

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

April 11, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Co-Chairperson Michele Parker.

Present: Michele Parker, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Linda Alexander, Joshua Cohen, Christian Cordova, Paul Fischer, Seema Reddy and Andrew Rigie. **Absent:** Marc Glazer.

The following matters were discussed:

New applications to the SLA for two year liquor licenses:

1. **108 West 74th Street** (Columbus Avenue) B&H Restaurant LLC, d/b/a To be Determined.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Huseyin Ozer, Owner of business

CB7 Comments:

- Operator on UWS since 2001. Managed Bella Luna before. Own Bodrum at 584 Amsterdam Ave now.
- Casual to fine dining restaurant will seat 50-60 people + 10-12 at the bar. Mainly dinner and brunches on weekends. Family-oriented. Similar to Bodrum but a little more upscale.
- The space was a residential apartment before. Now changed to be a restaurant for a few people. He would be respectful of the residential nature of the neighborhood. Would be willing to close at 1030/11pm – especially for backyard space.
- Backyard space is enclosed, but the top is open and there are windows of other residences that overlook the backyard space.
- Restaurant has its own entrance. Backyard is only accessible by restaurant.
- There will be a bar at the entrance, but restaurant will be family-oriented. Not a dive bar like place.
- Downstairs, accessed through the rear yard, will be the kitchen, office, and 2 bathrooms. There is one ADA-accessible bathroom on the ground floor. There will be no TV.
- The hours on the application say 1230am closing on Fri, Sat, 1130pm closing on other evenings. Restaurant may close earlier depending on business. Owner of restaurant is willing to be flexible about hours of operation.
- Is there a DOB permit? There is a potential issue with ventilation because of the residential character of the area.
 - Is there a CofO to occupy to rear yard for this use?
- Mitchell Goldberg – represents bldg. owner of 106 W74th. (just to the east of the restaurant space).
 - Their bldg. also has a rear yard. The whole block is residential. Client's bldg. has a dozen windows that overlook the backyard. There are 3 families (with 3 kids) in the building now. He maintains the backyard of the restaurant is not enclosed. Wall is approx. 6-7'H
 - There are other buildings adjacent as well. 110W74 (approx. a dozen windows that overlook the yard), and there are also buildings with windows on W73 that would also overlook the rear yard of the restaurant.
 - Cannot pull the CofO from the DOB website because it is an old building. Likely this use may not be allowed. But this is not clear.
 - Venting issue/smells, noise, infestation, garbage, loss of residential feeling for the premises – those are the significant concerns for the neighbors, esp. in 106W74
 - Concerned about the existence of the restaurant itself, not just the rear yard.
- Giacomo Veltri – one of the owners of the building.
 - Backyard is enclosed with a cinderblock wall, approx. 6' or so high. There are approved permits in the window. There is no CofO currently until the work is completed and signed off.
 - There are 8 units in the building. Originally the space was commercial, but then converted to residential, and then now being converted back to commercial. Onwer feels confident that the space will receive an approved CofO.
 - There will be soundproofing in the ceiling of the space. Work is mostly completed. Only finish work remains.
- Estella Munoz, 108W74, #9
 - Has lived in the building for more than 40 years
 - Concerned about the hours of operation, the traffic of the customers, the noise.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

- Appreciate the improvements the current landlord has made to bring building up to code. But the building has never had a commercial space in the building for as long as she has been there.
- Worried about security, especially with a bar in the ground floor space.
- Amy Bliss, 102W74
 - This is the building that sticks out into the rear yard. There are 8 units with windows that overlook the rear yard of the restaurant. She's excited about the restaurant itself but concerned about the rear yard.
 - She's a small biz owner, but home-based.
 - She provided a blurry pic of the rear yard. Perhaps an enclosed rear yard would help with the potential noise issues.
- Priscilla Hoffman, 104W74
 - Has lived in the building for many years
 - She is offended that there weren't enough postings of this meeting.
 - Building is small. There is no space for the restaurant's garbage. How are deliveries going to be made? Considers the restaurant in this location is inconsiderate, unrealistic and impractical.
 - Concerned about noise – mentioned Patsy's as a potential comparable.
 - *Response from restaurant owner – There is space in the basement for the garbage. Deliveries may be made from Columbus.*
- Paul and Kali Theophanous– 106W74
 - Own the building, have tenants in the building, including families.
 - Neighbors were never given any notice about work being done or the restaurant going in...
 - There are many people that abut and overlook the rear yard space.
 - The restaurant would impact the quality of life of the residents, families, and kids.
 - Worried about garbage/infestation issues,
 - Not objecting to the restaurant. But he is objecting to the liquor license.
 - Seems too tight a space for the # of people that are projected for the space
- There is an active DOB construction permit since 2009 that shows a restaurant on the ground and lower floor. It is approved for a restaurant space.
- The façade of the building was not changed. The only changes proposed are some additional planters and a sign
- Jerry - Concerned about additional foot traffic that could be attracted by the restaurant
- Josh – concerned about deliveries and garbage that could congest the street for many hours/wk. The postings weren't done on 73rd St. which didn't give those neighbors a chance to come and be heard.
- There are 2 schools on the block – Calhoun and a public school. That adds a lot of congestion already, not considering the addition to this restaurant.
- Linda – experienced and well-regarded restaurateur but this is a tough situation. Almost and maybe all of the committee is conflicted about this.
- Applicant should go back speak with his team and come back for reconsideration by the committee.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **disapprove** was adopted*

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

2. **491 Columbus Avenue** (West 84th Street) Onur Oktas or Corp to be formed.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Onur Pieteroktas, Owner of the restaurant

CB7 Comments:

- Will be a French bistro.
- Own several restaurants in Long Island. This would be the first Manhattan location
- Planning to do lunch and dinner.
- Background, recorded music only.
- Delivery – not planned right now. But may consider in the future. Applicant must abide by the rules for deliveries.
- Mostly cosmetic renovation, but will be a new look. Kitchen will stay where it is.
- M-Th and Sun, 11am-10pm, Fri and Sat, 11am-11pm.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

3. **447 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street) Gazala's 1, Inc., d/b/a Gazala's.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Gazala Halavi, Owner of Restaurant.

CB7 Comments:

- Good postings!
- There's a scaffolding there. Hopefully it should come down in a few months.
- A well-regarded restaurateur in the neighborhood.
- Deliveries – by bicycle. The logistics of the bicycles need to be worked out exactly.
- To open hopefully in 8-10wks.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

4. **155 West 62nd Street** (Damrosch Park) Restaurant Services I LLC and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts Inc.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Lindsey Farina, law clerk from Skene Law Firm
- Thierry Sighel, GM for Restaurant Services
- Peter Foraker, Associate Director, LC

CB7 Comments:

- Josh didn't see more than 1 posting. Applicant posted in 3 places. There could have been more
- Seasonal – June through end of Sept for summer events. June 25 for 15 days, July 5 for 15 days
 - Separate from Big Apple Circus
 - Would accompany Midsummer Night Swing and Lincoln Center Outdoors
 - They had been done in the past as 1day permits. But, not seeking 1 longer term permit to streamline.
 - Even will be the same, permitting is just different.
- Restaurant Service 1 LLC hold 50 liquor licenses throughout the city including for Alice Tully Hall and Avery Fisher Hall at LC.
- There may be sporadic private events, but nothing done on a regular basis. Lincoln Center security would be involved as well.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewals:

5. **187 Columbus Avenue** (West 68th – 69th Streets.) Renewal application #2029490-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by JAGR 187 Columbus LLC d/b/a Joe Coffee, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 14 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Scout Rose, Director of Ops Services for Restaurant

CB7 Comments:

- Sign was posted. This is the first renewal.
- Same number of tables, no changes.
- No benches outside any more. Those are only for the winter. Sidewalk café displaces the benches
- No deliveries

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

6. **426 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th – 81st Streets.) Renewal application #1428051-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Luke's Lobster III, LLC d/b/a Luke's Lobster for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 3 tables and 6 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Katie Sikoryak, Works for Compliance dept

CB7 Comments:

- There were no postings. They only went up this morning. The owner was out of the country and didn't forward them in time. 7 days before the full-board, there should be another posting put up that notifies the Full Board Mtg.
- No changes. Same chairs, etc.
- Only 3rd party deliveries now. Use Relay, postmates, etc.
- This is the 3rd renewal.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

7. **433 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st Street.) Renewal application #1027125-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Haru Amsterdam Avenue, Corp. d/b/a Haru for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 22 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Lindsey Farina, law clerk from Skene Law Firm

CB7 Comments:

- Did postings.
- No changes. This is a renewal.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

8. **477 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street.) Renewal application #0883095-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 83/Amsterdam Restaurant, Corp. d/b/a Hi Life Bar & Grill for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 26 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Earl Geer, Owner

CB7 Comments:

- The sidewalk fence has been up for 5yrs+!
- Postings weren't done. The email was incorrect somehow. So, postings went up yesterday. They need to post another notice 7 days before the full board meeting also (by April 24th).
- There are 2 delivery bikes.
- No changes

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:

9. **158A West 72nd Street (Broadwav.)** New application #5225-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Ephesus Corp. d/b/a Seven Hills Mediterranean Grill, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 10 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Yonca Edaerdik, Owner
- Teddy Gonzalez, lawyer

CB7 Comments:

- This is a new application due to change in ownership
- This café was approved previously under a different restaurant. No changes from previous.
- Deliveries are done – bikes are kept in front of the restaurant during the day. At night, the bikes are put inside the restaurant.

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

10. **267 Columbus Avenue** (West 72nd – 73rd Streets.) New application #5038-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by TAP NYC, LLC d/b/a TAP NYC, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 12 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Steve Wygoda, architect
- Roberto Simonson, Owner

CB7 Comments:

- Landmarked area - Renovation took more than a year!
- Postings were done.
- 6 tables, 12 chairs
- Gluten free crepe restaurant – made from tapioca flour
- Also opening another restaurant in Williamsburg

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

11. **343 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 76th – 77th Streets.) New application #5121-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Joe & The Juice New York. LLC d/b/a Joe & The Juice for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 10 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- NO APPLICANT CAME TO MEETING

*After due deliberation the resolution to **disapprove** was adopted*

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

12. **2460 Broadway** (West 91st Street.) New application #5941-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by SweetGreen New York. LLC d/b/a SweetGreen 91st & Broadway for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 28 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant:

- Caren Kuffari, from Michael Kelly's office
- Greta Billowitz, Area Director for SweetGreen

CB7 Comments:

- Posted
- Privately owned, not a franchise
- New application – 91st and Bway
- 12 tables and 28 seats, all on Bway. 8' of the sidewalk to be used, leaving 15' of sidewalk for pedestrians
- Will not serve alcohol or seek a liquor license.
- Work with all local farmers
- Only take credit cards and the app – save money on insurance and a safer operation since there is no cash on hand
- Richard Litt – live at 215W91, apt 21
- Susanne Coppelman, lives at 215W91
 - Apartment 22 is right above the restaurant. 2nd flr just north of the restaurant
 - This is a bus stop corner. Seems very crowded relative to the bus stop
 - Worried about garbage. They are supposed to have pick-ups done by midnight, but pickups are routinely happen at 2am+
 - Garbage cans are also left in the middle of the sidewalk when the pick-ups are done.
 - *Response – they will speak with the carting company to work on timing and cleanliness after the pick-up.*
 - Because there are no waiter service, worried about the litter from patrons
 - *Response – there is a “concierge” that is responsible for cleanliness and trash in the lobby and the sidewalk café area. The tables will also come in at night. Planters will stay out but pushed in to the façade. Rotation of lobby service should happen every 20min. At 75th and Amsterdam location, that sidewalk café location is very successful.*
 - Worried that the café will cause more garbage and litter that could attract vermin.
 - Early morning deliveries are also bothersome.
 - Noise concerns
 - Roughly beginning of May to mid-October, but depends on weather.
- The Applicant and neighbors exchanged contact information to help deal with noise, litter, delivery concerns, etc.
- Only 3rd party deliveries. They do not employ delivery cyclists

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

VOTE: 8-0-0-0

13. New Business.

- A neighbor expressed concern about SweetGreen not accepting cash. Brief discussion of that with the Applicant from Sweetgreen.
- Brief discussion of proposed rules for Electric Bikes
- Brief discussion of LinkNYC kiosks – opportunity for some free advertising for nonprofits.
Alize.Garcia@intersection.com is the person to contact. Would be great to get postings for CB7 mtgs on the kiosks.

The meeting ended at 9:20 p.m.

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Roberta Semer, Chair

April 3, 2018

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at Congregation Rodeph Sholom, 7 West 83rd Street (Central Park West) in the District. Chair Roberta Semer called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

The following matters were discussed and actions taken:

Minutes from the March 6, 2018, Full Board meeting were **postponed until May**.

Chair's Report: Roberta Semer:

- Last week successful forum on three subway station closings on the C/B line. Thank you to Andrew and Elizabeth and Museum for helping and hosting the event.
- On last Tuesday, the Health & Human Services Committee hosted a Mental Health Forum at Children's Aid Frederick Douglass Center.
- On last Wednesday, the NYCHA Taskforce with CB9 hosted another forum. This forum was on Repairs and Maintenance of NYCHA. NYCHA was present and responsive to comments and suggestions.
- We want to thank Melissa Rosenberg for co-chairing the Housing Committee.
- We also want to thank Natasha Kazmi for agreeing to chair our Diversity Taskforce.
- Klari Neuwelt and Roberta attended the forum on the 79th Street Rotunda and it was informative and helpful to understanding the timeline and process for renovation.

Community Session:

- Ydarian Castillo from the Civilian Complaint Review Board: Reminding community that you should call 311 if you want to report sexually harassment.
- Michael Rogers from New York Runners: Get Moving in Morningside Park. Free Saturday morning runs and walks. Check in starts at 8:45am and Open Run begins at 9am. Meet down the stairs at the park entrance on W. 110th Street and Manhattan Ave.
- Robert Shulman from Goddard Riverside: There will be a Right to Counsel Forum held on April 10th at 6-8pm. Location: Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Office Building, 163 West 125th Street. Please RSVP by website.
- Peter Arndtsen from Amsterdam Columbus BID: Art Historian Margaret Oppenheimer is conducting a forum on April 19 at the Hosteling International NYC, 891 Amsterdam Ave at 6:30pm.

Manhattan Borough President's Report, Diana Howard:

- The 2019 Community Board Members application and selection process is complete. It is the hope of the office that all new appointees will be identified shortly. This year the decision was made that re-appointed members will not be interviewed.
- The Borough President testified at the recent Town Hall on 200 Amsterdam Avenue.
- On Thursday, April 4, the Borough President will be honoring Martin Luther King, Jr by gathering at the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. statue on W. 125th street before beginning the march at 6pm. The march will go down W. 125th Street to Riverside Church for the event beginning at 7pm. MLK 50th Anniversary
- On April 25th, there will be a Child Support Workshop hosted by the Borough President and co-sponsored by the NYC Office of Child Support Enforcement. Please RSVP at ManagingChildSupport.eventbrite.com or calling 212.431.1609.

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

Reports by Elected Officials:

Richard Gottfried, NY State Assembly, (75th District):

- New State Budget
- Highlights from State Budget:
 - Outlay of \$836 million in additional funding for the State-run MTA to help address the growing problems with deteriorating mass transit system and implement its “Subway Action Plan”. The State and NYC will each pay half. The State portion will be funded by at \$2.75 surcharge for ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft and other services in Manhattan below 96th Street and \$2.50 on taxi rides in Manhattan below 96th Street.
 - \$250 million for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and the creation of a new State oversight panel to monitor NYCHA’s management and operations, as well as funding to create 100,000 new units of affordable housing and 6,000 units of supportive housing.
 - Strong new provisions to combat sexual harassment in both the public and private sectors, including establishment of a model anti-sexual harassment policy for all employers; extension of anti-harassment laws and regulations to private contractors, vendors, and consultants; and the banning of non-disclosure agreements in sexual harassment cases except when requested by the victim, among others.
 - The continued phasing-in of a middle class tax cut, which will see the State tax rate for those earning between \$40,000 and \$150,000 annually reduced from 6.4% to 5.5% and the rate for those earning between \$150,000 and \$300,000 lowered from 6.65% to 6%; and the creation of a voluntary savings program for private sector workers who don’t have one.
 - \$27 billion in school aid and \$1.5 billion for higher education aid; \$30 million is provided to expand access to community schools; and new initiatives and funding to improve school nutrition and eliminate “meal shaming” for students from economically disadvantaged households.
 - A ban on firearms possession or purchases by persons convicted of domestic violence.
 - Under new federal tax law, we will not be able to deduct the full amount of our State and local taxes (called SALT). In an effort to get around this, we created two options. The first would allow a business to choose a payroll tax system in which the employer would be subjected to a 5% tax on all annual payroll expenses in excess of \$40,000 per employee, and a reimbursement to the employer through a State tax credit. Employees would then not pay State income tax on that portion of their income. The net effect will be to reduce workers’ federal tax burden. The second allows local governments to create to new charitable foundations, for health care and for education. New Yorkers will be able to make a deductible charitable contribution to their local foundation and reduce their non-deductible local property tax. New York is the first state to try this. It is not clear whether the Internal Revenue Service will accept this.
- On March 27, submitted joint testimony along with State Senator Brad Hoylman at a hearing of the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) urging it to revoke SJP Properties’ permit to construct a 55-story megatower at 200 Amsterdam Ave between 69th and 70th Street. The BSA deferred its decision until after a follow-up hearing on June 5.

K. Coughlin:

Question: Streets becoming ever more congested. Congestion pricing would come a long way to help this issue? Ans: \$2.75 on any ride that enters or leaves NYC from below 96th street. Obstacle is that the opposition from representatives who do not represent the congestion zones is overwhelming.

H. Yaruss:

Question: Aren't you encouraging congestion by putting fees on ride sharing?

Ans: Alternative is bus or subway and putting more burden on Uber and taxis would be a plus. Uber is a significant part of the issue.

S. Fine:

Question: Are the surcharges final law?

Ans: The surcharges are law and can be evaluated. May not help congestion but will provide revenue for the MTA.

Andrew Albert:

Question: Has it been pointed out to Brooklyn and Queens what offerings could have occurred with passing this bill.

Ans: 1) understandable why they are cautious 2) drivers from outer boroughs would not take a subway regardless. Uphill battle.

Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives:

Marisa Maack, Office of Council Member Helen Rosenthal (6th District):

- On April 4th, there will be an Eviction Prevention: Residency Challenges, Clutter Unapproved Alterations, Overcrowding, and Nuisances workshop at 6pm. The workshop will be held at Goddard Riverside Community Center, 593 Columbus Ave.
- Participatory Budgeting (PB) voting week is Saturday, April 7th to Sunday, April 15th. PB is your opportunity to decide how we will spend \$1 million to improve our neighborhood. Stop by the District Office on 87th and Columbus Ave from 10am-6pm, Mon-Fri or PB Week of Voting. You can also vote online at <http://helenrosenthal.com/pb/> or call the office of more information.
- Councilmember's Annual Town Hall will be held on April 26th at 6pm at the JCC.
- Annual Bike Helmet Giveaway is Saturday, April 28 from 11am-2:30pm at the District Office.

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

- 7:30am- Monday 4/9- Rally about shut down of train station at 110 Street Subway Station
- Participatory Budgeting (PB) voting week is Saturday, April 7th to Sunday, April 15th. PB is your opportunity to decide how we will spend \$1 million to improve our neighborhood.

Laurie Hardjowirago, Office of Council Member Corey Johnson (3rd District):

- On June 16th, there will be a Shred Event. The location of the event is 26th Street between 8th and 9th Ave from 4-7pm.

Aldo Ponterosso, Office of Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal (67th District):

- Successfully repealed the state and local tax on tampons and similar products in 2016. Continues to work to expand access to menstrual hygiene products. Bill to require free access to menstrual hygiene products in schools was included in the final State Budget. Every student who has a period in grades 6-12 will have easy, shame-free access to tampons and sanitary napkins in their schools.
- Assembly member along with NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer submitted joint testimony to the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) demanding it denies 200 Amsterdam Avenue a variance to construct a 55-story building. Decision deferred until June 5.
- Hosting a community conversation with New York City Transit President Andrew Byford on Thursday, April 19th at 6:30pm. It will be held at Rutgers Presbyterian Church on 263 West 73rd Street.

Danielle Segall, Office of State Senator Brad Hoylman (27th District):

- The budget enacts measures including a ban on mandatory arbitration, a ban on taxpayer dollars used for certain settlement payments, limits on non-disclosure agreements, requirements for all employers to implement sexual harassment policies and trainings, and protections for non-employees like independent contractors.
- The budget adds some new state money for the MTA by funding half of the Subway Action Plan at \$418 million, although it fails to fully fund the transit agency's capital and operating expenses.
- Successfully repealed the state and local tax on tampons and similar products in 2016. Continues to work to expand access to menstrual hygiene products. Bill to require free access to menstrual hygiene products in schools was included in the final State Budget. Every student who has a period in grades 6-12 will have easy, shame-free access to tampons and sanitary napkins in their schools.

Daisy More, Office of State Senator Jose Serrano (29th District):

- Mobile Hours 4/5 3-6pm at St. Agnes Library
- Environmental Awareness Month. Please go to our website to look for all the events occurring in April to celebrate Environmental Awareness.

Brennan Ward, Office of State Senator Marisol Alcantara (31st District):

- The state budget gave \$250 million to NYCHA to help with expenses, management, and operations. There will be an independent State oversight created to ensure that NYCHA is fulfilling its responsibilities.
- A \$1 million teacher's loan forgiveness program was included in the state budget.
- The state budget included stricter laws on guns. Prohibiting persons convicted of domestic violence to possess or purchase a gun.
- State budget included stronger worker protections around sexual harassment.

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

- Fighting the inclusion of citizenship question on the upcoming Census. He feels the inclusion of the citizenship question is unconstitutional and is backing efforts to have question removed.
- Letter voicing continued opposition to helicopter tourism in light of March 11 helicopter crash in NYC's East River that killed five passengers. Asking for more information from the FAA and NTSC about the crash and what caused it.

Michelle Booker, Office of U.S. House Member Adriano Espaillat (13th District):

- Secured increase in funding for NYCHA- affordable housing for NYC residents
- Harlem Academy Students to address gun safety in schools
- Census Citizenship question- could lose 7 billion dollars in funding- immigrants will not fill out the census.

Nina Saxon, NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer's Office:

- Congratulate Madeline and Roberta on an amazing town hall on NYCHA with CB9

Business Session:

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

Klari Neuwelt and Ken Coughlin, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

1. Broadway Mall Association's, Public Art Committee of an upcoming exhibition scheduled for installation mid-April.

Presentation by Klari Neuwelt:

- Temporary public art on the Broadway Mall every year.
- Joy Brown are now gone and we are excited about the new artist, Kathy Ruttenberg.
- LED lighting will be part of the art.
- Check where the art will be placed.
- In April and there for 6 months.

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

VOTE: 29-0-1-0

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

2. Approval of Guidelines for Secondary Street Naming.

Presentation by Andrew Albert:

- ***Incorrect Resolution and will discuss at next meeting. Motion to table.***

After deliberation, the resolution to be tabled until next meeting.

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

3. **Secondary Street Naming** request in honor of Beulah E. Sanders by her daughter Judith Sanders at the S/E/C of West 92nd Street and Columbus Avenue.

CB7 Comments:

- M. Diller: vote in fair.
- J. Rausch: Who is she? Ans: She is a well known respected woman. NWRM organization member- she was there for everybody. Govt should support its people.

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

VOTE: 28-2-0-0

4. **West 85th and 86th Streets** (West End Avenue.) "No Standing" regulations at the corner of 85th and 86th Streets and West End Avenue.

Presentation by Andrew Albert:

- Montessori School- vehicles were standing in the daylight standing areas. We want to add more no standing zones. Put barriers to where cars are standing- safe passage of students.

Community Speakers:

- John Peluso, West 85 & 86 Street- Read his sheet
- Sarah Lind, Montessori School, many children walking through this area- sight lines are blocked by cars standing 80% of families walk to school

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

VOTE: 27-0-2-0

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

5. **250 West 71st Street** (West End Avenue - Broadway.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rooftop addition, replacement windows throughout, and front facade restoration work.

Presentation by Gabrielle Palitz:

- Roadhouse on West 71st Street.
- Roof top was not visible to the street but committee strongly recommended that they consider lowering the top floor by a foot.

CB7 Comments:

- M. Diller: Incidences to date of the compromising on work done so far. Ans: Roof done on the roof previously and there was no permit. Some removal of asbestos but notices was not put up and we cannot prove they did not comply. Maintenance of the facility is in question and absentee owner.
- E. Sheffer: Confusion about roof height- request made but then approved. Ans: Not uncommon for committee- approve things at certain scale and this did not meet the criteria to disapprove.
- P. Samton: Felt the same not approving something that needed to be cut back. Nothing will be done and rooftop addition was altogether too large.
- K. Neuwelt: Windows are part of the application and approval. Proposed window looks odd. Ans: Not the best design and not within our ability to comment.
- M. Diller: No the chairs favor a letter from board to remind owner of their mandates. Ans: Send the committee a letter and we can make a decision about our next steps.
- M. Fiegel: Roof top addition is that it is not seen from the street. Discussing a one foot difference that is not seen from the street. More normal compared to what we see.

Community Members:

- Joanna Peele, Lawyer of 252 W. 71 St: Duty of owners and contractor to protect the property of adjacent owners. Include a recommendation that the owners do this. The code dictates that the developer is required to protect adjacent owners- not enforced.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve the rooftop addition, replacement windows and front façade restoration work** was adopted.*

VOTE: 24-3-2-0

6. **110-118 Riverside Drive** (West 83rd Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a window replacement masterplan.

Presentation by Gabrielle Palitz:

- Return to a more historic model.

- 2000 windows altogether.
- Combination of windows throughout the building.
- All street facing façade a multi pane over a single pane.

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve the replacement window master plan** was adopted.*

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

7. **210 Columbus Avenue** (West 69th - 70th Streets.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a new ADA ramp at the Intermix storefront.

Presentation by Gabrielle Palitz:

- Step up to get into the shop.
- Need to create a ramp up due to structure in the store

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve the new ADA ramp** was adopted.*

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE

Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

8. **New applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses.**

- **466 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street) FT 466, LLC d/b/a Bar Veloce.
- **464 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 83rd Street) Danica LLC d/b/a To be Determined.
- **61 West 62nd Street** (Broadway) Galaxy Restaurants Catering Group and Lincoln Center.
- **50 West 72nd Street** (Columbus Avenue) CPW Rest Inc. d/b/a To be Determined.

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

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

9. **417 Amsterdam Avenue** (80th Street) BL 417 Amsterdam NY LLC, d/b/a Bluestone Lane.

Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal:

10. **187 Columbus Avenue** (West 68th – 69th Streets.) Renewal application #2029490-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by JAGR 187 Columbus LLC d/b/a Joe Coffee, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 14 seats.

Bundle 9 and 10 due to no show by applicant

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

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

11. **New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés.**

- **283 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 73rd Street.) New application #2238-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by D&S Dining Group, LLC d/b/a Salumeria Rosi, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 15 tables and 30 seats.
- **2130 Broadway** (West 74th – 75th Streets.) New application #1116-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by KDK, LLC d/b/a Viand Café, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 14 seats.

- **517 Columbus Avenue** (West 85th Street.) New application #2813-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by EGS, LLC d/b/a The Viand Diner & Bar, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 15 tables and 44 seats.

CB7 Comments:

- G. Palitz- why are they called new and not renewals? Ans: They are not renewals.
- J. Rausch- Seats vs. Tables. On corner and wide street.

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

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

12. **720 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 95th Street.) New application #2357-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Elsalam Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a The Halal Guys, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 2 tables and 8 seats.

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

VOTE: 30-0-0-0

*After deliberation, the resolution to **approve on the condition the applicant submits new plans before the Full Board meeting on 4/3/2018** was adopted. **New plans must show a maximum of 3 tables, 12 seats on Amsterdam Avenue only, and no seating on West 95th Street.***

13. **2758 Broadway** (West 106th Street.) New application #1079-2018-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by ISG Restaurant, LLC d/b/a IL Gatto Nero, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 35 tables and 70 seats.

CB7 Comments:

- G. Palitz- why are they called new and not renewals? Ans: They are not renewals.
- J. Rausch- Seats vs. Tables. On corner and wide street.

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

VOTE: 25-3-2-0

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:19pm.

Present: Roberta Semer, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Elizabeth Caputo, Christian Cordova, Kenneth Coughlin, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Miki F. Fiegel, Sheldon Fine, Paul Fischer, Amy Hyman, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, Natasha Kazmi, Blanche E. Lawton, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, Gabrielle Palitz, Jeannette Rausch, Suzanne Robotti, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Ethel Sheffer, Howard Yaruss, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero

Absent: Isaac Booker, Tina Branham, Steven Brown, Joshua Cohen, Page Cowley, Catherine DeLazero, Robert Espier, Marc Glazer, Benjamin Howard-Cooper, Genora Johnson, Lillian Moore, Michele Parker, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Richard Robbins, Katie Rosman, Polly Spain, Mel Wymore

TRANSPORTATION

Andrew Albert and Howard Yarrus, Co-Chairpersons

JOINT WITH BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Michele Parker and George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Co-Chairpersons

April 10, 2018

2. LinkNYC Kiosks. Request by DoITT and CityBridge to continue the deployment of LinkNYC kiosks. Proposed sites are on the agenda.

Presentation about LinkNYC by Alize Garcia from CityBridge/Intercity and another woman from DoITT.

Questions

Andrew: What criteria are you using to site the locations

Survey the locations with fiber optics and put the Links in where possible

Also replacing the about half pay phones with LinkNYCs

Howard: How is it paid for?

It's completely paid for by the advertising

Howard: How much does it cost to install a location?

A Link (kiosk) installation ranges, but dozens of thousands of dollars

Su: Can you clarify the differences between DoITT and CitiBridge

LinkNYC is the project name CitiBridge actually has the contract

DoIT is the NYC tech department and is the franchise administrator (oversight)

Ken: we post notices for outdoor cafes and such. Can we post our notices on the Link ad board? Yes, Link Local you can pick 2 Links. If you need more we can accommodate.

Jerry: range for the wifi?

300 feet

Ken: will you replace all the pay phones?

Not all pay phone can be replaced with Link. All pay phones will be taken out of the ground.

Superman booths on the west end will be preserved

Community member:

Can you review where the locations are?

280 in this district alone.

Community member: How many Links would go on a block? We have a lot of pay phones, will we get a lot of Links too?

They will not be closer than 50 feet apart.

Richard: Can we be sure to get good coverage for the NYCHA areas?

Can you incorporate polling? Yes

I know you're working on Smart Cities initiative, the UWS would love to be included.

Re: NYCHA it's meant to be an outdoor service. The city is working on a NYCHA broadband.

EMail (for questions and requests for free postings)

Alize.garcia@intersection.com

1. Discussion of DOT amendments to traffic regulations regarding commercial bicycles.

The goal of the amended rules is to cover those cyclists that are employed by national companies that may not have a physical location (GrubHub, Relay, Uber, etc.) It's to identify who is responsible for bicyclists.

Isaac: Complaint about enforcement

Community member: Complaint about enforcement

Community member: Does this require the responsible party to have liability insurance?

This document does not.

Andrew R: Most restaurants employ their own delivery cyclists

Mark: Hearing on May 16th, written comments due by 1pm that day.

Linda: Complaint on enforcement

Miki: Keep going to the 24th Precinct meetings

Mark: We should make a point of requesting enforcement and stating that in our response.

George: Asian restaurants seem to be most commonly not in compliance. But because they don't come before BCI Committee, we have little opportunity to make sure they comply.

Miki: Can we require that they sign that the business owner has read and understands the responsibilities.

Richard: we need to focus on what is not in these rules that we need.

Andrew R: the changes in rules will get to the business owners through their lawyers and usually the City does a blitz with new rules and send them out to every business owner.

Mark: Does the roster requirement apply to brick and mortar stores?

Howard: This does nothing to address the issue of liability. If you get hit by a biker working for Grub Hub, you're out of luck.

Andrew: Should we include that point in our comment letter? Yes.

Roberta: Do we have volunteers to work on a draft? Who has comments?

Miki: If every bicycle was registered it would be helpful. But this doesn't address that, it would need to be legislated.

Richard: E 5. Section 4 - Bracket taking out signage requirement should not be taken out.

Mark will write the draft. Please send Mark, Andrew and Howard your comments by the 17th of April.

3. Secondary Street Naming request in honor of Corine Pettey by Paul Fischer at West 101st Street on the N/E/Conf Central Park West.

Ken: Concerned that we will be overwhelmed with applications. There are so many deserving people on the UWS

Su: We are not enforcing the “rule” that all secondary street names should expire in ten years unless voted to extend.

Richard: I will vote against it as I always do because I think it’s a bad way to honor a person. There should be plaques.

Miki: Move to approve the secondary street naming for Corine Pettey

Ken: I would like to propose we put this off for a month (motion to table)

VOTE: All in favor of putting it off a month

Yes: 1

No: 8

Abstain: 1

Non-committee member

Yes: 0

No: 4

Miki’s proposal

For: 4

Against: 2

Abstaining: 1

Non-Committee members

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstaining: 0

New Business

4. Street Direction Change Requested

Paul Phaneuf Community member 2 Columbus, entrance is on 59th Street.

Robert Mazzolla

Fordham University new dorm on 62nd Street made it one-way

Water main work on 60th made it one-way and never changed back to 2-way. (Work finished 2 years ago)

This creates a traffic problem.

Request turn 60th West of Columbus to a 2-way street to alleviate traffic congestion. And 62nd Street should be a 2-way street.

Richard Taylor, community member: 59th Street houses 3 ambulances needed for the hospital. Hospital claims that the law requires them

They have met with DOT, called 311, and flagged passing police officers. It’s an unsafe environment with an elementary school with busses and 2 parking garages. It’s a truck route for the garbage disposal.

Mark noted that the Transportation Comm reviewed this area a year or two ago. He suggests we write a letter pointing out that an ambulance would have trouble getting through the traffic.

Roberta: We've been meeting with DOT on this very area. We will bring this up with them.

5. Expand congestion pricing to private cars.

Ken: we could write a letter deploying the limited action

Ken: This now makes it more advantageous to drive a private car

Howard: How about a resolution? {Howard please supply}

Yes: 7

No: 0

Non-Comm

Yes: 4

NO: 0

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Jay Adolf and Gabrielle Palitz, Co-Chairpersons

April 12, 2018 6:30 PM

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, April 12, 2018, at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87th Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by co-chairs Gabrielle Palitz and Jay Adolf. Committee members Mark Diller, Miki Fiegel, and Susan Schwartz participated in the meeting. Peter Samton was not present. The following discussions were had and actions taken.

104 West 76th Street, Apt #5 (Columbus Avenue). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rooftop addition and enlargement of two-rear-facing windows.

Presentation by: Andrew Tesoro, Tesoro Architects.

- There is an existing “mezzanine” roof structure which begins below the level of the existing roof and extends 6’-6” maximum above the roof.
- The proposal is to enlarge the existing mezzanine with a 220 sf. addition at the rear, which is not visible from the public way. The overall expanded mezzanine structure will extend approximately 1’-4” higher than the existing mezzanine roofline.
- The existing building staircase will be extended up to the roof, replacing an internal roof-access ladder. The stair extension will require a new bulkhead which will project 1’-6” above the new mezzanine roofline. The bulkhead is partially visible from the public way.
- The new mezzanine expansion and stair bulkhead will be clad in beige stucco, with dark gray steel windows with insulating glass at the rear and with black painted wood and insulating glass doors by Marvin at the front.
- At the rear façade, the existing top floor façade will be modified. The existing door will be widened, and the two existing double-hung windows and intermediate brick wall section will all be combined to create a single wider and taller opening: a central door pair with Juliet balcony with flanking side-lights. New openings to have bluestone lintels. This fenestration is designed to match the design of the existing fenestration on the two floors below, which was installed in a prior recent renovation, designed by the same architect.
- All new fenestration to be gray steel doors with insulating glass, to match existing below as well as new fenestration at expanded mezzanine above.
- All new railings at fourth floor and mezzanine decks and at Juliet balcony to be dark gray metal with an ipe wood cap.

Community Comment:

- Michael Grossman, resident at 45 W. 94th Street, asked about FAR. Ans: only 1200 s.f. are being added, although 11,000 s.f. could be added to this building because it is on the end of a block.
- Brian Silvestri, resident of 400 Central Park West asked how many apartments. Ans: this is a co-op building in which three families reside.

Committee Discussion:

- Opposing the application:
- M. Diller: Concern that the fenestration is not in keeping with the historic surroundings.
- Supporting the application:
- The fenestration issue would normally be of concern, but only two buildings remain in this cul de sac at the end of the block and the larger windows will allow additional light into the apartment, which is in an odd corner.

- The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan believes that the proposed rooftop addition and modification of the rear façade fenestration master are reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and the Historic District.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the rooftop addition and the enlargement of two rear-facing windows.
Committee: 4-1-0-0.

47 West 94th Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a set-back rooftop addition and extension of existing chimney, an expansion of the existing rear extension, an excavation to increase height of the existing cellar level, façade masonry restoration and window replacement.

Presentation by: Jonathan Taylor, Higgins, Quasebarth & Partners and Christopher Dierig, Registered Architect, S3 Architecture.

- Proposed front façade work includes the following:
 - Repair front masonry façade as required.
 - Replace existing aluminum windows with new double-hung thermal wood windows, one-over-one by Marvin, painted finish, White Dove color.
 - Remove existing grille at Parlor floor window.
 - Repaint the existing metal stoop railings black.
 - Restore tooled surface of stoop walls and at knee wall enclosing front entry court.
- Proposed rear yard work includes the following:
 - Remove stucco and restore existing brick cladding at existing rear facade.
 - Replace existing aluminum windows with new double-hung thermal wood windows, one-over-one by Marvin, painted finish, White Dove color.
 - Remove existing two-story partial width rear yard addition and replace with new two-story full-width addition, extending 12'-9" from rear façade to 30 foot setback line.
 - New addition to have large two-story central glazing element with narrow side and horizontal brick cladding bands. In-swinging wood door pairs with fixed transoms above to be painted wood with insulating glass by Marvin, White Dove to match windows throughout.
 - Side walls to be sheathed in common brick to match rear façade.
 - All new railings at terraces and at exterior garden stair to be black painted steel with ipe wood caps.
 - Entire existing cellar and new cellar space below new rear yard addition to be excavated 13" down, underpinned at party walls.
- Proposed rooftop work includes the following:
 - New 10 foot tall rooftop addition to be constructed, set back 16 feet from front façade, 3'-8-3/4" back from rear façade. Addition to be clad in light colored "HardiBoard" cement board siding, White Dove or similar light color. The new rooftop addition is not visible from the public way.
 - New in-swinging painted wood doors at rear with insulating glass by Marvin to match all new windows and doors throughout.
 - Above new rooftop addition, new service roof with mechanical equipment and open metal railing, not visible from the public way.
 - New required chimney extension will be partially visible from the public way. It will be clad in brick to minimize its visibility.

Community Comment:

- Michael Grossman, resident, 45 West 94th Street (adjacent to the subject property) had a number of excellent questions ranging from excavation concerns to the installation of an elevator, as well as

Community Board 7/ Manhattan

concerns about building drainage. These were addressed, providing assurances that all foundation excavation will be by hand, section by section to minimize risk of damage to surrounding buildings.

- Sarah Brezavar, resident of 36 West 95th Street (behind the subject property, across the donut) expressed concerns about the bulk of the penthouse and the placement of smoke stacks on top of the building.
- Brian Silvestri, resident 400 Central Park West, asked about the dimensions of the elevator, which will be 5'6" on the outside of the cab.

Committee Discussion:

- Committee members discussed the bulk of the additions to this relatively narrow building and agreed that the rear stairs, as rendered, in drawings appear bulkier than they will be in reality and suggested that if only one flue is going to be used in the chimney, that the chimney might be narrowed. After brief discussion, the plan was approved.
- The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan Committee urges the applicant to reduce the overall extent and modulate the scale of the full-width fenestration proposed for the enlarged rear yard addition, and to expand the extent of masonry cladding framing the sides of this fenestration.
- The Committee believes that the proposed rooftop addition, chimney extension, expanded rear yard addition, cellar excavation, and front façade restoration work including replacement windows are all reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and the Historic District.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan **approves** the proposed rooftop addition, chimney extension, expanded rear yard addition, cellar excavation, and front façade restoration work including replacement windows.

Committee: 5-0-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Klari Neuwelt and Ken Coughlin, Co-Chairs

April 16th, 2018

Committee Members present: Klari Neuwelt, co-chair (“KN”); Ken Coughlin, co-chair (“KC”); Natasha Kazmi (“NK”); Susan Schwartz (“SS”).

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by the co-chairs.

1. Presentation by NYC Parks’ Wildlife Unit on their Raccoon Management Project.

Angie Ioannidis (“AI”), Wildlife Field Technician with NYC Parks, presented. The Wildlife Unit (“WU”) has been in operation for just a few months. Their main goal is to promote coexistence between wildlife and New Yorkers. In addition, WU also conducts active research on animals, like the white-tailed deer in Staten Island, and performs community and student outreach.

WU’s Raccoon Management Program (“RMP”) is currently ongoing in Central Park (“CP”). It was piloted here in the spring of 2017, was expanded to Prospect Park last fall, and has now returned to CP. The RMP’s main goal is to reduce negative incidences involving raccoons. To this end, the unit has conducted outreach to educate the public about the biology of raccoons and the specifics of human-raccoon coexistence. Teaching sessions have also been held for CP and Central Park Conservancy staff. WU believes that humans are responsible for encouraging / teaching the raccoon population bad behaviors. They are opportunistic omnivores and do not need our help being fed. While traditionally they are nocturnal, they have adapted and can now be seen around during the day in NYC as they have no natural predators and food is abundant here. They should not be necessarily considered dangerous or rabid if seen during the day, a common misconception.

Strategies regarding waste management are a key component of the program. Raccoons are highly intelligent, adaptable, and dexterous. Their paws can un-knot garbage bags, unscrew jars, and also tip over garbage cans to gain access to food in the trash. Garbage bins with complex latches are good deterrents. Bird feeders and garden vegetables will also attract these mammals.

The public is advised to be prepared in every way. As with any other wild animal population, people are taught to “enjoy wildlife from a distance, but do not get too close.” Holes in buildings, roofs, basements, attics, and screens can all be used for denning by raccoons. Pet vaccinations should be kept current and dogs should be kept on a leash, especially when in a vegetated area of the Park.

For more information, consult nyc.gov/wildlife.

Q&A (CB7 Committee members):

KN: Is anything being done to reduce the population? Garbage in parks? How high can raccoons climb?

AI: Currently the focus is on co-existing with raccoons. WU is developing messaging and new signage regarding garbage disposal. They have a master list of high feeding areas that is updated as new sightings are reported. Raccoons will go into urban environments and are known to have a routine, patrolling behavior. They are very good climbers of scaffolding and fire escapes.

KC: What would raccoons eat if they did not have access to human-generated trash? Have you studied Toronto’s raccoon problem?

AI: Their natural diet is grubs, larvae, bird eggs, fish, shellfish, fruits, vegetables, turtles, pet food, bird seed. They also scavenge on dead animals. The WU is aware of Toronto’s problems with raccoons.

NK: What is the raccoon population right now – how do we know there is no overpopulation issue? Have raccoons always been around in this area? Do they spread disease?

AI: A formal raccoon population count in the city has never been done. They are native to the northeastern U.S. They can spread rabies.

Q&A (Public):

Peter Arndtsen from Columbus/Amsterdam BID: Big Belly trash cans are expensive and break down quickly. Look for other types, like bear-proof containers.

Abigail Kramer: Has the relocation of a den of raccoons to the wild been attempted to reduce negative interactions?

AI: The Parks Department does not have a pest control unit that does that, but private pest control companies can be hired to remove a raccoon from a home. In general, this is a rabies vector species, so it cannot be transported from one place to another. The animals have to be euthanized humanely instead.

2. Discussion with Department of Parks & Recreation (“Parks”) of Pilot Project for Opening Lawns in Theodore Roosevelt Park to Public.

Bill Castro (“BC”), Borough Commissioner from DPR, presented. He was accompanied by colleagues Matt Genrich (“MG”) and Robert (“Mike”) McLean (“RM”) during Q&A.

On Memorial Day weekend the north-west (“NW”) and south-west (“SW”) lawns in Theodore Roosevelt Park will be opened to the public, for the first time ever. They will remain open five days a week from 9am to 7pm. They will close for the season by 09/30/18.

Signs will be installed indicating that the lawns are an area of passive activity. No pets or sports will be allowed. Durable fencing will be installed where necessary (11-gauge fence). There will be two entrances to each lawn. 2-3 seasonal Parks Enforcement Patrol officers will be hired to enforce rules, give out information, and close the lawns in the evening. They will patrol the entire park and can call peace officers/police if necessary. They will communicate by walkie-talkie. They will not be able to issue summonses or make arrests. DPR M&O will open the lawns in the morning, using a seasonal park worker.

The main problem anticipated by Parks will be the management of the condition of the lawns: they have very shallow topsoil with mostly clay underneath so they can stay very wet. The introduction of foot traffic into the lawns may also cause browning of the grass in some areas. Parks anticipates managing these issues by closing each of the lawns for two consecutive days for aerating, mowing, and re-seeding (i.e., between the two lawns, there will be four consecutive days of closure). Also, the lawns are being restricted for passive activity only in order to avoid compaction, bald spots, crab grass, and weeds. Finally, the lawns will remain closed in inclement weather.

Parks will place one additional Big Belly trash can at the entrance of each of the two lawns.

Q&A (CB7 Committee members):

KN: What kind of fencing? BC: Three feet around garden areas and four feet at the building. The lights that illuminate the building will be cut off by the fence. Gates will be cut into the fences.

KN: Will the PEP officers be assigned just to these lawns? BC: They will patrol the entire park.

KN: What will be the cost to DPR of this program of opening these lawns: staff, supplies, etc.? BC: We don't have those numbers, but we will get the answer to you.

KN: If we were to disapprove this plan, would DPR do it anyway? BC: Yes, we would do it anyway.

SS: How will the fencing be secured? BC: Padlock.

SS: Thinks it is a nice idea.

KC: Agrees with Susan. How will this project be evaluated? What kind of oversight will it be subject to?

BC/MG/RM: There is a unit independent in DPR out of the Arsenal (DPR headquarters) that will evaluate the lawn openings. They will send this team information about their evaluation plan.

RM: Maintaining the lawns is the problem. Once you lose a lawn [because of damage], you can't get it back.

KC: What kind of publicity? New signage?

BC/MG/RM: There will be publicity, but Parks is unsure as yet of the nature of this. New signage will refer to the lawns being an area of passive activity and no pets being allowed inside.

KN: What is the dividing line on what is passive? A family tossing a ball? Frisbee?

BC: We will have to work on the definition.

Q&A / Comments (Public):

Melissa Diaz (AMNH): The Museum is excited about this pilot project.

Elizabeth Rogers (77th Street resident): Worried about compaction. Irrigation from underneath. Will DPR and the Museum finance the project? BC: Yes.

Steve Anderson (TRP Neighborhood Association / 81st Street Block Association) – ("SA"): Great progress in opening up the lawns at the SW quadrant and the enforcement of some basic park rules. However, SA's association is extremely concerned about the "extreme" traffic on the north side of the park. There are already people putting their dogs over the fences there.

KN: Will the PEP officers enforce the dog run rules?

BC/MG/RM: Parks has to think through whether the enforcement officers will also be responsible for the enforcement of the TDP dog run rules. Those rules are normally self-enforced by users.

SA: How can the block association help Parks with this pilot?

BC/MG/RM: Not sure yet.

Press – West Side Rag: What motivated Parks to open the lawns up?

BC/MG/RM: "Talk to our Press Office."

KC: This is an opportunity to give the community more access to parks, under the 'Parks Without Borders' project city-wide.

KN: Disagrees that this is a good idea or use of scarce DPR resources. There are many other parks more in need of the money that was allocated to this study and that will be allocated to opening and maintaining the lawns.

The Committee will schedule an agenda item at its October, 2018 meeting to discuss how the pilot program has

worked out. Meanwhile, BC promised to provide the information on how much the program will cost, how it will be evaluated, whether the PEP officers will provide enforcement of dog run rules and how the block associations can assist DPR with the pilot program, etc.

3. Update on Committee Discussions:

79th Street Rotunda Project: KN: KN and Roberta Semer attended an all-agency meeting last week. They were concerned about what they learned about the staging and moving of construction materials to the site. It appears that the DOT plan would close the ballfields in the mid-70's at the river level for an extensive period to use that area for staging, and that the Esplanade would also be closed at various times. We are trying to schedule a meeting with the DOT planners and DPR about our concerns.

Cherry Walk Lighting: KC and KN reported that DOT is in the process of installing lighting on the Cherry Walk in Riverside Park, which was our top capital budget priority the past couple of years.

Skate Park: Ian Clarke, member of the skate-boarding public, asked the Committee what it knew about the status of the skate park project in Riverside Park. He told the Committee that he had learned last fall that all of the bids had come in over budget. KN said she would follow up with Margaret Bracken of DPR for an update.

The meeting was adjourned at about 9:30 p.m.

YOUTH, EDUCATION & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mark Diller and Blanche Lawton, Co-Chairpersons

April 19, 2018

The Youth, Education & Libraries committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at the District Office, 250 West 87th Street in the District. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by co-chairs Blanche Lawton and Mark Diller, and committee members Steven Brown, Paul Fischer, Natasha Kazmi, Ira Mitchneck, and Polly Spain as well as CB7 member Shelly Fine participated.

The following discussions were held and actions taken.

Presentation by Vern Ballard and Marie-France re The School at Columbia.

Presentation by Vern Ballard:

- A concern has been raised as to whether The School at Columbia ("TSC"), an independent school that is subject to various commitments with respect to enrollment and operations, is still in compliance with those commitments.
- TSC includes students who are children of Columbia University faculty and staff as well as students drawn from the surrounding community.
- TSC has been quite generous with respect to financial aid, and there is a perception that TSC parents, especially parents of community students, do not want to jeopardize that generosity by being perceived as in too-strong opposition to the TSC administration.
- TSC has provided relatively little data or information about the enrollment of community vs faculty students or other operational benchmarks for several years.
- Concerns have begun to arise over how community vs faculty students have been counseled – for example community students and faculty students appear to be given very different lists of high schools to which to apply after 8th grade, with faculty students receiving suggestions of elite private and independent schools while community students are referred only to public high schools.
- The most recent data that current parents have uncovered dates from the 2009 recruitment/enrollment period.
- TSC sought to participate in the National Association of Independent Schools ("NAIS") survey of schools, but too few TSC parents and faculty completed the survey to be included. Fewer than 20% of parents and fewer than 50% of teachers participated in the NAIS study.

Shelly Fine:

- TSC is subject to a memorandum of understanding ("MOU") dating from ca. 2002 relating to enrollment as a result of an application by the developer of the then-new building which houses TSC for special permits to build a larger building covering a greater proportion of the zoning lot than the Zoning Resolution would otherwise have allowed.
- Columbia University sought the creation of TSC as a recruiting tool for faculty with young children who were uncertain about school options on Morningside Heights.
- In return for approval of the larger building (which includes TSC on the lower floors, a supermarket in the commercial space on the ground floor, and residential apartments above), TSC agreed to enroll half its students from the community (i.e. Community School Districts 3 (Upper West Side) and 5 (Central Harlem)), and to ensure they could attend by providing financial aid so that no otherwise eligible accepted student would be turned away. That 50% community student commitment was memorialized in the MOU.

- In the early years after the MOU, CB7 and CB9 were active in reviewing enrollment data to ensure compliance.
- Data showing compliance in those early years was compiled by the Office of the Provost of Columbia University, not by TSC itself.

Vern Ballard:

- In recent years, the data has not been gathered and shared in part because there have been no calls for such data and no complaints about operations. The absence of complaints may or may not indicate compliance – it may also be a function of grateful parents not wanting to jeopardize the opportunity they received.
- CB7 and CB9 should once again request access to relevant data to determine compliance.
- Parents at TSC have begun to be more pro-active, including a parent-led event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2017 that drew several elected officials and local religious leaders to a frank and far-reaching discussion.

Mark Diller:

- CB7 will assist in making the requests for updates on data that show compliance with the MOU.
- CB7 will proceed from an assumption that it is seeking confirmation (rather than making an accusation of non-compliance based on sparse anecdotal support).
- First step will be to retrieve a copy of the MOU from CB7's archives.
- CB7 and Vern Ballard and Marie-France will then formulate a request to the Head of School at TSC and the Office of the Provost of Columbia University for the data that will show (a) the relative enrollment of faculty vs community students, and (b) the pervasiveness of financial aid among the admitted students. *Presentation by the NYC Department of Youth & Community Development.*

Presentation by Nevita Bailey, Director of Operations for the COMPASS Programs at DYCD.

- DYCD's newest mission is to function like a Citywide Settlement House (in the Goddard-Riverside model).
- DYCD organized into three units: Workforce; Youth Services; and Community Development.
- Workforce includes responsibility for programs such as the Summer Youth Employment Program ("SYEP") and the Young Adult Internship Program ("YAIP"), both of which help teens and young adults secure temporary paid employment that both teaches useful skills and positions them for future success.
- Youth Services is responsible for running three main programs – Beacon, Compass and Cornerstone.
 - Beacon programs are afterschool programs for youth that combine rigorous academic and enrichment experiences with some physical education and arts opportunities.
 - Compass is specifically geared to Middle School students to provide a safe haven for students of middle school age, as well as academic support and enrichment opportunities as well.
 - Cornerstone is a program that provides the equivalent of Compass-type activities specifically geared to students living in NYCHA public housing, typically through programs run at community and youth centers already existing on NYCHA campuses.
- The Compass program is the home of the current Mayor's initiative to provide effectively universal middle school afterschool care for all students.
- Compass programming is typically delivered through contractors who win bids from DYCD for funding.
 - the afterschool programs for elementary and middle grades use different names to prevent older children from abandoning care due to an inapt reference.

- The number of Compass programs increased dramatically in FY 2013, from 29 to 80 staff at DYCD, and from 500 to over 1,000 programs funded.
- Key focus of Compass programming includes an emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math).
- Elementary grade Compass programs are offered 5 days per week for 36 weeks per academic year for 3 hours per day after school.
- Each day must include a mix of STEM enrichment, supervised homework help, physical activity, and snack.
- Compass also offers a 7-week summer program (at 10 hours per day) with similar activities and goals.
- Middle School Compass programming seeks to address the concern that the "tween" agers are the most likely to be lost in the shuffle.
- DYCD had conducted robust outreach, surveys and solicitation of feedback, and has incorporated the feedback into the design of its MS programming.
- Middle school Compass programs also offer a combination of STEM enrichment, homework help, leadership skill-building, and physical activity.
- While summer programs are not included in the core rollout of Compass programming as part of the Mayor's preliminary or executive budgets, funding for the summer portion of such programs has been the subject of City Council restorations and budget negotiations between the Council and the Mayor for the last 4+ years.
- High school level Compass programs are a niche program opportunity that typically includes a significant counseling component.
- Two models for HS programs – "Explorer" and "Sonic."
- Explorer programs are fluidly structured to meet individual needs of the populations they attract.
- Explorer focuses on project-based learning to promote leadership and building skills.
- Sonic targets at-risk students using pilot programs in settings such as homeless shelters.
- One Sonic program, for example, engages youth to write their own stories as a means of teaching literacy and promoting self-esteem.
- DYCD has benefitted from increased funding in the most recent two City budgets that, among other things, provides funding so that contractors can pay their staff for the training and continuing education required of program operators, includes cost-of-living-adjustments, and can offset the increase in salaries due to the increases in the Minimum Wage applicable in New York City (which is on track to ramp up to \$15/hour).
- DYCD offers myriad supports and training opportunities for community-based organizations seeking to win a DYCD contract award.
- DYCD performs both quantitative and qualitative analysis of the performance of its contractors, with clearly defined criteria and benchmarks for assessments.
- DYCD typically seeks to support contractors who struggle to meet performance goals rather than clearing them out and replacing with new contractors.
-

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

