

COMMUNITY BOARD 7/MANHATTAN

Full Board Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2020

Community Board 7/Manhattan's Full Board met on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in the district. Chair Mark Diller called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.

Chair's Report: Mark Diller

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

Vote: 35-0-3-0

Minutes from the December 17th, 2019 Special Full Board Meeting were **approved**.

Vote: 34-0-3-0

Minutes from the December 17th, 2019 ULURP Hearing were **approved**.

Vote: 35-0-3-0

The Chair's report will be emailed to the Board.

The Parks & Environment Committee meeting has been rescheduled to the Monday following Presidents' Day.

Written Remarks from Deputy Inspector Malin of the 20th Precinct:

- Will be retiring from the NYPD on February 13th
- Was honored to serve the UWS
- Would like to thank many individuals, in the sake of time: Chair Emeritus Roberta Semer and Chair Mark Diller

Community Session:

- Sara Lebwahl, New Yorkers for Safer Streets
 - NYSS is concerned with issues of crime and safety in the neighborhood.
 - Wants the Board to prioritize address issues of safety.
 - Thanks and gives best wishes to Officer Malin in his retirement.
- Mr. Cruz, Civilian Complaint Review Board
 - Asking young artists (10-24) to submit work on the relationship between youth and police in communities to be featured on the cover of an upcoming report.
 - Upcoming Board meeting at Bronx CB 12 on March 11th
- Lieutenant Levino, 24th Precinct
 - In the 28-day period, index crimes up 62%. For more crime stats, visit the 24th Precinct website.
 - Grand larcenies are being driven by fraud (including shoplifting)
 - 517 Amsterdam and other businesses have received more than a dozen noise complaints, which the 24th is following up on
- Deputy Inspector of the 24th Precinct
 - Replacing former Deputy Inspector Lynch, was most recently assigned to Central Park
 - Biggest concerns are robberies and burglaries, which are up YTD
 - Looks forward to working with everyone
- Zachary Campbell, American Museum of Natural History
 - 90% complete with soil removal work
 - Number of construction vehicles is expected to remain the same this month
 - For more information and the newsletter sign-up, visit amnh.org, navigate to the Guildler Center
- Alex Barnett, Stephanie Burke, David Walker, Angela Rainier, Parents of PS87
 - Recently informed of 2.5 construction project outside school that will contain asbestos and other dangerous chemicals
 - Asking the Board to help gain information and transparency from the School Construction Authority

- Parents have not seen necessary work permits and documents, and are worried about being put in a position where school/street are exposed to toxins in the air.
- Winifred Armstrong, Bloomingdale Neighborhood History Group
 - The BNHG has grown over the past 20 years, the next meeting will celebrate the 20th anniversary and discuss five generations of the Seneca Village
- Ira Gershenhorn, Community Member
 - Asking for Riverside Drive to be narrowed to two lanes (one in each direction) between 96th and 98th Street, as it is everywhere else
- Constance Clarke, Cantilever Building
 - Developers at 91st and Broadway have a permit for a new building
 - Feels that if the building goes up, it will be unsightly and potentially unsafe.
 - The project is being financed by Michael Dell of Dell Computers
 - Asking CB7 to reach out to Michael Dell
- Barbara Litt, de Soto Building (215 West 91st)
 - Same concerns as Ms. Clarke
 - Would like CB7 to put pressure on Michael Dell and make him aware that these plans have changed and that because of new air rights purchases, the building will be taller than originally planned.
 - Concerned that the project will be longer than originally proposed, currently working until 7:30 PM
 - Pedestrian passageway is not wide
 - Concerned about effect on local business
- Ronny Bassan, Census 2020
 - Full count is important for funding, congressional seats, and representation.
 - Calling for volunteers to canvass, text, phone bank, and identify cohorts that are undercounted
- Hazen Cuyler, Greenhouse Ensemble
 - Artistic Director of Greenhouse Ensemble that is developing an UWS Theater and Arts District
 - Partnering with a lot of different organizations to create the best district for independent art and theater
 - Looking for individuals that would like to help and partner
- Peter Arndtsen, Columbus and Amsterdam Bid
 - A few events in February (flyer in the back):
 - Bloomingdale Neighborhood History Group meetings on the 13th and 25th of February
 - Walking tour of neighborhood north of 96th St on the 16th of February (and monthly)
 - Mardi Gras band that will go from 96-106th St
- Glenn Grasso, Community Member
 - Decorum and civility are important
 - Avoiding ad-hominem attacks (personal attacks)
 - Important to stick to the topic at hand
 - Audience shouldn't scream/yell, it doesn't help their cause
- Bonnie Eisler, Resident of 25 Central Park West
 - Thanks to Board for approving No Standing zones in front of CPW and 62nd St
 - Police are parking in the No Standing zone. Respects police, but this is a public safety issue (ambulances and emergency vehicles can't come down), and this is something the community worked to address already.

Manhattan Borough President's Report (April Adams):

- The Borough President published a survey about RPP
- The MBPO has corresponded with the MTA concerning the M11 Bus Route on the agenda tonight
- Wednesday February 12th Black History Month Event
- March 1st Women's History Month March at 1 Centre St
- Community Board Applications are due next Friday at 5:00 PM (February 14th)

Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives:

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

- Pro bono legal clinic this Monday
- CUNY Citizenship Now event on February 22nd

Jacob Priley, Office State Senator Brad Hoylman

- NYS Education Forum on Saturday from 2-5 to discuss Budget Priorities for this legislative session

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

- March 1st plastic bags will be banned, will be giving out reusable bags
- Has introduced legislation that will piggyback on child victims act
- Will be collaborating with CB7 and CB4 to work on the M11, which has lost 900,000 riders in the past few years

Office of Assembly Member Richard Gottfried:

- BSA last week had a tied vote (2-2), which failed to repeal the approval for the application to build the super tall building at 50 West 66th St
- Gottfried is standing with other elected officials and Landmark West to call against this building for its oversized mechanical voids

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

- Newsletters about impeachment are in the back
- 38 States have now ratified the ERA, the topic will be brought to the floor soon
- Nadler is standing against Muslim Ban

Community Board 7 adopted a motion by consensus to support Jerry Nadler and his wife in their time of difficulty

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

- Paid Summer Internship program coming up in June (form is open to March 6th)
- February 12th event at LIU in Brooklyn celebrating African American History
- Workshops on the City Budget coming up.

Business Session:

Youth, Education and Libraries Committee, Steven Brown and Blanche Lawton, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

1. Expansion of Lafayette Academy (03M256), a French-English dual language public middle school located in the Joan of Arc Building at 154 West 93rd Street, currently serving students in grades 6-8.
 - Mr. Zeyger, Principal of Lafayette Academy
 - The Dual Language program turned around the school
 - Looking to create a multi-language IB program, so that students can continue languages into Middle and High School
 - This program will open a world of jobs/opportunities that are normally only seen at private schools
 - Robert Espier: What is the IB and how does it compare to a BA?
 - Principal Zeyger: IB is a world known curriculum, this is an asset for foreign universities.
 - Michele Parker: How is seeking for more space working? Will you leave the district?
 - Principal Zeyger: We're currently searching for a space, and we want to make sure it's accessible to all
 - Amy Hyman: What's the plan to put Middle and High Schoolers together (and ensure safety)?
 - Principal Zeyger: Lafayette Academy already has a very positive school environment, and it's a priority
 - VOTE: 39-0-0

Business & Consumer Issues Committee, Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

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

2. **225 Columbus Avenue** (West 70th Street) Stephen Locke Corp to be formed, d/b/a To be Determined.
 - **VOTE: 37-0-0-0**
3. **Renewal Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:**
 - **267 Columbus Avenue** (West 72nd – 73rd Streets.) Renewal application #1072082-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Classic Food, Inc., d/b/a Sido, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 3 tables and 6 seats.
 - **475 Columbus Avenue** (West 83rd Street.) Renewal application #1382144-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by IL Rifugio, Inc., d/b/a Tarallucci E Vino, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 16 seats.
 - **2450 Broadway** (West 90th - 91st Streets.) Renewal application #0940252-DCA 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 unenclosed café with 7 tables and 22 seats.
 - **1018 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 110th Street.) Renewal application #2050848-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Madrel, LLC, Inc., d/b/a Marlow Bistro, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 30 tables and 58 seats.
 - **The above were voted on together. VOTE: 39-0-0-0**

Transportation Committee, Meg Schmitt and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

4. Request to NYC DOT for Study on Curbside Usage.
 - 62 people submitted requests to speak, 31 in favor (25 new speakers), and 29 against (19 new speakers), and 2 who were in-between
 - Public Comment:
 - Matthew Brady, Resident
 - Is an engineer, believes you'll never be worse off for getting more information
 - It's something city does all the time
 - Ray Pennotti, Resident
 - Has a car he uses to get to NJ and PA because he can't afford garage
 - Doesn't use car in city
 - Used to belong to Transportation Alternatives, but is now appalled at call to remove cars
 - Believes resolution is premature
 - Laurence Zukerman, Resident
 - Pedestrian, cyclist and car owner
 - In favor of resolution
 - Dan Friedman, Resident
 - Believes resolution requests the wrong study: it discusses curbside parking and street parking – doesn't see this as causing fatalities and accidents. Parking meters are connected, these can't be connected to lessening traffic in his experience.
 - Reed Rubey, Resident
 - In favor of resolution, thinks in terms of what can change his life for the better: garbage is currently in plastic bags on sidewalk, could be stored on street, and trucks could be automated to come by and pick it up.
 - Donald Capelin, Resident
 - UWS is very livable, partly because it has some parking
 - Owns a car and a bicycle
 - More studies aren't bad, but they must be un-biased
 - Don't make it take longer for residents to park
 - Erwin Figueroa from Transportation Alternatives

- Fully supports resolution
 - 30% of NYC open space is allocated by cars
 - Less than a quarter of UWS residents own a car
 - We should not incentivize car ownership
- Dan Zweig, Resident
 - This resolution is looking to reduce parking whenever possible
 - Resolution fails to look into interests of those that need to park in the neighborhood
 - The first study should be of the needs and requirements of car owners in the neighborhood
 - Congestion Pricing is overblown and won't have a negative impact
 - Scrap resolution and replace with new one as outlined above
- Philip Gefter, Resident
 - Supports study
 - Premature to float the idea of a ban – suggests an agenda more than an outcome or solution
 - This is squeezing middle class out of Manhattan
- Michael Minihan, Resident
 - Dad of special needs children, it is difficult to use Access-a-Ride
 - To keep his car on street parking he has to run car
 - Is against resolution
- Roy Gulick, Resident
 - Is a physician and cyclist
 - We need more information, that's what a study does
 - Support resolution
- Joe Rodriguez, Resident
 - There are triple parked cars on his block
 - Is constantly reporting illegal parking that is causing dangerous for school children in neighborhood
 - Support study, but we must also take action now in order to prevent people from getting hurt
- John Henry, Resident
 - Supports the request for a study
 - Has been cycling for 50 years and feels safer than ever before
 - Bike lanes are good for pedestrians too, make it safer
- Fred Buchholz, Resident
 - Car owner and bicyclist
 - We need to find a solution that works for car owners and bicycle owners
 - In favor of resolution
- Peter Frishauf, Resident
 - Has lived here for 70 years
 - Only 20% of people in Manhattan own cars
 - Streets change, and we should think about how we want to use them differently
 - Supports study
- Richard Pacciato, Resident
 - Signed up against but is not sure where he stands
 - Is a cyclist and has a car
 - Is concerned that there is an inherent bias in this. The instinct in this resolution is to remove parking space, which is a regressive task
 - We need to do market research to find what people want
- Melody Weststock, Resident
 - Removing free parking is extreme and will cost middle class a lot
 - Middle ground is better
- KC Rice, Resident
 - Not in favor of banning parking, but in favor of a study

- It isn't a question of fairness to examine other options
- Michael DelNasro, Resident
 - Needs a car to help family member on Long Island
 - Uses public transportation/bike in city
 - The real agenda of the study appears anti-car: "Study the use of alternative curb space"
 - Asks for an unbiased study to address congestion pricing
- Willow Stelzer, Resident
 - Mother with small child, wants her daughter to grow up in a city with the right priorities
 - Less than 10,000 free parking space in district and over 90,000 residents: please consider everyone
- Howard Gold, Resident
 - Owns a car and uses public transportation/bike
 - Is a member of Transportation Alternatives
 - Feels the resolution is a bit biased.
 - 22% of Manhattan households own cars
 - 800,000 people cycle regular every year
 - 48,000 people cycle to work every day
 - Doesn't think curbside parking should be removed for bike lanes
- Andy Rosenthal, Resident
 - Owns a car he parks in another neighborhood
 - Let's not have science come under attack
 - This is a study, let's vote for science and for the resolution
- Linda Prime MD, Resident
 - Climate change has an incredibly adverse impact on our neighborhood and it's urgent
 - In favor of study
- Bill Weiss, Resident
 - Car owner and pedestrian/subway rider
 - We all want our neighborhoods to be safe and congestion free, but uses his car to visit family members and go on vacations with family
 - No one has mentioned the fact that everyone who orders online contributes to the problem with delivery trucks
 - Do a study on only congestion pricing
- Barbara Reiss, Resident
 - In support of study
 - We don't know all the creative and innovative solutions to issues
 - There are alternatives to car ownership that are less expensive and work
- Allen, Resident
 - Commends Gale Brewer's RPP survey
 - Thinks congestion pricing is going to change things on the UWS
 - Repairs brownstones and needs a car to haul around equipment
- Gerry Khermouch, Resident
 - This is not an issue he's thought about until recently
 - There was a time in New York when parking was not a right
 - We should study the issue
- Ryan Smith, Resident of Upper East Side
 - UES also has competition for curbside space
 - Hopefully this is start of a big trend where we start asking these questions throughout Manhattan
- Jeremy Kennedy, Resident
 - Car user, cyclist, bus/subway user

- Concerned that these results might hurt car-owners
 - We should endorse a study about following the rules of the road (double parking, etc...)
 - Against resolution
- Kathleen Curcio, Resident
 - Doesn't own car because it's convenient
 - Does the reverse commute to Westchester for work and also travels to family. Car is a necessity
- Nancy Lange, Resident
 - Needs a car to visit her mother, who's ill and lives outside the city
 - Is a special education teacher and many parents of kids use cars
 - Is requesting two studies: an initial study for before congestion pricing and after congestion pricing is implemented
 - Current study sounds biased
- Debra Robb, Resident
 - In favor of study
 - Everyone is a pedestrian at some point in the day
 - Daylighting at intersections saves lives
 - Urges a study
- Cecil Brookes, Resident of the Bronx
 - Loves the UWS, especially the ease of movement and family safety. These could be threatened by a congested space
 - City is incredibly congested
- Tag Gross, Common Sense Streets
 - This resolution was supposed to study congestion pricing
 - Why are we talking about curbside? Let's examine congestion pricing and its impact
 - Against resolution
- Sproule Love, Manhattan Nordic Ski Club
 - Thinks study is a great option
 - Is a father with a 6yo and 10yo, doesn't feel safe riding bikes with them without protected bike lanes
- Clara Boyd, Resident
 - Neurologist, does the reverse commute
 - The resolution is written to study curbside usage when the topic is meant to be congestion pricing
- Avi Hoffman, Resident
 - His sidewalks are small and filled with garbage and rats
 - The street itself is a public good and belongs to all residents too
 - We need to do what's in the best interest of most residents
 - If we start charging for parking we raise money and decrease people fighting for parking spots
- Christine Palma, Resident
 - Commutes to New Jersey, doesn't experience congestion
 - Very few bikers, very few women bikers – biking isn't a viable solution
- Richard Rubin, Resident
 - Car owner, doesn't have a good reason to have a car, and parks in another neighborhood
 - Rode in a bike lane that was protected, excited for children
 - Street parking should stay, but should be metered
 - Movie/TV studios take up a lot of parking and contribute nothing to community
- Deborah Kayman, Resident
 - Doesn't like to drive, but cars have been necessity
 - It's never been easy to park on UWS, and it's harder

- For a study but not this one. Rather, something quick and neat that measures traffic conditions before and after congestion pricing
 - Lisa Orman, Streetopia UWS
 - The resolution is not banning free parking
 - Free parking isn't free, there's an opportunity cost to open space, busways, bike lanes
 - We lose this when we hold on to the status quo
 - Supports study
 - Charles Gross, Common Sense
 - Subway/bike can't go outside city
 - We need to understand need of free parking on the UWS and then establish study results after
- Names of those who oppose resolution but didn't speak: Hoda Albetagy, Joel Goldman, Deborah Goldman, Roger Baron, Aus Derrt, Paul Schreiber, Glenn Grasso, Natalie Hilzen, Scott Rademaker
- Names of those who support resolution but didn't speak: Maurice Lauriano, Lponake P Daniels, David Vassar, Ira Gershenhorn, Kevin Fagor, Chelsea Yamada, Josh Pinkerton, Jody Sperling, Ellen Azorin, Madeline Balas, Mendy Haskel
- Board Discussion:
 - Melissa: Resolution needs to be amended to be less biased
 - Jay: This resolution leaves out a lot of questions that are important concerning bikers and car owners. More than 20% of people depend on cars. We must stop demonizing car owners.
 - Andrew Albert: Study is warranted, but should consider current conditions on streets and the conditions after congestion pricing.
 - Douglas: Supports what Andrew says
 - Natasha: Also agrees. It's not for the Community Board to decide whether having a car is a symbol of privilege or not. Believes in diversity of transportation options. Doesn't see discussion of e-deliveries in resolution.
 - Ethel: Agrees with Andrew. This resolution has flaming words of "curbside parking", etc.... We should list 3-5 of the major problems that we can all agree with need attention about.
 - Shelly: Turned off by the name of the resolution. Wants a study of before and after congestion pricing. DOT hasn't acted on crosswalk of 106th street in 2 years, which is a serious issue.
 - Doug: Not afraid of results of study. If it is biased, he'll call it out.
 - Andrew Rigie: The essence is to recognize that the way we use our streets is changing rapidly and how are our streets going to be used in the future.
 - Julian: Agrees with Andrew Albert/Rigie and Doug. We should be able to a consensus about this resolution because this is an issue that affects all of us.
 - Sara: The resolution doesn't call for an end to street parking. Commercial vehicles are mentioned in resolution. There are not only two uses to the curb – there are many innovative options. The next resolution is asking for DOT to study M11. If you're against this study, will you vote against the next one? The Mayor is in favor of free on street parking, if anything the bias is for the status quo. This resolution calls to respond to the needs of residents of the community. Supports current resolution.
 - Rich: Car-owner, thinks it's crazy to allocate this resource to people who drive around looking for parking. Let's look into residential parking permits. Cars account for 1/5 of all US emissions. RPP could make it easier for people with cars who live in neighborhood. We can't let alternative resolutions derail this
 - Elizabeth Caputo: Supports resolution, believes concerns of those opposed are valid, but that a study needs to be done.
 - Ken: Congestion Pricing enabling resolution includes a study within 18 months. UWS has lots of issues on streets. This resolution explores what our options are.
 - Klari: With or without this resolution, DOT will study this in some form. We shouldn't be so hung up on this. The wording isn't ideal, but better than previous iteration. Will support despite language not being best.
 - Robert: We should look at DOT reports and compare with other cities

- Jeanette: Thinks this resolution is improved, but there are still some assumptions embedded. Can't vote for it as it stands, though she supports a study.
 - Michele: Agrees with Jeanette, Jay, Andrew Albert, Natasha. Believes resolution is flawed and would change various aspects of wording.
 - K: Resolution isn't perfect, but it's a big improvement that he'll support.
 - Barbara: Non-committee board members were split 3-3 on this resolution in committee. Is opposed to much of the wording
 - VOTE: 22-12-3-0
5. Improving the M11 Bus Route.
- VOTE: 35-0-0-0
6. Safe, direct crosstown routes for pedestrians, cyclists, and others through Central Park. **Joint with Parks & Environment Committee, Elizabeth Caputo and Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chairpersons**
- Public Comment:
 - Peter Frishauf: Bike paths installed along cross-towns in 2009. We need safe routes and entrances/exits to prevent deaths such as that of Dr. Cammerman.
 - Dan Zweig: Transverses are dangerous. In the sake of safety, Board should close the transverses to cyclists. People should walk bikes through the park.
 - Lisa Orman: Supports resolution and the taskforce to develop solutions.
 - Tag Gross: The transverse is the only safe way to walk across the park at night. Don't deny pedestrians right to walk through transverse.
 - Reed Rubey: Rides his bike across the transverse year round. Urges Board to ask DOT for safe passage for cyclists/pedestrians.
 - Board Comment:
 - Jay: Friendly amendment (see resolution for update in first line)
 - VOTE: 34-0-0-0

Health & Human Services Committee, Catherine DeLazzero and Sheldon Fine, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

7. Medicaid-Reimbursement for Sustainable Quality Health Care.
- VOTE: 32-0-0-0

Preservation Committee, K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

Resolutions Re:

8. **132 West 80th Street** (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) Application #LPC-20-02856 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a rooftop addition.
- VOTE: 32-0-1-0
9. **164 West 81st Street** (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to construct a 3-story rear addition, restore front stoop and entrance, replace front areaway wall, and install the rooftop HVAC equipment.
- VOTE: 30-0-1-0

Directed by the City Charter mandate that Community Boards review matters prior to consideration by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Preservation Committee reviews the "appropriateness" of proposed changes to individually designated landmarks as well as to properties listed within the Upper West Side's Historic Districts.

Steering Committee

Mark Diller, Chairperson

Resolution Re:

10. Transportation Mobility Review Board.
- VOTE: 32-0-0-1

Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Present: Mark N. Diller, Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Steven Brown, Elizabeth Caputo, Cindy Cardinal, Joshua Cohen, Kenneth Coughlin, Catherine DeLazzero, Robert Espier, Lolita Ferrin, Sheldon J. Fine, Julian Giordano, Amy Hyman, Audrey Isaacs, K Karpen, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, Blanche E. Lawton, Sara Lind, Douglas McGowan, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, Jennifer Nitzky, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Richard Robbins, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Meg Schmitt, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Polly Spain and Howard Yaruss.

Absent: Christian Cordova, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Paul Fischer, Madelyn Innocent and Susan Schwartz.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mark Diller, Chair

February 18, 2020 6:30 PM

Meeting began at 6:35 PM.

- Full Board Meeting Management – March Agenda
 - Potential upcoming meeting management issues
 - BCI will have a few people speak about Asset’s Method of Operation change, but because of concerns not encompassed by the change to be voted on
 - Parks & Environment might have speakers about the Matthew Sapolin Playground
 - Email substitute chair’s report
 - This will be emailed before the meeting, and will only contain information (no electronic votes), so as to save time
 - BCI has a panel on retail and brick & mortar stores on April 1st from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at the American Museum of Natural History
- Pratt Center – Survey on use of the Neighborhood Data Portal
 - CB7 response to the survey: Roberta and Cindy will work to respond to the survey and set up a potential training with Pratt at the Board office for interested Board members
- CMOM/First Church of Christ Scientist Update
 - LPC Public Hearing 3/3
 - CB7 resolution presentation: both co-chairs of the Preservation Committee and the Chair of the Board voted against, so the resolution will be presented by Madge and Jay. Madge will talk about the roof, and Jay about the stain-glass windows.
 - CMOM made a few minor changes to their plan (not for the Board to review, although they shared the changes with the Board). The presentation to LPC will remain the same.
- Update – Senator Hoylman SAM Grant process and recommendations
 - Mark: The grant works as a reimbursement. The project must be completed and approved before being reimbursed (after approval it will be reimbursed 4 years later). The original plan for using the grant for the NYPL will likely not work, so Cindy and Mark will continue exploring uses for the grant (potentially with the Parks Conservancy, the School Construction Authority, etc...).
 - Senator Serrano might also be offering this grant.
- CB7 Co-Sponsor – reusable bag give-away at Verdi Square 3/1
 - With Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal
- Speaker Johnson Community Resource Fair 2/25 at Touro College
 - Roberta: We attended this last year and had a table with Board 4 that was poorly attended because we didn’t have swag to give away
 - Mark: If anyone’s interested, we can coordinate this.
- Committee and task force reports
 - Senior Taskforce
 - Roberta: Hoping to meet soon, hoping to have forums in spring.
 - Land Use
 - Mark: There was a press conference on Monday hosted by Gale Brewer on 200 Amsterdam and the ruling for it to decrease its height

- Page: Issues with the abandonment of NYTech following flooding. Additionally, Landmark West! is funding the legal fees for an Article 78 against Extell on 66th street. The loophole being fought on concerns the zoning relating to mechanical voids.
 - Doug: At the 200 Amsterdam press conference they mentioned that there were ~20 other buildings the ruling would apply to as precedent. Are there any other in our district?
 - Page: The Silverstein/ABC site is one.
 - Roberta: CB7 hired George Janes to do a study on sunlight relating to potential development on the Silverstein/ABC property last year
- Transportation
 - Meg: No controversial items on the agenda. There was an interesting presentation on crash avoidance technology, which is the basis for a resolution. The wording of the agenda will be changed to remove the word “MobilEye” from the item. Committee discussion over a possible policy for approving Loading Zone requests was inconclusive and put on hold.
 - Susan: When a request comes in for a Loading Zone, perhaps we should require they paper the neighborhood
 - Mark: If we have time at the Full Board, Meg and Howard can share the results of the discussion about the potential Loading Zone policy and then discuss it at the next committee meeting one last time.
- Preservation
 - K: No controversial items.
- Bylaws Taskforce
 - Susan: The first meeting was last month before BCI, and meetings will continue at this time each month. Shelley, Steven Brown, and Andrew Albert are new members of the taskforce. Barbara Adler will be moving the material of our current Bylaws into the format of the MBP’s template. We will be comparing our bylaws with those of other Manhattan boards. The entire process may likely take 9 months.
- Housing
 - Melissa: At the last meeting there was some discussion of issues that NYCHA residents are facing. There was no quorum, but a skeleton of a resolution was created on the State Budget and how it relates to the NYCHA budget.
 - Madelyn: Glad that this work is being documented so that elected officials can be held accountable.
 - Mark: This type of resolution is different from most others in that we will have to advocate it to the State Assembly.
- Parks & Environment
 - Klari: The committee has been considering discussing more environmental topics: an upcoming topic is the plastic bag ban. Separately, Rich Robbins suggested supporting a study of the environmental impact of alternate-side parking, which is a bit too similar to the resolution just passed at Full Board from Transportation.
 - Page: 88th street hasn’t had proper garbage/recycling collection for the past 1-2 weeks.
 - Mark: This is an issue to bring to Penny
- Youth, Education & Libraries
 - Blanche: There may be a resolution for the Board at a future meeting (not the March meeting). The committee will be discussing the SDAG report, specifically concerning Gifted & Talented

education. There's been much concern with the recent Morningside Park safety issues, and YEL might be looking into how we support our youth.

- Health & Human Services
 - Shelly: The resolution passed at Full Board last month on Medicare is doing well. April Adams will be distributing the resolution to other Boards, and Shelly will be helping explain it at Borough Board.
- Request for Leave of Absence
 - Christian Cordova has a medical condition that is preventing him from attending CB7 Meetings
 - Mark: Suggests a Leave of Absence for 4 months (one retroactive, and the remaining three for the next three months)
 - VOTE (committee): 17-0-0-0, VOTE (non-committee): 3-0-0-0
- New Business
 - Mark: Will be bringing the Medicaid resolution and the Congestion Pricing Planning Board resolution to the Borough Board.
 - Michele: Can Mark share the minutes from the Borough Board meeting with CB7?
 - Mark: Sure
 - Doug: The new CO of the 20th Precinct was announced - will he introduce himself to us at a meeting?
 - Mark: He will be at our next Full Board meeting.

Present: Mark Diller, Linda Alexander, Page Cowley, Sheldon J. Fine, K Karpen, Doug Kleiman, Blanche Lawton, Sara Lind, Klari Neuwelt, Michele Parker, Melissa Rosenberg, Roberta Semer and Howard Yaruss. **Board Members:** Barbara Adler, Ken Coughlin, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs and Susan Schwartz. **Absent:** Steven Brown, Elizabeth Caputo, Cindy Cardinal, Christian Cordova, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzero, Seema Reddy and Andrew Rigie.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

February 12, 2020 6:30 PM

The Business and Consumer Issues Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at the District Office, 250 West 87th Street, in the District. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by co-chair Linda Alexander.

The following matters were discussed and actions taken.

Method of Operation Change to existing liquor license:

1. **329 Columbus Avenue** (West 75th Street) 329 Hospitality Group LLC, d/b/a Asset. Request to include Disc Jockey, Recorded Music and Live Music.

Presentation by: Larry Bellone, owner

- Request to change Method of Operation to permit live music and/or disc jockey, in addition to recorded music already allowed, from 9 pm to 1 am Saturdays; and 1pm to 6 pm Sundays
- Music will be amplified through an existing sound system.
- Applicant has removed speakers on mezzanine because of residential unit directly above.
- Current hours of operation: 10 am to 2 am, Sunday through Thursday; 10 am to 4 am Friday and Saturday
- Live music will not be a routine, just for special occasions. Applicant said loud music is inconsistent with the ethos of a high-end restaurant.
- Will work on the alleyway noise.

Community speakers:

- Reema Starr, resident of the building for 47 years,
 - Says the owner has worked with her on reducing the noise but says it is still loud, especially on Friday and Saturday nights.
 - She has concerns about live music. Instruments can have their own separate amplification.
 - Prior restaurant "Memphis" played loud music.
 - Alleyway is an echo chamber. Prior restaurant did not use the alley.
- Anne Jaffey – 60 West 76th Street – building is adjacent to the Applicant
 - Is opposed to the application because it is already too noisy.
 - She hears everything going in the restaurant through the alleyway.
 - Does not want any more noise.
- Avani Bhatt – 60 West 76th Street – 6+ years.
 - Shares the alleyway across from Asset.
 - She was originally excited for a restaurant to come into the neighborhood, but said it has become a "nightmare situation" and has called the restaurant numerous times without redress.
 - She and her family hear music all the time through closed windows.
 - Trash removal is also an issue with bottle dragged across the ground in the alleyway and the staff smokes pot.
 - She feels live music will be louder and the manager was dismissive when she tried speaking with him.
 - She also complained about lighting in the alleyway being too bright.
- Josh Aiello, 60 West 76th Street.
 - He also complained about the noise and played recording.
 - He said that between the light, the bottle noise, and the music is overwhelming.
 - The porters have been treating the trash/bottles roughly – throwing the trash into bins.
- Phyllis Byrne – 60 West 76th Street.
 - She feels this restaurant is not a good neighbor and is concerned about the noise of the garbage.

- Spoke with the manager – responded.
- Smelling pot from the alleyway all the time.
- Restaurant needs to be a good neighbor, including pot.

Committee discussion:

- Co-Chair, Linda Alexander: pointed out applicant is a long-time operator with another unit on Amsterdam, i.e. Tessa, which has never received complaints. She added that it is necessary for the operator to find solutions and work with the neighbors. He should speak to the landlord to address the lighting situation, address the bottle noises and make sure his staff does not smoke pot in the alleyway.
- Andrew Rige: important to resolve through discussions, but the decibel levels of live music and DJ are the same and if they meet DCA requirements, are legal. Applicant and neighbors must meet and work out a compromise. Also, fix the lighting.
- Josh Cohen: if the music is within the legal limits, then cannot disapprove. Credit the applicant to make an application when they likely could have ignored the rule with impunity.
- Doug Kleiman: change in the method of operation – confirming that the only change is to add live music and live background music. Lighting is not within the purview of the applicant because it was installed by the landlord. Asked applicant about soundproofing, who confirmed it was installed. Asked if there were any other remediations possible.
- Seema Reddy: Would like to table the application for a month to see if there is an opportunity to cure issues before voting. If not, she would vote to disapprove.
- Barbara Adler: would like to see cooperation and an effort to resolve.
- Mark Diller: find a ramp and dolly to eliminate the bottle/trash noise.
- Applicant is committing to meet with the neighbors to address the issues. They exchanged contact information and continued the discussion in the hallway after the vote at Committee meeting.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted with an understanding that the applicant will work with the neighbors to mitigate the trash/bottle noise, dim the lighting, and speak to employees about noise and pot smoking.*

VOTE- Committee: 5-1-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-2-0.

Applications to the SLA for Two-Year Liquor Licenses:

2. 410 Amsterdam Avenue (West 80th Street) Public Market Inc. & Sushi Nonoka Inc., d/b/a Boka & Sushi Nonoka.

Presentation by: James Lim, owner

- Hours of operation: Sunday through Thursday 11 am – Midnight; Friday & Saturday 11 am – 1 am.
- Creating a “speakeasy” restaurant downstairs from Boka.
- Omakase operating in separate and already open
- Deliveries through third parties.
- Backyard – box garden to generate vegetables for the operation – no seating or service.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 3-0-0-0.

3. 156 Columbus Avenue (West 67th Street) Botanicus Columbus Inc, d/b/a Le Botaniste.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter and Christoph Coffinet, owner

- Hours of operation: 11 am to 9 pm.
- Plant-based fare – 4th operation in NYC. Vegan offerings. Organic wines.
- 12 tables with 47 seats.
- Décor reminiscent of a pharmacy.
- Deliveries through third-party services.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 3-0-0-0.

Renewal Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:

4. **316 Columbus Avenue** (West 75th Street.) Renewal application #1395732-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Pappardella Rest., Corp., d/b/a Pappardella, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats.

Presentation by: Alex Bogdanov, owner

- No changes to current operation.
- Beautiful appearance.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 3-0-0-0.

5. **417 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th Street.) Renewal application #2076570-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by BL 417 Amsterdam NY, LLC, d/b/a Bluestone Lane, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 19 seats.

Presentation by Cooper Knowlton, assistant counsel

- Revised plans not available – will submit.
- Total of 6 tables and 16 seats.
- Committed to making the community happy.
- Will not have bus/service station outside.
- Applicant confirmed agreement with the stipulations above and in the February 6, 2020 letter agreement drafted for submission to the now-superseded City Council hearing.

Committee discussion:

- Co-Chair: Concerned about tree guards on the side street making the sidewalk impassable. The site plans do not correctly reflect the distance from the corner of the building to the tree-guards on the West 80th Street portion of the application. As a result, applicant will have to reduce the seating on the side street from five to three two-tops, i.e., six seats, only for clearance before the tree guard. Reminded the applicant the third table would have to be placed in the space above the basement door by reinforcing it. The space on the site plan currently designates a non-compliant bus/service station.
- Barbara: max width of the café on the side street is 4'6" per DCA. Added the applicant cannot have any kitchen equipment, including bus trays and scraping of dishes, in the outdoor café, and there must be eight feet of clearance between the end of the café and the tree guard.
- Doug: Current footprint is 7 tables and 18 seats and is happy the location is under new management. Added it is a great product, but the previous management had not been responsive, and he repeatedly witnessed egregious violations of prior limits to the sidewalk café's footprint.
- Julien Dellaporte, Councilmember Rosenthal's office, stated that her consistent position is to oppose any side street sidewalk cafes.
- Chair: responded that the two previous tenants, including Pretto, had been allowed to have side street cafés for more than 25 years before the current operator.
- Andrew: The tree guard on the side street changed the footprint of the café. Change in the sidewalk tree guard should not affect a pre-existing restaurant café.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted with 6 tables and 16 seats based on stipulations in the February 6, 2020 letter of agreement*

VOTE- Committee: 5-0-1-0. Non-Committee: 2-1-0-0.

6. **427 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th – 81st Streets.) Renewal application #2028372-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Taikai, Inc., d/b/a Momoya Upper West, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 17 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter.

- No changes from the current operation.
- 9 Tables; 17 Seats.
- Front façade is recessed 1' from the building lot line; seating actually begins within lot line.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

7. **2315 Broadway** (West 84th Street.) Renewal application #1341402-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Donizetti, LLC., d/b/a 5 Napkin Burger, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 34 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Guarino.

- No changes to current operation – same since the operation began.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

8. **566 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 87th – 88th Streets.) Renewal application #2056574-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by La Petit Amelie, LLC, d/b/a Amelie, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter.

- Agrees to speak with the applicant – Amelie to conform to the CB7 and DCA requirements that sidewalk cafes on the avenue not to be more than 9' from the base building, per the approved plans.

Committee discussion:

- Co-Chair: Concerned that the operator pushes too far into the sidewalk – over 10' vs the requirement of 9'. Understands it is a small footprint in comparison to neighboring restaurants, which are constantly in breach of the subscribed nine-foot rule. Callahan concurs and will point out the problem to his client.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

9. **732 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 96th Street.) Renewal application #1138270-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Le-Se Amsterdam 732 Restaurant, Inc., d/b/a Dive Bar, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 17 seats.

Presentation by: Nicholas Seinfeld, co-owner

- No bicycle deliveries – all on foot.
- No changes to the configuration of the sidewalk café.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

10. **249 Columbus Avenue** (West 71st – 72nd Streets.) Renewal application #2064661-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by CMR Rest Corp., d/b/a Ella NYC, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 19 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter

- No changes to the configuration of the sidewalk cafe.

- No deliveries.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

11. **245 West 104th Street** (Broadway.) Renewal application #1187714-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Broadway 104, LLC, d/b/a Café Du Soleil, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 18 tables and 36 seats.

Presentation by: Nadine Chevreux (nadinechevreux@gmail.com), co-owner

- No posting – did not receive the flyer from CB7.
- No changes to the operation or configuration of sidewalk café.

Committee discussion:

- Co-Chair: Will have the Office send the flyer for posting before March Full Board meeting.
- Post and provide proof of posting.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted subject to compliance with the posting before March FB meeting*

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

Sidewalk Cafe Renewal/Modifications:

12. **584 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 88th – 89th Streets.) Renewal/Modification application #1247422-DCA to the Department of Consumer Affairs by TB 584 Amsterdam Rest., Corp., d/b/a Bodrum, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 24 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter and Huseyin Ozer, owner

- Previously had a café with 12 tables and 24 seats.
- Restaurant has acquired the space next door and will expand.
- New café will 21 tables and 46 seats.
- Café will provide required clearance from the tree pit, which has been modified to a flush guard from a larger one.
- Construction will commence in two weeks, pending permits.
- Bicycle messengers in compliance.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

New Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés:

13. **450 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st – 82nd Streets.) New application #519-2020-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Mee Tung, LLC, d/b/a Land Thai, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats.

Presentation by: Robert Callahan, expediter

- Assignment from previous operator.
- Small footprint – 4 tables and 8 seats (down from 5 tables and 10 seats).
- In compliance with new FDNY regulations that prevent tables in front of the main entrance.
- Bicycle deliveries in compliance.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0.

14. **2756 Broadway** (West 106th Street.) New application #440-2020-ASWC to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Calle 8 BDWY 106, LLC, d/b/a Calle Ocho, for a four-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 32 seats.

Presentation by: Jeff Kadish, owner

- Positive reaction from the community.
- 12 tables and 32 seats per changes from the previous operator required by DCA to conform to the slope of the sidewalk without a platform.

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

VOTE- Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee: 0-0-1-0.

15. **Postponed to March: 993 Columbus Avenue** (West 109th Street) Shwing! LLC, d/b/a Freda's Cuisine.

16. New Business:

- Co-Chair: Town Hall confirmed for Wednesday April 1st at the American Museum of Natural History from 7-8:30 pm.
- Andrew Rigie will moderate. Doug Kleiman will be on the panel as a broker.
- Recruiting two owners of mixed-use properties on the Upper West Side to join the panel, representing one large property owner and one small property owner.
- Recruiting one neighborhood restaurateur and one neighborhood retailer to join the panel.
- Committee will draft questions for the panel and discuss a survey to those registering for the event via Event Brite. Survey will be brief as part of registration process.

Present: Co-Chair Linda Alexander, Barbara Adler, Joshua Cohen, Doug Kleiman, Andrew Rigie and Seema Reddy. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Michele Parker and Julian Giordano. **Absent:** Co-chair Christian Cordova, Paul Fischer, William Ortiz

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Louisa Craddock and Melissa Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

February 10, 2020 7:00 PM

Item 1: Discussion of Engagement of and Concerns of NYCHA Residents in CD 7

- Local resident concerns over PACT/RAD
 - Upper Manhattan is all PACT (not RAD) – more detailed rules
 - Redoing leases – adding as-in language
 - 2 year gap without repairs
 - Will come out of NYCHA system – helps stats
 - Ocean Bay – no tracking or repairs
 - Need metrics that keep NYCHA accountable through the transition
 - No Federal monitor oversight or HUD oversight
 - Developers have clause in lease that give them 2 year window to make repairs
 - Eviction issue is serious- now at 14 days after nonpayment instead of 2 months
 - Leads to a lot of people going to shelter
 - Concerns over renovations and repairs during PACT
 - \$100k/unit for repairs, but need larger system upgrades like pipes
 - Initially was supposed to be larger building repairs (CSS was involved)
 - Now, NYCHA must bring buildings up to code instead of RAD money
 - NYCHA requires tenant stay home from work in order to get abatement
 - Not letting tenants know ahead of time enough, came into a woman's apartment
 - Developer/property management staff along with NYCHA staff
 - Wise towers handed over on 3/1 – rushing to get buildings up to code
 - Transparency is a big issue – RAD handbooks not given out by NYCHA, but rather CSS
 - Fittings are low quality and risk future lead exposure
 - Resident councils need to be educated on building repair issues – need funding for training
 - Doesn't seem worth it to do PACT if getting up to code does almost all repairs
 - Other concerns
 - No investigation of Mutual Housing Associations or other structures
 - Timelines for repairs
 - Protections for residents, succession rights
 - Less accountability for property manager to make repairs
 - No longer can call NYCHA call center for flooding, other issues
 - Also lose housing police once converted
 - Just leaves 24th Precinct
 - Or developer hires private security (unarmed)
 - 24th just polices ground
 - Recent concerns with shootings at Wise
 - Approval to enter buildings in PACT – no tenants involved
 - Wise changed to Wise Consolidated- means will go into PACT
 - Sets precedents for future conversions
 - Renewal of ground lease every 20 years – NYCHA claims they'll step in if major problems
- Melissa Rosenberg committed to laying out concerns in a letter to send to NYCHA
 - CB 7 will CC elected representatives
- Tenants shared infill concerns with NYCHA 2.0
 - Concerns about lack of street parking if lots lost
 - Also losing green space

Item 2: NYS Budget Advocacy 2020-2021

- Funding advocacy
 - Announcement of lobby day in Albany on Thursday
 - MR went over the budget asks that are currently part of the Housing Justice for All Platform for 2020-21.
 - Melissa Rosenberg: Committed to reach out to CSS to get more information on \$3B ask in state budget.
 - Acknowledge state budget gap in resolution introduction
 - Governor's executive budget didn't include any new NYCHA funding
 - Melissa Rosenberg mentioned Home Stability Support
 - Jeanette Rausch asked: what is full price tag of this legislation?
 - MR added that the legislation will keep people in homes is cheaper than dealing with homelessness down the line
 - HCR tenant protection unit funding - \$500M year
 - Call funding for training for TPU
- Attendees asked about resources for rent history review – HCC, Goddard Riverside
 - MR suggested that CB 7 add housing clinic to listserv emails

Item 3: Comments on HPD's Where We Live Report

- MR will send out like to Send out link report
- Ideas for comments to HPD
 - Do infill in richer tower in the park developments
 - TSAP system – needs to be monitored; decides what tenants go into apartments
 - Percentages for homeless, disabled, vets, then everyone else
 - No enforcement
 - Not really random, people get lost in the system
 - City bends rules for its goals – lots of homeless at once for example
 - No screening anymore
 - Housing voucher discrimination: PACT vouchers are not the same as standard vouchers -not sure they are pegged to FMR
 - Full time students cannot live in affordable housing
 - Limits on animals – especially pit bulls, keeps out people of color
 - Mark Diller will email Land Use committee about Where We Live– Mark will send and add to agenda
 - Housing preservation – keep funded and look for vulnerable developments

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

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

February 13, 2020 6:30 PM

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87th Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Co-Chairs K Karpen and Michele Parker.

The following discussions were had and actions taken.

1.2 West 67th Street (Central Park West) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a new front façade fixed picture window, with flanking casements spanning two floors.

James Bright and Angus Herron presented for Bright Window Specialists, with the homeowner, Marcella Smith, also in attendance. This project, for a new front façade fixed picture window with flanking casements spanning two floors for Apartment A on the 10th floor duplex is a replacement in situ. The building does not have a master plan. The windows that are proposed to be replaced are graded as historic steel windows. The existing windows are metal replacement windows, not original to the building. The current metal windows do not function, are corroding, allowing moisture and air infiltration into the interior, rendering an apartment renovation necessary. The inherent degradation of the existing units and precision of the proposed application of the Hope's Landmark 175 Series to match the historic façade ensures the preservation of the building envelope. The work will be done from the interior of the apartment and is expected to take one week for the installation. There was no community input on this project and the committee was in complete agreement.

This resolution is premised on the following facts:

The applicant's building is located at the southwest corner of 67th Street and Central Park West, with facades facing north and east. The primary facades are clad in yellow brick with a variety of window heights ranging from single floor to duplex height.

The application concerns only the windows on the eastern façade of Apartment A on the 10th floor. The subject windows are in disrepair and not original to the building, but rather are metal replacement units rated historical in grade.

The applicant seeks leave to replace the existing windows in the same configuration, with a more modern energy rating, in a manner that will preserve the historic envelope of this historic building, for which there is no master window plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves to **approve** the application as presented based on its necessity and appropriateness to the character of the Historic District.

Vote: 8-0-0-0. Non-Committee Vote: 1-0-0-0.

2. 120 West 74th Street (Columbus Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a proposed ADA ramp.

Architect Frank Nigro presented this project for the installation of an ADA ramp, overhaul of the exterior trash bins, and new security bars at the basement level, which is scheduled for LPC review on March 17th. This 10 unit multiple dwelling was gutted in 2014 and is presently vacant. The interior will be renovated and will consist of 8 units. The new ramp will be composed of tinted concrete. There was no community input on this project.

This resolution is premised on the following facts:

The application concerns the installation of an ADA ramp in front of this brownstone located on the southern side of West 74th Street, between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. The subject building was gutted in 2014 and reduced from 10 to 8 units, but remains vacant. The existing condition does not provide for ADA access into the building. The applicant's proposal is to install an ADA ramp constructed of tinted concrete and at the same time, install new trash bins in front of the building and new security bars on the ground floor windows.

NOW, THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves to **approve** the application as presented as being appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

Vote: 8-0-0-0. Non-Committee Vote: 1-0-0-0.

3. 160 Central Park West (West 76th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a proposed ADA ramp.

Tom Fenniman, Architect, made the presentation for this project, which is for the addition of an ADA ramp in front of the Fourth Universalist Church, using repurposed carved limestone elements found in the basement, also removing deteriorated cast iron vault panels and metal grating, salvaging sections for reuse as decorative sidelights, and relocating an air vent pipe. This new ADA ramp will be installed on the main, eastern façade of the church on Central Park West rather than on the secondary entrance on West 76th Street, allowing all church members to use the same main entrance. Will Ashley, Board President of the church, attended the meeting and voiced strong support for the proposed work, as did David Russo, the President of the Board of the adjacent coop, The Kenilworth. Also in attendance and also supportive was Sheila Powers, a member of the church. The application will be heard at LPC on March 17th.

This resolution is premised on the following facts:

The subject building is a spectacular Gothic style church located at 76th Street and Central Park West, which was built in 1898, dubbed at the time "the Cathedral of Universalism". The architect, William Appleton Potter, based the design closely upon Magdalen Tower, Oxford, and buildings at Magdalen College. A rare design in English Perpendicular Gothic, it received praise from notable architects including Frank Lloyd Wright, whose daughter was married at the church. The church houses several significant artistic works, including an altar by Louis Comfort Tiffany, a bronze relief sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, a mosaic by R. H. Robertson, and stained glass windows by Clayton and Bell of London. The organ was donated by Andrew Carnegie and his wife, Louise Carnegie, the latter who was a member of the church. Originally designed and constructed by the Hutchings-Votey Organ Company of Boston, the organ was rebuilt and revised by the Ernest M. Skinner Company.

In the 1980s, the congregation received inquiries from developers eager to obtain the church's choice property location. Instead, the congregation joined with community activists, preservationists, and neighbors to form Save Our Universalist Landmark (SOUL) and successfully raised funds for maintenance and capital improvements. In return for these funds, the church promised not to exercise its development rights for a certain number of years, one of the first such agreements of its kind.

The proposal is to create an accessible ramp using rescued carved limestone architectural elements from the church's vault, which will be harvested during a renovation of the deteriorated vault space with cast iron vault panels and metal grating also salvaged and reused as decorative sidelights, and to relocate an air vent pipe.

NOW, THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves to **approve** the application for a handicap-accessible ramp to provide access to the main entrance of the subject building as appropriate to the character of the Historic District. The committee further applauds the repurposing of architectural elements to give the new ramp an historic character.

Vote: 8-0-0-0. Non-Committee Vote: 1-0-0-0.

4. 244 Riverside Drive (97th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a proposed ADA ramp.

Seth Roye, Architect, from RKA made the presentation for the installation of an ADA ramp at this six-story 59 unit coop building (with some remaining rental units) located on the northwest corner of Riverside Drive at 97th Street. The proposal is to install an ADA ramp to the north of the main entrance, as well as another ADA ramp inside the main courtyard of the building, and to repair the existing decorative stairs and to install new concrete stairs with bluestone tread and nosing. The request for the ADA ramp came from Laura Wolfson, a shareholder and 17 year resident of the building, who spoke in support of the proposal at the meeting. Eliot Goldman, VP of the Coop Board, also spoke in support. The proposal was opposed by the Treasurer of the Coop Board, Robert Gass, who made a presentation for an alternate ADA solution with the installation of an elevator on West 97th Street.

This resolution is premised on the following facts:

The applicant's building is a six-story 59 unit apartment building with its main entrance on Riverside Drive at 97th Street. An ADA accessible ramp was requested by a current resident, providing access at the street level and inside an interior ramp. At the street entrance, new concrete and bluestone stairs will replace the current stairs, the existing decorative stone will be patched and repaired as required, a new concrete ramp will be installed with proposed decorative stone to match existing condition and new proposed stone facia to match the existing decorative stone. Inside the courtyard, a new railing will match the existing exterior railing per code requirements and the current stairs will be replaced with new, concrete stairs with bluestone tread and nosing and there will also be a new wall-mounted handrail and a new concrete ramp.

NOW, THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves to **approve** the installation of the two ADA ramps – one on Riverside Drive at the street level and the second inside the main interior courtyard of the subject building, with a recommendation to reconsider the width of the steps and angle of the railing on the outer landing, given that the proposal is reasonably appropriate to the Historic District.

Vote: 7-0-1-0. Non-Committee Vote: 1-0-0-0.

Present: K Karpen, Michele Parker, Jay Adolf, Joshua T. Cohen, Douglas McGowan, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton and Susan Schwartz. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller.

The meeting was adjourned at 9PM.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meg Schmitt and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

February 11, 2020 7:00 PM

Report from Officer Rodriguez, NYPD 20th Precinct

- Injuries and collisions are down

Committee business

1. **370 West End Avenue** (West 77th – 78th Streets.) Petition for a new revocable consent to construct, maintain and use three planted areas.
 - Presentation from Anna Zimmerman (Property Manager at Alchemy Properties) for 370 West End Avenue and representative from COOKFOX Architects
 - Planter’s locations were coordinated with DOT - continuous hedge 18 inches wide and deep including different types of shrubs and plants. They will be irrigated and maintained by the building super.
 - Presentation document provided to committee showing current and planned details, dimensions, materials, etc.
 - Already approved by LPC in 2015 (and prior to that, went through CB7) – since then have had delays and plans have been further developed but not substantially changed in substance.
 - The Resolution to **Approve** was adopted. Committee: 9-0-0-0, non-committee 2-0-1-0
2. Policy for considering requests for curbside access to residential buildings.
 - Meg:
 - Previous iteration of what the committee passed at the December meeting was not approved by full board in January. Since this it was something requested by the full board and non-committee members, we want to revisit it.
 - For starters, though I missed the December committee meeting, I know there was data considered regarding % population disabled, elderly or with small children that informed the possible apartment building size threshold, and suggest that background information like that which informs committee thinking should be provided within resolutions/background so the full board can understand what was considered.
 - Howard: Someone at the full board objected to the second bullet. Rather than just fire hydrants, anything that allows access to the curb within 15 feet shouldn’t have this policy apply
 - Andrew: Language should say “fire hydrant or curbside access within 15 feet”
 - Howard: Currently the block association must approve a request, should buildings also have to approve?
 - Sara: What about having signatures required (like secondary street naming guidelines)?
 - Barbara: Would like it to be approved by a block association or a board of a building
 - Steven (non-committee): There’s a difference between what we’ll take under consideration and what will pass. I don’t think the criteria are high enough. We should put a moratorium on resolutions such as this until the study results come back. Until then we can look at things on a case by case basis.
 - Ken: Thinks bar should be in opposite direction. The law doesn’t say people can park at the curb--it says that DOT can determine parking. We’re talking about a lot of potentially dangerous situations. Maybe we should add something to the policy about dangerous situations on the street.

- Rich: The policy should say “more favorably” considered -- this doesn’t mean automatic approval. People will have different thresholds, and we can’t impose a moratorium on these requests until study results (could take over a year), we need to look at them on a one-off basis.
- Steven: The criteria should create a situation for buildings to be automatically approved when they submit a request.
- Sara: How many buildings are there on the UWS that meet these criteria? It might not be more than a couple hundred.
- Andrew: What if loading-trucks for businesses park in the space? Answer: That would be illegal.
- Doug: What about changing these to recommendations to simply requests that applicants receive input from block associations, building associations before coming to the committee, like with Liquor Licenses for BCI.
- Elizabeth: We should pass something that will go well at the Full Board.
- Rich: Friendly amendment: change “look favorably” to “look more favorably when reading, add conditions of “dangerous traffic” and others concerning
- Susan (non-committee): What happens if you approve an application for a handicapped resident and the building then has the curbside space forever, even after the handicapped resident is no longer there?
- Andrew: Will reach out to access a ride - what do they do in situations when there’s not direct curbside access?
- Doug: Applicants need to demonstrate need, not just desire
- Howard: The reason we chose 40 units as a threshold was because it’s almost guaranteed that someone is handicapped, elderly, or has small children
- Ken: What if we added something like “the applicant must demonstrate the current condition is creating a traffic hazard or there is a need among certain residents”
- Barbara: Wants this to have a very high bar. Wouldn’t be able to approve this resolution if it says “look favorably.” Change language to “will consider”
- Julian: If we can’t get behind a set of standards, we should at least pass a set of recommendations for applicants to come with information and support from the community.
- Meg:
 - To some extent the language re: “look favorably” or “more favorably”, etc., is wordsmithing. Any “standards” that may be adopted by their very nature suggest some sort of favorability compared to requests *not meeting* those standards. However, as discussed, the committee still reviews each request individually, so being looked at more favorably for passing baseline standards wouldn’t mean automatic approval.
 - It sounds like the idea of a checklist of information for applicants to provide would at least assure us we’re considering important factors, and assure the full board that we are as well. Note some amount of members on the full board would still want to understand or have clear requirements regarding what merits approval, not just the information considered.
- Steven: Maybe make it about “demonstrated need”
- William: Maybe create a time-limit on the grant of curbside access so it’s re-reviewed every few years if the need has changed
- Rich: We’re dealing with a semantics issue. What about “will give greater consideration”
- Andrew: What about an on-site visit by CB7 being required. How about we go to Full Board and say we had a discussion and were inconclusive

- Meg/Howard: After nearly an hour of discussion this item is being tabled as we have a full agenda as well as a guest speaker who is waiting. Co-chairs will continue discussing this feedback and circle back.
3. Request for curbside access at 54 Riverside Drive.
- A resident from the building presented the request:
 - The request is about safety and convenience. He has a signed letter from the building's board. There are 80+ units in the building. Half of them are elderly or with kids. 80+ families might be happy at the cost of 1. 78th street is an incline -- difficulty for people with walkers. Going to the corner is doable, but why should people have to do that?
 - Committee Questions and Discussions:
 - Meg: Is there a block association on the block? Answer: no
 - Barbara: If we pass this, every building with kids in the UWS (which is all of them), will request one of these.
 - Andrew: How many feet from the entrance to Riverside Drive? Answer: about 100 ft. Andrew: People could potentially be dropped off there? This is why we need on-site inspections for these
 - Steven: Lives in a similar situation as the applicant and also visited the site: this is a want, but not a need. The doorman said no one with a wheelchair and no one with a handicap.
 - Ken: We can't just say "this is the way NY is." We want to improve community -- why can't we have this?
 - Doug: I don't think I would vote in favor of this. People need to demonstrate a need and hardship, not just a nicety. Can we have the applicant come back with the full information after we decide on a policy? Answer: yes.
 - The Resolution to **Approve** was **not** adopted. Committee: 4-3-3-0
4. Mobileye presentation on Crash Avoidance Technology.
- Presentation from Uri Tamir, Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives, MobilEye
 - Bought by Intel recently for \$15 billion
 - MobilEye is the world leader in crash avoidance technology
 - Will not talk about autonomous vehicles today
 - Will talk about a proactive approach to Vision Zero
 - Thousands of crashes in New York City each month, with over a dozen deaths.
 - 2019 was a peak year of pedestrian fatalities
 - Driver Assist Systems: Lane Detection, Vehicle Detection, Pedestrian Detection, and Blind Spot Detection. Much of this technology can be retro-fitted to vehicles, which is crucial. These can also be built directly into fleets of buses (such as new buses known by the MTA)
 - Some issues include that this technology can be turned off (commercial drivers might do this), not every type of vehicle can use this technology (transit buses, delivery trucks, garbage trucks don't have the tech available for a variety of issues, including to a small market)
 - According to 2014 NYC data, there were over 48,000 crashes. Around 20% of crashes had no attributable factor. Out of the remaining 80%, almost 75% of the causes were a human factor. This totals in 36,000 crashes, 34% of which were due to driver distraction/inattention, 20% of which were due to following too closely, 11% of which

were due to unsafe lane changing/improper use of lane, and only 7% due to pedestrian or bicyclist error.

- A few videos were shown providing examples of this technology in use. To note: drivers receive beep alerts coming from the location where there is a risk of collision.
- Hot spot mapping of near-miss data provides insight as to where there was almost an accident. We can break down this data and then use it to inform city planning. This data can also inform where cyclists are going without a bicycle lane.
- Public Questions/Comments
 - Can you see what for-hire vehicles have this technology in them? Answer: Not currently
 - How would a city law saying garbage trucks must have this technology work? Answer: Garbage trucks need night-time (and also daytime) tech. MobilEye has started the conversation with NYC Department of Sanitation.
 - Doug: Is this tech infrared/laser/etc.? Answer: The technology only uses cameras.
 - Doug: What about at night? Answer: The cameras work well at night (especially in the city). If it is very dark and a person is crossing the street in dark clothes, they may not be as effective
 - Doug: Spoke to a bus driver who said there were a lot of false positives. This could potentially de-sensitize drivers to alerts? Answer: these systems were installed in 2016. Since then systems have improved vastly. We also have to be careful about how we define false positives. The vehicle doesn't know what the driver is or isn't seeing, which means alerts even when the driver might be aware of the entire situation. In terms of drivers being de-sensitized to alerts, at the end of the day, the data always shows significant reductions in crashes
 - Mark: What role does motion play in this? What if a person is standing still in the middle of the intersection? Answer: the cameras can see people not moving. The camera can also detect texture (it can see *what* it detects is).
 - Rich: I would love to do a resolution asking the city/state to embrace this technology (not from one company in particular). This could potentially be sent to other CBs. What should we call for in this resolution? Apart from New York City fleet, school buses, and other city-controlled vehicles, what other vehicles? For-hire vehicles/taxis?
 - Community member: How would this impact drivers for Uber and Lyft etc who are not employees of those companies and couldn't or wouldn't pay the cost for this technology? Meg answer: that would be for the City and/or State to consider as part of their evaluation of possibilities, timeline for possibly mandates, tax credits, etc.
 - Mark: What power does the city have - state controls registration?
 - Doug: Do you have info on how insurance premiums are reduced by this technology
 - Uri: the TLC conducted research on technologies for increased safety three years ago. They looked at over 20 types of tech. They are called "driver assistance systems" or "collision avoidance technology". Separately, we should look at other places in the world. Many cities/countries have passed regulations to mandate pedestrian/cyclist detection on very large vehicles.
 - Rich: Resolution proposed: "We call upon New York City and New York State to evaluate and consider mandating driver assistance and collision avoidance and warning technologies in all City and State fleet vehicles, all vehicles regulated by the City and State, and all companies that do business with the City and State."
 - The Resolution was adopted. Committee: 8-0-0-1 Non-Committee: 1-0-0-0

5. Illegal parking in No Standing zone at 25 Central Park West and in the bike lane around Columbus Circle.
 - Violations generally from transit police vehicles
 - Andrew will speak to Chief Delatorre of NYPD Transit about this tomorrow

6. Provisions for cyclists when the Cherry Walk section of the Hudson greenway is closed.
 - Will be shut down for two months (likely April and May)
 - It is said to be the most highly used bike path in North America
 - Ken spoke to Riverside Parks official who said there was no provision for rerouting as of yet.
 - The closure is to repair Hurricane Sandy-related damage and then a second closure will be to repair the path. Both repairs can't be done at once in order for them to be able to use the FEMA money.
 - Ken: One idea is to remove parking on part of Riverside Drive (outside of our District). Not our job to come up with an alternative, but to ask for DOT to find one.
 - Ken: Proposes a resolution asking DOT to develop a plan for safe provisions for cyclists when the Cherry Walk section of the Hudson Greenway is closed in April-May 2020.
 - The Resolution was adopted. Committee: 8-0-0-0 non-committee: 1-0-0-0

7. Request for a streetlight at the northwest corner of West 96th Street and WEA.
 - The streetlight would be very beneficial from a variety of safety reasons
 - Colleen Chattergoon (DOT): Received request for streetlight from an elected official, no committee resolution needed for follow up. DOT will examine streetlight and see if it is sufficient. If it isn't, they will look at adding additional arms to existing streetlights. If this isn't sufficient, then another streetlight will be looked into. Note: DOT doesn't increase the wattage on lights.

8. Status reports on previous business
 - As a committee we want to routinely follow up and share updates on past business, both on resolutions that passed full boards and asked various agencies to do things, or on committee items that didn't require resolutions to address but we followed up on through other means (like a letter or phone call for information etc)
 - Committee resolutions previously passed by Full Board:
 - Requesting DOT to study curb use: No formal response from DOT received yet.
 - Colleen (DOT) notes they're aware and are looking into it
 - Safe cross-town passage through Central Park (joint with Parks & Environment Committee): Colleen (DOT) acknowledged the resolution and DOT is discussing it. We are not likely to have substantial updates re: possible plans/solutions in March but will be following up with precincts/Parks/DOT/Central Park Conservancy for updates (which can include preliminary discussions, who point people from respecting agency/org would be etc.)
 - Improving M11 bus route: No updates yet, co-chairs will follow up
 - 97th and WEA daylighted intersection: there are now granite blocks along the side but cars/vans are reversing into the space. DOT is exploring adding another granite block as the front of the space to block vehicles from reversing into it.
 - Non-resolution items:
 - Road salt procedures (joint item discussed with Parks & Environment Committee): sent a letter to Dept of Sanitation inquiring re: procedures, materials, etc. No response yet.
 - Jan committee mtg community member concern re: relocating southbound M5 bus stop from w104th to w103rd: Andrew Albert followed up
 - Ongoing discussion re: most dangerous intersections: Rich organized a meeting with DOT and 20th and 24th Precincts on 1/17 to discuss list of intersections. DOT and precincts agreed to meet,

including with staff from DOT signals and pedestrian divisions, over multiple sessions and during each meeting will discuss 3-5 intersections on the list and possible safety improvements.

9. New business.

- Doug received a request from the heads of Zabars. A plethora of commercial vehicles have been parking in their loading zone, causing Zabars' drivers to have to double park. Can there be additional signage of what is already their zone? Answer: sounds like an enforcement issue

Present: Howard Yaruss, Meg Schmitt, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Julian Giordano, Doug Kleiman, Sara Lind and Richard Robbins. **Chair:** Mark N. Diller. **Board Members:** Steven Brown, William Ortiz Susan Schwartz. **Absent:** Roberta Semer.

The meeting ended at 9:39pm.

YOUTH, EDUCATION & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 20, 2020

The Youth, Education & Libraries Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at the District Office, 250 West 87th Street, in the District. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by co-chairs Steven Brown and Blanche Lawton. Committee members Catherine DeLazzer, Lolita Ferrin, Julian Giordano, Natasha Kazmi, Doug McGowan, and Ira Mitchneck, and non-Committee Board members Shelly Fine, Doug Kleiman, Michele Parker, Susan Schwartz and Mark Diller participated.

The following discussions were had.

Discussion with SDAG (School Diversity Advisory Group) members Shino Tanikawa and Dennis Parker concerning the SDAG recommendations relating to G&T (“Gifted & Talented”) programs in public schools.

Steven Brown:

- Discussion grew out of interest raised by parents at previous meetings.
- Grateful to have the speakers to follow with us.
- Focus on the impact of G&T on District 3.

Shino Tanikawa:

- SDAG grew out of the NYC Diversity Plan promulgated by the NYC DoE (Department of Education) in June 2016.
- The Diversity Plan called for a series of actions by the Mayor’s office in consultation with the Chancellor.
- SDAG consisted of 50 people, with Co-Chairs Maya Wiley, Jose Calderon and Hazel Dukes.
- Executive Committee included co-chairs plus Amy Hsin and Richard Kahlenberg.

- Shino is a public school parent and a member of the Education Council Consortium - an ad-hoc group of parent leaders including members of Community Education Councils throughout the City. The ECC meets regularly with DoE leadership on various issues.
- ECC lobbied to be included in the SDAG.
- CPAC (Chancellor’s Parent Advisory Committee – a formal group composed of PTA parent leaders throughout the system) also had representation – 4 parents in total.
- Many other members were from organizations including Advocates for Children, the UFT, the Diverse Charter Schools Coalition, Integrate NYC and others. They represented their respective organizations.
- Maya Wiley took the leadership role in striving for consensus among a diverse group.
- No policy guidance from DoE – but the DoE did provide data.
- Common theme was commitment to diversity, but from very different viewpoints.

- Two reports from SDAG – first was released in February 2019.
- Second released in Summer 2019 – took longer to reach consensus on the topics in the second report.

Dennis Parker

- Driving the discussions was the fact that NYC is one of the most segregated school systems in the United States.
- Plagued by historic and continuing inequity in the allocation of resources.
- SDAG sought to address diversity goals by focusing on proposals that would achieve equity.
- Breaking down recommendations by phased implementation over time.
- Addressed the reality that some areas that promoted diversity and equity were easier to implement than others.
- Commitment to ensuring high quality to educational opportunities in addition to equity and diversity.

Shino Tanikawa

- Relied on work done by a group of students – Integrate NYC.
- Integrate NYC’s work framed their goals according to the “5 Rs:”
- -- Race and enrollment – how do students become assigned to schools.
- -- Representation – who is teaching the students – including the need for teachers to reflect the diversity of the students.
- -- Relationships: the relationship of pedagogy on how to teach, including respecting students’ lived experiences regardless of achievement to the goals. The approach runs counter to the deficit-based perception of students.
- -- Restorative justice: disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline by changing the way we discipline students. Rather than punitive measures, students who commit an offense are brought together with the victim and the community, and the point of the process is to evaluate how to make healing actions. Not just suspensions. Trying to make the student understand the impact and import of actions and redress of them.
- -- Resources: Schools receive different levels of funding – not just dollars, but human resources from connections to outside organizations. The people connections may not be equally found in all schools.
- SDAG adopted the 5Rs to frame its work.

- SDAG organized goals by time frame. Some in 0-3 years; next 3-5 years; 5-10 year.
- Handout and second Report summarizes SDAG’s goals as adopted and reflected in the second report “Making the Grade II: New Programs for Better Schools.”
- NOT recommending the immediate wholesale elimination of G&T. Phasing out over time.
- Personal belief that students should not be separated for an entire day in separate classrooms based on perceived aptitude for achievement, especially if identified by a measure that is not educationally sound.
- We do not believe in testing 4-year-olds.
- Also believes that we should not have wholesale separate tracking of students by perceived ability. Do not want to see students separated for entire day every day.
- Recommended providing accelerated curriculum to all students in the subject matter(s) in which each excels.

- Newspaper accounts of the goals and recommendations of the SDAG have been inaccurate.
- Not every student who is accomplished in math is also accomplished in literacy, science etc.

- Propose accelerated teaching to start only in 3rd grade. Should not be separating or testing students in Kindergarten.

- Did not recommend immediate end of G&T – rather to phase out.

Dennis

- SDAG looked at other school districts around the country for models and learning.
- -- Looked at research as to what does/does not work in other districts.
- -- Looked at disparities between student population as a whole and the students inside G&T.
- Concern that the selection process for G&T had serious problems and left out a large number of students who could benefit from more tailored education and did so based on race, ethnicity and disability status.
- All of this required an examination of the entire system.
- Goal is to ensure that more students have educational opportunities that are more tailored to their needs. And to provide those opportunities in a way that is fairer to more students.

Shino

- Criticism that the recommendations did not include a specific replacement.
- This was intentional – SDAG wanted the enrichment model to be created so that each local community could come up with a replacement plan that meets the need of that locality, which may differ from place to place.

Steven:

- How would students in enrichment classes be selected?

Shino:

- Multiple measures – not a single metric. Portfolio, test scores, teacher recommendations, and other factors.

Dennis:

- Concern about the student's background – huge concern about separating students at an early age.
- Concern for tests that inherently exclude students.

Steven:

- At what age does separating students based on ability make sense.

Shino:

- SDAG did not reach consensus on that issue.
- Personal view is that students should not be separated by ability at any phase. Just must make sure the highest achievers are appropriately challenged.
- Question the existence of Specialized HSs – not sure if that is a need.

Dennis:

- Nature of HS and MS different than elementary schools – easier as kids get older.

Steven:

- Was there a thought given to amending programs rather than replacing them?

Shino:

- Early on, some members had a thought to amending vs replacement.
- Took longer to reach consensus
- Especially in early grades, most SDAG members felt that separating students at an early age was not the correct approach.
- Should create a system with an opportunity for accelerated curriculum for all students.

Dennis:

- Report included a thought about expanding offerings in areas that were underserved.
- Concern that racial and ethnic segregation and poverty separation would not be addressed by adding G&T to more existing schools.
- So creating more G&T seats in the South Bronx would not address impact of attending a poverty school.

Blanche:

- Why accelerate only those areas that a student shows high achievement.

Shino:

- Research shows that identifying "giftedness" is not easy to do accurately.
- Label of being "gifted" is itself a problem.
- Rather, look for the way in which each child is "gifted" which may be a different for each kid.

Committee Questions:

Lolita:

- What happens if student who is accomplished in Math is not so accomplished in literacy.

Shino:

- Supports will be available for the subjects in which the student is in deficit; enrichment for the subjects in which the student experiences higher achievement.

Dennis:

- That student would not be well served in a traditional G&T.
- Curriculum should be responsive to a student's needs.

Mark:

- Concern for the role played by G&T programs in the South Bronx, parts of Brooklyn and other higher-socio-economic need areas in previous decades and generations.
-- do not want to eliminate a program that may once have contributed to greater diversity and equity than currently experienced.

Shino:

- SDAG wanted to meet needs of 100% of students.
- Problem began with the use of a single test for admissions.

Dennis:

- There are other ways to achieve equity and diversity.
- Need a better way to capture the impact of G&T programs.
- Harford model – lottery magnet schools with no screens outperform tracked programs without exclusion – it can be done.

Natasha:

- Clarity on numbers – how many students are currently enrolled in G&T?

Dennis:

- Currently appx 2% of students - breakdown by race, ethnicity and eco status. Chronic underrepresentation of Black and Latinx.

Catherine:

- G&T programs are based on broad assumptions and can produce harmful results.
- Has SDAG thought about how to communicate to families fighting to preserve programs that work for them.

Shino:

- Knew this would be a challenging and explosive topic.
- Hindsight – would have done communications differently.
- Challenge – were losing Maya Wiley to the Impeachment process. SDAG is no longer meeting as a complete group.

Dennis:

- One of the difficulties of the narratives on integration – the discussion often gets trapped in the false choice between integration and quality education.
- Integration benefits all students, not just the economically disadvantaged – benefits every student.
- Can have schools that meet the needs of all students – not a zero-sum game – but must distribute opportunity more equally.
- Must find a way to educate students that prepares them to interact with those who are different.

Julian:

- Already noticed change among student peers.
- Sorry that SDAG is no longer meeting.
- Even if the recommendations were implemented – a question remains on how to solve the disparities of resources.

Shino:

- Would love everyone to get behind small class size.
- State owes us \$1.4 Billion which could be used to decrease class sizes.
- Hard to do this work with large class sizes.
- It has taken too long to get the funds to create class size reduction.
- Would love to change the narrative around what makes a good school.
- Data driven conversation from NCLB (“No Child Left Behind”).
- Good schools are more than grades and statistics.
- How one relates to the community and the society as a collective – understanding one’s place in the community – this is an aspect of life that is not being taught in our schools. Need to learn to care for others – this is a need for our society at large, but cannot be captured in numbers.

Dennis:

- Benefits of desegregation – addresses resources distributed in ways that are fundamentally unfair.
- For example, students with greatest needs are taught by the least accomplished teachers with the least resources.
- Not just theoretical – can’t return to *Plessy v. Ferguson* – separate schools cannot be tolerated even with increased resources to certain students.

Ira:

- Discontinued G&T at child’s school.
- Welcome Sharmilee Ramudith – CEC3 member.
- Note that CSD3 boundaries are different than CB7’s boundaries.
- Crafting solutions affected by zones.
- CSD3 has 4 sections of G&T – 2 in northern portion of UWS, 2 below.
- CSD3 also has 2 Citywide G&T (Anderson and Special Music).
- How to move from current situation to a more equitable model?
- Chancellor has not been supportive regarding a more equitable distribution of resources.
- How to equalize resources across the District when the District itself does not have the power to mandate that.
- How to address potential overcrowding if G&T were eliminated and those students would enroll in the already over-utilized schools.

Shino:

- Recommendations of Second Report have not been adopted. May never happen.
- Would welcome CB7 nudging the Mayor and Chancellor to address the recommendations.
- Some parents in 2009 recommended that the Community Board and CEC zones align better.
- Welcomes collaboration with Community Boards.
- First report recommended examination of PTA funding – DoE organizing a task force.

Carrie:

- D3 parent of 2 G&T students at PS 166.
- Chief concern was not taking issue with admission system.
- Addressing the point that students should not be tested at age 4 or 5, at PS 166 40% of G&T offers were for grades above K.
- Messaging suggest that it is not a priority to meet advanced learners where those students are.
- Concede that tests are not sole measure of academic achievement.
- SDAG report stated that mixed proficiency classes “do not harm” advanced learners. Seems to disregard research that G&T does help advanced students with higher outcomes.
- Concern that no one on the SDAG came from the current G&T community.
- Report does not say anything about how schoolwide enrichment would be implemented. DC model featured in the SDAG report actually separated students by ability.
- Concern about rhetoric about G&T as isolated from the real world when the students have ethnicities from literally all corners of the world.

- Two types of G&T programs – “enriched” and “accelerated.” Accelerated is in high demand.
- District program was an important opportunity for their family.
- Report varies from the intentions expressed at this meeting.
- Fuller discussion to be had.

Dennis:

- Overall statistics are not consistent with the population as a whole.
- Would expect a closer Citywide number of students in the programs.

Carrie:

- Additional factors should be incorporated.
- But could leverage same goals in different ways that do not eliminate G&T.
- Double the program, and place new sections in places of need.

Dennis:

- Questions about admissions criteria should be examined, and would not be addressed simply by expanding capacity in existing G&T programs.
- Concern about means to prepare for the test – the test can’t be the only admissions criterion.
- Concern is for equity, not a concern per se about accelerated learning.

Shino:

- Still concerned about labeling some kids as “gifted” or “talented” – not nurturing for Gen Ed students to be told that they are not the gifted kids.

Carlo Portes – parent at Anderson:

- Empathy for difficult task taken on by SDAG.
- No one wants a segregated or separate system.
- Concern for opposing the recommendation as being seen as opposing its goals.
- If a G&T program could accurately represent the community demographics, could it be acceptable.
- If expanding admissions criteria beyond the single test.
- How does returning the 2% G&T population to Gen Ed population affect overall goals on diversity and equity?
- Own experience was escaping poverty.
- If equity of opportunity is the goal, can that be achieved without scrapping the program.
- Were G&T parents consulted as part of the SDAG program?
- Agrees that Anderson needs more African-American and Latinx students.

Dennis:

- There are more choices than G&T or chaos.
- No argument that some students need more challenge.
- Question is whether the current system is fair, and if not, how to change.
- Not saying that all students should be treated the same. Should meet each student’s needs.
- SDAG agreed that instruction should be more fine-tuned.
- Looking at every part of the process, including admissions. If admissions produces a segregated result then it should be

Shelly:

- Formerly the Chair of UWS School Board in the era when they were elected.
- At that time, population of schools was 91% non-white; population of District was 90% white.
- Started 10 Magnet Schools with enriched programs.
- Created G&T at the same time. Did outreach.
- At that time, G&T had more admissions criteria – test, teacher recommendations, interview, other factors.
- This community insisted that G&T be integrated, and that goal was achieved.
- School Board and School District oversaw the programs – imposed the values of the community on the admissions.

- Variety of special programs developed in various schools.
- Had a model that worked.
- Elimination of School Boards and concentration of power in Mayor resulted in integrated schools becoming segregated.
- Started enrichment in 5th grade to prepare kids to reach Bronx Science – successful until the program was killed by the Central DoE.
- There are ways to achieve equity without drastic action.
- Problem with doing away with G&T is that if teachers aren't trained in enrichment, will have a great idea and goal that can't be implemented.
- Supports all options, including G&T.
- Ruben Diaz once noted that he would not have been elected Bronx Borough President without G&T.
- Don't throw out the program for those that need it.

Dennis:

- Renzuli and other programs were a good local answer to diversity and higher achievement.
- Report does not address the Centralized Board – note that Central Administration has not adopted the SDAG recommendations.
- Community prioritized integration and creating opportunities.
- Those goals are precisely what we are seeking.

Mikhail Itkis:

- Concern about phasing out G&T.
- “Hope” to be able to serve needs and goals – need more than just hope.
- Concern with burning something down and then building something new from the bottom up is fraught with uncertainty.
- Need metrics to assess areas of gifts on an individualized basis – sounds impossible especially given limits of resources.
- Concern for other sources of Segregation – charter schools and other choices that disparately impact all students.

Shino:

- Believe strongly that capable teachers can teach students with a wide range of learning abilities.
- Own children's school had 2-year groupings – wide range of abilities within each classroom.
- Teachers now are trained to teach to the tests. But accomplished teachers can meet multiple needs.

Dennis:

- Share the skepticism about creating a new system that meets all needs.
- But current system does not meet the needs of a defined group of students, and that cannot be ignored.
- Need to look at best practices and research and create the best model possible.

Larry - D3 parent – 3rd and 6th grade G&T children:

- SDAG program does recommend the phase-out of G&T.
- Addressing concern of testing 4-year olds. Emphasize 40% of admissions at PS 166 is into older grades.
- In current class, only 1/3 of students are white/Asian.
- Agree must meet more needs.
- Dialogue that G&T cannot serve Black and Latinx students does not reflect reality on the ground.
- One child in the current PS 166 G&T class is homeless. DoE is not supportive of homeless in G&T.
- Homeless parent's reaction to SDAG recommendation to eliminate G&T was that she was “used to having things taken away from me.”
- Challenge the narrative that only White and Asian parents want G&T to remain.
- D3 Harlem schools have small enrollment and struggle to perform.
- Phase-out before piloting a viable alternative does not make sense.

- Leroy Comrie, Robert Cornegie, others advocate creating more G&T sections.
- Decrease of G&T programs in communities of poverty/need met with increase of Charter schools – parents voting with their feet.
- 16K children in G&T out of 1.1 million
- 50% of children grades 3-8 score below proficient in state tests.

Dennis:

- Not an accurate framing of the issue to suggest that G&T would be eliminated and that no new opportunities would be created.

Doug:

- One issue that was not well presented in the SDAG report – this is the way to expand enriched curriculum to the entire system.

Shino:

- Every single school should have accelerated learning opportunities for every student who needs it.
- Not being spiteful of loved programs and those who love them.
- Want to spread the love.
- Think of it as expanding enriched learning, but not in a tracked way.
- Label is highly problematic.

Susan Schwartz:

- Wish same financial investment in bike lanes could be translated to education. Do not understand the resources being so limited.
- G&T should be expanded to benefit more eligible students.

Dennis:

- Agrees that enriched curriculum should be expanded – but not the way it is now, not using the admissions criteria now in place.

Susan:

- G&T learning opportunities should not only be for the economically gifted.

Michele:

- Will DoE implement new acceleration and enrichment?

Shino:

- DoE would have to implement the goals – they are the only ones with the power to change admissions and curriculum.

Karen O'Connell:

- Anderson parent – did not use test prep course during admissions.
- Not the prototypical G&T parents.
- Would love to expand to universal screening so every child is evaluated – not only those whose parents self-select for evaluation.
- Broward County Florida adopted universal automatic universal G&T evaluations.
- Subconscious bias addressed by universal screening – some families assume they are not eligible.
- Need to have drastic re-prioritization of admissions to zoned schools.
- Why not set aside seats at zoned schools for students eligible for free/reduced lunch?

Ian – parent at PS 166:

- Are the SDAG recommendations intended to reflect the broader community?

Shino:

- SDAG held 5 Town Hall meetings – heard from hundreds of parents, and held small-table discussions.

- Recommendations from research as well as parents.

Ian:

- Went to a Gen Ed school and then Bronx Science. The only pure meritocratic experience in life (from modest means) was at Bronx Science.
- G&T worked well – should not punish those for whom the system does work – not practical.
- Manhattan cost of living is high – if could not have quality education, would have been forced to leave NYC. Can't wait many years for transformation of system while child is in the system.

Shino:

- As a group, SDAG did not delve deeply into timing, although many SDAG members are parents in the system.
- Aware of the implications of own recommendations. Every parent should do what is best for own child. System might not change if that were the only interest.
- Did have G&T representation.

Ken Connelly – PS 166 parent

- Reacting to the separate enrichment by subject still makes separation.

Shino:

- Not all-or-nothing. Kids good at one thing but not others will be sorted accordingly.

Dennis:

- There is a value to heterogenous groupings.

Catherine:

- All students have wide range of abilities – need support and challenge.
- All good educators want heterogenous groupings.
- All students perform better in heterogenous groupings.
- Responsibility of use of public funds in public schools to maximize the benefits for everyone.

Ken:

- How does one connect socio-economic influences based on being asked to travel long distances for pre-K? Can't have 2 kids in far-flung locations.
- Like to walk to school. But PS 75 draws from other communities because it is a better school.
- Can't balance socio-economic together.

Shelly:

- can create opportunities that area draw in far-flung neighborhoods.

Sarah DeLeo:

- Anderson parent.
- Grew up in Waterbury – like Yonkers, chronically segregated.
- Saw school as kid as boring and lonely and isolating.
- Wanted better for own kids.
- Ended up having to go to boarding school (Choate) to be challenged.
- Experienced stereotyping – blue-collar town.
- Public sector needs to provide accelerated option. Otherwise elite colleges will only have affluent students.
- Disadvantaged communities need access to accelerated programs.
- Call out DoE for institutionalized racism.
- DoE has created DoE deserts.
- Anderson parents created diversity plans with local schools – no leadership at the DoE top.
- Real issue with Charter Schools. Deprives local Harlem communities an entitlement to zoned schools.

Cheyenne – PS 166:

- Elementary school recommendation in years 0-3 years.
- Bullet point recommendations seem impossible to implement without significant resources.

- If recommending elimination of a program, should be careful to make sure that corresponding recommendations to create new opportunities are equally able to be implemented.
- Who will be held accountable if SDAG has basically disbanded?

Shino:

- DoE will do what it wants with recommendations.
- So DoE will be the party accountable – Mayor and Chancellor.

David Oh – Anderson parent:

- Recommendation is premised on the assumption that DoE is competent and accountable.
- Not valid assumptions.
- Why engage a drastic overhaul without first addressing DoE competence and accountability.
- Human rights violation that NYC public school graduates are not prepared.

Shino:

- Fighting Mayoral control – because Mayor has not been held accountable – join the fight.
- Need the State legislature to change the system.
- Join the fight.
- Need a State commission to evaluate school governance.

Mark:

- The SDAG Report claims only that including high-achieving students in heterogeneous groupings “does not harm” the high achievers, while benefiting the struggling students.
- Understood research to establish that there are measurable positive outcomes to students at every level of achievement (beyond learning to interact with students at every level of achievement), not just that it does not harm the lowest performers.
- Catherine:
- Had the same understanding from the research – will share.

Shino:

- The claim in the report was based on the best evidence uncovered in research – should share and hold onto it.

Next meeting will be a discussion about addressing the needs of at-risk youth.

- Natasha and Blanche to coordinate the program.

Meeting adjourned 9:05 pm.

BY-LAWS TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Susan Schwartz, Chairperson

February 12, 2020

The By-Laws Task Force of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87th Street. The meeting was called to order at 5:30P by Chair Susan Schwartz. Task Force members Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Elizabeth Caputo, Cindy Cardinal, Shelly Fine, Julian Giordano, Michele Parker and Andrew Rigie participated in the meeting. CB7 Chair Mark Diller was also in attendance.

This was the first meeting of the new By-Laws Task Force. The Chair circulated our current By-Laws and a Model from the Manhattan Borough President in advance of the meeting. Our goal is to review and revise our current By-Laws beginning with the version that was adopted on February 5, 2013 with an amendment regarding committee chair term limits approved at the December 2018 full board meeting. The main topic for discussion at this first meeting was agreeing on the starting point for the new By-Laws. After discussion, the group agreed to use the structure and order of the Manhattan Borough President's Model Community Board By-Laws, issued in October 19, 2017. This template was the result of a thorough review of all 12 Manhattan Community Board By-Laws. Barbara Adler generously offered to work with Susan Schwartz before the next Task Force meeting to create a starting document for our work, using our language, but following the MBP Model. Once we have the new document, all changes to the document will be visible via track changes to ensure everyone knows when a change has been made. Susan and Barbara will send the new document to the Task Force prior to the next meeting.

We agreed to carefully review the By-Laws for each of the other Manhattan Community Boards. At our next meeting, Susan will provide each Task Force member with the By-Laws from a Manhattan Board to review, along with a checklist of items to note (e.g., attendance tracking, term limits, conflicts of interest, etc.).

We had a short, but fruitful discussion of some of the issues that Task Force members feel are important:

Mark Diller: conflict of interest and disclosure

Shelly Fine: public members, treasurer

Jay Adolf: conflict of interest, disclosure, standing committees

Cindy Cardinal: term limits for committee chairs, attendance

Elizabeth Caputo: live streaming, open meetings, meeting management, term limits, elections

Michele Parker: ethics committee

Andrew Rigie: special meetings and open meetings

Barbara Adler: decorum and civility

Going forward, the Task Force will meet from 5:30 – 6:15P on the second Wednesday of each month, prior to BCI. The agenda will provide a specific topic for each meeting – such as term limits or conflict of interest – to foster involvement and inclusivity. We also agreed that we welcome input and involvement during this

process beyond the Task Force itself. Snacks will be served to encourage this and the leftovers will remain behind to provide sustenance to the BCI Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15P. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday March 11, 2020 from 5:30-6:15P at the CB7 District Office, 250 West 87th Street. All are welcome.