

# FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2021 at 6:30pm

Steven Brown, Chairperson

*Steven Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm after the Secretary confirmed the existence of a quorum.*

**Present:** Steven Brown, Chair; Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Daniela Alvarado, Rosa Arenas, Richard Asche, Kristen Berger, Courtney Clark Metakis, Josh Cohen, Christian Cordova, Ken Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Catherine DeLazzer, Mark Diller, Bev Donohue, Robert Espier, Shelly Fine, Paul Fischer, Julian Giordano, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Madelyn Innocent, Audrey Isaacs, K Karpen, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, Blanche Lawton, Sara Lind, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Rich Robbins, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Polly Spain, Erana Stennett and Benjamin Wu. **Absent:** Elizabeth Caputo, Amy Hyman, Doug McGowan, Jeanette Rausch, Meg Schmitt and Howard Yaruss.

## Public Safety Session

### ***Report from NYPD 24th Precinct***

Deputy Inspector Naoki Yaguchi, 24th Precinct

D.I. Yaguchi shared that for the 28 day period there have been 92 index crimes. Robberies are up by four from last year. Grand larcenies have also increased, especially vehicle thefts. There was a shooting at 2:20 pm last Tuesday at 103rd between Broadway and Amsterdam. The investigation is ongoing, nobody was hit. There is an increased police presence around Douglass House now. There were many good arrests in May.

Shelly Fine asked if the shooting was gang-related.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that the May 2nd shooting was, but the shooting last Tuesday is still in investigative phases.

Rich Robbins asked if bullets were recovered from the scene and can be used in the investigation.

D.I. Yaguchi responded that bullets were recovered and can be used.

Peter Arndsten asked how gun arrests happen.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that he can't discuss active cases but that arrests can lead to guns being taken.

Peter Arndsten noted that he is very concerned about firearms in the community.

Russell Sturges asked how the NYPD spreads out cops and how they know if what they're intending to do works.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that they use computers to dot where crimes are happening and use that to determine how to deploy resources. During their tour, cops can get called from their deployment areas to 911 calls.

Russel Sturges asked about cops in cars vs cops on the street.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that the 24th Precinct recently got 24 officers from the Police Academy, which has increased foot presence, which he noted he prefers to car presence.

Myles Lewis asked how D.I. Yaguchi recommends store owners address shoplifting.

D.I. Yaguchi noted that a majority of shoplifting occurs in big stores such as Duane Reade and CVS and that the more the environment can be controlled, the better. He added that the best defense is video cameras.

Steven Brown asked what D.I. Yaguchi thinks is affecting an increase in crime, mentioning bail reform as an example.

D.I. Yaguchi noted that he has no data to back anything up, but that he has the sense that bail reform is a major issue that should be modified to let individuals know there are consequences for their actions.

Blanche Lawton asked if there are plainclothes units.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that there are no more plainclothes units, they all deploy in uniform.

Erana Stennett asked if anyone had been apprehended for the shooting on 92nd between Central Park West and Columbus. She also noted that there were a tremendous amount of fireworks going off last year and asked if there are any plans in place to ensure that doesn't repeat this year.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that the shooting is still under investigation. He also shared that tips from the community are important if people are seen letting off fireworks.

Ken Coughlin asked if the additional deployments because of the shootings mean there is less manpower for motor vehicle enforcement.

D.I. Yaguchi replied that there is a dedicated traffic safety team.

### Introductions

Michelle Booker, newly hired District Manager, introduced herself and shared information on her background.

Steven Brown introduced the four new members of CB7: Benjamin Wu, Daniela Alvarado, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, and Kristen Berger.

### Business Session (Estimated Start 7:10)

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

##### Resolutions Re:

1. **200 Central Park West**, American Museum of Natural History (West 77th – 81st Streets.) Application # LPC-21-08864 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the proposed relocation of the Equestrian Statue of Theodore Roosevelt.

Shelly Fine asked if the two side figures are attached to Theodore Roosevelt. Michele replied yes. Erana Stennett asked how the silhouette will work. Daniel Slippen of the AMNH explained that the echo of the statue/plinth will be pushed back to recognize that the statue was there, so as not to forget it was there. Rolando Kraeher, the architect, explained that they are taking the shape of the plinth and embedding a bronze piece on the surface. Erana asked if there will be an inscription on it. Daniel Slippen explained that there will be text explaining that the statue was there and the reason for the relocation. He also noted that the memorial to Theodore Roosevelt is larger than just one statue, and inscriptions on Roosevelt can be found on the top and sides of the building.

After deliberation, Jay Adolf introduced an unfriendly amendment to the resolution that would

- 1) replace the word "relocation" with removal" in the description of the application.
- 2) Delete the last two paragraphs of the recitation of facts; and
- 3) Delete the current Resolution clauses A. and B. and replace with the following:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan:

- A. Removal: **disapproves** of the application to remove the statue of Theodore Roosevelt from the Memorial plaza leading to the Central Park West entrance of the American Museum of Natural History as inappropriate to the history and character of the museum."
- B. Replacement: **requests** that the applicant re-submits the application with a proposal to disassemble the statue, retain the portion of Theodore Roosevelt on Horseback in its current location, and install the Native American and African figures in a prominent and appropriate location within the museum complex.

*The vote on the amendment was taken by a show of hands: 5-36-4-0. The amendment was **not adopted**.*

Michele Parker made a friendly amendment that was accepted to add “and the Roosevelt Family” to the line “AMNH and Parks support the current application to remove the Statue and reconstruct portions of the Memorial Plaza.” in the 7th paragraph below “This resolution is based on the following facts:”.

*The vote to approve the resolution was taken in two parts by a show of hands:*

*Part 1a: 38-4-3-0. Part 1b: 31-5-3-0. The resolution carried.*

2. **120 West 74th Street** (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to expand the existing top floor and rooftop addition.

*The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 34-4-0-0. The resolution carried.*

3. **170 Central Park West**, New-York Historical Society (West 77th Street.) Application #LPC-21-07870 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a four-story addition to the existing museum structures on the current parking lot space on West 76th Street, including rooftop and interior gardens.

*The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 41-1-0-1. The resolution carried.*

**322 Central Park West** (West 92nd Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for renovation of a boiler flue, including interior base support of a stainless steel flue liner and exterior metal frame support for a flue liner extension above the existing brick rooftop flue.

*After deliberation, the vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 39-0-3-0. The resolution carried.*

4. **263 West 93rd Street** (Broadway – West End Avenue.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a window replacement.

*The vote to approve was taken by a show of hands: 40-2-1-0. The resolution carried.*

5. **Construction Netting.**

*After deliberation, the vote was taken by a show of hands: 38-0-5-0.*

**Youth, Education and Libraries Committee, Blanche Lawton and Courtney Clark Metakis, Co-Chairpersons**

**Resolution Re:**

6. Returning Full-Time to In-Person Learning for NYC Schools in Fall 2021

*After deliberation, the vote was taken by a show of hands: 35-1-3-1.*

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

**Resolution Re:**

7. Sexual harassment in the workplace: prevention, disclosure, and response Catherine DeLazzero provided a presentation with information and resources regarding sexual harassment in the workplace.

*After deliberation, the vote was taken by a show of hands: 37-0-3-0.*

**Land Use Committee, Richard Asche and Jeanette Rausch, Co-Chairpersons**

**Resolution Re:**

8. NYC Department of City Planning and NYS MTA’s proposed Zoning Text Amendment 2020Y0194: Elevate Transit for Accessibility. <https://new.mta.info/accessibility/zoning-for-accessibility> Klari Neuwelt offered a friendly amendment to change the resolution’s phrasing from “approve...but only if” to “disapprove unless”, which was accepted.

*The vote was taken by a show of hands: 31-0-2-0.*

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

**Resolution Re:**

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

- **225-235 Freedom Place South** (West 61st Street) GC Riverside LLC d/b/a Harry's Table by Cipriani.
- **433 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 81st Street) HRA Amsterdam, LLC d/b/a RA Sushi.

*Alteration Liquor License Application to the SLA:*

**10. 286 Columbus Avenue** (West 74th Street) Kissaki UWS LLC, d/b/a To be Determined.

*Class Change Liquor License application to the SLA:*

**11. 940 Columbus Avenue** (West 106th Street) Fujiyama Ramen & Sushi LLC d/b/a Mighty Catch.  
*The vote to approve the bundle of resolutions 10, 11, and 12 was taken by a show of hands: 34-0-0-0. The resolution carried.*

The approval of minutes from the previous full board meeting was deferred to the July Full Board meeting.

**Chair's Report:** Steven M. Brown

There was no Chair's Report.

**Community Session – (Estimated Start 8:30)**

*We welcome all members of our community (residents, businesses, CBOs) who would like to speak on issues of interest to them.*

*Manhattan Borough President's Report*

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer reported on a variety of initiatives, including the reopening of senior centers, weekly calls on different topics held by her office and archived on the website ([www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov)), the recent vision and hearing forum, a letter on dirt bikes, and ATVs, an upcoming Juneteenth event, a Pride event, and an event with the Asian American Federation. She thanked the four new members and noted that they are working to make Community Boards represent the demographics of their community.

*Reports by Elected Officials*

Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal (District 67), Councilmember Helen Rosenthal (District 6), State Senator Brad Hoylman (District 27) reported on their latest initiatives.

*Reports by Elected Officials' Representatives (One-minute remarks)*

Luke Wolf (Comptroller Scott Stringer), Hannah Weinerman (Congressman Jerrold Nadler, District 10), and Suad Hassan (State Senator José Serrano, District 29) reported on their officials' latest initiatives.

*Public Comments*

Ashley Gonzales provided an update on the New York Public Library/St Agnes Branch.

Peter Arndsten provided an update from the Columbus-Amsterdam BID.

Nancy Cohen of the West 107 Block Association spoke in regards to the homeless shelter on her block.

Myles Lewis discussed parking at the 20th Precinct in regards to obstruction of a left turn lane.

Andrew Rosenthal spoke on the same issue.

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 11:09 pm.*

# TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Andrew Albert, Howard Yaruss Co-Chairs**

**June 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm Via ZOOM**

**Present:** Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Julian Giordano, Doug Kleiman, William Ortiz, Roberta Semer and Erana Stennett. **Non- Committee Board Members:** Kirsten Berger, Paul Fisher, Natasha Kazmi, Michele Parker, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Richard Robbins and Susan Schwartz.

## **1. Update by Colleen Chattergoon, Department of Transportation**

Daylighting at intersections - they will update locations  
They are looking at 72nd Street bike lane with Bike Division  
Cross park bike path, DoT is working with the Park Conservancy  
West 100th Street request for Bike lane, looking at alternatives  
Need information on left turn signals  
Question about traffic circle priorities, DOT is still looking

## **2. General Enforcement**

Howard Yaruss explained that there are problems with speeding, lots of accidents, 20th and 24th Precincts know about the problem locations and they are coordinating with DoT. Colleen Chattergoon explained that the DoT safety team goes out to study the area.

Ken Coughlin pulled up crash mappers. He said the high crash corridor is 72 Broadway to Amsterdam.

Rich Robbins said that cars parked in the area that are day lighted. He added that trucks are blocking lanes of traffic.

Colleen said that Dot is not an enforcer

Susan Schwartz said that bikes don't stop at intersections

Colleen Chattergoon said that we need an education campaign, she asked people to let her know which intersections are problematic.

Erana Stennett asked how many people need to be hit by bikes before people stop saying that cars are more dangerous

## **3. E-Bike, Scooter Resolution**

Jay Adolf proposed a resolution to have the NYC Department of Transportation undertake a study of enacting safety measures for E-Bikes and E-Scooters, and to banning them from bike lanes and entreating enforcement.

Ken Coughlin is concerned with more mobility devices. He said it is not an emergency

Sara Lind wants better protection for pedestrians

Rich Robbins said that Jay spoke for over 10 minutes. He also said people should not ride on sidewalks or the wrong way on streets

Barbara Adler added that NYS Senator Felder is introducing 4 bills on bike safety. The streets have become Wild West. Safety is critical.

Cindy Cardinal said that Council Member Rosenthal has asked her staff to listen carefully.

William Ortiz stressed the importance of Respect and Responsibility by all cyclists. Incentivize them to ride safely, improve education

Andrew Albert question of safe way for bikes to ride

Doug Kleiman said we need to do something. It is dangerous to walk across intersections

Elizabeth Caputo this is a serious issue.

Andy Rosenthal yet to hear a real conversation about fatalities and major accidents. 99% of accidents are caused by cars and trucks.

Nicole Clemen good to hear concerns.

Kevin Fagan just purchased an ebike so can't support first part of resolution. Don't think resolution accomplishes anything. Howard Yaruss on street as a pedestrian, bike rider and driver. I will never ride an ebike and don't like them in the bike lanes, but I don't want them in the street

Jay Adolf doesn't agree with a lot Howard has said. We are all concerned with safety.

Natasha Kazmi agrees with Jay

Jay agreed to several changes

Ken Coughlin asked to make bike lanes wider

Howard Yaruss seconded

Erana Stennett Why would making lane wider make riders more observant of rules. Can ebike have an id number, please add to resolution

Amendment to add wider bike land to resolution failed

*Committee: 3-6-0-0. Non Committee Members 1-6-0-0.*

Rich Robbin suggested changes to resolution which failed

*Committee: 3-7-1-0. Non Committee Members: 2-5-0-0.*

The resolution which the changes Jay Adolf made was approved

*Committee: 7-3-0-0. Non Committee members: 4-3-0-0.*

#### **4. New Business**

There is a problem with police vehicles parked at West 81<sup>st</sup> and Columbus

Rich Robbins reported that Fresh Direct trucks are parked on sidewalk

**5.** The Committee will work on their District Needs Statement and Budget Requests for a vote on Budget Requests at the July meeting.

*Meeting ended 8:15 pm.*

# BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

June 9, 2021 at 6:30PM via ZOOM

*Business & Consumer Issues Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met via the Videoconferencing application Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Co-Chairperson Christian Cordova.*

**Present:** Linda Alexander, Christian Cordova, Joshua Cohen, Paul Fischer, Madelyn Innocent, Doug Kleiman, Andrew Rigie and Erana Stennett. **Chair:** Steven Brown. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Daniela Alvarado, Ken Coughlin, Robert Espier, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Michele Parker, Seema Reddy, Richard Robbins, Roberta Semer and Benjamin Wu.

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

### **1. 206 West 79<sup>th</sup> Street (Amsterdam Avenue) Sal 79 Associates Inc. d/b/a Coppola's West.**

Presenting for the Applicant: Salvatore Coppola, **Owner**, [SCoppolaBuilders@yahoo.com](mailto:SCoppolaBuilders@yahoo.com); Caren Cuffari, Authorized Representative, [KellyMLK136@gmail.com](mailto:KellyMLK136@gmail.com);

- Restaurant has been opened since 1991.
- The plan is to change the corporate name to Coppola 79.
- There will be no changes in the method of operations.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted  
Committee VOTE: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 6-0-0-0.*

### **2. 464 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82<sup>nd</sup> Street) Loki Hospitality LLC, d/b/a Song E Nupale.**

Presenting for the Applicant: Manuel Cocco, Partner/General Manager, [ManuelCocco10@gmail.com](mailto:ManuelCocco10@gmail.com); Donald Bernstein, Bernstein Redo, P.C. Attorneys at Law, [Donald@BRPCLaw.com](mailto:Donald@BRPCLaw.com);

- Located between 82<sup>nd</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> Streets, the space was formerly occupied by Mokum, and will be operated as a trattoria and pizzeria.
- The owner operates three restaurants on the Amalfi Coast and another NYC restaurant downtown.
- His pizza chef is internationally renowned.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted  
Committee VOTE: 7-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-0*

## ***Alteration Liquor License Application to the SLA:***

### **3. 774 Amsterdam Avenue (West 98<sup>th</sup> Street) JPDB Hospitality LLC, d/b/a Moonrise Izakaya.**

Presenting for the Applicant: Jacob Poznak, Principal, [Jake@moonriseizakaya.com](mailto:Jake@moonriseizakaya.com)

- The restaurant, which is currently in operation, is expanding into the contiguous space.
- Pre-Covid, there were 47 seats and six bar stools. With the expansion, there will be 10 bar stools and 80 dining seats.

#### **Comments:**

- Andrew Rigie and Peter Arndsten (Columbus-Amsterdam BID) both confirmed the applicant is an excellent operator. Arndsten added the restaurant's outdoor presence added both liveliness and a sense of security to the block.

*After due deliberation the resolution to **approve** was adopted  
Committee VOTE: 7-0-1-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 7-0-0-0.*

### **4. Discussion with representatives of food delivery workers. Among the topics will be bathroom access. Vote on resolution to support City Council Intro No. 2298.**

#### **Panelists:**

- Ligia Gualpa – Executive Director of Los Deliveristas Unidos - Worker's Justice Project
- Hildalyn Colón Hernández – Director of Advocacy & Strategic Partnerships for Los Deliveristas Unidos - Worker's Justice Project

#### **Comments:**

- Ms. Colón Hernández presented the comprehensive narrative of the plight of many of the bike messengers, which in addition to bathroom access, included exposure to the elements, dangerous traffic issues, and criminal theft of their bicycles. She added that food delivery service app operators must become more transparent and accountable, and that they need to participate in providing bathroom access for food delivery workers. Two delivery service bicycle workers joined the discussion, with Spanish to English translations provided by Ms. Colón Hernández, Christian Cordova, and Linda Alexander. Ms. Gualpa concurred and added that all delivery workers, whether servicing the food apps, restaurants, pharmacies, etc., should have unencumbered bathroom access.
- Every CB7 member added comments, as did many of the community members in attendance. Ken Coughlin, who was responsible for the initial resolution, added a friendly amendment that both the Committee and attending CB7 members agreed to unanimously.

**Resolution:**

The following reflects the conclusions of the Business & Consumer Issues Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan following meetings with local restaurant owners, a food delivery service provider, representatives of a significant group of bicycle delivery workers, and residents of the Upper West Side:

- Food delivery workers are vital service providers in our city. Their importance was especially demonstrated in 2020 and the first quarter of 2021 when the coronavirus pandemic necessitated the elimination of in-person dining, outdoor and indoor, and when the only alternative for sustenance for many was via meal deliveries from restaurants.
- We recognize that among these workers, the ones who make these deliveries by bicycle face a host of hazards, including dangerous streets, constant exposure to the elements, and even armed theft.
- Adding to these hazards, many bicycle delivery workers complain that some restaurants refuse to provide access to their public restrooms. Given the city's dearth of public restrooms, this leaves all delivery workers, whether bicycle, grocery truck, or produce, with fewer options to relieve themselves or even wash their hands during their shifts.
- City Council Intro 2298 mandates restaurant businesses should provide access to their restroom facilities to food delivery workers, while such workers are at the establishment to pick up food or beverage for delivery. Exceptions to access would include where a food delivery worker would be required to walk through the establishment's kitchen, food preparation, storage area, or utensil washing area to access the toilet or where access would otherwise present a health or safety risk to the food delivery worker or to the establishment. This bill would also require the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection to conduct outreach, receive complaints, and carry out enforcement of the law.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board 7/Manhattan supports City Council bill 2298, with the caveat restaurants should first be provided with a warning before any fines are assessed, especially at a time when many restaurants are trying to revive their customer's bases and maintain on-staff employees.

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

*Committee VOTE: 7-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-1*

5. New Business.

- Richard Robbins suggested a joint committee meeting between BCI, Transportation, and Land Use to discuss traffic issues with bike delivery workers and issues pertaining to Open Restaurant requirements.
- Linda Alexander suggested that D.O.T. be invited to the next BCI meeting to discuss Open Restaurant protocols and Andrew Rigie added City Planning should be invited, as well.

*The meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.*



# PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

June 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

**Present:** K Karpen and Michelle Parker, Co-chairs; Josh Cohen, Page Cowley, Mark Diller, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton and Susan Schwartz. **Non-committee Board members:** Doug Kleiman and Ira Mitchneck.

## 1. 260 West End Avenue (West 72nd Street.) Application # LPC-21-07273 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a Window Master Plan.

The Board of 260 West End Avenue (72nd Street) has reached out to Skyline Windows to put together a Master Plan for their windows. This building is part of the West End-Collegiate Historic District Extension. It was designed by Schwartz and Gross in 1924 of red brick and decorated on the first through third floors and has a decorative balcony half way up.

The building has one-over-one aluminum replacement windows and would like to keep the building uniform and have a master plan for all new aluminum double hung one-over-one windows. New windows will be Skyline Series 100 windows which would be more energy efficient than present 1980's replacements.

- ROBERT MARINO - SKYLINE WINDOWS  
Windows replaced in the 80's are now in bad shape.  
New windows will measure 99% the same as existing jam.  
They are not sure if window with divided lights preceded the 1980's replacement.
- PAGE COWLEY  
If you removed any brickwork, did you document what you found underneath about the brick mold detail? I am concerned that the angle of the old window crevice was covered by a mullion. We need to determine what is historic and what was removed.
- Mr. Marino: The 1980's windows were installed over wood frames using the details found. These will be Thermopane, Low E glass.
- Page: Would top floor windows be different?
- Mr. Marino: Windows will not be replaced all at once. Each owner will replace his own windows.
- Page: You did not give its enough information on what is under the 1980's replacement windows.
- MARK DILLER: We need more work on the details and history of divided lights.
- Mr. Marino: We can come back with more information for a final answer on July 8,
- When we will bring more information on the historic fabric.
- They are scheduled to go to LPC on July 20.

*The Committee decides to table the resolution until July 8 when Mr. Marino will bring missing information, and we will vote on the master plan.*

## 2. 322 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Apt #11B (West End Avenue – Riverside Blvd.) Application #LPC-21-05268 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for window replacements.

*CHULLY BROWN - ARCHITECT FROM LIEB DESIGNS -for the owner Sandy Ashendorf*

This project is for replacement of existing front facade windows of an 11th floor apartment. The 1924 building by George and Edward Blum is designated as a landmark building within the West End Collegiate Historic District Extension. The building's exterior has been through a series of alterations such as replaced sashes. The historic configuration appears in the 1929 tax photos to be six-over-six double hung windows. There are through -the- wall air conditioners throughout.

Most recently the double hung windows on the 9th floor were replaced with new single-light tilt and turn windows on the north facade. With evolving changes in window fabrication and glazing technology we are seeing similar replacements from double hung windows to large single light/pane windows in adjacent landmarked buildings.

Tilt and turn windows offer a wide range of benefits such as easy cleaning, ventilation superior performance and advanced thermal barrier. They bring a more sophisticated, cutting-edge design that complements the historic features of the building.

The building has not approved a master plan. They are calendared with LPC on 6/15.

Peter: The El Dorado had one floor of single panes and they were pressured to put back the double hung.

Page: What is happening with modifications for air conditioners?

Owner: 11B will have only through the wall air conditioners. It will not have roof top condensers. Building is tending toward tilt and turn windows.

Page: Please reach out to Landmarks to ask for a masterplan. Landmarks will know whether there is a masterplan.

*The motion is tabled until we have answers from LPC as to whether a masterplan is in place or planned.*

**3. 43 West 74<sup>th</sup> Street** (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) **Application #LPC-21-07897 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to remove a portion of an existing rear-yard extension and align it with similar existing extensions in the grouping of related buildings.**

**LOREN CANNON - ARCHITECT**

We are removing some the rear addition from this 20' wide 4-stories wide brownstone built in 1890. Several years after construction, there were modifications made to the rear extension, constructing approximately 17 feet to within 3 feet of the rear property line, thus eliminating any usable rear yard. This is one of five buildings by the same architect. The addition is an anomaly.

By removing the addition, #43 will be in alignment with adjacent buildings. The current addition is 3 /12 feet from the rear wall. We are removing a portion of the brick parapet, repairing the cornice. We will work out the railing with LPC.

We are completely restoring the facade.

The application was reviewed by the deputy director of LPC.

*Vote to approve: 7-0-0-0.*

**4. 121 West 88<sup>th</sup> Street** (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenue.) **Application #LPC-21-06920 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a full-floor rooftop addition, relocation of the main entrance, and expanded fenestration and new balconies on the rear facade.**

**BRIAN RIPEL - ARCHITECT**

Mock up is not complete.

No. 121 backs on a playground. Rear is completely visible from 89th Street. A sliver is also visible from 88th Street.

The center entry to the building will be restored to its original position.

- Madge: What is the new height compared with the present height of the building?
- Mr. Ripel: The top of the roof will go from 47' to 65' at the peak.
- Page: The roof is not in the same plane as anything else on the block. The guard rail is not factored in. The glass wall will show dirt and glare. Mechanical equipment need not be so close to the edge.
- Peter: The roof is too much. The giant slope is widely visible. And the mock up is still not complete.

*Front entrance is approved 8-0-0-0.*

*Fenestration approved: 5-2-1-0*

*Rooftop approval: 0-8-0-0. Motion is disapproved.*

**5. 333 Central Park West (West 93<sup>rd</sup> – 94<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Application #LPC-21-05268 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for open-air rooftop shade structures and a stair bulkhead with rest room.**

*ALI HOCEK - ARCHITECT*

Proposed elements on the roof of this 12 story building are porcelain pavers, wood and artificial grass decking materials, wood and powder coated aluminum planters, wood and metal resin, 2 non-occupiable open air structures: a pergola and a conversation pod, which consists of a bolt-in bench and open, spaced vertical wood slats. The slats provide privacy from neighboring apartment to the south. The proposed closet-storage bulkhead is "as of right" and pending clearance of zoning bulk objections. The bulkhead is non-visible from public thoroughfares and conforms to LPC requirements. LPC has granted approval to all elements, except the pergola and is deferring to DOB for approval of water closet-storage bulkhead.

As shown in photos and drawings, only pergola louvers are beyond the LPC's maximum accepted visibility of 3-feet as seen from the maximum sightline on Central Park West. Both louvers and part of the structure are beyond the 3 foot max visibility as seen from Central Park.

- Ali Hocek -  
The pergola is 5 feet back from the edge with five inch tubular steel frames. The 8' is pergola covered with 18" steel louvers. From Central Park 4'3' is visible.  
The pergola is 10' x 15' x 8' height plus 18" louver blades. Lighting is proposed.
- Page: It is beautiful, but lighting is especially visible from the Park and street. Why can't you move it further back?
- Mr. Hocek: There is not enough room on the roof to move it back.
- Peter: how about a pulley system to raise and lower a covering instead of tall louvers.
- Susan: It is visible from Central Park.

*Resolution to approve as presented: 2-5-0-0. Resolution is disapproved.*

# STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 15, 2021 at 6:30pm

Steven Brown, Chairperson

*Steven Brown called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.*

**Present:** Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Rosa Arenas, Richard Asche, Steven Brown, Christian Cordova, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Beverly Donohue, Shelly Fine, Julian Giordano, Madelyn Innocent, K Karpen, Doug Kleiman, Blanche Lawton, Courtney Clark Metakis, Klari Neuwelt, Michele Parker, Jeanette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Melissa Rosenberg, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer and Howard Yaruss. **Absent:** Catherine DeLazzaro.

## Chair's Report

Steven Brown shared that new Board members will be visiting different committees in June and July and selecting their committees by September. Assistant District Manager John Martinez retired, with his last day being Friday, June 11th. The hiring process has begun and will be led by District Manager Michelle Booker and a hiring committee. An optional, in-person event similar to the pot-lucks traditionally held by the Board for new members will be held in June/July. The process of returning to in-person Board meetings has begun but has yet to be defined. There is no borough-wide/citywide decision, only guidance, leaving the decision up to the Board.

## District Manager Report

Michelle Booker shared that she and Jessie Nieves have been into the Board Office to collect mail and that in-person Board meetings will likely return in the Fall.

Scaffolding at the Mickey Mantle School (PS 811) on West End that had been removed will be put back up. Michelle will be following up.

There has been a significant rat infestation around the construction of a senior assisted living building on 85th and Broadway. Michelle reached out to the Rat Academy and encourages people to call 311 and get a complaint number so that the city can track the problem.

The Chirping Chicken at 932 Columbus Avenue has begun what some people believe is illegal construction. Michelle will be following up.

Michelle is planning a District Service Cabinet meeting later this month and will follow up with more details.

Michelle will be going through the process of recruiting a graduate student studying urban studies to be a fellow for the Board for the year.

## Committee Chair Updates

Roberta Semer provided a report for the Senior Taskforce. The Taskforce hosted a program in May on vision and hearing. The YouTube recording with captioning will be put on the CB7 Website. The Taskforce is looking at hosting an event on Zoom at the end of August on arthritis.

Susan Schwartz provided the update for the Bylaws Taskforce. She is hoping to have a section to bring to the Full Board for approval in the next 1-2 months.

Roberta Semer provided the update for the Budget Taskforce. They met last week with Michelle Booker and Cindy Cardinal (Helen Rosenthal's Chief of Staff). The city has taken away \$12,000 from the Community Board budgets, and the Board and other Boards are advocating to restore it. Committees have been asked to look at their District Needs Statement in June and complete it in July, as well as vote on any budget requests they have.

Beverly Donohue provided an update on the transition: they are working at spending the remaining budget before the end of June on technical equipment, sorting through a year's worth of mail and messages, and supporting Michelle in her learning curve.

Shelly Fine provided the update for the Health and Human Services committee, which hasn't met yet but has been connecting local organizations that have reached out to them with the relevant agencies and resources. They do not expect a resolution this month.

Blanche Lawton provided the update for the Youth, Education, & Libraries Committee. The meeting date was moved from June 17th to June 24th. The meeting will be focused on an update on libraries. The Manager of Government and Community Affairs from MPO Central will be presenting. A resolution is expected to focus on Bloomingdale Library.

Klari Neuwelt provided the update for the Parks & Environment Committee. They did not meet in May and have many items on their upcoming June meeting. They expect to have 3 resolutions.

Richard Asche provided the update for the Land Use Committee. They have two ULURP items: one proposed by City Planning to eliminate the requirement for a special permit for when gyms are constructed. The second item is a proposal to add a special permit requirement for hotels in specific districts. They expect to have three resolutions. In future meetings, they expect to discuss a proposal to rezone the block between 109th and 110th on Broadway, along with numerous blocks in Board 9. They also expect to hear from the developer of the site where the Salvation Army was located (96th street). Jeanette Rausch added that they received communication from City Planning regarding Privately Owned Public Spaces, which will be required to reopen and remain open for the hours of public access starting July 1. Additionally, City Planning will be attending the July meeting to discuss open restaurants. They will work offline to discuss a potential joint meeting between Land Use, BCI, and Transportation.

Louisa Craddock provided the update for the Housing Committee, which met last night. They discussed the eviction moratorium, which is set to expire on August 31.

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova provided the update for the Business and Consumer Issue Committee. They discussed and passed a resolution on the issue of delivery bicyclists using the bathrooms of the restaurant where they pick up food to deliver.

Michele Parker provided the update for the Preservation Committee. They heard five applications this month, three of which will come before the Board.

Howard Yaruss provided the update for the Transportation Committee. They will have a resolution on e-bikes for the Full Board.

#### **New Business**

Klari Neuwelt requested that the District Office provide an updated list of all Board members' contact information to Board members.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.*

# LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Richard Asche and Jeanette Rausch, Co-Chairpersons**

**Wednesday, June 16, 6:30 PM**

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

**Present:** Richard Asche (co-chair); Jeannette Rausch (co-chair), Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Sheldon Fine, Ira Mitchneck, Seema Reddy, Richard Robbins, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Committee members.

**1. 2523 Broadway d/b/a New York Sports Club (West 94<sup>th</sup> – 95<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Special Order Calendar Application #287-01-BZ to the Boards of Standards and Appeal for an extension of the term of previously granted special permit that allowed the operation of a physical establishment.**

Frederick Becker appeared, as counsel for the applicant. He reported that he was unaware of any community opposition to the application.

- *After a brief discussion, the committee voted (10-0-0-0) to approve the application. Non-committee board members voted 5-0-0-0 for approval.*

**2. Citywide hotel zoning Resolution text amendment.**

The Department of City planning has proposed an amendment to the Zoning Resolution to require a special permit in connection with the construction of new hotels or the conversion of existing buildings to hotels. The Committee was familiar with the application as a presentation had been made by City Planning at the May meeting. Several members of the committee expressed opposition to the proposal on the following grounds:

- City Planning has not demonstrated a need for the special permit requirement and was unable to give specific examples of hotels which have had an adverse effect on the communities in which they are located;
  - The process of applying for a special permit is time consuming (up to six months) and expensive (up to \$50,000). The addition of this hurdle to the process of obtaining a building permit is inconsistent with the City's desired goal of revitalizing its tourism industry following the Covid epidemic.
  - The criterion for approval of the special permit is overly vague and therefore the application would be difficult to administer, and could lead to unnecessary and time-consuming litigation.
- *Following its discussion, the Committee voted 9-0-0-0 to disapprove the application. Non-committee board members voted 4-0-0-0 for approval.*

**3. Proposed amendment to the Zoning Resolution to eliminate the requirement for a special permit to operate a physical culture/health establishment.**

The Department of City Planning has proposed that a requirement that operators of physical culture/health establishments (i.e. gyms and licensed massage services) be eliminated. The representatives of City Planning asserted that the requirement is anachronistic, having been enacted some forty years ago in response to the proliferation of "massage parlors" dealing in commercial sex. At the time there were few fitness centers or gyms (primarily Y's). In the intervening years the fitness industry has exploded. Many new gyms and potential gyms are small-scale businesses which benefit the local communities and which occupy rental space which might otherwise remain vacant. The process of applying for a special permit is time-consuming and expensive, and, according to Doug Kleiman, a real estate agent specializing in commercial rentals, the requirement has deterred several would be small gym or fitness center operators from applying.

- *After a brief discussion, the Committee voted 9-0-0-0 to approve the proposed amendment. The non-committee board members present voted for approval 4-0-0-0.*

*Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45.*

# PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Barbara Adler and Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chairpersons**

**June 21, 2021 at 6:30pm Via Zoom**

**Present:** Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chair; Barbara Adler, Co-Chair; Ken Coughlin, Susan Schwartz and Polly Spain. **Absent:** Elizabeth Caputo and Natasha Kazmi. **Chair:** Steven Brown. **Non-committee Board Members:** Mark Diller, Doug Kleiman, Daniela Alvarado, Paul Fischer, Ira Mitchneck, Roberta Semer and Benjamin Wu.

*The Co-Chairs called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.*

## **1. Presentation by NYC Economic Development Corporation, in conjunction with NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, on plans for the renovation of the 79<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Basin.**

This project is being managed by the NYC Economic Development Corporation, on behalf of client agency NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. Stephen Frech, Project Manager for Moffatt & Nichol, the primary consultant on the project, presented, with participation in the presentation and discussion by Julia Melzer and Alanna Rios, Project Managers at EDC and Nate Grove, “Project Owner/Developer” at DPR and Seth Goodwin, DPR Marina Manager. The slide presentation will be posted on the CB7 web site. This presentation is a predicate for the agencies’ application to the Public Design Commission for approval of the plans. The submission is due in a few days, with the hearing in July. In general, the plans show the reconstruction and southward expansion of the entire Boat Basin.

Per a June 14, 2021 DPR press release, because of severely deteriorated conditions, the entire marina will be closed in November of 2021, with construction on the project anticipated to start in 2023. Residential boat owners will have to relocate until construction is complete.

Frech: The project is at the 30% design stage, having been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic. This is the outreach to stakeholders at the 30% phase; there will be an additional outreach when the design is further developed. Melzer: The plans will be 50% complete in the fall of 2021 and 100% complete in the fall of 2022.

Frech: The project will involve the removal of all existing structures, including piers, other than A-Dock (the “Public Pier”), which was recently reconstructed to contemporary standards; A-Dock will be expanded. The designers have done extensive studies of wave screen performance and believe that they now know how to build a proper wave screen, and how to orient the boat slips to resist the current most efficiently. The extensive north-south wave screen at the end of the new D-Dock is designed to mitigate the effect of wakes.

H- and I-Docks (the two most southerly potential new docks) are now shown as potential future construction on the plans. However, the intent is to dredge the entire site at this time, and to obtain permits for the entire site. The new piers are designed to take into account projected sea level rise. Underwater construction will be steel and concrete, with wooden pier surfaces. The existing sea rail design will be maintained, with steel picket access gates.

Connecting utilities under the Esplanade, which the designers plan to do in a single phase, will involve some “site disturbance”. This project will also overlap the Rotunda reconstruction. However, to the extent possible, the Boat Basin work will “come from the water” to minimize conflicts and site disturbance.

Neuwelt: Can A-Dock be kept open to the public on its normal schedule until actual construction requires that it be closed off? Grove: We don’t know yet; the Marina will not be staffed after it is closed.

Neuwelt: What concessions, if any, are contemplated? Grove: DPR found that six passenger charters made a nice offering and codified that. No changes are anticipated in DPR policy.

Coughlin: The disturbance to the Esplanade should be kept to a minimum. Cyclists will have to use the Esplanade during the Rotunda reconstruction. Wants reassurance that cyclists will have a north-south route within Riverside Park.

Melzer: Want to keep the Esplanade open as much as possible. Semer: Can the Esplanade trenching work be done other than in the summer? Melzer: Too early to know.

Spain: Where will the “live-aboards” live in the meantime? Grove: On their boats, wherever they may be docked. Spain: Concern about maintaining the suspended free kayaking program. Grove: We don’t manage the kayak programs.

Adler: Once work starts, how long will it last? Response: There will be a January-June moratorium on work in the water. “Promenade” work is not considered in-water. The construction schedule has not been set, but it will start with demolitions and removal of the moorings and the existing structures. That won’t leave enough time to start construction before the in-water moratorium.

NYC Council Member Helen Rosenthal: Is this an opportunity to widen the Esplanade outward with this project? That would be a game-changer. Frech: No. Creating new land would be the most environmentally destructive aspect, and the cost would take away from the fixed pier. Over-water use is as of right. Melzer: The funding doesn’t include expansion of the Esplanade. Neuwelt: the Riverwalk (from 83<sup>rd</sup> Street to 91<sup>st</sup> Street) was a multi-decade project that was enormously complicated and ended up with a shared pathway that was too narrow for its heavy and diverse use by the time it opened. Mitchneck: This project could be designed with a future scope to expand the Esplanade.

Mitchneck: 30% design completion means that the basics are complete and that the scope and budget is set, so the rest is essentially just construction details. The proposed Dockhouse doesn’t approximate the design standard of NYC municipal architecture; it is very disappointing. Schwartz: Agrees with Mitchneck about the Dockhouse design. It would be nice to see a continuation of the Riverside Park vocabulary in the Dockhouse. Also concerned about the amount of glass; hopes that it will be bird-safe glass.

Neuwelt: Who is on the “850+ person, 15-year” waiting list referenced on p. 2 of the presentation? How many are neighborhood residents, NYC or NYS residents, etc.? What is the size of the boats, and where are they registered? Grove: We don’t maintain information on who they are. DPR Legal maintains the list. We make offers by telephone to people on the list chronologically; they can defer. “Many” on the waiting list are “near” to CB7, though DPR doesn’t document who the people on the list are. Coughlin: Who are the slips intended to serve: Boats how large? Yachts? Grove: The slips would be for a diversity of sizes of boats, though this would not be like the Sheepshead Bay Marina. You will see some yachts here. There will also be more space for educational tall ships. The waiting list is for seasonal berths; there is no waiting list for moorings in the river; DPR has been adding mooring sites there. As for transient (daily) dockage, transients are accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis, when space is available.

Brown: How coordinating with the Rotunda work? Melzer: The teams are coordinating on the designs. We don’t have a construction manager yet. Nothing on the schedule is fixed yet.

Zoom community member Q&A: Will the sea wall be rebuilt? Response: No. Two community members, including Gloria Weiss (35-year live-aboard): Concerned about whether closing of marina and displacement of residents in November of this year is necessary. Would like to see the engineers’ report about existing conditions. Response (Melzer): You can request it under FOIL. But then: Will check as to whether we can provide it outside of FOIL sailing schools? Response (Grove): Won’t change current offerings. DPR has no plans for concessions.

Neuwelt: This project should provide substantial value to our huge community of users of Riverside Park, and as planned it doesn’t. Would not support this proposal unless there is provision for restoration of the beloved and hugely popular free public kayaking program on or near the site. They are doing the dredging and permitting of the entire site, but H- and I-Docks are not being built. Presumably a public kayaking program could be accommodated at that south end



of the project site. On the one hand the agencies say (in obscure words) that they will provide a dock for the use of private individually owned kayaks, but on the other hand they say (in their June 2, 2021 response to CB7's January 17, 2020 letter) that the site can't accommodate a free public kayaking program. That is not persuasive. It is totally impractical to expect community members to own their own kayaks and pay to store them at the site in order to use the "human-powered" private boat landing.

Committee discussion of whether to have a resolution. Adler: Think we should send a letter to the PDC with our concerns. KN: A letter from the Committee can't constitute a position of the Board, which must be from a resolution of the Full Board. Coughlin: Favors a letter; should include obligation to provide site for free public kayaking program. Spain, Schwartz: favor a letter. Diller: Concurs about sending a letter. The live-aboard are an important part of our community that should be preserved. The design should include provision for a free kayaking program. Coughlin: CM Rosenthal's point about providing for a future widening of the Esplanade, at least the section adjacent to the Boat Basin, should be included. Conclusion: The Committee will not propose a resolution approving the project because of its concerns about the design. It will send a letter to the PDC expressing our concerns.

## **2. Presentation on lawn bowling in Central Park by Barry Kessler and James Collins, from the NY Lawn Bowling Association.**

The NY Lawn Bowling Association will celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Central Park in 2026. A short film, discussing the rich history associated with this sport was shown during the discussion. The greens are open to all, but the sport enables recreational access for those who are physically challenged, and thus provides a valuable outlet for those seeking it.

Sadly, the greens have deteriorated to a state needing a complete restoration, as they are currently unplayable and hazardous to many, due to rough surfaces and patchy grass. An outdated drainage system also plagues the area, with standing water. The NY Lawn Bowling Association is looking to work with the Central Park Conservancy to develop a plan for restoration, but has been unsuccessful thus far in moving forward over the last several years. Their goal is to be able to enrich recreational access for those physically challenged as well as all others, and to reconstruct the greens to professional standards, with a support staff and a fully-equipped lawn sports center.

Questions were asked and answered but Central Park Conservancy had not been invited to the meeting to factor in on the discussion. Instead, Steve Simon, Chief of Staff for the Manhattan Parks Commissioner, who was present during the meeting offered to reach out to the Conservancy on their behalf. We plan to revisit this issue in the coming months.

## **3. Presentation by Sara Reinstein, Landscape Architect, and Jon Ernsberger, Manhattan Deputy Director of Landscape Architecture for NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation, on the proposed design for the renovation of the basketball court at Sol Bloom Playground (located between 91<sup>st</sup>-92<sup>nd</sup> between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue).**

Sara Reinstein discussed the proposal to renovate the basketball court within the Sol Bloom playground, as she showed the presentation. The basketball court is currently very dilapidated and in great need of restoration, both to address drainage issues causing pooling water, much-needed security lighting, and the replacement of a very outdated water-fountain. The drawings for the new area show a totally upgraded area, with very colorful and cheerful graphics that were inspired from the mural wall within the playground. There is also a new hi-lo water fountain with a bottle refill, new light poles, expanded tree pits, a new chain-link fence, added 1939-style World's Fair benches and decorative trash receptacles. The project was funded by Council Member Rosenthal, at a cost of \$600,000.

**4. Presentation by Owen Strong for the New York Road Runners, on a proposal to place a medallion in Central Park on the curb adjacent to the finish line for the NYC Marathon, in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NYC Marathon.**

Owen Strong, from New York Road Runners (NYRR), a non-profit running organization, presented their proposal for a medallion to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NYC Marathon. The marker, which is rectangular, will not be larger than 16" in length, and was inspired in design by the first NYC marathon finisher for the NYRR. It is a layered relief design, bronze, with a patina and chocolate brown in color, coated with an acrylic lacquer and considered the state-of-the-art process for such items. Although originally planned to be at the actual finish line, in the center of the West Drive at 67<sup>th</sup> Street, the location was moved to the west side of the West Drive near 67<sup>th</sup> Street in Central Park, and is located on the south edge of the northern part of the sidewalk. It is intended to have year-round visibility.

**New Business:** Daniel Atha, of the Upper West Side Neighborhood Naturalists, reported a rare fern growing on the wall of the Rotunda at 79<sup>th</sup> Street, called a purple-stemmed cliff-break. Only a half-dozen locations are known in NYC for this plant. Daniel is asking that the fern be protected during the reconstruction of the Rotunda. The Committee recommended that he contact the agency planners about this.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM*

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Klari Neuwelt & Barbara Adler*

# BYLAWS TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2021

Susan Schwartz, Chair

*Meeting on Zoom was called to order at 10 AM and adjourned at 11:10 AM.*

**Present:** Susan Schwartz (SS), Chair; Barbara Adler (BA), Jay Adolf (JA), Josh Cohen (JC) and Natasha Kazmi (NK). **Non-Task Force Members:** Michele Parker (MP).

## Other Community Board Full Board Meetings

After last week's meeting, we agreed that each task force member would watch another community board meeting to get a sense of how the other boards handle things. Today's meeting began with reports from task force members about this and then concluded with a discussion of CB7 Best Practices: Full Board Meeting Decorum, which was circulated in advance of the meeting.

### Barbara Adler – CB6

This board runs a VERY efficient meeting, running just over two hours. The Chairperson is front and center at all times and the elected file their reports on-line to help streamline the meeting, which has a roll call for attendance at the beginning and the end, called by the Secretary. Only nine board members had video on. The meeting included introductions of new members, as well as a report by the Treasurer and discussion about revenues generated by a Street Fair. The resolutions were all posted on-line in advance of the meeting and on screen during the meeting. No indication of on-line voting; the Secretary announced all of the vote tallies at the end of the meeting.

### Josh Cohen – CB10

Electeds spoke for the first one hour and twenty minutes of the meeting and then there was a roll call. The public session had few speakers. No resolutions were read aloud and the overall tone of the meeting was cordial and polite. There was a roll call at the end, as well. Vote counts were not announced, but rather based on common consent. The meeting (May 2020) lasted just under three hours.

### Jay Adolf – CB9

The meeting had a roll call at the beginning and the end. Public speakers were limited to three minutes each and there were only three of them. Mark Levine spoke for 10-15 minutes. This meeting (January 2021) lasted 4 ½ hours, although this included a 45 minute discussion about COVID. The Bylaws for CB9 require that a resolution be provided to Board Members at least two days before Full Board meetings.

### Natasha Kazmi – CB2

This meeting lasted 4 ½ hours and started with a roll call at the beginning, followed by the Electeds. Speakers were each allotted five minutes, with time kept using someone's smart phone. Voting was simply yea or nay, without any reference to a voting sheet. The website for CB2 is very clearly laid out.

### Susan Schwartz – CB1

This meeting (May 2021) lasted almost five hours, but included a very long discussion about congestion pricing. The Chair, Tammy Meltzer, was in the top right hand corner of the screen with the rest of the screen either showing a timer or a written copy of the resolution being discussed. Individual Board Members were only visible when speaking and then only in the top right hand corner in a very small box. The public session was first and lasted just under one hour, with each community member allotted two minutes. The minutes were approved by affirmation and then the business session was last, which included the Electeds and reports from the DM and Treasurer. Before the discussion about congestion pricing, the Chair gave pointed instruction for the Board not to belabor the amount of time discussing this because it had already been well-discussed in multiple committee meetings. The Chair went on to admonish the Board that detailed lengthy discussions should take place at the committee meetings and not at Full Board. Most votes were by roll call.

## Best Practices: Full Board Meeting Decorum

We had a productive discussion about the draft of this document, which was circulated in advance of the meeting.

## Next Steps

1. Susan to circulate a revised draft of Best Practices: Full Board Decorum.
2. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday June 30, 2021 at 10 AM on Zoom. We will do another quick review of the Best Practices: Full Board Meeting Decorum and then begin discussing Conflict of Interest.

# YOUTH, EDUCATION & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Courtney Clark Metakis and Blanche Lawton, Co-Chairpersons

June 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

*Meeting began at 6:31 PM.*

**Present:** Blanche Lawton (Co-chair), Courtney Clark-Metakis (Co-chair), Mark Diller, Paul Fischer, Julian Giordano, Ira Mitchneck and Seema Reddy. **Non-committee Board Members:** Kristen Berger, Robert Espier, Roberta Semer and Benjamin Wu.

1. Update on the reopening of New York City public libraries and discussion of services and programs offered throughout the NYPL system. Guest speakers include Amr Kotb, Manager, Government Relations & Community Affairs, New York Public Library, and other representatives from the NYPL.

Blanche introduced Amr Kotb who shared some system-wide and branch-specific NYPL updates:

- All libraries are reopening and restoring full service (general space use, programs, classes, etc.) on July 6, 2021.
- There is a robust outdoor programming plan.
- Bookmobile service is getting restored in July.
- Summer reading (now called Summer Learning) will begin in June. Backpacks and tote bags with books and reading activities in different languages will be handed out to kids of all ages.
- The Riverside Branch has already been open for Phase Two service and will be joining the other branches on July 6th.
- The St. Agnes Branch will be converted back into a library from its use as a learning lab for childcare by mid-to-late July.
- The Bloomingdale Branch renovation is fully complete in time for the July 6th reopening. There is a new teen room, upgrades to the bathrooms, a new roof and new floors, new water fountains, and repainted reading rooms.
- The Library for Performing Arts, a partnership with Lincoln Center, has a green space and outdoor reading room and has been putting together “tech kits” for artists and musicians to rent out.
- The afterschool model is changing this year from an enrollment system to a drop-in system
- There will be a new online resource center for educators in schools.
- Programs in prisons, programs to support students applying to college, career counseling programs, and the Brain Fuse tutoring service will continue.

After a brief Q&A, AMR provided information on the NYPL’s budget. They are moving full speed ahead on restoration but also doubling down on digital media and learning from lessons of the pandemic. This includes looking at expanding NYPL Wi-Fi access to members of the community. The FY22 budget has not been finalized but the NYPL is facing a potential \$22 million cut system wide. They’ve requested \$50 million in capital funds system wide, with nothing new in CB7.

Jennifer Zarr of the St. Agnes Branch shared that she has been impressed with virtual staff reach-out to the community. They launched a [Padlet with resources and information](#) for teachers and families as well as an [Instagram page that interacted with the community](#).

Drew Berner of the Bloomingdale Branch shared additional information on the renovations, which included new computers, laptops, and printers.

Thaddeus Krupo of the Riverside Branch (the one branch that has been open on the Upper West Side) shared that they are preparing to head out and bring programs and resources to different places in the community. He also shared that libraries are serving as cooling centers this summer. Some more updates include the distribution of library cards to students, home art kits that are handed out weekly, virtual programs for young adults, and [a virtual summer camp](#) with registration opening tomorrow (July 25).

2. New Business.

The DNS will be reviewed at the July meeting and the Budget Priorities will be voted on then as well.

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.*

# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Catherine DeLazero and Sheldon Fine, Co-Chairpersons

June 29, 2021 at 6:00 pm via ZOOM

**Present:** Catherine DeLazero, Sheldon Fine, Rosa Arenas, Robert Espier, Marilyn Rosenberg, Sara Lind and Audrey Isaacs. Chair: Steven Brown. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Doug Kleiman, Seema Reddy, Julian Giordano and Mark Diller.

A Workshop and Dialogue on Community Anti-Racism Efforts:

**Part I:** Workshop with the Commission on Human Rights - Human Rights Law and Protections Against Anti-Black Racism & Other Forms of Discrimination Based on Race and Color

**Part II:** Dialogue on Community Board Anti-Racism Efforts with CBs 2 and 4 (CBs 1,6, and 12 agreed to attend but did not attend).

Meeting convened at 6:05 by Catherine DeLazero. Welcomes participants as they enter. Catherine introduces Chris Smith and Ryan DuBois of CCHR, and introduces CB7 members and elected official partners (Councilmember Helen Rosenthal and Borough President Gale Brewer's office with assistance from April Adams).

Catherine recites HHS guidelines and sections of CB7 By-laws pertinent to the conduction of this evening's meeting.

**Part I:** Chris Smith (CCHR) describes his role on the Commission and asks CCHR co-presenter, Ryan DuBois staff to introduce himself.

Chris narrates slide on Lenape People, who originally inhabited New York City. He highlights the important role of CCHR to challenge colorism.

Chris narrates slide on respectful dialogue and civility as guidelines in a discussion.

Slide: Why Are We Having This Discussion? We acknowledge that racism exists in NYC.

Slide: Workshop Goals

Slide: What We [CCHR] Do

Slide: Discrimination Based on Race and Color Are Problems in the City.

Slide: The City Human Rights Law Protect Against Discrimination

Slide: What Are the Protected Classes Under the Law

Slide: Our Law Is Also Intersectional Madge Rosenberg defines intersectionality, where various identities intersection; e.g., Black and female.

**Part II:** Ryan DuBois presents Key Terms Related to Racism and Colorism.

Slide: How do you define racism — interactive involvement by workshop participants, including Chat comments.

Slide: What is Racialization? Slide depicts phrenological schemata of races evolving from the animal kingdom. (Chris Smith interjects that this presentation is not available on the CCHR website, because it is in a constant state of editing. Catherine interjects that this particular presentation will be online, as it's being recorded and broadcasted on YouTube.) DuBois cites example of Representative Omar, and how racialized phenotypes are applied in the political arena.

Slide: Racialization today.

Slide: What is prejudice? Cites [Harvard] test to gauge bias; eg, blind sides and unconscious biases. Test reveals that anyone can be affected by bias.

Slide: What is Privilege? Ryan engages participants to comment on privilege. Eg, Mark Zuckerberg wearing hoodie to court, which demonstrates the extent of privilege where anyone else would be compelled to wear a suit.

Slide: What is Racism/Use of power? Per Ryan, CCHR will issue its official definition of racism.6:45

Slide: What are Institutional and Structural Racism? Ryan reads content of slide and gives examples of each type, and the link between them.

Slide: What is Colorism? European standards vs African/POC standards; skin lightening, eg.

Slide: What are Macroaggressions? Ryan summarizes video that would accompany slide, giving examples of [racial] macroaggression.

Slide: What Are White Supremacy and White Nationalism? Ryan reads definitions from slide, and explains differences.

Slide: Discussion — White Supremacy and White Nationalism in NYC. Example given of Christopher Columbus statue in Columbus Circle and White Boys protest in NYC; January 6 siege of Congress by deeply rooted White Supremacists.

Slide: Chris introduces Racism in New York City. NYC noted for resistance to oppression and hate; in spite of hx of both in the City. Slide: Chris outlines Racism in New York City Indigenous History, offers a chronology of demonstrable racism in NYC, dating back to Native American autonomous presence.

Slide: Racism in New York City — Dispossession of Black New Yorkers...Black settlements displaced for their [valuable] land. Weeksville (now a Landmark) used as an example of land seizures.

Slide: Racism in New York City Today. Chris solicits a few responses from participants.

- CB4 Viren comments that racism seems to be increasing.
- Mar Fitzgerald: racism is on rise, but it has always existed. People are showing their ugly more on the outside, as if it's OK to show their hatred for certain groups.
- CB7 Catherine: US Dept of Homeland Security reports that white extremist groups has increased markedly over the past few years.
- Chris cites recent events in NYC demonstrating bias against Black people; eg, non-permissible Black hair styles.

Slide: Analysis of Recent Events in NYC. PRADA used an example of settlement to dismantle racist practices; Amy Cooper unleashed dog incident cited; COVID-related incidents reported.

## 7:25

Slide: Zooming In — Impact of Racism on New Yorkers. In interest of time, Ryan summarizes presentation slides (criminal justice system and law enforcement, housing, children and family services, education, health, infrastructure, employment).

Chris concludes with Call to Action and Q&A re NYC Commission on Human Rights. CCHR partners with community in addressing racism in the City. Gives CCHR Contact Information.

End quote by Shirley Chisholm, *"In the end, anti-Black, anti-female, and all forms of discrimination are equivalent to the same thing: anti-humanism."*

Chris closes CCHR presentation.

Catherine expresses gratitude for presentation, adding how important their work is, and how much HHS's work has benefited from and been informed by CCHR.

## Comment(s)

CB4 Viren Brahmbhatt would like presented promulgated more widely by CCHR.

Chris describes CCHR's broad outreach program. Ryan supports Chris' response. Information shared is vital resource.

CB7 Doug Kleiman expresses gratitude and underscores importance of repeating the presentation frequently.

## Part II

Catherine introduces *Dialogue on Community Anti-racism Efforts*.

Each Board will be called in order, followed Q/A Session where community members will be invited to speak, then Board members will comment.

CB7 Board Chair Steven Brown and HHS Co-chair Shelly invited to comment.

- Steven delighted to participate and Shelly thanks Catherine and Rosa Arenas for their work on this evening's meeting. Shelly stresses the importance of collaboration between community boards, as demonstrated by today's program. MBPO April Adams was key to tonight's effort.
- CB 2: Mar Fitzgerald, Co-chair of Equity Working Group, and Patricia Laraia, Co-chair. Advocating for public schools; work on land acknowledgement (monumentalization of significant African sites); seeking to uplift history of Black ownership in the City. Pride of Place important to Black people. Shared by Lenapes; strong efforts in China Town residents and leaders. Board operation examined through an equity lens: why aren't communities attending board meetings/activities? Board asking more questions of itself. We're moving closer to inclusiveness. We are getting more diverse by the day.
- CB4: Katy Stokes, Co-chairperson with Viren. CB4 also formed its equity arm to share/discuss what we would recommend to Full Board. We focused on practical, concrete steps to correct social injustice. Absolute inclusion was key to our formation; e.g., would race be a factor in who should chair the group. No! Internal board issues were examined. Including NYPD vital too. Special effort made to include people of color. Viren develops CB4's profile as gateway to the City, defining understanding of race important; By-laws examined in terms of inclusiveness, how committees are structures. Past year has been more of a learning experience. For example, how does AMI affect inclusiveness? Much of CB4 work is focused internally. Katy Stokes highlights importance of how [our] committees work. HHS and Task Force hosted a meeting on equity. All boards should collaborate with committees.

## 20:05

Engaging with other organizations is a major task of our board.

Catherine invites Community Comments: none yet

Open Floor Q/A:

CB7 HHS Co-chair Shelly Fine describes what CB7 has done with regards to equity: George Floyd Resolution, Anti-Jewish hate, Anti-Asian hate addressed before City did so. Homelessness addressed in District Needs Statement (DNS). HHS addressed absence of racial-ethnic groups from the Community Board; how to populate the board with these groups (eg. Mexicans, Haitians). HHS has to codify its commitment as best as it can — making the commitment explicit. We have issues that need to be addressed. History links ancestral identification to a sense of ownership.

Orlando Valle for Assembly Member Carmen De La Rosa: Many immigrants come from oppressed experiences. Spaces have to be identified to collaborate in this discussion. Sometimes community members are not as sophisticated to talk about race in a holistic manner. Literacy and racial identity may be issues to be addressed. Orlando commends meeting for conducting this conversation. AM De La Rosa is an ally.

CB7 Kristen Berger: impressed with two boards that established task forces, where work is on-going.

Catherine asks names of task forces. Katy Social and Racial Justice Task Force and CB2 Equity Working Group. Viren explains importance of Task Force because incorporates public meetings. Mar Fitzgerald opens working groups and task force to public participation.

CB7 Doug Kleiman comments how Business Issues Committee, for example, might benefit from models in place in CB2 and CB4. This is very thought provoking.

Catherine appreciates specificity of work by CB2, Black businesses, workplace dress code, school integration, diversity and inclusion in school curricula, police accountability (all examples CB2 provided). CB7 committee autonomous. Asks process for creating consensus on the board of coming together.

CB2 Mar explains how process began with a letter addressing the murder of Black men. All board members signed the letter, a commitment to social justice. Second meeting was about the operations, and engaged the entire board.

**8:25**

Katy Stokes: all invited to join the conversation, yielding 15 questions voted on by the entire board. There was some trepidation, concern about 'thought police' accusations. Viren added, partially every committee was represented on the Task Force. For example, if equity issue arose in Transportation Committee, Equity Task Force could 'take it on.'

CB2 Mar: [We] did same thing. There's so much overlap. CB2 Mar described how Task Force 'hit the pavement.'

Catherine compliments expressed wisdom in this conversation.

Katy Stokes appreciates opportunity to celebrate stories by Black residents, in February; Women's stories, in March.

Catherine thanks Rosa Arenas for her labor in this evening's meeting and for taking initiative on this; it would not have happened if not for Rosa.

**Part III— HHS Business**

Draft of District Needs Statement will be sent out to HHS Committee members in the next few weeks. Please comment.

Shelly announced proposed new Affordable Housing for 106<sup>th</sup> Street will be presented shortly. Public will be advised of the proposal well in advance.

**8:47**

Adjournment

*Respectfully submitted by Robert Espier*