

## **COMMUNITY BOARD 7/MANHATTAN MINUTES**

### **Full Board Meeting Minutes**

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in the district. Chair Roberta Semer called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

#### **Chair's Report: Roberta Semer**

Minutes from the previous Full Board meeting were **approved**.

Vote: 28-0-2-0

The Chair gave Deputy Inspector Timothy Malin of the 20th NYPD and Captain Seth Lynch and Captain Perry of the 24<sup>th</sup> NYPD breathalyzers (2 for each Precinct). She praised their work on behalf of the entire community.

Deputy Inspector Malin: Thank you. Fifth largest crime drop -21% in our two precincts. Crime way down on UWS this year. Beware of bicycle thefts – 19 since April 15.

Captain Lynch. Thanks for all the support. With warmer weather, people are more likely to be out drinking.

#### **Chair's Report:**

1. CB7 used the money that all CBs were given this year: each members is receiving a members' handbook; office furniture has been repaired; hired a land use consultant to undertake a study of light and the consequences of its loss due to large buildings on the surrounding neighborhood; hired Beta NYC to create a data base of community organizations and agencies (two interns are working for Beta NYC); purchased security system and new phones; breathalyzers for precincts.
  - The Furman Center has released new statistics on the CBs for 2018. There are two in the office, also available online. We now have 20% of residents on the UWS are seniors.
  - Scoping session for 266 West 96th St building (between WEA and Riverside) will be Thursday June 6 at 6:00pm.
  - CB8 Forum on 6/13 at Met Museum, Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, CB7 is a co-sponsor.
  - Senior Task Force meeting in July.
  - Skateboard Park ground-breaking this Saturday at 11:00am.
  - This weekend joint CB meeting about Housing.
  - If any Committee did not submit DNS yet, submit to Cindy.
  - Rotunda: DoT will present the final information on June 13 at 6 pm. It will be a joint meeting with Parks and Environment, Preservation and Transportation.

#### **Community Session:**

##### **Debbie Kling, West Side Little League**

The West Side Little League serves families from 60<sup>th</sup>-120<sup>th</sup>; 800 families participate in the spring, 600 in the fall; serve ages 5-16. Thank you to CB7 for support during Rotunda renovation.

##### **Ian Clarke, Riverside Skate park**

Skateboard community is very excited about this. Thank you to CB7.

##### **Julia Camagong, NYSNA**

**Community Board 7/ Manhattan**

Represent nurses at Mt Sinai West and St Luke's. Gratitude for resolution in support of Safe Staffing. Invite CB7 to historic first public hearing at City Council on Safe Staffing to read resolution.

**Peter Arndtsen, Columbus-Amsterdam BID**

See events calendar. Also emphasized importance of 2020 Census.

**Nicholas David, Troutman Sanders**

2328-2330 Broadway. Received notice from Newsstand operator that they plan to place newsstand in front of building we're developing. Board had heard and approved a similar application by the same operator and this was denied by DOT. The dimensions and location conflicts with the development.

**Thaddeus Krupo, NYPL**

Upcoming programming. Anti-prom this Friday.

**Zac Campbell, AMNH**

Update on Gilder Center. Contractor has completely removed glass façade. Machinery is being brought onsite that will be used to remove the structure of the building. Approximately 4-8 vehicles per day. Sign up for email updates on website: amnh.org

**Connie Clarke, Towers on Broadway**

Broadway in the 90s – two 19-story buildings going up. West 91<sup>st</sup>, one between 93-94. Being developed by Adam America, which is a very bad developer. Building they did in Brooklyn, the roof blew off before they were finished. De Blasio connections – he's going to pay market rent to turn it into a homeless shelter.

**Dan Cohen, Friends of Anibal Aviles Playground**

Planting trees in Manhattan Valley under big grant.

With Senator Benjamin and Councilmember Levine going to host "It's My Park Day".

**Dan Zweig, Communications with Public**

Very difficult for community to stay in touch with the Board based on what's available online. The way things are being done, it's not working for the community.

**Ingrid Sotodo, New York Census Office**

Outreach Director – coming to all the community board meetings. The budget for census is \$26million. Recruiting CBOs and other key stakeholders to work with on the census. Census comes out March 2020 – 8 weeks to ensure that everyone gets counted.

**April Adams, Manhattan Borough President's Report**

- Borough-based jails public hearing June 11 6:00pm Pace University Student Center.  
[Info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov](mailto:Info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov) – can submit written testimony.
- 200 Amsterdam Ave – 6/25 22 Reade St public hearing.
- Events – see flyer and newsletter.
- Pride Events – open to the public to march with Gale.
- June 14 – Dept of Finance assisting with application for property tax exemptions at Northern Manhattan office; 2:00-5:00pm.

- Summer Food Day of Action – 6/13 – looking for volunteers.

**Mark Levine, City Council Member (7<sup>th</sup> District):**

Budget Season at City Hall. In the home stretch in negotiating with the administration what will be a \$93 billion budget. A lot of progressive wins.

Participatory Budgeting process. PS 165 capital upgrades. Countdown clocks for buses. If you have a request for which bus-stop should get a countdown clock, let our office know!

Tenants' Rights legislations: Bill that will require that landlords provide tenants a history of the rent in the apartment when they move in. Landlords offer tenants buyouts to leave rent-regulated units; sometimes people leave for as little as \$10,000. Sometimes there's intimidation or threat of eviction, threat about immigration status of the tenant. No oversight from city. All buyouts now have to be reported to the city and report will be provided to the Council and the public.

Constituent Night – 6/5 at District Office, 141 and Amsterdam, from 5:00-9:00.

**Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives:**

**Laurie Hardjocuirgo, Office of Council Speaker Corey Johnson (3<sup>rd</sup> District):**

Agreement to restore over \$156 million in funding for vital programs and services in city budget.

Events – see flyer.

**Caitlyn Letterri, Office of Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal (67<sup>th</sup> District):**

Bill to ban cat declawing has passed both Senate and Assembly – heading to Governor to be signed into law.

**Office of Assembly Member Danny O'Donnell (69<sup>th</sup> District):**

Events – see flyer

Rat Academy – learn how to prevent rats

Invited to march with Danny in Pride

**Brice Peyre, Office of Assembly Member Richard Gottfried**

Bill passed for nutritional alternatives in hospital settings.

Now party to lawsuit against Extel Development.

Question from Elizabeth Caputo: What is AM doing about the measles outbreak and will he put the bill to a vote?

Answer: Assemblymember will bring the bill to health committee agenda, when the sponsor of the bill has indicated that he has enough votes to pass out of committee. AM Dinowitz from the Bronx has not been able to get a majority of the committee. Worst thing would be for it to come up in committee and fail.

**Julien Delaporta, Office of Helen Rosenthal, New York City Council Member (6<sup>th</sup> District):**

See flyer for Events

**Maggie McDermott, Office of State Senator Brian Benjamin:**

Passed Elijah's Law – food allergies in childcare service providers

Starve Act passed

Events coming up – see flyer.

*Hannah Weinerman, Office of U.S. House Member Jerrold Nadler (10<sup>th</sup> District):*

Nadler is in good health. Robust oversight. Judiciary Committee doing hearing on the Mueller report on Monday. Contempt vote held on 6/11 for Barr. Lots of Acts passed through the House – stalled in Senate. Hearing on permanently funding Victims Compensation Fund.

**Business Session:**

**Parks & Environment, Ken Coughlin and Jennifer Markas, Co-Chairpersons, Preservation Mark Diller, Chairperson, and Transportation Suzanne Robotti and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons, Committees**

**Resolution Re:**

1. NYC Department of Transportation presentation on the renovation of the West 79<sup>th</sup> Street Rotunda Complex.

Presentation of slides by Ken Coughlin

Tonight we will not be voting on items that require approval by Landmarks and Preservation.

The reservation for tonight concerns two other components: traffic and staging of construction.

Rehabilitation is projected to take 3-4 years. Will be one of the largest capital projects in the last many decades on the UWS. Involves complete restoration of a structure first built in 1937. This is the first time it's gotten any serious attention.

Entrance and Exit from Henry Hudson for cars; entrance and exit to Riverside Park for bikes.

Voted to approve under several conditions. Grave conditions about safety of cyclists going through the traffic circle. Ask DOT to either provide physical protection for cyclists or to come up with a plan that would route cyclists around the traffic circle in a way that would be completely separate from traffic. Request that additional signage be put in the traffic circle to alert motorists who are entering the traffic circle from Henry Hudson that they are entering a shared space with cyclists. Request for tactile warnings for cars coming into the traffic circle. Safe route for cyclists during the construction. Regarding staging, asked that it would only be in one ball-field, which DoT agreed to.

Rich Robbins: Proposed Amendment. Great safety concerns. Change to disapprove unless. Need to unambiguously be on the record as having grave concerns about the project.

Mark Diller: This is a substitute resolution. Cannot be taken as a friendly amendment. Procedurally, we need a second.

Roberta Semer: The Joint Committee voted to approve with conditions.

Shelly Fine: This would be a major change. The motion has been seconded and is on the floor for discussion. We have to vote on the substitute motion before we vote on the resolution.

Andrew Albert: Going to support the substitute resolution. We've had at least three meetings on all of these topics and we've yet to get a confirmed message from DOT and Parks that they agree with what we're suggesting. We need a stronger resolution.

Steve Brown: Disagree. We brought this up at the committee and people disagreed. We should stick with the process. What Rich proposed was talked about and rejected and we voted on it and agreed.

Howard Yaruss: Enthusiastically support substitute resolution. It's more accurate. We're not comfortable with this plan. To say we disapprove is more accurate. If we didn't get it right the first time, let's get it right tonight.

Klari Neuwelt: I have been shepherding this discussion for the past several years. Having read the minutes, I was astonished to read that knowing everything about all of the unsolved problems that the

result was approve subject as opposed to disapprove unless, which was certainly the sense of the meeting. When an agency has a resolution that says “approve” they just go with it and everything that it’s subject to just gets lost. If we want to have any control over this going forward, we need to say disapprove unless.

Is this substantively the same thing? Everyone agrees that these items have to be a necessary part of the project to have it make sense. Either way it’s a strong message from the board.

Ken Coughlin: I support this motion, it’s a matter of optics. We have to think about how it plays to the media and DOT and other public officials.

Andrew Rigie: The vote was 13-0-0-0 by joint committee members.

Vote to approve the substitute amendment: 29-9-2-0

Public Comment:

Reed Rubey: Design indicates that bicyclists’ lives don’t matter. Skulls arrow to replace sharrows to represent that bicycles inside the circle equals death.

Lisa Orman: Capital project of this size and scope only comes around once in a generation. We owe it to our children and our neighbors to get this right. We are asking DOT to return to the drawing board and bring back something that is truly fabulous.

Peter Frishauf: Only a protected dedicated right of way works to protect walkers – don’t merge cars and walkers on sidewalks. Protected bike lane protects walkers and cyclists. Mixing bicyclists and cars, particularly those entering and leaving the highway, is dangerous. This design will be with us for decades, let’s be sure we get it right.

Mark Gorton: Encourage Board to disapprove the plan as proposed. Work is shoddy and disrespectful.

Question: For cyclists coming onto 79<sup>th</sup> street, where would most convenient place be for cyclist to access the greenway – 83<sup>rd</sup> street – not acceptable because it would take a large volume of bikers going through the park at 83<sup>rd</sup>. So then it would be 59<sup>th</sup>.

Andrew Rosenthal: Car owner and biker. Pass through the rotunda every day. Ghost Bikes: white painted bikes placed where biker has been killed. 11 bikers have been killed on our streets this year. DOT did not respect Vision Zero in this case.

Board Discussion

Klari Neuwelt: For the many cyclists using the greenway, 79<sup>th</sup> street is the mandated route for them to get to the greenway. This was a Robert Moses project built at a time when we had very few if any commuting cyclists. This renovation is intended to last for the foreseeable future, but it’s constrained by the physical characteristics of the site. DOT has not listened to the community. Urge people to vote for this now that it’s “disapprove unless.”

Doug Kleiman: Agencies at committee meetings were very professional and were doing their best. Agree that it wasn’t enough. DOT should come up with a new plan.

Peter Samton: Crazy that they couldn’t figure out a bike lane that was separate from the traffic circle. We should push for that, which is our resolution.

Susan Schwartz: Any traffic circle that's built now in New York State, bikes and vehicles are not allowed to be combined.

Roberta Semer: I would never advise anyone to bike here.

Ken Coughlin: I support this.

After deliberation, the resolution to **disapprove unless our conditions are met** was adopted.

**VOTE: 40-0-1-0**

**Business & Consumer Issues Committee, Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons**  
**Resolutions Re:**

***Renewal application to the SLA for a two- year liquor license:***

2. **955 West End Avenue** (West 106<sup>th</sup> Street) Mocha Lounge Inc. d/b/a West End Lounge.

***Application to the SLA for a Change of Class of existing W&B liquor license to Full On-Premises:***

Doug Schoenberg: Speaking to oppose the application. Live in the building, at 10:30 there was a guy holding a military flak jacket frisking everyone coming in, huge problem with garbage so lots of rats.

Dan Zweig: This has been a problem for decades.

Mark Diller: Congratulate committee on tough decision. Want to support small businesses, but this has been a problem for a long time.

Jeannette Rausch: Known as a place that doesn't check IDs, so all the Freshmen go there.

Amy Hyman: This is the fourth month that we've talked about this place. Are we done with them?

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

**VOTE: 40-0-0-0**

3. **917 Columbus Avenue** (West 105<sup>th</sup> Street) Tien Giang Restaurant Corp., d/b/a Mekong.

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

**VOTE: 40-0-0-0**

***New application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license:***

4. **645 W. 59<sup>th</sup> Street** (Riverside Blvd, Building 3) Sada 3WS, LLC d/b/a Empellon.

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

**VOTE: 40-0-0-0**

**5. Renewal Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:**

- **2028-2032 Broadway** (West 69<sup>th</sup> – 70<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Renewal application #2058331-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by West D&P, LLC, d/b/a Gina, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 26 seats.
- **225 Columbus Avenue** (West 70<sup>th</sup> – 71<sup>st</sup> Streets.) Renewal application #2044029-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by FM70, Inc., d/b/a Bistro Cassis, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 14 seats.
- **302 Columbus Avenue** (West 74<sup>th</sup> Street.) Renewal application #1339241-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Lenwuch 74<sup>th</sup>, LLC, d/b/a Lemwich, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats.

- **201 West 79<sup>th</sup> Street** (Amsterdam Avenue.) Renewal application #1125981-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Renolta, LLC, d/b/a Nice-Matin, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 24 tables and 68 seats.
- **413 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 79<sup>th</sup> - 80<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Renewal application #1396587-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Flagship S B Amsterdam NY, LLC, d/b/a Saravana Bhavan, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 22 seats.
- **435 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81<sup>st</sup> Street.) Renewal application #1387587-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 357 Hospitality, Inc., d/b/a Spice, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 17 tables and 34 seats.
- **474 Columbus Avenue** (West 83<sup>rd</sup> Street.) Renewal application #1415817-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Spring Natural, Corp., d/b/a Spring Natural Kitchen, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats.
- **522 Columbus Avenue** (West 85<sup>th</sup> – 86<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Renewal application #0895505-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Barjer, Corp., d/b/a GETE Burgers, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 29 seats.

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

**VOTE: 39-0-0-1**

***Enclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal:***

6. **502 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 84<sup>th</sup> – 85<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Renewal application ULURP#N180463ECM/DCA#1429718-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Romagica, Corp., d/b/a Celeste, for a four-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 10 seats.

Klari: Issues with enclosed sidewalk cafes concerning the abrogation of scarce public sidewalk space, who ultimately pays for it and how much is being paid. None of those issues has been effectively resolved approving a renewal or new enclosed sidewalk café.

Linda: Happy to provide a list of how much is paid for these – it's a great sum. This particular one is between two stoops, so it doesn't obstruct any sidewalk space. Been there for quite some time.

Ken: Also oppose enclosed sidewalk cafes. By allowing restaurants to use public space, whereas no other business can, it privileges restaurants over any other kind of business.

Lots of businesses use public space.

Madge: restaurants may pay high rents, but only to the landlords.

Linda: Restaurants do pay the city. There are a lot of upsides to this.

Andrew: So much concern about vacant storefronts and how much we need to support small business. Consider this when we're talking about these various issues. It's nuanced – not just how much sidewalk space is being taken up, but also whether we're supporting small business.

Susan: Agree with Andrew's point.

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

**VOTE: 36-5-1-0**

**7. New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafes:**

- **329 Columbus Avenue** (West 75<sup>th</sup> -76<sup>th</sup> Streets.) New application #4108-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 329 Hospitality Group, LLC, d/b/a Asset, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 22 seats.
- **421 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80<sup>th</sup> Street.) New application #4343-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 421 Amsterdam Pizza Corp, d/b/a Made in New York Pizza, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 24 seats.

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

**VOTE: 42-0-0-0**

- 8. 2020 Broadway** (West 69<sup>th</sup> -70<sup>th</sup> Streets.) New application #2409-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Espresso Bookstore & Café Broadway, LLC, d/b/a Shakespeare & Co., for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 19 seats

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

**VOTE: 41-0-0-0**

**Youth, Education and Libraries Committee**

**Steven Brown and Blanche Lawton, Co-Chairpersons**

**Resolution Re:**

9. West Side Little League.

Acknowledging how important WSL is and highlight that they're very inclusive. Active recreation, social and emotional learning, general life skills. Community building. Brings together a lot of different people from community.

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

**VOTE: 41-0-2-0**

**Transportation Committee, Suzanne Robotti and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons**

**Resolutions Re:**

10. **Manhattanhenge 2019, American Museum of Natural History.** Request by the AMNH to close off traffic on West 79<sup>th</sup> Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30-8:45pm, with the sunset expected between 8:17pm - 8:28pm.

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

**VOTE: 42-0-0-0**

11. **West 61<sup>st</sup> Street** (Broadway-Columbus Avenue.) Request by Avalon Bay for a 70'5" by 10' 7" loading zone on the north side of West 61<sup>st</sup> Street to accommodate deliveries for the new Target store at 1865 Broadway.

**Going back to Committee for Parks**

12. **410 Central Park West** (101<sup>st</sup> Street.) Request for a "No Standing" sign in front of the building.

Jennifer Markas: Not sure of the criteria for how we determine a no standing zone.

Howard: DOT policy is if the building requests one, they will entertain it.

**Community Board 7/ Manhattan**



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

**VOTE: 40-0-0-0**

Worried that this will open up a Pandora's box

Roberta: there was concern about access for access-a-ride

Jeannette: important for CB to set criteria for this, otherwise every building will be requesting these.

Doug: Applicant applied for No Parking – we're voting on No Standing. The vote is for No Parking

Sara: What's wrong with this? Even if this does set a precedent, why is that a bad thing?

Jay Adolf: This could set a precedent for every building making a similar request.

Rich: Echoing Sara, if this is precedent, then we're setting precedent either way. Committee policy to listen to each building. Deliveries and double-parked cars are a major issue. Given the nature of how our streets are used, we should do this.

Ken: The people from the building want this. Nobody from the building opposed. CPW is essentially one lane much of the time because of the double parking.

Christian: I live on CPW and I've never seen that to be a problem

After deliberation, the resolution to **approve** was not adopted.

**VOTE: 14-27-1-0**

13. **2642 Broadway, Carmel Car & Limo Service** (West 100<sup>th</sup> – 101<sup>st</sup> Streets.) Renewal application #B00256 to the NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission by Carmel Car & Limo Service for a renewal of their For Hire Base Station License.

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

**VOTE: 42-0-0-0**

14. Difficulty crossing into Riverside Park at 95<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> Streets.

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

**VOTE: 41-0-1-0**

15. Riverside Park Speed Limit for bikes

Klari: I'm in Riverside Park as a pedestrian very often. I've noticed increasingly other wheeled vehicles. I support the idea of a speed limit, but there's no evidence of any enforcement.

Howard: Resolution should call for enforcement. Resolution covers 72-97. We will put this in the resolution.

Ray Penotti: Live on 95<sup>th</sup> and Broadway. I ride that stretch from 95 to GW Bridge. There is zero enforcement. I get passed by electric bike, scooters and skateboards and I've never seen any enforcement. Add some signage that warns people about pedestrians and increase enforcement.

Roberta: CB 7, 9 and 12 are having a meeting with Riverside Park people this Thursday to discuss signage and enforcement. This is not a public meeting.

Howard: You can't have enforcement unless you have a rule to enforce.

Ethel: This is a well-meaning resolution which has little or no effect. What we are dealing with is multiple users interfering with each other. The park was not designed for these many different users. There needs to be separation by design to separate users.

Rich: There are lots of issues we could talk about here – many possible resolutions. This resolution was created for a specific purpose: right now there is no speed limit on this path. There are some bikers who aren't responsible. A four year old child was injured recently and there's no possibility of enforcement because there's no rule in place.

Steve Brown: Great resolution. 100% support it. A wonderful start. Friendly amendment about enforcement would be a good idea.

Barbara: Agree with what Ethel said. The park needs to be redesigned so there's delineation between where pedestrians and bikers are supposed to be. Green paint is worn off. People don't know where they're supposed to be. Bikes don't record their speed limit.

Howard: The perfect should not be the enemy of the good.

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

**VOTE: 35-2-3-0**

16. Equitable Uses of Curbside Space.

Calling on DOT to review and study the policy of providing free study.

Motion to refer back to Committee.

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

**VOTE: 34-5-3-0**

Richard Barr: This is insanity. You're trying to tell people who live in the neighborhood or work in the neighborhood that they have to spend \$600 a month on garage because they can't use the curb anymore. There are no garages hardly. Where are these people going to put their cars?

Ray Ferrester: Been in the neighborhood for 40 years. Think this would be unfair. I'm getting older and need the car to visit family members. There hasn't been enough discussion about what the options are going to be. Maybe it could be affordable. I have limited income and I still need the car. There should be more publicity about the possible choices. It is going to happen with congestion pricing. It should be for the people who live here.

Josh Pinkerton: In favor of ending free street parking. Excited that we're talking about this. A lot of people need cars. Fundamental unfairness that needs to be addressed. 85% of UWSers commute car free. I pay for every subway ride that I take. Car owners should pay directly for the public infrastructure that they use. It's not free but right now we are giving it away. Residential Parking permits are not any better. Are taxes alone do not pay for these streets?

Dan Zweig: If this were just about residential parking permits, that might make sense. But what reads here is a war on anyone who needs cars. In the UWS if you have a car, you don't use it to drive around the city. I need it to get out of town.

Peter Turer: Been on the UWS for 40 years. Use my car for work every day. We do pay taxes to have a car in NYC. Every time I go across the GWB, a lot of that goes to the subway system. Congestion pricing is going to the subway system. I never use my car in Manhattan

Andrew Alford: The GWB does not go to the subway system.

Julien Delaporta, speaking on behalf of Helen: Supports residential permit parking because it will provide parking for residents. Intended to deter the commuter parking that will come with congestion pricing. A lot of misinformation has been passed around in the past 24 hours.

Roberta: This will be discussed at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Land Use Committee, Page Cowley and Seema Reddy, Co-Chairpersons, Joint with Housing Committee, Melissa Rosenberg and Louisa Craddock, Co-Chairpersons**  
**Resolution Re:**

17. Proposed Fetner Project at 266 West 96<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sara: Any risk that putting these restrictions on would hurt the possibility of actually ending up with affordable housing?

Melissa: I do think that 3 (a) and (b) are too restrictive and that it can be a stress on the developer to tell them how to finance the deal.

Howard: City selling for \$1 – what are restrictions.

Richard: Only one of the three lots is owned by the city and it is currently disused. Quid pro quo is that the developer will do affordable housing. This represents our wish list, but neither the developer nor the city will share their economics with us, so this is just our opinion of what we would like to see that seems fair. Fetner will make a profit, but it's not a giveaway because it will create a large number of affordable units.

Roberta: Gale Brewer has asked that 50% go to affordable housing, because the lot that Fetner is getting from the city is 50% of the buildable space.

Mark: What will be offered by way of CB7 testimony at the hearing. Can we know what will be offered?

Roberta: We are not running the meeting. This will be part of our testimony. Any member of community is welcome to go and testify. It's really dealing with the scope at the meeting and then there will be time to comment.

Melissa: This resolution was not designed to feed into the EIS, it was designed to feed into the financing.

Doug: For clarification, the property owned by the city is being sold for \$1, the other two portions are being sold at market value. So effectively, we're requesting that 100% of the city's property will be affordable.

Zoning is likely affordable as well. But we don't know.

Ethel not voting because she is consulting with the developer on the project.

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

**VOTE: 38-0-2-1**

## **Land Use**

### **Resolution Re:**

18. **120 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Orangetheory Fitness** (Broadway – Columbus Avenue.)

Application #2019-63-BZ to the NYC Board of Standards of Appeal by Sheldon Lobel, PC, for a special permit pursuant to Zoning Resolution Section 73-36 to legalize the operation of a Physical Cultural Establishment on a portion of the first floor of the existing building at the premises.

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

**VOTE: 41-0-0-0**

### **Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 pm**

**Present:** Roberta Semer, Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Steven Brown, Elizabeth Caputo, Cindy Cardinal, Joshua Cohen, Christian Cordova, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzero, Mark N. Diller, Sheldon J. Fine, Paul Fischer, Julian Giordano, Amy Hyman, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, K Karpen, Doug Kleiman, Blanche E. Lawton, Sara Lind, Jennifer Markas, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, Jennifer Nitzky, Michele Parker, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Richard Robbins, Suzanne Robotti, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Ethel Sheffer and Howard Yaruss. **Absent:** Robert Espier, Lolita Ferrin, Natasha Kazmi, Erika Mouynes, William Ortiz, Katie Rosman, Meg Schmitt and Polly Spain.

## Steering Committee Minutes 6-18-19

### Chairperson's Report:

Roberta Semer testified on June 6 at the scoping for [266 West 96th Street](#).

The staff of the Charter Revision Commission may place seventeen items on the ballot. There will be a meeting of the Charter Revision Task Force on Tuesday, June 25th. Roberta is requesting that all members peruse all items before the meeting.

Roberta attended the Lasker Swimming Pool Revamp meeting. The revamp will be jointly funded by the city and the Central Park Conservancy. The renovation is expected to last three years.

The Manhattan Paper Challenge: Pratt Industries is offering up to \$75,000 to the top recyclers of the twelve Community Boards. The challenge [begins July 1](#), Amy Hyman suggested we involve our NYCHA developments to participate.

Cindy Cardinal participated in a tour of the Delacorte Theatre and met with Tiffany Bryant of the Theatre. The theatre is not ADA compliant and is in dire need of modernization. Roberta is recommending another tour inclusive of community board members.

The 79th Street Rotunda. At the May Joint meeting of Parks and Environment, Preservation, and Transportation two parts of the Rotunda was considered: the staging area, and the traffic circle. At that meeting a resolution to approve with conditions passed unanimously by a vote of 13:0:0:0. At the June Board meeting a resolution was proposed to make a resolution to disapprove unless certain conditions were met and it passed. Roberta Semer proposed changing that resolution into two separate resolutions Part 1 regarding the traffic Circle to disapprove unless the specific conditions of the June 4th resolution were met, and Part 2 regarding the Rotunda and the staging area to approve with the conditions with the specific conditions contained in the June 4th Resolution.

There was a lengthy discussions

Vote:

Steering Committee Members: 9:1:6:0

The 61 St Resolution regarding a loading zone on the north side of the street (between Columbus and Broadway). Roberta spoke to Parks Commission Mitch Silver and Steve Simon. They do not have a problem with the loading zone on the north side as long as the south side of the street is available for their parking requirements. We will hold off decision making until the next Transportation Committee meeting.

Council member Cabrera forwarded a letter to each Community Board asking we send correspondence to the Mayor to baseline the \$42,500 grant made to each Community Board. Roberta would like to support the letter by reflecting it in our minutes of the July meeting.

Vote: 16:0:0:0

July Parking Forum: Howard Yaruss reached out to CM Mark Levine's office regarding a forum on Residential Parking and other uses of Curbside space. It was decided not to have the forum until the fall and invite experts on parking and traffic calming in other cities.

Dates for September and October committee meetings will be as follows: Due to religious holidays he full board meeting will be moved from Tuesday October 1 to Wednesday October 2. The Transportation and BCI committees will also need to change their dates in October due to religious holidays.

The [July 2](#) full board agenda was discussed and decided upon.

### Committee Reports:

Housing Committee and Land Use held a joint meeting. It was requested that we combine the two when issues arise involving housing. Louisa felt housing issues would be minimized and does not wish to become a task force.

## Community Board 7/ Manhattan

Transportation: Howard Yaruss said he has reached out to CM Mark Levine regarding a forum on Residential Parking and other Curbside Uses. After a discussion it was decided to have the forum in the fall and invite experts on traffic and parking in other cities

Budget Cindy stated there will be a budget meeting on Friday, June 21st she requested that any committee that has not submitted their new DNS do so prior to June 21.

Meeting was adjourned [at 7:55 PM](#).

## **BUDGET & STRATEGY MEETING MINUTES**

**Cindy Cardinal, Chair**

**June 21, 2019 2:00 pm**

1. Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm
2. Reviewed which committees had provided responses to our template and which had not. Have responses from BCI and Transportation, some from Parks. YEL and HHS are in process, Roberta will speak to Melissa re Housing. Preservation and Land Use are not as involved in this process. YEL has significant new points to circulate to committee; HHS indicated they have new points as well
3. Discussion about the need for and sources of supporting data: 311, elected
4. Decided to email committee chairs and ask for responses and to let us know where they are in the process by end of June and whether our committee can help.

***Present:*** Roberta Semer, Mark Diller, Penny Ryan and Cindy Cardinal.

*Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm*

## BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

June 12, 2019 7:00 PM

*Business & Consumer Issues Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met at the District Office, 250 West 87<sup>th</sup> Street. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-Chairperson Linda Alexander*

The following matters were discussed:

### ***New applications to the SLA for two year liquor licenses:***

- 1. 2756 Broadway** (West 106<sup>th</sup> Street.) Calle 8 BDWY 106, LLC d/b/a Calle Ocho. Includes Garden/Grounds.  
Committee member reviewed and reported not posted.

Presenting for the Applicant: Jeff Kadish, owner

- Said the postings were extensive and submitted a list of the postings.
- Will re-post before Full Board.
- The present venue on West 81<sup>st</sup> Street is moving to this location on Broadway.
- Plans for the back area, include outside noise attenuation, using large umbrellas.
- There will be soft background music outside, but no live.
- Calle Ocho uses third-party delivery services.

Public Comments:

- Deborah Brissman, 238 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Represents 13 apartments east of the venue.
  - Lived in her apartment for two years.
  - Referred to March 2015 resolutions from prior owner.
  - Wants CB7 to stick to 2015 hours for backyard space.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted with the following stipulations: Backyard hours from Sunday to Wednesday from 11am to 10pm; Thurs-Saturday 11am to 11pm; no music*

Committee VOTE: 10-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

- 2. 474 Columbus Avenue** (West 83<sup>rd</sup> Street.) Joshua Borenstein Entity to be formed. D/B/A To be Determined. Includes Live Music – Acoustic Jazz, Americana. Committee member reviewed and reported not posted. Currently operating as Spring.

Presenting for the Applicant: Joshua Borenstein

- Said the staff of current tenant in the space repeatedly tore down the posts.
- Submitted a list of the postings and will re-post before Full Board.
- Current tenant, Spring, to close at the end of July and applicant plans to re-open the new venue a week later.
- Wants to retain most of the current staff.
- Agrees to keep up postings until July 2<sup>nd</sup> (FB meeting date).
- Will offer background acoustic music.
- Will have a modern gluten free menu.

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

Committee VOTE: 10-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.



**3. 592 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.) Pekarna 592 Amsterdam LLC d/b/a To be Determined. Includes Backyard Use.

Presenting for the Applicant: Max Bookman, Esq.; Owner Dean O'Neill

- O'Neill owns restaurant on Upper East Side, and is a trained sound technician.
- Application included 330-seat interior, with 20-seat bar.
- Backyard will have sophisticated sound-attenuating system, i.e., Nutouto, plus foliage and grass in "green space."
- Will play only recorded background music.
- Agrees to close outdoor space earlier than inside space.
- Slovenian-themed restaurant.

Public Comments:

- Amy Feinberg, 210 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Concerned about potential noise and smells.
- Irene Christopher, West 89<sup>th</sup> Street Tenant Association.
  - Submitted email to CB7.
  - Please refer to submitted email for her comments.
- Philippe Colon, 200 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Concerned about an opening from the restaurant into his building lobby.
  - Believes it is unsanitary.
- Joyce Khublall, West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Lives on the second floor and her bedroom overlooks the green space/backyard.
  - Concerned about the music.
- Sophia Seibert, 201 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Concerned about noise (referenced Jacobs Pickle).
  - First floor apartment on 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Jorge Palomino, 200 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Reiterated others' concerns.

Owner's response:

- Indicated that power washer may have caused chemical smells, but used only for 2 days.
- Garbage will not be carted through the residential area (lobby), used building "panic bar," which is another egress door.
- Inside sound attenuation will include insulation, plus acoustic block and rubber channel holder between the acoustic block and wall. There will be a layer sheet rock for additional sound attenuation.
- Restaurant will have 330 seats in the interior, including 20 bar seats.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted with the following stipulations: The outside backyard hours will be Thursday, Friday, Saturday until 11pm; Sunday through Wednesday until 10pm. Hours for the interior space will be Sunday through Wednesday until Midnight; Thursday, Friday and Saturday till 2am.*

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-1.

**4. 588 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 88<sup>th</sup> Street.) d/b/a Amsterdam Ale House LLC. Does not include Patio/Deck and Garden/Grounds.

Presenting for the Applicant: Jacob Rabinowitz, Stehanie Slone, Shannon Hicks

- Jacob Rabinowitz owns Amsterdam Ale House.
- Stehanie Slone and Shannon Hicks own Ale House on East Side.
- This is a bar/pub application.
- Owners have been in the neighborhood for many years.

- The space is small, approximately 700 square feet, and plans are to open in approximately six months.
- There is no back patio/deck grounds on this application; only the area in front of the restaurant to which owner will make a separate café application.
- Soundproofing will consist of standard sound proofing material, sheetrock and space.
- Applicant owns 10 restaurants.
- Will stay on top of issues, have on premises management, and train staff to be good neighbors.
- Management will deal with on-street clientele issues.

Public Comments:

- Amy Feinberg, 210 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - The prior restaurant tenant, Caridad, had an exhaust fan that created noise all night, and there was back yard noise by employees.
- Kim Hanson, 588 Amsterdam Avenue.
  - Says there is no insulation at all in his apartment, which is directly over the restaurant.

Owner's response:

- Will put air exhaust Fan on a turn-off timer and will consider a precipitator.
- Owner agrees to consider insulation that is more comprehensive.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted with the following stipulations: Hours Sunday - Wednesday open until 2am; Thursday, Friday, Saturday until 4am. Roof air exhaust fan on timer and to be turned-off at 10pm*

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-1.

**Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal:**

5. **2178 Broadway** (77<sup>th</sup> Street.) Renewal application #2046897- DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by NY Broadway Hotel Owner, LLC, d/b/a Arthouse Hotel New York City, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats. Posted.

Presenting for the Applicant: Martha Redo, Esq. Martha@Brpclaw.com

- No changes to method of operation and hours.
- Operated last year as well.

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

Committee VOTE: 10-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

6. Meeting with **Amazon Fresh Contractor, Dutch Express**. Director of Operations Emmanuel Boursin and Michael Harnanan, Operations Manager.

- Based in Manhattan with same day deliveries of food and pantry products seven days/week; two shifts/ day.
- In business for one year.
- Group loads in New Jersey for city deliveries.
- Changed operations from one truck for first shift, which then returns to NJ, and second truck comes to NYC.
- Operations changed in compliance with NYC law: has six 26-foot-long trucks that come to the Upper West Side in two shifts, three in the morning and three at night.
- They unload and then they leave. Mr. Harnanan is in contact with Deputy Inspector Malin who sends him text messages from NYPD when there is a problem.
- Agrees to give community direct access via email: community@Dutch-express.com.

Public Comments:

- Hand trucks are left in front of retail businesses.
- *Mr. Harnanan, responded:*
  - *NYPD said hand trucks can stay in area as long as they do not interfere with bike paths, pedestrians, etc.*
  - *Said they have new employees every week, but bad actors are terminated.*
- Ralph Taveras, Super at 201 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Said every day their truck is parked in front of the building.
  - They have many boxes and hand trucks blocking the sidewalk.
  - He has had several discussions with Dutch Express employees, one of whom threatened him.
  - He has lived in neighborhood since 1974 and is afraid the neighborhood will become dangerous again.
- *Mr. Harnanan responded:*
  - *Dutch Express does not want to interfere with store fronts and must look for spaces.*
- Eveline Deluca, 201 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street is concerned about noise and suggests better employee training is needed.
- Bernadette Rubin, 201 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street. also concerned about noise
  - Truck #4147 runs the engine or machine in the cabs, idles longer than 3 minutes every day per week and the noise has become a quality of life issue.
- *Mr. Harnanan responded:*
  - *Dutch Express switched from bags to boxes to reduce the number of employees in the street.*
  - *Researching truck reduction noise.*
- Councilmember Helen Rosenthal's office commented that trucks should not be in bike lanes or impinge on bike lanes.

CB7 Comments:

- Andrew Rigie recommends consistency in their operations.
- Doug Kleiman has seen hand trucks "all over the street" and perpendicular to the bike lane causing bikers to go into the lane of moving traffic.
- Linda Alexander passed around photographs of debris left on sidewalks and bike lanes being blocked.
  - *Mr. Harnanan responded: Dutch Express says it will address all issues with its staff.*

**New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:**

7. **370 Columbus Avenue** (West 77<sup>th</sup> – 78<sup>th</sup> Streets.) New application #6200-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by HLD Columbus, LLC, d/b/a Gari Columbus, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 19 seats. Posted.

Presenting for the Applicant: Harris Salat for Mike Kelly.

- New owner.
- Same staff and same management.
- Reduced footprint for the café to nine tables, 19 seats.
- Hours of operation: Tuesday-Thursday, Noon to 10:15pm; Friday-Saturday, Noon to 10:45pm; and Sunday, Noon to 10pm.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted*  
Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0.

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8. **517 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 85<sup>th</sup> Street.) New application #6363-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Tiki Chicki, LLC., d/b/a Tiki Chicki, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 18 tables and 36 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant: Arsham Kamali, manager.

- Narrow café, seven feet from building base with 16 tables and 32 seats.
- Tiki Chicki is a bar with light food being provided by applicant's two other restaurants on the block, Jacob's Pickles and Lucky Pickle Dumpling, as there is no kitchen in the space.
- Hours of operation inside the bar: Sunday-Wednesday 10am-2am; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am-4am.
- Outside hours: Sunday-Wednesday from Noon to 10pm; Thursday-Saturday 10am until 11pm.
- The Tiki sign was taken down June 12, 2019.

Public Comments:

- David Faust, 170 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Lives above Tiki Bar; next to E-bar.
  - Trucks that come at all hours.
  - Building board approved a restaurant at the Tiki location; not a bar.
- Paul Deutch:
  - Submitted email.
  - Smoking, noise, may not meet CB7 guidelines.
- Chris Grasso, 151 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Building (60 apts.) against sidewalk café license.
- Surabhi Lal, 175 West 92<sup>nd</sup> Street:
  - Did not like Tiki sign.
  - Bar is not family focused.
- Emily Kogan, West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - She is happy to see the space being used.
  - Against sidewalk café license.
  - Too many people smoking near her home.
- Steve Corley, 160 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Wants CB7 to wait one year before sidewalk café license is approved.
  - Questioned whether the bar posted notices for tonight's hearing, but Linda Alexander confirmed that she had photographs that they had posted.
- Constance O'Dea, 63 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Because of the proximity to the Manhattan Country Day School and PS9, along with lots of kids in the neighborhood, bar traffic should be barred.
- Tar Beaty, 201 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street:
  - Suggested the bar install a noise abatement awning.
- *Mr. Kamali responded:*
  - *Pointed out their group has always worked well with neighbors.*
  - *Sidewalk café is crucial to the new business.*

CB7 Comments:

- Tiki sign was removed as of June 12, 2019.
- Barbara Adler:
  - Agreed with the community and said there should be food and not just a bar.
  - Agreed the bar may upset relative quiet on West 85<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Suggested waiting for a year to see what happens with the neighbors and neighborhood.
- William Ortiz was not sure this café will add more noise to neighborhood.
- Josh Cohen thought smaller tables lend themselves to drinking rather than drinking and eating.

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- Andrew Rigie pointed out that there is already noise on the block from two of the existing four restaurants and cafes create more jobs and help keep small businesses open.
- *Mr. Kamali, added: No speakers outside; will modify hours of operation outside.*

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted pursuant to the following stipulations:  
Sunday outside hours open at 10am-10pm (see above notes)*

Committee VOTE: 8-0-1-0.

9. **718 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 95<sup>th</sup> Street.) New application #4823-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Cabrera Argudo Corp., d/b/a Rancho Taqueria, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 22 tables and 44 seats.

Applicant did not appear.

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0.

***New Enclosed Sidewalk Café:***

10. **2450 Broadway** (West 90<sup>th</sup> – 91<sup>st</sup> Streets.) New application ULURP# N190303ECM/ DCA#1555-2019-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Carmine's Broadway Feast, Inc., d/b/a Carmine's, for a four-year consent to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 22 seats.

Presenting for the Applicant: Jeffrey Bank, owner; and Paul Palagian, General Manager.

- No building will be done until present scaffolding is removed.
- Same footprint as present unenclosed café.
- Will keep jobs even in inclement weather.
- Owner has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and restaurant has been opened at current location for 30 years.
- Moderate pricing makes it popular.
- Wants to convert unenclosed space to enclosed space, subscribing to existing small footprint.
- Believes it is the only way to keep restaurant prices down, given the increase in operating costs, including minimum wage.
- Banks said neighboring restaurants, including owner opening in former Big Daddy's space, were fine with the enclosed sidewalk café.

No one from the neighborhood was present to speak in favor or against the application, which was well posted.

CB7 Comments:

- Linda Alexander pointed out that it is against CB7 policy to approve new applications for enclosed sidewalk cafes.
- Andrew Rigie pointed out that there are no legal guidelines, currently, that this is a long-time and highly reputable restaurateur in the neighborhood, and that it is important to support small businesses. Doug Kleiman and Barbara Adler agreed.

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0.

11. New business. N/A

**Present:** Christian Cordova, Linda Alexander, Barbara Adler, Elizabeth Caputo, Joshua T. Cohen, Paul Fischer, Doug Kleiman, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, and Andrew Rigie. **Chair:** Roberta Semer. **Absent:** Seema Reddy. *The meeting ended at 9:50 pm.*

**Community Board 7/ Manhattan**

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Committee members present: Catherine DeLazzerio, Sheldon Fine, Madge Rosenberg  
Meg Schmitt.

Non-committee board members: Mark Diller, Julian Giordano

Call in: Robert Espier

### WEST SIDE CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUNGER

Amy Mohedano ([amohedano@wscah.org](mailto:amohedano@wscah.org)) said the organization provides a food pantry, home delivered meals to seniors, job training with a chef program, comprehensive case management and helps clients with WICK and SNAP benefits, preventing eviction and free tax prep. Each individual receives food of their choice for nine meals per month. In addition to food they give diapers and extra milk to people from the migrant caravan. Last year WSCAH served 7,500 unique families 993,108 meals and helped 120 people find jobs. Due to need, the number of clients increased 15% last year.

10% of funding comes from government and 90% from private funds, mostly from Robin Hood foundation; donations of food come from Hunts Point, Baldor Corp., and City Harvest.

Participatory budgeting from Helen Rosenthal's office paid for their mobile unit that partners with NY Presbyterian to bring food where needed. Additional funding is needed for mental health services, to increase numbers of clients served, and address pending cutbacks in the federal farm bill.

### HUD PROPOSED RULE ON MIXED IMMIGRATION STATUS OF FAMILIES IN FEDERALLY-SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

See Housing Committee June 10 resolution to which we add the following suggestions:

- Provide 1-2 sentences of context at beginning so that readers will understand the difference between the current rule and new rule being proposed;
- Add a bullet or integrate a statement into a current bullet that notes this would place great administrative and financial burden on NYC;
- Add statement describing hardship for families with relatives with ineligible status who serve as caregivers for seniors or people with disabilities in federally subsidized housing;
- Clarify if statistics represent national, citywide, or district numbers and note that this rule could double (or greatly increase) the number of people who are homeless, especially children;
- Highlight this statement more prominently: "There are many immigrants with legal status who are ineligible for federally subsidized housing."

Resolution approved: 4-0-0-0; non-committee board members 2-0-0-0

### SAFE STAFFING BY NURSES

Safe staffing by nurses in public and private hospitals is shown by studies to affect patient outcomes. The State Senate and Assembly should legislate that the ratios of safe staffing be standardized in public and private hospitals in New York City and set by the Health and Hospitals Corporation.

Sheldon Fine will complete the drafting of the resolution to support the proposed bill (currently a resolution) on Safe Staffing to become law. He will share the final version with the committee along with the list of those to whom the resolution will be directed.

**Community Board 7/ Manhattan**

Resolution approved: 4-0-0-0; non-committee board members 2-0-0-0

**DISTRICT NEEDS STATEMENT**

We are currently conducting research and will complete the DNS by September 15, 2019.

**JULY MEETING CANCELLED**

Approved: 4-0-0-0

## HOUSING COMMITTEE

Louisa Craddock and Melissa Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

June 10, 2019 7:00 PM

*Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.*

### Item 1. Resolution Opposing Proposed HUD Rule on Mixed Immigration Status Families

- MR: HUD has released a proposed rule that would ban families with mixed immigration statuses from federally subsidized housing.
  - o HUD is accepting comments on the rule until July 9th. CB7 should submit comments. Members can also do so individually.
  - o Mixed status is when one household member is not “eligible,” which does not necessarily mean that person is undocumented.
  - o This affects public housing and section 8 housing.
  - o Currently, households with ineligible members are already pro-rated, so the federal government does not pay for ineligible persons.

### Item 2. Discussion

- MR: What would we like to include in resolution?
  - o MR: data on public housing, section 8, and # immigrants. Policy also can have disproportionate impact on seniors who may not have documentation of citizenships.
  - o LC: include stats and the impact on seniors in CB7.
  - o SS: Identify that the policy is discriminatory in that it targets immigrants.
  - o RE: this policy removes an important affordable housing option for people who serve as the backbone of NYC.
  - o JR: Very harsh that people will have to submit data to the Homeland Security SAVE system.
  - o IM: Also violates NYC Human Rights Law.
  - o MR: will put more pressure on an overburdened homeless services system.
- Committee voted to move forward with draft of resolution.
  - o Vote: Committee- 6-0-0-0

### Item 3. Ongoing business.

- MR: On previous weekend MR and LC had an informal meeting with the housing committee chairs of CBs 8,9,10, and 11.
  - o A number of similar frustrations regarding lack of control in as-of-right projects
  - o SS: Seems that this may be an issue to have a meeting that was not “open” or “documented”
  - o MR: Moving forward, we will alert Committee of any meetings with other CBs
    - Potentially this could be a good item to bring up at steering. Many taskforces are not putting out meeting minutes.
- Housing DNS
  - o MD: Need to finish by end of July
    - Budget Committee will then submit online through a form. We also post a PDF version on CB7’s website.
  - o LC: what is our focus for our priorities?
    - SS: We have discussed a number of needs in recent meetings we can include.



- JR: We should integrate other community needs into housing, especially NYCHA. For example, there is a need for Playground upgrades at Douglass Houses. If we don't maintain NYCHA amenities, they may be targeted for infill projects
- LC: we should also make sure to address NORCs.
  - RE: his building rejected becoming a NORC. Not everyone likes to have social workers in the building,
  - JR: WE can include upgrades for aging in place as a priority.
  - LC: there should be more outreach to buildings with large numbers of seniors.
  - RE: Preservation of older buildings is another way to help seniors.
- JR: We should ask for an expansion of Right to Counsel for all of CD7 residents.
- MD: Also, committee should send questions we would like asked at the Budget consultations. Must be a borough-wide issue.
- JR: should we look at other CBs DNS's housing section?
  - LC: they are hard to find or boilerplate.
- RE: We should ask for more benches in CB7.

**Item 4. New business.**

- LC: should we consider merging the Housing and Land Use Committees? Housing has less to discuss and much work is joint with Land Use.
  - MD: that has never been done in CB7, but it is possible.
  - JR: We would risk losing the Housing focus in a joint committee and just do land use. We should do more joint meetings.
  - MD: Especially with big housing projects like Fetner at 96th Street,
  - JR: We can also do more forums and events.
  - RE: The HDFC meetings were a good example of why we need the housing committee.
  - MR: Appears that we have reached a consensus to keep Housing separate, but when appropriate, have more joint meetings with Land Use.

**Present:** Louisa Craddock, Melissa Rosenberg, Robert Espier, Ira Mitchneck, Jeanette Rausch and Susan Schwartz. **Board Member:** Mark Diller. **Absent:** Lolita Ferrin and Madelyn Innocent.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.*

## Land Use Committee

June 19, 2019

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

**Committee Present:** Richard Asche, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Sheldon J. Fine, Julian Giordano  
Andrew Rigie, Ethel Sheffer,

**Non-Committee Board Members Present:** Roberta Semer (Chair), Mark Diller.

The following matters were discussed:

- 1. 25 Central Park West.** Application C190390 ZMM submitted by CPW Retail South LLC pursuant to Sections 197-c and 201 of the New York City Charter for the amendment of the Zoning Map, Section No. 8c by establishing within an existing R10A District a C2-5 District bounded by West 63rd Street, Central Park West, West 62nd Street, and a line 100 feet westerly of Central Park West. Presenting for the Applicant: Richard Lobel and Frank Noriega, both of Sheldon Lobel PC, attorneys for the current owner of the retail space, formerly occupied by a drug store and prior to that, Gristedes.

Background: The building, completed in 1931, is also referred to as The Century Condominium and was entered on the National Register in 1982 and later became part of the LPC Central Park West Historic District in 1985. The architect was Irwin S. Chanin who also designed The Majestic. The Century was built by another Chanin company, The Chanin Construction Company.

There are currently three retail establishments, two with access from West 63<sup>rd</sup> Street and one corner retail unit accessible from both Central Park West and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street that is soon to be vacant and the reason for this re-zoning application. This corner store is occupied by a drug store, and prior to that, a Gristedes. The other two stores that are currently tenanted are a dry cleaner and a Valery Josphe Hair Salon. There is other commercial space on the ground floor that consists of several professional medical and professional suites accessed via the CPW residential lobby and a separate entrance on each of 62<sup>nd</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> Streets at the western side of the building. The three retail spaces are currently non-conforming, but are permitted as they are grandfathered, as they have been there since 1931.

The applicant wishes to legalize this corner retail store and include the other two retail units that are currently occupied. The mechanism that has been proposed is to amend the zoning map to “legalize” the retail spaces by creating a mini commercial district that would cover the first one-hundred feet of the zoning lot from Central Park West and run the full frontage of the building facing Central Park.

There were no additional or public speakers, but the two owners of this 62<sup>nd</sup> street corner retail space, also attorneys, were present and gave their perspective that the problem is the cost of vacant real estate and the inability to rent this space within current R10A zoning. They are proposing an overlay of C2-5 to allow them to pursue a PCE (Physical Culture Establishment) special permit for a 3,000 sq ft. Yoga Studio. This use would not be consistent with other retail establishments that

could continue within this space as Use Group 6 uses, because they are grandfathered.. A PCE use requires a different level of review.

The Land Use Committee is the first group to hear this application that will then go before the Borough President, Borough Board and back to the City Planning Commission for a vote 60 days after the Borough President's review.

This seems innocuous at first review, but as Land Use Committee Member Louisa Craddock pointed out, this is spot zoning at its worst.

The discussion that followed also cited a similar project in Brooklyn where a change to the zoning was considered and failed [This is the memory of the writer and needs verification]. There was also a review of the uses under a C2-5 classification, which would not be desirable or perhaps even feasible. Every committee and non-committee member present made a comment regarding this proposal and suggested they look for tenants in other sectors that were conforming uses under the present grandfathering. The simple answer from the owners was that health facilities were in vogue now and would yield the highest rent.

There was also concern that the applicant would start construction before this application was reviewed and sent back to City Planning for their hearing and vote, as is often the case with PCE applications that are already constructed and open before the application reaches the Community Board.

According to the applicant, the downside of waiting for an "appropriate tenant that could meet the rent being asked" is that the space remains vacant. Given our community concerns for un-leased retail space, Richard Asche posed a secondary resolution in the event that the first one failed, which was to limit the amendment to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Street corner retail unit only.

The following records the results:

- a. First resolution: To **disapprove** the zoning amendment as presented so that all of the retail space could be "legalized."

Committee: 6-0-0-0

Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0

The resolution failed:

- b. Second Resolution: To **disapprove** any revised zoning amendment that limits the area to be rezoned as C2-5 to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Street corner retail unit only

Committee: 2-3-1-0

Non-Committee: 0-0-0-0

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Page Cowley

## **JOINT COMMITTEES MEETING MINUTES OF**

**PARKS & ENVIRONMENT**, Ken Coughlin and Jennifer Markas, Co-Chairpersons, **PRESERVATION** Mark Diller, Chairperson, and **TRANSPORTATION** Suzanne Robotti and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons, June 13, 2019 6:00PM

The Joint Preservation, Parks & Environment, and Transportation Committees of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, June 13, 2019, at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87<sup>th</sup> Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Preservation Chair Mark Diller, P&E Co-Chairs Ken Coughlin and Jennifer Markas, and Transportation Co-Chair Su Robotti.

*The following discussions were had and actions taken.*

**The Rotunda – Riverside Park at West 79 Street.** Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission (“LPC”) concerning the restoration and renovation of features of the Rotunda structure. Presentations by the Department of Transportation (“DoT”) and the Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR”).

### **PRESENTERS:**

#### **DoT:**

- Joanene Kidder – Executive Director, DoT Department of Bridges
- Nick Roberts, Rahul Saggar, Hui Yang
- Nick Pettinatti

#### **DPR:**

- John Herrold – Riverside Park Administrator
- Margaret Bracken – Landscape Architect and Chief of Design and Construction
- Ben Kramer – Deputy Administrator, Riverside Park
- Katie Reiley, Sybil Young, Geoff Martin

The project concerns the rehabilitation and renovation of the complex known as the Rotunda, a multi-level structure built ca. 1936 as part of a redesign and reconstruction of Riverside Park during the Robert Moses era that included the enclosure of the railroad tracks running through the Park from West 72-125 Streets, and the creation of a limited access highway (now known as the Henry Hudson Parkway or Route 9W) on top of a portion of the enclosure from West 72-79 Streets (the “Project”).

The presentation concerns only those aspects of the Project that require LPC and/or Public Design Commission approval. Other aspects of the Project were the subject of a CB7 resolution adopted on June 4, 2019.

The Rotunda structure consists of three interconnected main levels. The top level is a traffic circle that connects West 79 Street west of Riverside Drive to entrance and exit ramps to/from the Parkway, and also provides ramps leading toward the waterfront area of Riverside Park and to the parking garage at the lowest level of the Rotunda. The middle level of the Rotunda is a mezzanine pedestrian area that includes a structure that formerly was a working fountain, an arched colonnade that currently includes a restaurant concession, and a circular wall that continues the Roman arches defining the colonnade, separated by pilasters around the fountain area. The mezzanine colonnade opens to a terrace to the west overlooking the Boat Basin Marina, with access via steps and ramps to the waterfront, and access to the stepped ramps on the north and south sides of the circular structure

that lead up to the sidewalks outside the traffic circle level. The lower level of the Rotunda is a parking garage principally used by the DPR and the residents of the Boat Basin Marina.

The exterior of the Rotunda, the interior walls and infill of the mezzanine colonnade, and the low walls defining the inside and outside perimeter of the traffic circle are all composed of ashlar masonry stone of various sizes cut into rectilinear shapes and arranged in various configurations. The ashlar masonry stones are in various shades of gold, tan and brown to create an intentionally variegated effect.

The Project includes restoration of the historic fabric throughout using original materials, including masonry harvested from the new work described below. DoT and Parks have access to the original drawings from the construction of the Rotunda ca. 1936, which will be used to guide the restoration work. The goal on the restoration work will be to restore the historic fabric as closely as possible to the original, and use new materials that complement the historic.

While much of the restoration work is expected to be approved at LPC Staff Level, such approvals have not yet been secured.

The principal elements of the restoration and renovation work include the following:

**Traffic Circle Level:**

- The interior and exterior perimeters of the traffic circle are constructed of ashlar masonry and include concrete barriers placed in front of the low walls to absorb the potential impact of a vehicle striking the wall.
- The Project proposes to eliminate the concrete barriers, and to rebuild the interior and exterior perimeter wall with a steel reinforced concrete interior, to be clad with restored ashlar masonry stone on the inside and outside of the annulus to replicate the original condition.
- This reconstruction will eliminate the need for the concrete barricades.
- The interior and exterior walls' height do not conform to current Code standards.
- The Project proposes to install a squared pipe and post railing constructed of steel and painted black inserted into the steel reinforced concrete interior of the rehabilitated perimeter walls that will bring the walls to the required height.
- The Project also calls for the installation of Type F historic light poles around the traffic circle with sufficient illumination to meet the needs of the roadway.

**Ramps from the Traffic Circle to the Mezzanine:**

- Ramps with steps lead from either side of the traffic circle down to the mezzanine. The stepped ramps have ashlar masonry walls on either side. The original condition included a decorative brass handrail atop the outside wall that has been removed.
- The Project includes installing a new brass handrails and supporting brackets which emulate the decorative patterns and features of the original.
- The Project also includes a new a new ADA-compliant ramp outside the south stepped ramp that will include multiple switch-backs to cover the grade change in the space provided, and which will lead to the same arched entrance to the mezzanine as the stepped ramp.
- The materials for the ADA ramp include hex asphalt pavers and granite walls forming the edge of the ramps.
- The railing along the ADA ramp will rest on posts and be open at the top and will include vertical pickets where required by Code. The handrail will be square with integrated LED lighting pointing down to the surface of the ramp.
- The ADA ramp will be surrounded by new plantings drawn from the existing Park palette.

- The ADA ramp will lead to the same entrance to the mezzanine as the stepped ramp, and will eliminate an existing 4" step up into that area.

#### **Mezzanine:**

- The most significant new feature of the Project is the creation of new flexible office space for DPR by opening up three bays under the eastern-most limestone Roman arches at the mezzanine level, to be infilled with a storefront glass system, and constructing office space from below in the garage.
- The Project calls for the removal of the ashlar masonry walls inside the limestone Roman arches and ashlar pilasters, and replacing them with floor-to-ceiling glazing consisting of a wide center panel with two narrower panels flanking the center. The middle bay will include a double-door into the office space.
- The glass panels and the frame around the door will be of painted metal.
- DoT and DPR agreed at the meeting to modify the Project so that the metal will be a medium bronze color to agree with the color of the fixtures and turtle decorations in the restored fountain, rather than the black color shown on the slides presented at the meeting and at previous CB7 meetings concerning the Project.
- The glass panels will be installed behind the arches and pilasters.
- The Project also includes installing a metal roll-down gate behind the glass infill for security. The details of the security gate have not been finalized, but will consist of thin mesh designed to have minimal visual impact. At the meeting, DoT and Parks also agreed that the mesh roll-down gate will be a medium bronze color.
- The fountain will be restored to operation, and will include new spray jets along the stone perimeter, as well as replacement decorative turtles that will be fabricated to emulate the originals mounted between the jets. The jets and turtles will be a medium bronze color.
- The Project also includes creating a second interior space for use by a potential future concessionaire, with a new flat panel bronze door to match the existing door in the opposite space.
- The Project also includes installing an ADA-compliant ramp from the western terrace outside the colonnade area of the mezzanine level leading to the Riverfront sea rail path. The new ramp will replace one of a pair of stepped ramps, and will be faced with Deer Isle granite walls and will have a black metal rail with pickets similar to the ADA ramp from the traffic circle to the mezzanine.
- The Project also will replace the existing mushroom-cap kitchen vent currently attached to the inner wall of the mezzanine with a duct system that will run under the mezzanine through the garage and will be vented through the lawn triangles between the Parkway and the exit/entrance ramps from the southbound Parkway, in an area of the Park virtually inaccessible to Park users. The ashlar masonry at the site of the current vent will be repaired or replaced, and the new vents will be clad in ashlar masonry to match.
- Restoration work on the mezzanine level that is anticipated to be approved at Staff level includes the restoration in kind of the Guastavino tiles in the ceiling under the arched colonnade at the western edge of the mezzanine, the terra cotta floor tiles in the same area, and the blue stone tiles surrounding the fountain and on the stepped ramps leading from the traffic circle. A new bronze-colored flat panel metal door to the expanded concessionaire space on the mezzanine may be approved at Staff level.

#### **Overall Exterior and Garage Levels:**

- Restoration in kind of the ashlar masonry surfaces inside and outside the Rotunda structure, as well as the restoration in kind of the decorative terra cotta inserts in various vents at the ground and mezzanine levels, may be the subject of a future Staff Level approval.
- A new water fountain that incorporates a bottle-filler will be installed between the Rotunda and the Boat Basin.

#### Community Questions and Comment:

Josette Amato - West End Preservation Society

- Q: What design or materials changes were made from the last presentations?
- A: There were slight, minor changes, including attempts to minimize the door and glass panel framing in the mezzanine infill, and the use of “bird-safe” glazing.

#### Joint Committee Questions and Comment:

- Q: Mezzanine infill – did DoT consider use of butt-jointed glass and door framing?
- A: The Project requires at least a thin framing for the door to ensure a single complete system could be obtained from one manufacturer, and to ensure that the door and framing would be sufficiently durable for public and Park use. Butt-jointed glass and doors are not sufficiently durable.
- Q: Thickness and color of the door frame
- A: Framing is expected to be 4” ; painted black
- A: Agreed to change the color to a medium bronze to agree with the fountain elements.
- Q: Is there a more sympathetic water fountain and bottle filler design?
- A: The proposed fountain/bottle-filler is the only model available to the Parks Department.
- Q: The vents with terra cotta decorative inserts look messy – consider a wrought-iron grille be substituted?
- A: The overall design approach has been to preserve the original wherever possible, and this is possible.
- Margaret Bracken – in addition, the terra cotta decoration in the vents is a unique feature of the structure, and it would be a shame to lose it.
- Color of the door to the admin – bronze to match the turtles.
- Applaud very good restoration aspects. Thank DoT and DPR for a responsive presentation.
- Agree with Margaret re restoring in kind the terra cotta decoration in the vents.
- The water fountain/bottle-filler design is a disappointment. If another design becomes available, it should be explored.
- The West 102 Street glazing and infill design is not a precedent for the mezzanine infill as it is in a different context and interacts with a different audience.
- It is important that the door and glazing framing be a medium bronze to evoke the colors of the fountain as well as the hues of the ashlar masonry.
- The security gate inside the mezzanine infill should not be silvery color – should evoke the surrounding materials in the same color palette.
- The shape of the gate elements should employ greater creativity, such as evoking the pattern of the Roman arches on the mezzanine level or echo the fountain elements.
- Important to minimize the width of the framing to the extent possible.

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- The interior door handle for the mezzanine storefront infill should not have a panic bar or other horizontal element to interrupt the visual effect of the new glazing and framing.
- There are multiple examples of emergency egress panels mounted on the door frames themselves that should be emulated.
- A suitable example can be found at the Chase Bank ATM on Broadway at West 73<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Resolution:

- To acknowledge and applaud, and to approve as thoroughly appropriate to the character of the individual scenic landmark the overall restoration and refurbishment of the historic fabric of the Rotunda, including the ashlar masonry surfaces, the Guastavino ceiling tiles, terra cotta floor tiles, blue stone pavers, fabrication and replacement of bronze jets and decorative turtles in the restored fountain, the terra cotta decorative patterns in the vents, and the bronze decorative handrails and brackets on the stepped paths, regardless of whether approved at LPC Staff level;
- To approve as appropriate to the character of the individual scenic landmark the new ADA-compliant ramp from the mezzanine terrace to the River / sea rail path; the ADA-compliant ramp from the traffic circle to the mezzanine level;
- Based on the agreement to paint a medium bronze color the framing of the supports between the glazing panels and surrounding the doors of the infill needed to create the new Parks office space on the east curve of the mezzanine, and the agreement that the mesh roll-down gate will also be a medium bronze color, to approve such elements as reasonably appropriate to the individual scenic landmark, with strong recommendations (a) that the width of the metal framing between the glazing and surrounding the doors to be as narrow as possible consistent with functional needs; (b) that any “panic” or emergency mechanism for egress from the new office space be mounted vertically on the existing door frame and not be a horizontal element across the door frames; and (c) that the roll-down mesh gate behind the glazing include a site-specific decorative element to evoke the surrounding historic materials such as the arch forms;
- To approve as appropriate to the character of the scenic landmark the reconstruction of the traffic circle interior and exterior perimeters and the installation of the black metal box railing with posts anchored in the new reinforced concrete centers; and
- With thanks for incorporating a new water fountain and bottle-filler, to approve as minimally appropriate the proposed element for the ground level of the Rotunda, with the request that if a more sympathetic model should become available to the Parks Department, that it be substituted for the device presented.

After deliberation, the Joint Committees adopted the foregoing resolution.

VOTE:            *Joint Committee Members: 12-0-0-0;*  
                      *Non-Joint-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.*

Following the vote, the Joint Committee Meeting was adjourned, and the Preservation Committee continued with its remaining agenda, which will be available in separate minutes.

*The Joint Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.*

**Present:** Mark Diller, Jay Adolf, Michele Parker, Madge Rosenberg and Susan Schwartz.



**Parks & Environment:** Cindy Cardinal, Jennifer Markas and Klari Neuwelt. **Transportation:** Joshua T. Cohen, Ken Coughlin and Suzanne Robotti. **Chair:** Roberta Semer. **Board Members:** Barbara Adler, Julian Giordano and Doug Kleiman. **Absent:** Peter Samton.

## **Parks & Environment Committee Minutes**

**June 17, 2019, 7 PM**

Committee Members present: Ken Coughlin, co-chair (“KC”); Jennifer Markas, co-chair; Cindy Cardinal (“CC”); Natasha Kazmi; Klari Neuwelt (“KN”); Jennifer Nitzky; Susan Schwartz (“SS”).

Non-Committee Board Members Present: Barbara Adler; Mark Diller (“MD”); Julian Giordano; Roberta Semer (“RS”).

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

Prior to a discussion of the listed agenda items, RS gave an update on the Lasker Pool/Rink Upgrade. She had attended a meeting on June 15 for an update on and discussion of the Central Park Conservancy’s project to re-envision Lasker Pool and Rink. RS reported that the rink and pool will be more of an oval than a circle. The new design will enable the water from the 100th Street stream to be “daylighted” as it flows past the pool/rink complex and into the Harlem Meer. The pool will move slightly east, become longer and bigger, yet use less water. Due to improved technology, the conversion from pool to rink and vice versa will be easier and quicker, taking only three weeks. The facility will also be in use for various programming when not being used as a pool or rink. The lockers/concession stand will be moving east as well, with more bathrooms and lockers added. The facility will have a more attractive and inviting layout, with the visible stream, plantings and a more attractive building. The Meer’s four islands will be used for activities like boating.

The project, still in the design stage, will take a year to complete once construction begins. The pool and other activities will continue to be run by Parks, while the rink will be run by a concessionaire.

Co-chair KC then acknowledged community member Ian Clarke, who spoke briefly about the groundbreaking for the new Riverside Park Skate Park, which took place on June 8. Located at 108<sup>th</sup> street on park’s lower level, the facility is expected to open in May 2020. This is the legendary skateboarder Andy Kessler’s park, so there is a lot of history here, Clarke said. The new park’s deep 11-foot bowl is significant, Clarke noted, and it should put New York City in line with California in terms of skateboarding infrastructure. He sincerely thanked CB7, its P&E committee, and Riverside Park officials for their efforts and support.

### **Item 1: The Manhattan Paper Challenge**

Nicholas Circharo, Assistant Director at the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY) was present to answer questions.

Pratt Industries is a major national paper recycler, with a sizeable plant in Staten Island that focuses on converting discarded cardboard and paper into new pizza boxes and other corrugated boxes. In conjunction with the Manhattan Borough President’s Office (MBPO), DSNY, and the Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board, Pratt is offering up to \$75,000 in prize money for the Manhattan community board districts that can show the most improvement in recycling paper and cardboard. The initiative, known as the Manhattan Paper Challenge, will begin on July 1, 2019, the start of the new fiscal year. Residential recycling statistics (tonnage) from all 12 community board districts will be measured quarterly and at the end of the fiscal year, and compared to each district’s own numbers for the current fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 2019. The objective is for community board districts to show the highest percentage increase in paper recycling rates, meaning that community boards will compete only against themselves.

The top three prize-winners for each quarter will get \$5,000, \$3,000, and \$2,000, respectively. The annual prizes are higher, with the first place community board receiving \$20,000, the runner up \$10,000 and the

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third-place finisher \$5,000. The prize money may be spent on any non-profit or community group in the district.

Circharo noted that currently CB7 is either first or second among the 12 community boards in terms of the percentage of paper recycled, so it may be comparatively difficult to increase that rate by a large percentage. CB11 has the lowest percentage of paper recycling.

To assist community boards in their efforts to encourage recycling in their districts, training will be provided to the superintendents of residential buildings that request it. Videos may be made to encourage further recycling, and LinkNYC terminals can be used to help spread the word. A tour of the Pratt plant in Staten Island will also likely be arranged.

Q&A (committee and non-committee board members):

A clarification of whether recyclers can accept greasy pizza boxes/cardboard was sought from NC (the answer is generally yes). Clarification was also sought about the collection status of churches/synagogues: some hire private contractors while others don't. Pratt has committed its own marketing budget for the Manhattan Paper Challenge. A proposal was made to consider forming a CB7 subcommittee for this project.

**Item 2: Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines.**

The Waterfront Alliance has developed the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) to guide certification of all future waterfront projects. At the committee's April meeting, Samir Dalal, a WEDG Neighborhoods Fellow at the Alliance, asked CB7 to pass a resolution that, moving forward, all projects on the waterfront in our district which come before the board for approval should include the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines in their planning and development. A vote on the proposed resolution was put off until committee members could familiarize themselves with WEDG.

At the current meeting, Karen Imas ("KI"), of the Waterfront Alliance, was present to answer any questions and follow up on her colleague's presentation to the committee at its April meeting.

Question: Does the concept of "accessibility" in the guidelines include ADA access? KI did not know of specific references to the ADA in WEDG's 300-page guidelines manual but she said she would get back to the committee. Currently, 'accessibility' in this document refers to the ability of the public to interact with water. She did say that most parks projects have ADA requirements written into them by the City, and that CB7 is the first board that had brought up the question of ADA accessibility.

Manhattan CBs 1, 9, and 11 have adopted the WEDG resolution in the last few months, with some minor tweaks to the language.

Due to the unique geography of CB7's western edge, the entire board area is a waterfront. It is highly unlikely, although not impossible, that any project would be developed that would seek WEDG certification.

After discussion, the committee voted unanimously to approve the WEDG resolution as presented by the Waterfront Alliance, with minor changes to be made by the co-chairs reflecting the committee discussion and CB7's unique situation of having a city park running along the entirety of its waterfront.

Committee Member Vote: 7-0-0-0

Non-Committee Member Vote: 4-0-0-0

**Committee Updates:**

**'Rosenthal Bypass': Discussion between committee members and Geoffrey Martin ("GM"), Riverside Park Conservancy.**

KC reported that on June 14, the "Rosenthal Bypass" for cyclists using the Hudson Greenway went into effect. Cyclists traveling north or south between 72<sup>nd</sup> Street and 83<sup>rd</sup> Street on the Greenway may no longer share the flat waterfront path with pedestrians but must turn east and use a rolling shared path that has been designated for use by cyclists. KC said that Riverside Park landscape architect Margaret Bracken reported that on the first day, about 80% compliance among cyclists was observed. GM remains concerned about downhill stretches, where accidents have occurred, as they also do in the Cherry Walk area, another place where there are dangerously protruding tree roots. Board member MD reported that he witnessed a cyclist fall due to the bumps on the path and that the cyclist required treatment at a hospital.

Committee and board members offered several suggestions to improve safety for all in Riverside Park: (i) Signs could be put up to ask pedestrians to not congregate in the greenway; (ii) spray painting the exposed roots, if they cannot be repaved or otherwise remediated; (iii) more and larger pictographs and directional arrows; (iv) larger and simpler signs; existing ones are too small with too much information on them. It was decided that the committee would send an email to Riverside Park officials reflecting these concerns and recommendations. SS suggested that Transportation Alternatives could do some educational outreach. It was also suggested that New York City DoT publish maps showing the new bike path.

**Central Park SummerStage Upgrade Update:** KN reported that the upgrade is complete now after a year's delay. She said the new facility is elegant.

**Discussion on the 10 mph bike speed limit in Riverside Park:** KN Pointed out that the board's recent resolution calling for a 10 mph speed limit for cyclists on shared paths in Riverside Park was proposed by the Transportation Committee without any discussion with the P&E committee. The consequence of the resolution could be problematic, given issues with compliance at the Rosenthal Bypass and the Cherry Walk. KN said there are lots of issues here and that our committee should have been part of the conversation with Transportation.

**Delacorte Theater Upgrade Update:** CC said that an upgrade is desperately needed. Funds have been raised and plans appear to be in the works, but the theater seems open to input from the community to make this an open and inclusive process. CC encouraged all those present to attend a tour of the theater if possible so that we can have a voice in its future.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

## PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Mark Diller, Chairperson

June 13, 2019 6:30 PM

*The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, June 13, 2019, at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87<sup>th</sup> Street. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Chair Mark Diller, after a Joint Meeting of the Preservation, Parks & Environment and Transportation Committees concerning the preservation aspects of the Rotunda restoration project was adjourned. Separate minutes from the Joint Committee meeting have been submitted.*

The following discussions were had and actions taken.

### **Re: 57 West 69<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a stoop restoration.**

The premises was constructed ca. 1892 by architects Thom & Wilson.

Presentation by: Russell Riccard, architect

- The project includes significant façade restoration that has been approved at staff level.
- The premises is one is a row of 21 mid-block townhouses, nos. 25-67 West 69 Street. The subject premises is the second of 10 townhouses in an alternating A-B pattern of facades within the larger group.
- The proposal is to replace the existing stoop with a stoop that more closely emulates the original condition, and to modify the areaway accordingly.
- The proposal would expand the stoop 2' into the sidewalk. The revised design will match stoops next door and down the block, and will create a larger lower landing.
- The original stoop was removed at some point ca. 1940-1980, and was missing at the time of designation.
- The current stoop replacement was approved by LPC.
- The existing stoop is deteriorating from the inside, and must be rebuilt from scratch.
- The existing stoop consists of a stone stair with stone side walls with arched openings perpendicular to the façade leading from the Parlor floor entrance to a mid-way square landing, which in turn leads to two additional stairs that turn and head west, and then two more stairs that lead to the sidewalk level. The upper and lower landings and additional stairs are surrounded by side walls that continue the arched opening pattern.
- The lower landing side wall is angled on a bias from the stairs leading from the upper landing.
- The stairs and surrounding walls are an off-white "limestone-like" color.
- The areaway behind the stoop/stairs is fronted by a wrought-iron fence and gate with ornate heart-shaped details at the sidewalk level.
- The areaway surface is terra cotta tile to be replaced with blue stone tiles.
- The proposal is to replace the existing stoop and stairs with stairs that lead away from the façade, turn to the west, and then turn to the sidewalk, but with a wider, curved lower landing than the existing angled wall.
- The proposal also calls for side walls on the stairs and landings with smaller, square openings in place of the arched openings, except that the wall/railing on the upper landing facing the sidewalk will feature a carved decorative flower motif rather than the continuation of the square openings. The material for the new stairs and walls will continue to be an off-white "limestone-like" color.
- The new areaway surface will be blue stone slate, and will include new black wrought-iron gates and fencing with a simpler circular detail at the top of the posts, and security/access fixtures and a garbage enclosure under the lower landing. The new railings have been approved at Staff level.
- The new stoop will eliminate the keystone in the arch under stairs.

### Community Questions and Comment:

Kara Kelley – 49 West 69 Street

- No objection to the proposal.
- Q: How long will the project be in construction?

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- A: Will take about a year – in part because owner will live in the building, so must stage the work.
- Concern about mitigating noise – encouraged to make a connection with the architect.

Committee Questions and Comment:

- Appropriate, and an improvement over the existing condition.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

After deliberation, the Committees adopted the resolution to **approve** the Project.

VOTE: *Committee Members: 5-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.*

**Re: 128 West 70<sup>th</sup> Street (Broadway – Columbus Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rooftop addition, extension of 5<sup>th</sup> floor to the rear facade, and combination of 2 windows on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.**

The premises is the eastern-most of a row of 11 townhouses built ca. 1881-83 by architect Charles H. Lindsley.

Presentation by: Jason Shannon

- The proposed new rooftop addition is not visible from the public way.
- The subject premises is a 10-unit co-op.
- The existing condition includes a one-story rooftop addition built in 2005.
- The rooftop addition is set back 4' from the rear façade and 30' from the front façade. The existing rooftop addition is clad in dark grey siding in the front and stucco in the rear.
- There is also an existing stair bulkhead that reaches the front portion of the roof.
- Windows are a brown-grey color.
- The proposal includes increasing the footprint of the existing rooftop addition so that it is flush with the rear façade, and forms a "T" extension toward the front of the building.
- The proposal also calls for a second story to the rooftop addition set back from the rear façade.
- The combined proposed two-story rooftop addition would be clad in interlocking metal sheets in a dark grey color with fenestration and doors for access to the front and to a rear terrace formed by the setback from the rear façade at the second rooftop addition level.
- Large picture windows in rear are to be in an asymmetrical arrangement. The proposal calls for only one small window on the east side of the proposed addition, with blank walls of metal on the T and west side of the proposal.
- The applicant contends that the new 2-story rooftop addition will be shorter than the buildings on either side.
- The proposal includes adding a stair tower for internal access in the T.
- The building next door was significantly modified when 2 townhouses were joined.
- The donut includes many townhouses with rooftop additions and other modifications.
- The proposal also seeks to modify the existing top floor rear façade punched windows from a typical grouping of three individual windows into a single punched window to the east and a combined picture window with flanking 1:1 windows to the west.

Community Questions and Comment:

Beth Haroules – 120 West 70 Street – Co-op board president:

- The neighboring building shares a party wall with 128 West 70.
- Concern about the paucity of flyers providing notice of the hearing posted on Columbus and West 70 Street. Inadequate.
- The residents of the block were very concerned with renovations after a long, problematic and unfortunate experience with the combination of nos. 130-132 West 70 Street into a single-family residence.
- Concerns include that the plans for this project were rejected by the Department of Buildings 16 times.
- This 1880s townhouse has never been renovated.
- Concern about structural instabilities of the party wall, onto which additional stress will be placed. Concern that the party wall will not support the additions and will pancake.
- The proposed second rooftop addition is out of keeping with the Historic District, and will become a Tower of Babel.

- The expanded second addition will add light pollution to the donut.
- The “spaceship dark grey” siding is particularly inappropriate, and creates a visual dislocation and disparity with the materials on the block. Nos. 130-132 at least maintained brickwork.
- Slides mis-identify neighboring building as 104 West 70 instead of 120.
- Affects light and air into 16 apartments on the West façade of 120 West 70 Street.
- Concern for the nature of the project given the request for a variance from the duty to install an elevator, which DoB granted.
- Concern for future construction practices given that the applicant has previously hammered structural supports into the west façade of 120 West 70 Street wall without notice or permission at an area 2 stories above party wall portion.
- Will be tying the new addition into walls of neighboring buildings.

Q: Does the second rooftop addition exceed the permissible height?

A: DoB allows 75’ in height. Not in the limited height area of Manhattan.

Q: Concern for structural integrity of foundation with additional load.

A: The applicant has hired structural engineer.

A: Using metal instead of brick to lessen the weight load.

Mel Wymore – 120 West 70 Street

- Notable that the applicant did not seek to contact its next door neighbors until the mock-up was created.
- Niederhoffer buildings at nos. 130-32 West 70 involved a bruising 8 year renovation. Neighbors suffered a lot from the perpetual construction.
- The Niederhoffer project built up to the maximum height, on top of which were placed mechanicals and fire safety adjustments.
- Only the chimney of Niederhoffer is taller of the proposed addition. The occupiable space of the proposed new second rooftop addition is thus higher than the maximum-height addition next door. It is unprecedented for a townhouse rooftop to reach the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of a neighboring apartment building. Concern for precedent, and is out of context with the rest of the block.
- The rear façade will be well out of proportion of typical townhouses in historic districts.
- A: Claims to have passed zoning height limit inspection by the DoB plan examiner and Borough Commissioner .

Committee Questions and Comment:

- The proposed 2-story rooftop addition is radical looking due to its materials, which are unsightly and atypical.
- Concerned by structural issues.
- The explanation that metal cladding was deliberately chosen for its weight reinforced neighbors’ concerns about the load on the party wall.
- The color of the proposed 2-story addition is out of context.
- Committee should apply a different focus when an addition is visible from a public way. This proposal is not. Every project is visible from somewhere.
- Concerning the materials, it is important to distinguish between replication and preservation. LPC favors distinguishing between new and historic fabric over attempting to replicate the original treatments in a new context. Hence many rooftop additions are modern in appearance.
- Must assume that DoB will deal with structural and mechanical engineering issues.
- Based on standards, this is appropriate – consistent with other projects we have approved.
- Structures not visible from a public way are still within the purview of the LPC and our Committee because they can still have a profound impact on the character of the historic district. The LPC’s consideration of such character issues has evolving over time and is still a valid concern for the Committee.
- This particular addition is inappropriate in the context of the neighborhood and Historic District.
- Concern for issues between neighbors.
- Even where it is appropriate to distinguish through materials and composition the new structures from the old, it is essential to maintain a physical separation in addition to the use of distinct materials.
- In this case, the extension of the existing rooftop addition to the rear façade, to sit above a modest brick corbelling that serves as a line to mark the top of the rear façade, is thoroughly

inappropriate and without approved counterpart. The plane of the main rear façade in brick must be maintained as separate physically from the rooftop addition.

- The loss of the punched windows in favor of a picture window with flanked 1:1 windows destroys the common plane uniting townhouses in the rear yard and should be rejected. The revised window design is inappropriate also for its diminutive expansion that flies in the face of the typical arrangement without adding any new character.
- As LPC at times will countenance, regardless of zoning, it is important to consider whether the cumulative additions and changes to a townhouse threaten to overwhelm both visually and physically a modest structure. In this case, adding a second rooftop addition, to sit above an expanded rooftop addition, is simply too much visual bulk for this modest building.
- The grey metal cladding is independently inappropriate.

Resolution: To disapprove the expansion of the existing rooftop addition because it is inappropriate to extend to the existing rear façade; to disapprove the proposed second rooftop addition as adding too much visual bulk; to disapprove the metal cladding materials as an inappropriate color, and to disapprove the loss of the pattern of three punched windows on the top floor of the existing rear façade.

After deliberation, the Committee adopted the resolution **disapprove** the Project:

VOTE: Committee Members: 3-2-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.

**Calendared for the July 9, 2019 public hearing at LPC.**

**Re: 76 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a residential bracket sign.**

The subject building was constructed ca. 1894 by architect John G. Prague.

Presentation by: Eric Swanson and Britany Torres.

- The applicant's building is a 5-story apartment building in the mid-block between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue.
- The façade of the building at the ground level includes a large Roman arched main entrance, and two sets of angled bay windows flanking the entrance. The bay windows are enclosed within wrought-iron grilles with modest decorative elements.
- The applicant's business occupies a below-grade space accessed via a wrought iron stair from the sidewalk through an areaway. The stair access is at the east end of the areaway. The areaway is enclosed within a 4-foot tall wrought iron fence with modest decoration similar to the window grilles.
- The proposal seeks to add a bracket sign measuring 18" x 12" onto an existing wrought iron bracket extending perpendicularly from the center grille of the eastern bay window over the stair to the areaway from the sidewalk.
- The proposed sign includes the name of the applicant's business ("Amanda Gagnon Dog Training") in green lettering carved into a white wood background with a simple purple border. The sign is coated in vinyl for protection from the elements.
- The bracket sign is necessary to call attention to a commercial space not easily visible from the Columbus Avenue.

Community Questions and Comment:

- [none]

Committee Questions and Comment:

- Q: Concern for the residential apartment onto whose window the bracket sign would be mounted.
- A: The bracket is existing and appears to be of long-standing

Resolution: to approve as presented.

After deliberation, the Committee adopted a resolution to **approve** the Project.

VOTE: Committee Members: 5-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.

**Calendared for the July 9, 2019 public hearing at LPC.**



**Re: 333 Central Park West, Apt 125 (West 93<sup>rd</sup> – 94<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install double window louvers in the top East facing window in the courtyard on West 93<sup>rd</sup> Street.**

The building was constructed ca. 1909-10 by architect Albert Joseph Bodker.

Presentation by: Michael Foster and Debbie LaPlace:

- The subject premises is an apartment on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of an apartment building facing Central Park West and West 93 Street, with multiple bays/inner courtyards on the West 93 Street facade.
- The application is to insert full-length louvers for HVAC ventilation in place of the glazing in the inner-more of a pair of windows facing the interior courtyard furthest from Central Park West on the West 93 Street elevation. The pair of windows sit beneath a decoratively carved and corbelled brick arch.
- The subject window is on the 12<sup>th</sup>, or top, floor of the building.
- The subject window is minimally visible from West 93 Street, but the facades and bays on that elevation obscure the window from visibility from Central Park West.
- The proposal would facilitate the removal of 7 individual window A/C units from the apartment, as well as other ducts and vents currently occupying a portion of another window unit in the apartment.
- Two other apartments have installed full-length louvers in place of glazing in windows within the side courtyards in this building, with the same or greater visibility as the proposed replacement.
- Louvers would be in two planes like a 1:1 window with a faux meeting rail in the middle.
- Louvers will be a bronze color typical of replacement windows in buildings of this type.

**Community Questions and Comment:**

- [none]

**Committee Questions and Comment:**

- Q: Why was this window selected, given it is close to the side street façade?
- A: Because it is the only double window unit in this apartment.
- Q: Why was a dark color chosen for the louvers? Is it possible that it would blend in more if the color of the louvers matched that of the façade?
- A: The color was LPC Staff's suggestion.
- The visual impact of a single window of louvers is an improvement over the 7 a/c units it will replace.

Resolution: approve as presented.

After deliberation, the Committees adopted a resolution to **approve** the proposal.

VOTE: *Committee Members: 5-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.*

***Calendared for the July 16, 2019 public hearing at LPC.***

**Re: 319 West 104<sup>th</sup> Street (Riverside Drive – West End Avenue.) Application #LPC-19-38390 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a small exterior fence and areaway.**

The subject building is a 4-story brownstone townhouse built ca.1892 by architect Martin V.B. Ferdon.

Presentation by: John Field, Building Studio Arch, owner David Smiley.

- The building is one of four remaining townhouses in a former mid-block group.
- The building retains its stairs and stoop. The ground level space has a separate entrance under the stairs accessed via three steps down into an areaway.
- The areaway is partially enclosed by two brownstone knee walls flanking the steps down.
- The façade of the building includes a rounded bay window feature from the ground through the fourth floors. The bay window dimension occupies a significant portion of the areaway.
- The proposed work consists of relocating the areaway access steps closer to the stairs leading up to the stoop and main entrance to facilitate the installation of a removable ramp for handicap access at an angle away from the rounded bay window in the areaway to provide a manageable slope.

- There is not sufficient space to use a ramp into the areaway that leads straight in from the existing stairs due to the rounded bay windows.
- Even angled to the east, the removable ramp will be at a steeper slope than could ever be ADA-compliant.
- The proposal also includes removing the smaller knee wall on the east side, and installing a wrought iron fence and gate with a modest circle detail at the top to enclose the access to the areaway.
- The fence will also sit atop the existing masonry knee wall on the west side of the areaway access.
- Neighboring properties have similar fence and gate enclosures for their areaways. The proposed new fence will continue the same detail on neighbor's fence.

Community Questions and Comment:

- Letters of support from neighbors Risa Starr and Gina Maria Leonetti were accepted and reviewed.

Steven Zirinsky – president of the West 104 Street Block Association:

- Q: why not move the historic knee wall on the east side of the steps to the areaway over to the west side and join with the existing knee wall on that side?
- A: Need to preserve visibility and openness to street.

Josette Amato – West End Preservation Society:

- Q: If there is not sufficient space to construct an ADA-compliant ramp, why not keep it in the center and not disturb the knee walls?
- A: There is not enough distance in any direction to use the existing steps and still be able to reach the areaway and turn a wheelchair unless the ramp were angled to one side.

Committee Questions and Comment:

- Appropriate especially in service of an ADA access.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

After deliberation, the Committees adopted a resolution to **approve** the Project:

VOTE: *Committee Members: 5-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.*

**Re: 915 West End Avenue (West 104<sup>th</sup> – 105<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Application #LPC-19-35643 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a canopy.**

The building was constructed ca. 1922 by architect Rosario Candela.

Presentation by: Sarah Ripple of Higgins Quasebarth; and Peter Wroblewsky and Jeremy Singer, architects.

- The subject building is a 15-story brick apartment building in the Renaissance Revival style with a dramatic cornice and significant terra Cotta and limestone detail.
- The building has primary facades facing West End Avenue and West 105 Street, with an ornate main entrance in the middle of the West End Avenue façade.
- The main entrance consists of double iron doors with intricate wrought iron decoration and a transom with divided light above. A series of carved brackets support a ledge above the transom.
- The double doors are housed within a two-story roman-style limestone arch and pilasters with an ornate keystone element that features a script insignia of the letters "PJ." A pair of small, thin rectangular windows are located in the center of the arch above the entrance, surrounded by panels of limestone within the arch.
- The original condition of the building included a canopy supported by poles into the sidewalk that extended from the main entrance to the curb. Removed prior to 1940.
- Façade restoration is the subject of a Staff level approval.
- Subsurface conditions currently prevent the applicant from installing poles into the sidewalk for a similar canopy.

- The proposal is to install a canopy with support rods of a gold color in the manner of a marquis tied back to a mounting inserted in a mortar joint between panels of the limestone infill in the upper portion of the decorative arch above the main entrance.
- The canopy would extend from the façade at the level of the divided light transom windows above the main entrance.
- The canopy would measure 6'6" across, and would extend 8' from the façade.
- The shape of the canopy is akin to a flattened bell curve or an elongated parabola. The original canopy was shaped like a semi-circle.
- The canopy would be Seamark Cadet Grey with the building number in numerals (6" tall) on the street facing surface and in letters (4" tall) on the sidewalk facing curtain. The numerals/letters would be white, and the shape of the street-facing surface and the sidewalk facing curtain would be outlined in white.
- Proud of the door – 1-foot space between the surround and the door – outside of the masonry opening. Same mounting as the historic canopy.
- Precedent on WEA – including canopies that are constructed as tie-back marquises.

Community Questions and Comment:

- [none]

Committee Questions and Comment:

- Appropriate in the context of various styles of canopies on West End Avenue.
- Concern that the original canopy, and all of the precedents cited, are in the shape of a circular arch, whereas the proposed canopy is more akin to a flattened bell curve. The shorter length of the canopy emphasizes the unusual shape.
- No precedent cited reflected the flattened-bell-curve shape.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

After deliberation, the Committees adopted a resolution to **approve** the Project:

VOTE: *Committee Members: 3-1-1-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.*

Initially calendared for the June 18, 2019 public hearing at LPC. Subsequently adjourned with the applicant's cooperation to a date after the July 2, 2019 CB7 full Board meeting.

**Re: 120 West 72 Street – Orange Theory Fitness (Columbus Avenue – Broadway). Application for installation of a sign on the surface of the transom window above the main entrance, and for an illuminated blade sign above and to the side of the main entrance.**

The building was constructed ca. 1977 by architect Stanley Charles Grant.

Presentation by: Bridgette Shoemaker – AJ Sign Company.

Flat sign:

- The proposed signage is in the corporate colors of the Orange Theory Fitness franchise – orange with white and black accents.
- The framing of the signage will align with and match the mullions on the transom window.
- The sign will consist of cut-out letters in the style and format of the corporate logo with stylized letters, and will be anchored into the window transoms, and will not invade the masonry.
- While the individual letters of the sign conform to the 18" height that can ordinarily be approved at LPC Staff level, the stylized "O" of Orange Theory includes a "splat" pattern that exceeds the 18" height, and so exceeds staff level approval.

Blade sign:

- The proposed blade sign is to be mounted into the façade to the east of the main entrance, inserted into existing grout.
- The shape and dimension of the blade sign conform to LPC rules that can be approved at LPC Staff level.
- The only aspect of the blade sign requiring a public hearing is the additional proposal that the blade sign be illuminated.
- The applicant WITHDREW the applicant for an illuminated blade sign, without prejudice to pursuing Staff approval of a non-illuminated Blade sign.

Resolution: To approve the flat sign as presented, and to take no action on the proposed illuminated blade sign in reliance on the withdrawal of that portion of the presentation.

After deliberation, the Committees adopted a resolution to **approve** the Flat sign and to **take no action** on the proposed illuminated blade sign in reliance on its being withdrawn:

VOTE: *Committee Members: 5-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 1-0-0-1.*

**Present:** Howard Yaruss, Andrew Albert, Elizabeth Caputo, Joshua T. Cohen, Ken Coughlin, Doug Kleiman, Sara Lind, Richard Robbins and Meg Schmitt. **Chair:** Roberta Semer. **Board Members:** Barbara Adler, Cindy Cardinal, Page Cowley, Mark Diller, Julian Giordano and Ira Mitchneck. **Absent:** Suzanne Robotti.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.*

## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Suzanne Robotti and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 7:00 PM

*Meeting convened at 7:00 pm*

### 1. Re: New Family request for a Radio Dispatch Station at 106<sup>th</sup> Street

Wilfred Cuero represented for New Family, there have been no complaints

VOTE - Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 6-0-0-0.

### 2. Bike Lane 59<sup>th</sup> to 110<sup>th</sup> NYC DOT - Presentation

Ed Pincar presents CB7 plan for review of the West side bike lane review

Results of analysis from 59-110; proposal for the corridor

Joined by Ted Wright; Kimberly and Colleen Chattergoon, thanked committee for patience to get us where we are; they are coming to the committee with a proposal and then there will be tweaks in the days and months ahead – see either Ted, Kimberly, Colleen for questions - Ted will run through presentation

#### Ted Wright:

We are excited about this, was a lot of work

What's different about this presentation is the community request – this board was aggressive in trying to get DOT to act on this

They looked at Northbound only, southbound only, both ways, taking into consideration that there is now is basically a southbound lane in Central Park due to Car Free Central Park. There is not enough room for a two way bike lane without reducing number of lanes.

Very centralized issues at transverses - these are very important for people to get through Manhattan and they focused on those as well

Crashes and high numbers of incidents include those at transverses, so they wanted to address w the project and in the design

The fatality and pedestrian injuries are all critical factors as they look at the corridor holistically

Pedestrian injuries are down 21% since bike lane installation, the bike lanes have made things safer for all users on the UWS

Transverses are tunnels through the Park, past bikes have often gone as a two-way street in middle of Manhattan or in middle of park; curb use and taxis also factored in to design

Ted then discusses dimensions of the proposed CPW lane (see chart and proposal)

Current: "8 5 10 11 11 10 8" (see chart)

Now: "6 7 buffer 9 11 11 10 8" (see chart)

Plan would involve removal of 400+ parking spots along east side of CPW

Engineering: engineering will make it safer – drivers will make it safer for signage, etc – 1) provides better back pressure 2) tells people where to be on roadway

A significant change to traffic and flow will be at West 96<sup>th</sup> – DOT will ban turns at 96<sup>th</sup> street, it's a heavy conflict intersection, it has biggest KSI on the corridor

**Summary – DOT is proposing northbound protected bike lane, involving the removal of east side parking along CPW, that will be an important part of bike and safety network linking midtown around Columbus Circle to the UWS. It will work well along the corridor; it produces a network with a northbound lane and shorter crossings.**

**Questions of Fact:** Board members: Sara Lind, Andrew Albert, Ken Coughlin, ElizabethCaputo, Mark Diller, Rich Robbins.

#### Public Comments:

Jeff Prant – Brooklyn, supporter of what's going on as a pedestrian of the lane in BK

Reed Rubey – thanks DOT, for another great plan, would prefer 2 lanes one on each side of CPW

David Paduano – bikes from 72 Citibike to 27<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> – supportive of the plan. Asks how many have been killed (over last 5 years)

David Vassar – Morningside Heights, TA member – suggests wrong way signs should go on the lane, cyclists who are reckless

Alvin Golub – thanks DOT, supportive

Barbara Reuter – closed lanes, bus riders on other side of street, almost injured – respect to pedestrians and drivers

Liz Patek – Thanks DOT, would like to see it combination for cyclists going southbound (commutes from 71<sup>st</sup> to the Bronx, she was doored a while back traveling southbound) – as Andrew has proposed maybe move bus lane

Phil Gallance – supports the lane, cyclists

Willow Steltzer – reads a statement from Madison’s mother – almost been a year since we’ve lost our daughter. August 11<sup>th</sup>. The letter expressed the need to never have another person killed and the urgent need for a protected bike lane.

Kevin Fagan – southbound lane considered for the future.

Sam Zeidman – echoing thanks for proposal. Asks about north of transverse and ways to make the network more comprehensive

Wyatt Counts – against parking spaces for private vehicles

John Lyons – no show

Wilfredo Cueto – supports plan but needs enforcement, how will you enforce it? But needs compliance on behalf of cyclists and city officials to enforce, he is a pedestrian and he wants to make sure rules are enforced

DOT interjects and discusses how rules will be enforced

Marvin Terban

John Drayton

Chelsea Yamada – TA – vehicles – asks how frequent the bus ridership is along this corridor? How many conflicts? 22 bus stops, coming every 10-12 minutes

Marcia Drezen-Tepler – bike lanes are already on Amsterdam, Columbus and in Central Park – bike lane is unnecessary, would constrict things once congestion pricing is in effect. This is a living city nt a playground

Tuck Edelstein – owns a car, parks on the street but in favor of the bike lane – suggest that 1) as a tradeoff we put in resident parking 2) transverse sidewalks at 81<sup>st</sup> and 96<sup>th</sup> into bike lanes – no safe way to get across the park 3) education

Richard Fine – cyclist from TA – supports plan.

Yehuda Pollak – thanks for the proposal, also expresses support for two way bike lane

Sharon Pope Marshall – Director of Community Outreach at Bike NY. Bike NY supports DOT proposal and urges it to be implemented in 2019. Personally she is a CB member on other side of the park, she encourages CB7 to vote on this proposal and pass it

Louise Lucaire – lives on CPW and concerned about CPW. Concerned about enforcement. Does City have an enforcement programme?

Gale Morse – has been scared of pedestrians – with bike lanes he feels much safer

Deborah Robb – makes point that there is no northbound lane that is protected between 59-72, that stretch is extremely dangerous and she has come close to danger many times

Ian Dutton – from Prospect Park West – supports plan, pilot

Lisa Garson – CPW – black SUVs double parked and idling – how can that be addressed?

Nevona Friedman – someone died along the corridor. We need to do this.

David Lipsky – brings up mass transportation to make sure it moves quickly, machinations have reduced ability of buses to travel, a lot of double parking which further impedes travel - traffic

Josh Pinkerton – how quickly are parking spots being turned over? Why no parking removal on other side of street?

Pierre Hugot– 22 W 83 - asks parking-related question

Joel Levenson – cycles north and south on CPW – where are all the Fedex., UPS and delivery vehicles going to park etc? is there a plan to enforce this? Questions how traffic flow and deliveries will be able to happen and if DOT has a plan ready for this inevitability

Sherry Murphy – she is opposed to a bike lane on CPW, there is enough going on already with two way traffic, worried about safety, especially those crossing the block, in and out of the Park along the corridor

Marie Temell – supports improvements to the bike lane, provided it is the north lane. Although asks why it the UWS compared the UES that “bears the brunt” of bike lanes?

Karen Terben – upset with irresponsible bikers and asks why cyclists cannot be licensed in the same way drivers are.

Deputy Inspector Timothy Malin spoke briefly about the need for safety

Approx 8:30 community session ends.

**Board comments:** Ken Coughlin, Elizabeth Caputo, Sara Lind, Rich Robbins, Mark Diller, Andrew Albert, Mark Diller, Page Cowley, Doug Kleiman, Ken Coughlin, Roberta Semer Councilmember Helen Rosenthal provides input – and is reading emails. Sounds like this was a thorough conversation tonight.

Howard Yaruss proposed the resolution to approve the CPW Northbound protected bike lane, with a commitment by Department of Transportation to continue to monitor CPW and return with a report within one year.

**FINAL COMMITTEE VOTE:**

**Vote to approve** changes to CPW proposed by the DOT

**Committee: 8-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 7-0-0-0.**

**Present:** Howard Yaruss, Andrew Albert, Elizabeth Caputo, Joshua T. Cohen, Ken Coughlin, Doug Kleiman, Sara Lind, Richard Robbins and Meg Schmitt. **Chair:** Roberta Semer. **Board Members:** Barbara Adler, Cindy Cardinal, Page Cowley, Mark Diller, Julian Giordano and Ira Mitchneck. **Absent:** Suzanne Robotti.

**Meeting adjourns 8:57 pm**

## **YOUTH, EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Blanche Lawton and Steven Brown, Co-Chairpersons**

**June 20, 2019 6:30 PM**

*The Youth, Education & Libraries committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, June 20, 2019, at the District Office, 250 West 87 Street, in the District. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by co-chairs Blanche Lawton and Steven Brown.*

*The following discussions and presentations took place and actions were taken at the meeting.*

### **Presentation by Muslim Volunteers 4 New York.**

Presenters included Faiza Mawjee and Sahar Husain, Project Directors.

- Muslim Volunteers 4 New York (“MV4NY”) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity recognized by the IRS.
- MV4NY is a service organization staffed entirely by volunteers and operating out of the homes and public spaces of its members, so all fundraising is devoted to the activities that relate to its core mission.
- The four key areas in which MV4NY seeks to be of service include:
  - eliminating hunger and relieving the effects of poverty;
  - education, specifically creating meaningful volunteer opportunities for students;
  - environmental stewardship;
  - promoting health, wellness and a sense of community.
- MV4NY’s initiatives concerning eliminating hunger and the effects of poverty include partnering with existing resources, principally the New York Community Pantry and the West Side Campaign Against Hunger.
- Among other activities relating to hunger and poverty, MV4NY organizes food drives to benefit the New York Community Pantry and WSCAH. The food drives produce donations of food as well as donations of funds that are used to purchase food. The food drives also involve supplying the partner organizations with volunteers who contribute to the ability to use the food and funds raised through MV4NY’s activities.
- A related activity aimed at lessening the effects of poverty involves an effort to secure donations of pajamas that are donated to the Room To Grow organization. Pajamas are often not included in anti-poverty programs.
- Activities organized by MV4NY to meet the education component of its mission often overlap with its food insecurity efforts.
- For example, under the aegis of MV4NY, partner schools (including Trinity School on the Upper West Side) undertake food drives at Thanksgiving and Ramadan to secure donations of food to be used at these holiday times.
- In the most recent Ramadan food drive, 1,300 lbs of food was donated through the volunteer effort.
- The education component is enhanced by the practice of assisting students to organize the volunteer effort, and then leaving it to the students to take ownership and leadership of the implementation of the volunteer effort.
- Another example of a successful student-led volunteer educational effort involved assisting PS 191 to create a library in its new facilities. Students, with MV4NY’s assistance, secured donations of over 10,000 books, and then assisted the librarian in cataloguing the donated books.



- Further student volunteer efforts included the creation of a teaching garden at a public school in the Bronx (a joint effort with Common Pantry), and participation in Project Cicero.
- A goal of the student participation (including several serving as “Student Ambassadors” for the programs) in the education-related activities is to enable students to see the whole picture – to ensure that students understand the need, the practical aspects of organizing and executing an activity, and the real-world impacts of the effort. For example, after students led a successful food drive, they were invited to assist in the delivery of the food to the partner organization and to see how the donated food is put to use.
- Another initiative by students involves organizing other students to make greeting cards to accompany meals delivered by Meals On Wheels for holidays including Valentine’s Day. The card-making is used as a community-building event for the schools and students, and the cards are sincerely appreciated by the recipients of the home-delivered meals.
- Environmental Stewardship activities are often conducted through Ruppert Park, a mapped NYC public park that MV4NY and its students and volunteers oversee as a formal partner to the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation.
- Volunteers at Ruppert Park tend the plantings and organize events in the Park space.
- An example of activities organized by MV4NY volunteers in Ruppert Park include a concert to be held on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Activities relating to the Health, Wellness and Community initiatives of MV4NY include bringing monthly Halal meals to the families residing at Ronald McDonald House in Manhattan, and organizing Eid ul Adha celebrations there as well. Families caring for sick children often lack the ability or energy to observe holidays or find halal meals.

#### Committee Comment

- The cards created by the students are cherished by home-bound Meals on Wheels recipients.
- Q: At what age do students most respond to the invitation to participate?
- A: There are activities geared to all age groups, but the key with service opportunities in general is early participation – service then becomes second-nature to students, first because their parents lead the children to service opportunities, but soon children seek out service opportunities on their own.
- The next level of participation is when children brainstorm and create service opportunities of their own.
- CB7 to introduce MV4NY to CSD3 leaders.

#### **District Needs Statement.**

The YEL section of the DNS will highlight the following:

- The need for new and enhanced services, including enrichment, remedial help and social-emotional learning support, to meet the challenges of the middle school populations occasioned by the recently-implemented diversity set-asides in CSD3 Middle School Choice.
- To build on the FY2020 allocation of funds for 285 additional social workers in the public schools, and to ensure those positions are baselined, and ensure that the social workers include an emphasis on restorative justice and other professional activities.
- To follow up on the needs articulated by DJ Sheppard at YEL’s May 2019 meeting for adequate staff so that Parent Coordinators and Social Workers are able to fulfill their intended professional roles without being diverted to important but job-unrelated tasks like office help or lunch coverage.

- The need to bridge the gap in parent and PTA/PA fundraising between schools with significant fundraising and those without by, among other things, considering mandatory revenue-sharing of a minimum amount, which would require a change in the Chancellor's Regulations.
- Revise the current DNS section relating to the mandatory sexual education curriculum to emphasize teaching of the required content and minimize the specifics of the curriculum as beyond the scope of the DNS.
- Summer Youth Employment Program – advocate for funding for additional training by the CBO partners of the youth employees, such as expanding the Work/Learn/Grow program,
- Expand the length of the SYEP program so that the SYEP youth are hired for a period that aligns with summer programs for which the SYEP employees are used (e.g. SONYC and Compass).
- Continue to emphasize the need for capital funding for renovating and making available for community use the basement of the Bloomingdale Branch Library.
- The need for high school options for student populations interested in STEAM education models who will not gain admission to the Specialized High Schools either through the historical process or any change in the admissions procedures that may be adopted, especially those who seek a high school experience at one of the very few schools that offer all of the AP courses essential to such students (i.e. AP Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology).

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm*