neuwelt, Chairperson, Steven Brown, Ken Coughlin, Sarina Gupta, Meisha Hunter Burkett, Brian Jenks and Susan Schwartz.

Non-committee board members: Roberta Semer and Mark Diller,

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. and adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Brief discussion of Damrosch Park. Committee is trying to schedule an update on Damrosch Park as an agenda item for our June, 2017 meeting.

Item 1. Presentation of a new public art installation by artist Naomi Lawrence to be installed at the Anibal Aviles Playground, West 108th Street and Columbus Avenue:

- Elizabeth Masella, Public Art Coordinator for DPR, and Naomi Lawrence, fiber artist, presented on the topic.
- Naomi is creating two acrylic yarn sculptures to be applied to the fence at the playground: a seven foot square magnolia flower, a seasonal NYC Parks flower, which will be installed in June 2017, and a ten foot wide by eight foot high hibiscus tree to be installed in mid-late September 2017, following community workshops to make the leaves during the summer. Both panels will be attached directly to the fence with yarn and zip ties and will remain in place for approximately one year. Each piece of art takes 3-4 months to complete and is funded entirely by Ms. Lawrence. The project is sponsored by the Columbus Amsterdam BID and Friends of Anibal Aviles Playground.

Item 2. Review and discussion led by CB7 Chairperson Roberta Semer of Core and Working Principles. Roberta will be circulating a draft for committee review.

Item 3. Presentation by Bob Wyman regarding current climate-related initiatives and developments affecting CB7, which focused largely on the transition to geothermal heating and cooling and the goal of 80 x 50 (an 80% reduction from 1990 levels by 2050).

PRESERVATION

Jay Adolph and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

May 11, 2017

Present: Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons, Meisha Hunter Burkett, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Miki Fiegel and Peter Samton.

Non-Committee Member Present: Roberta Semer

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

The Committee reviewed and amended the working principles for the Preservation Committee.

The following matters were considered and actions taken:

143 West 87th Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for façade restoration, replacement of windows, modification of first floor window, replacement of rear elevation and installation of roof dunnage and condensing unit, This would be a sustainable project with a ‘passive’ design that would reduce energy use.

Presentation by Jeffrey Lydon. Architect, Lydon Associate

- Site is 12½’ x 100’ located on the north side of West 87th Street. Zoning is R7-2.
- Building and lot is identical to building and lot at 135 West 87th Street, before modifications.
- Building is four stories with entrance at basement level several steps below sidewalk.
- On the façade, the two lower floors, which have been heavily patched, will be stripped/repaired to reveal brownstone surface to be painted with stucco skim coat; top two floors are painted brick to be stripped, pointed and painted to match lower building portion.
- Bottom of damaged sheet metal cornice will be replaced with galvanized steel to match cornice at 135 West 87th Street.
- Front door will be replaced with glazed multi-light wooden door with side lights to match tax photo.
- Windows had been replaced illegally and must be legalized. LPC (staff level) has approved proposed aluminum-clad double-hung wood windows to replace all existing aluminum-frame windows.
- Lower sill of two double-hung basement windows to accommodate taller, double-hung windows to match tax photo. Vertical security grill.
- Replace parlor floor window with steel casement window to match 135 West 87th Street. New window to be multi-paned thermally broken steel unit, including two operable casement pairs and flanking fixed units below a multi-paned fixed transom above. Per suggestion by LPC staff, parlor floor window would be widened to align with third floor window as shown in 135 West 87th Street.
- Solid piece of wood above the three window units on the third floor will be cleaned and repainted.
- Three separate windows will be inserted in punched spaces at top floor. Mullions will be slightly wider per modern manufacturing procedures.
- In the front entry area, resurface existing low brownstone wall, install short iron fence with gate on top of wall at height of three feet overall. Gate and fence to consist of black verticals with band of metal scrollwork at top.
- In the front entry area, current paving will be replaced with slate pavers; a low planter and garbage bin will be built in this sunken area.

- Install HVAC condensing unit on dunnage at rear of roof. Unit cannot be seen from the street.
- Existing medallion on front of building, representing the Marist Brothers, the previous owners, will be retained.
- Parged rear elevation wall, severely damaged by water, will be replaced. New wall to be covered with light-colored cladding material to conform to passive house standards will be a plain, modern finish. .
- Install unit of four glass doors on garden and parlor floors in rear. Outer are full-height fixed windows flanking French inner doors.
- Install French doors on two top floors flanked by double-hung windows, aligned at top of windows/doors.
- All windows will be aluminum clad and meet passive-house window standards,
- On top three floors, install four foot wide projecting balconies with dark grey stainless steel vertical railings. This will enable small café table and chairs.
- Corbelling above top floor windows/doors will be recreated.

There was no public comment.

Committee Discussion

Peter Samton: Front façade Parlor floor windows are quite elegant as they appear now. Should not enlarge the width of the parlor floor window. Also, would prefer punched windows on the top floor of the rear façade to mirror adjoining buildings. The building would relate better to adjoining buildings without a balcony on the top floor.

Meisha Hunter-Burkett – LPC would prefer punched windows on top floor of the rear facade. Suggested the addition of an extruded horizontal transom line above casement windows on the front façade to match the tax photo and the configuration of the parlor floor window at 135 West 87th Street.

Mark Diller –Disagreed with Peter about front façade. Parlor floor is supposed to make a statement. Agreed that horizontal bar should be added to the casement windows on the parlor floor. Restated that stucco is never his choice for a brownstone but understands it as a factor in passive-house design.

Jay Adler – Ambivalent about the top balcony. Would keep it if top floor has punched windows rather than windows/doors. Felt strongly that a grill with an outward rounded bottom section would improve the basement window, rather than plain vertical grill.

Gabby Palitz – Pointed out that mullions must now be thicker to support the greater weight of the glass. Cannot match the delicacy of mullions supporting older windows. Questioned why rear windows did not have lintels to match windows in adjacent buildings. Mr Lydon pointed out that passive house windows can't have fissures in façade. Doesn't want fake lintels.

Louisa Craddock – Felt that balcony was not desirable on top floor but agreed that it was acceptable on such a narrow house provided there are two punched windows rather a glass wall on the top floor of the rear facade. Agreed with adding a horizontal transom line to the casement windows on the parlor floor of the street façade. All agreed that the double-hung basement windows should instead be in a multi-light configuration as shown in the tax photo.

The Committee had the following recommendations regarding the new basement and parlor floor windows on the street facade, to which the applicant and the owner agreed:

- At the basement level, the double-hung window pair should be multi-paned, modelled on the windows in the Tax Photo.
- At the basement level, the double-hung window pair should have an outward bottom-curving metal window grille.
- At the new expanded parlor floor window, a horizontal bar should be added to visually distinguish the operable windows from the transom, as at 135 W. 87th St.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the façade restoration work, design of the basement level window pair as modified, enlarged parlor floor window as modified, proposed upper floor replacement windows, front courtyard kneewall and fencing, and the rooftop location of the dunnage and HVAC unit (in not being visible from the public way) are all reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the façade restoration work, replacement basement level windows as modified, parlor floor window enlargement as modified, upper floor replacement windows, and rooftop dunnage and HVAC unit.

Preservation Committee: 6-1-0-0

The Committee had the following recommendation for the fenestration at the top floor of the rear facade, to which the applicant and the owner agreed:

- In lieu of a single central four-part fenestration unit, there should be two separate punched openings for windows or doors, retaining the band of individual punched openings characteristic of rear yard façade fenestration.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of the rebuilt rear facade as modified is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the design of the rebuilt rear façade, as modified.

Preservation Committee: 6-1-0-0.

Not calendared.

230 West 103rd Street (Broadway-West End Avenue) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for legalization of 16 windows installed in non-compliance, three new windows and modification of one window.

Presentation by Michael Middleton, Li Saltzman Architects, and Paul R. Freitag, Executive Director, West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing (WSFSSH)

Meisha Hunter Burkett disclosed that she is associated with Li Saltzman Architects. She can participate in the discussion but cannot vote on this issue.

- WFSSSH has provided supportive and senior housing on the Upper West Side for 40 years.
- Built as an apartment-hotel in 1905 – the Hotel Marseilles. Landmarked in 1990.
- WFSSSH bought building in 1977-78.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- Gut renovation in 1979-80. All windows removed and replaced.
- In 2010, plan for weatherization. Plan to replace windows approved by LPC.
- Modifications to the approved plan were made during installation – mainly dealing with the placement of air conditioners to be easily accessible for residents.
- In 2014, WSFSSH received violations for not following approved plan.
- LPC staff has now approved all but 16 windows located on the fourth floor and above on Broadway and 103rd Street facades that encompass four different designs and can barely be seen from the street.
- Flanking the main building entrance on 103rd Street are two rusticated arched window recesses. Within the recesses are two casement window pairs with fixed panels which sit below two decorative circular windows. Modifications are proposed to the lower air conditioning unit panels as follows:
 - At the western window, replace the single lower fixed glazed panel with a pair of fixed glazed panels.
 - At the eastern window, replace the existing solid infill panel pair with two fixed glazed panels, one of which will be removable for seasonal air conditioning unit installations.
- At the western end of the 103rd street facade, there are three arched window recesses that would be replaced with new windows with thicker frame details to approximate the original windows of the building. The center window will have a pair of operable casements below a fixed arched transom, and the two flanking windows will have a pair of fixed window panels beneath a fixed arched transom.
- The main entry doors will be replaced by a new design that will expose the historic ironwork.

There was no public comment.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the design of window types C, D, E and F (located on the fourth floor and above), as installed, are minimally appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District; and the modification of the two windows flanking the main entrance and the replacement of the three existing windows at the western end of the 103rd street facade are reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the legalization of 16 upper story windows, the modification of two street level windows, and the new design of three street level windows.

Preservation Committee: 6-0-0-1

Calendared June 13.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons
May 9, 2017

Present: Andrew Albert, Howard Yaruss, Marc Glazer, Richard Robbins, Suzanne Robotti, Dan Zweig, Ken Coughlin, Miki Fiegel, Isaac Booker, Lillian Moore.

Non-Committee Members Present: Roberta Semer and Mark Diller

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

We started with item #3 and then returned to #1 & #2 at the end of the meeting.

3. Secondary Street Naming of NW Corner of Columbus and West 71st Street in honor of Mrs. Ponsie B. Hilman

Speakers in favor:

- Gus Ipson, Assembly Member Rosenthal's Office, Support for naming. She was a leader in school desegregation. She organized people to go to a school in WV.
- Suzanne Jacobson – Enthusiastically support
- Jim Kleins – Chairman of CB8 but speaking privately. Supports naming. She was a teacher.

Committee member questions / discussion:

- Rich – Opposed to all renamings because 1) we should be focused on epidemic of injuries and fatalities, and 2) street signs are a distraction that could make streets more dangerous.
- Howard – We have no standards and we should have objective standards unless there are 200 signatures for which the naming is proposed.
- Roberta – A few years ago Ken and Roberta came up with suggested guidelines.
- Ken – Does CB8 have any guidelines for street renamings? Answer: No. Ken thinks there are lots of deserving people and it's in a way first come first served. Hasn't heard a real compelling case.
- Miki – Communities bond around people in the community and it's important to recognize people.
- Mark Diller – It's a good problem to have to have so many extraordinary accomplishments. What puts me over the top is Frederick Douglass who joined the women's suffrage movement. I was moved that she moved beyond her sphere to the issue of Soviet Jewry.

Resolution: Request to rename NW Corner of Columbus and West 71st Street in honor of Mrs. Ponsie B. Hilman. Miki proposed resolution. Andrew seconded.

VOTE TO APPROVE: 4-2-2-0. NON-COMMITTEE VOTE 2-0-0-0

Post-Vote Discussion:

- Dan requested bringing this to the full board. Roberta agreed.
- Isaac said it is a travesty that we can't vote on this and apologized for being late.
- Discussion of whether there should be a revote.
- Lillian arrived at 7:25pm. We need new standards. She abstains.
- Miki objecting that we are conflating two issues. Unfair to family when they should be two separate issues. Upsetting

Revote on Resolution: Request to rename NW Corner of Columbus and West 71st Street in honor of Mrs. Ponsie B. Hilman.

2nd VOTE TO APPROVE: 5-2-3-0. NON-COMMITTEE VOTE 2-0-0-0

4. Secondary street naming of the north-west intersection of West 97th Street and Columbus Avenue, in honor of Maggi Peyton.

Speakers in Favor:

- Eric Cuello – From Mark Levine’s office. We are hoping to see a street corner naming for Maggi Peyton. She for decades worked tirelessly on UWS. She worked for 4 BPs and founded / co-founded many organizations. Based on her record and being a TA president for PWV, she deserves to have NW Corner of Columbus and 97th Street named in her honor.
- Letter of support submitted by BP Gale Brewer.

Committee member questions / discussion:

- Andrew: Many emails of opposition due to location of the site and also how it was brought to the board.
- John Michael McCann – Give way committee handled previous vote, it would be unfair to vote any other way. We should focus on transportation issues.
- Andrew: We handle many types of issues, not just safety. It doesn’t mean we won’t cover other issues, it just means meetings will be longer.
- Dan: Motion to table until next month. Maggi Peyton might be a fine person to have a street renaming. For the last one, there was overwhelming support. In this case, we got several letters who said this was proposed very fast by CM who never met with community. They also had concerns of issues with safety.
- Lillian – Maggi Peyton was my neighbor for 42 years. She would have supported standards. Lillian got many emails because it didn’t go to the community. Anyone who knows the folks on the UWS knows we think about things. Re: tabling it for Maggi, it should be tabled so as we move forward, we will give people the respect and honesty that needs to be done for them.
- Roberta – if it’s tabled until next month, it might not be calendared for 6 months.

VOTE TO TABLE DISCUSSION UNTIL JULY: 10-0-0-0. NON-COMMITTEE VOTE: 0-0-2-0

5. Update on the West 88th Street Citibike stand.

Board and Public Discussion:

- Andrew: We went on walking tour because of 585 West End Avenue objections to temporary relocation of Citibike stand to 88th Street. Looked at proposed relocation to east side of 88th Street, which would be at head end of block rather than tail end.
- Rich: Concern that there weren’t signs.
- Howard: Synagogue on 88th street opposed to moving.
- Dan: There’s a possibility of removing parking. East side of street is better. Seems to me that it’s a viable place. Parking issue could be traded. Don’t see reason why we should unnecessarily remove parking. Reason we didn’t do anything immediately is that the community hadn’t been notified. I would look to make motion and resolution and follow with motion to table until next month.
- Drew Carey – Resident of 585. New photos. Re: removing parking – Constitution talks of depriving people of rights and privileges. We should do least intrusive means. Removing parking impacts people more than moving bike rack and is more intrusive than necessary. We’ve had a few months where it’s not working.

- Miki – When are Citibikes on sidewalks? Can we set a standard where DOT puts

6. Determining how cyclists could safely navigate Columbus Circle

Public Comments:

- Willow Stelter – In favor of protected bike route through Columbus Circle. Does some volunteer work for TA.
- Claire Brennan – Lives 83rd Bwy and commutes daily through Columbus Circle to LES. Does also volunteer for TA as co-chair of Manhattan Activist Committee. Made stop at Columbus Circle this morning for ride this morning. Envisioned how it might be redesigned.

Board and Public Discussion:

- Andrew: When riding Northbound, what is the more dangerous area?
- Willow: I commute up 8th Avenue, through Columbus Circle and up CPW. Bowtie area feels much safer.
- Claire commutes down Broadway.
- Dan: I remember riding safely to East side through Central Park. Why don't you ride through the park?
- Ken: 8th Avenue is a protected bike lane until you get to Columbus Circle. I avoid it like the plague.
- Miki: Walking it is harrowing as well.
- Mark: Crazy migrating from 57th to 58th Street from left to right. Should be able to enter Columbus Circle from west side via a protected bike lane. Then there should be flexible bollards to make a path saying to make it safer.
- Miki: Also we should talk about huge police presence all around there and how bicyclists and police cars create congestion and danger. How do we make it safe for everybody? We might have to talk to not just DOT but also NYPD.
- Andrew: Wants to propose something concrete. Ask them to come up with a proposal
- Ken: Worried about watering this down by
- Roberta: We should send something to CB4 and CB5.
- Dan: We want a plan that's safer for cyclists, pedestrians and traffic.
- Andrew: Save lives for cyclists will be the lead.
- Resolution calling on DOT to come up with a proposal to make Columbus Circle safer for cyclists, pedestrians and the movement of vehicles.

Resolution: RESOLVED, that in view of the hazardous conditions for cyclists in Columbus Circle, CB7 calls on the Department of Transportation to install a dedicated path for cyclists through Columbus Circle that would ensure their safe passage (1) north from the 8th Avenue bicycle lane to the Central Park West bicycle lane and (2) south from Broadway to the bicycle lane on Broadway south of the Circle. Such path would clearly separate cyclists from vehicles, ideally with physical barriers to prevent the mixing of cyclists and vehicles. In designing this protected path, the DOT should be mindful of the safety of pedestrians and the efficient movement of vehicles through the Circle.

VOTE TO APPROVE: 10-0-0-0. NON-COMMITTEE VOTE: 2-0-0-0

7. Explore switching parking and cycling lanes on the park side of Central Park West

Board Discussion

- Howard: It seems that bike lane would be safer if it were switched.
- Mark: Doesn't agree with DOT but they've said it's not wide enough to provide protection from a car door opening. Also, there's a bus lane, which would cause a bike lane running through a bus stop.

Committee agreed without resolution to reach out to DOB to see if it would be possible to switch lanes.

1. Review of CB7's Core and Working Principles

Board Discussion:

- Andrew: We want adequate enforcement of delivery vehicles and double parked cars on commercial avenues and enforcement of non-commercial street regulations
- Ken: Because of our defense of people being able to park for free, we're putting people in a double bind.
- Andrew: DOT has put in increased numbers of commercial vehicles. Rather, they double park on opposite side of the street.
- Miki – Trucks don't park on curb so they don't get boxed in. This turns Broadway into a one-lane street.
- Andrew: Residents and visitors need access to accessible (ADA Compliant where possible) transportation options.
- Ken: Gives bicycling short shrift. #2 Every person feels safe and is safe riding a bike on the streets of our districts ~~in designated zones for bikes~~.
- Isaac: It's too harsh to say that every cyclist should feel safe. I don't want us to be held accountable.
- Roberta: Everyone safely riding should feel safe.
- Miki: We need to work with cyclists to ensure that they behave safely
- Howard: There is massive code of use of the streets. We're not reiterating them here. One big priority for the committee should be safety.
- Lillian: We are an aging community. When we are considering situations, especially when it comes to buses and public transportation and lighting, the UWS is an aging community and we should consider aging population. Needs to be increased for accessible transportation.
- Roberta: Vulnerable street users are protected. Children until age of 14 aren't safe crossing because they can't judge speed of cars.
- Dan: On issue of everyone feels safe riding a bike. We had ruled out "in designated zones for bike" years ago I think Miki's suggestion I don't see what we should make bikes feel safe when they run red lights. If you get hit by a car when you run a red light, that's really a shame.
- Miki: There's a certain aspirational concept. We aspire to safe streets for bicycles, pedestrians and cars. We also aspire to compliance with the law.
- Ken: Preference is given to more environmentally sustainable modes of transportation. Priority on movement of people and should be given first to non-polluting mass public transit and bicycles, then to taxis and car shares. Encourage multiple riders in all cars, ~~bike riding where it is safely done~~, and movement of goods by compact commercial vehicles.
- Lillian – something needs to be done by DOT to figure out how to make mass transit more accessible and convenient for the aging.
- Mark – "Deference should be paid in planning and the allocation of the use of the public realm to those with mobility and accessibility challenges."
- Howard – Enforcement focus on issues that impair pedestrian safety.
- Ken– Enforcement focused on reducing deaths and injuries in our streets. Rich supports.
- Albert – Let's keep it vague.

2. Final review of updates for the FY2019 District Needs Statement.

- Roberta: Nobody got back to us.

8. Community concerns about West 97th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues

Tabled.

New Business

Marc – Follow up on Holy Trinity.

Andrew: There's no need for no parking as there already is.

Marc – Dominic from 20th has asked for booth at a fair.

Andrew – We give

Rich – Commend precincts for having Auxiliary officers on bikes but recommend that they provide lights for these bikes as the officers ride at night.

Committee agreed without resolution that Committee would send a letter to precincts commending them for having officers and auxiliary officers on bikes and recommending that they provide lights to auxiliary officers.

YOUTH, EDUCATION, & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Blanche Lawton, Chairperson

May 18, 2017

The Youth, Education & Libraries Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at the District Office, 250 West 87th Street, in the District. Attending Members: Isaac Booker, Steven Brown, Catherine DeLazzer, Mark Diller, Polly Spain. Roberta Semer, Chair CB7. : **Absent:** Tina Branham, Paul Fischer and Sarina Gupta.

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chair at 6:40 pm, who welcomed all attendees. The following topics were discussed.

Discussion with Lucas Lie, Member of the District 3 Community Education Council.

Mr. Liu is a Borough President appointee to the CEC of District 3, which comprises the Upper West Side and portions of Southern Harlem.

The main topic of discussion with Mr. Liu concerned trends and needs of public schools in District 3.

Mr. Liu explained the composition of the CEC:

- Each CEC consists of eleven members
 - nine elected by the officers of the PTAs in the District community, and
 - two appointed by the Borough President.
- All members serve for two years.
- The CEC just completed an election cycle (Mr. Liu was reappointed by the Borough President). Mr. Liu was congratulated on his re-appointment.
- The CEC serves District 3, which runs from West 59th Street on the West Side to 124th Street in Harlem (saw-toothing to exclude Columbia and Morningside Heights).
- The CEC's most important charge is "rezoning" – redrawing the boundaries within which residents have more or less a first priority for admission to a neighborhood elementary school.
- Eleven schools were affected by the rezoning process that the CEC undertook in 2016-17.
- The CEC began the rezoning process with the Department of Education to address persistent overcrowding in certain schools in the southern portion of District 3, particularly PS 199, which had very long in-zone waiting lists year after year.
- The CEC expanded the scope of the rezoning process to include considerations of diversity and equity in admissions, especially since most schools in the District do not reflect the overall diversity of the District demographics.
- Despite considerable discussion, dissent and debate, and the fears about the process, the most extreme outcomes predicted for the rezoning have not been realized. Thus far positive results include increased enrollment in the schools whose catchment zones were expanded and where additional socio-economic diversity was sought.
- The effects of the rezoning, while still early in the process, also appear to achieve the goal of reducing the in-zone waiting lists where needed and the targets of other schools are on track.

- At the very end of the rezoning process undertaken from 2016-17, the DoE added a proposal to close one public school in Harlem and divide its zone among the remaining 5 public schools in Southern Harlem.
- Due to CEC and community concerns about the last-minute nature of that proposal, it was withdrawn from the rezoning in 2017, and hopefully the issue will be taken up in time for academic years 2018-2019.
- The CEC held a "Harlem Schools Summit" on April 1st to highlight the positive work being done in the 6 Southern Harlem public schools. The Summit was well attended, and was supported by members of CB7's YEL Committee.
- One of the ways in which PS 191, a heretofore under-enrolled public school, was supported in the CEC rezoning was by re-siting it to the new school space in Riverside Center, which was created in great measure thanks to the negotiations undertaken by CB7 (in coordination with then Council Member Gale Brewer).
- PS 452 will move into the space being vacated by PS 191. It was pointed that the creation of PS 452 was due in great measure to the leadership of CB7 in the negotiations concerning the overcrowding of PS 87 and PS 199 in 2010.
- Harlem schools in particular face the syphoning-off of enrollment by charter schools, which co-locate in Harlem and West Side public schools, and have far greater resources from which to draw for certain amenities, repairs and maintenance, and for recruiting materials. The CEC and DOE is making efforts to reclaim those students.
- CB7's YEL committee may devote a future meeting to better understanding the needs and positions of various charter schools located in District 3 and beyond.
- Mr. Liu noted that future CEC initiatives included efforts to increase community engagement. It was agreed that CB7 shared similar problems and concerns and that the two institutions should plan to collaborate on this issue.

Discussion of Core Principles and Working Principles for the YEL Committee.

- Chair Roberta Semer lead a discussion on the revision of the "Core Principles" and YEL "Working Principles" as part of an effort to revisit the Core and Working Principles with every CB7 committee. The current set of principles had not been reviewed for a few years.
- The YEL committee members discussed the general concepts behind the principles, and agreed to offer written comments to Chair Roberta Semer on proposed changes or additions to the current set of Working Principles by June 15th.
- The Chair will then assemble and rewrite the document to parallel other committees and present for YEL discussion at the June meeting.

Change of Date.

- The June YEL meeting will be re-scheduled from to June 22nd in order to accommodate a presentation by Advocates for Children.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Submitted by Blanche Lawton.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Suzanne Robotti, Co-Chairpersons

May 10, 2017

Present: Linda Alexander and Suzanne Robotti

Non-Committee Member Present: Roberta Semer, CB7 Chair

CB7 District Manager: Penny Ryan

The meeting was called to order at 5:38pm and adjourned at 6:48 PM.

1. Discussion of committee's working principles and FY2019 district needs statement.
 - a. Su wrote a draft, which Linda edited. After discussion Linda volunteered to do the final edit and send to Roberta.
2. Follow up on distributing the monthly calendar to senior and community centers to be printed and posted.
 - a. Maria will clean up the eMail lists and put on Constant Contact.
 - b. eMailing to senior and community centers will commence when the list is clean. John will manage the minutes.
 - c. John will send out interim updates as needed.
3. New Business – website upgrading
 - a. Penny explained that DOITT is upgrading the platform for the website that will allow us more functionality.
 - b. In conjunction, Penny would like us to review the text on site and consider what would be involved with re-writing the text to lighten the tone, more friendly.
 - c. The new platform will allow us to have short news stories and videos. While we need more information, there was a discussion of inviting community members who applied for CB7 and did not get appointed to volunteer as Ambassador Reporters and write stories, make videos. We will also reach out to hyper-local media to use their stories as appropriate.
 - d. Photography is very dated. Linda Alexander volunteered to approach Stan Schnier, local resident and retired professional photographer to be the official CB7 photographer for general photographs and events.
4. New Business – speaking to the press
 - a. Roberta has asked the press policy to be clarified for the Board. After discussion Su volunteered to write a draft and send to Roberta in preparation to discuss at Steering.