

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

September 1, 6:30 PM via ZOOM

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Preservation Co-Chairs Michele Parker and K Karpen.

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was able to be held via Zoom thanks to the State Legislature and Governor adopting an act amending the Open Meetings Law to permit meeting via virtual means.

Present: Jay Adolf, Joshua Cohen, William Ortiz, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton, and Mark Diller. **Non-Committee Board members:** Paul Fischer, Vice Chair Doug Kleiman and Roberta Semer.

The following discussions were had and actions taken:

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

The subject building is a 15 story plus penthouse and basement story apartment house in the Colonial Revival Style constructed between 1924-1925 and designed by Schwarz & Gross. The apartment house is within the West End-Collegiate Historic District Extension I.

The building has an unusual façade treatment in that the upper three floors (13-15) have a special terracotta articulation with a deep terracotta cornice creating a three-story ornamental terminus at the top of the building.

Michele Parker:

- This application was heard at the June 2021 CB7 Preservation Committee.
- No action was taken at that time due to open and unanswered questions and the need for additional detail.
- The applicant graciously agreed to return to the Preservation Committee in July, however because the State of Emergency was lifted by the former Governor, and no suitable venue was available for an in-person meeting, no CB7 Committee meetings were held in July, and the applicant proceeded to a public hearing at the LPC.

Presentation by Robert Marino of Skyline Windows:

- The application is for a master plan for window replacement on the two primary facades of the building, facing west and north, as well as secondary facades facing south and east. The Co-op will not sponsor a complete replacement of the windows; rather, individual owners will determine when to replace windows based on the master plan to be adopted.
- The existing condition of the windows on the facades are 1:1 double-hung windows in five separate configurations, including three widths of individual windows; pairs of medium-width windows; and a wide window flanked by two smaller windows of the same height.
- Tax photos circa 1940 suggest that the original window configurations were divided-light double-hung windows in similar sizes and arrangements as the current version. The larger windows were 6:6 and the narrower windows were 4:4 double-hung windows.
- None of the original divided-light windows remain on any of the facades of the building.
- The original proposal was to replace the existing 1:1 double-hung windows with aluminum 1:1 double-hung windows in a similar configurations as those existing.
- After the public hearing at LPC, the applicant has been working with LPC Staff to achieve three requirements from the Commission:
 - tighten the brick molds to more closely resemble the curves and contours of the original brick mold rather than continue to use the broader, squarer brick molds in the current fenestration;
 - include divided light upper panels on the primary facades, with 6:1 on the wider windows and 4:1 on the smaller windows;
 - use a dark brown color for the replacement windows.

Community Questions and Comments:

[None]

Committee Discussion:

Michele:

- Appears appropriate with the modifications proposed by the LPC.

Mark:

- It is important that CB7 adopt a resolution for our own internal consistency and to establish our own body of precedent as to what is appropriate in our District.

Resolution: To approve the application with the modifications required by LPC.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members present: 2-0-0-0.

Calendared: Heard at LPC public hearing in July, 2021.

Re: 103 West 72nd Street (Amsterdam-Columbus Avenues). Application #LPC 21-08152 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace storefront infill and to construct a rear yard addition.

The subject building is a five-story apartment building with ground and second-floor commercial space currently in a muted Art Deco style and faced with limestone with contrasting dark marbled stone trim above and along the east side of a second-floor window system and the east side of the entrance to the residential portion of the building on the ground floor. The original building on the site was one of a group of six rowhouses constructed ca. 1887-88 by architect Charles Buek & Co., which also included ground-floor commercial space. The current building was the result of significant modifications ca. 1931-33 by architects Fellheimer & Wagner, which included removal of its stoop, recladding the front façade in stone, and reconstruction in the Art Deco style still evident..

The building is included in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Presentation by: Robert Bianco of PKSB Architects:

- The application is to install new storefront infill on the ground and second floors, and to add a one-story full-depth rear yard addition.

Storefront Infill

- The existing storefront façade on the ground floor consists of metal panels and wood paneling surrounding a center pair of inoperable picture windows and a recessed non-historic store entrance door on the west side of the façade.
- There is a storefront awning and a sign band above the ground floor store infill.
- The entrance to the residential units above the storefront is through an historic Art Deco door with an aluminum frame surrounding a single tall glass plate with three thin bars forming a handle diagonally across the lower portion of the glass.
- The second story commercial space is fronted by a casement window system with a center wide rectangular pane flanked by two smaller squarish panes. The east and center panes have been replaced with metal panels; the west pane has been replaced by a set of louvers for a ventilation system. The original window system included finely etched glass with a series of vertical delicate lines etched into the glass.
- A contrasting set of dark marbled stone panels appear above the second floor window system and continue down to frame the east side of the residential entrance door on the ground floor; the companion stone panels on the west side of the first and second floors have been covered over by metal panels, but are intact.
- The proposal is to remove the non-historic storefront infill on the ground floor, and the non-historic casement window system on the second floor.
- The proposed ground floor storefront infill would include a new aluminum entrance door to the store in the Art Deco style to match the historic residential entrance, and would replace the stone panel to the west with marbled stone to match that framing the residential entrance.
- The new storefront will replace the current small pair of windows and the metal panels and wood paneling surrounding those windows with three tall thin floor-to-ceiling aluminum accordion folding doors in a style to match the original residential Art Deco door, with tall thin rectangular glass panels.
- The proposed second floor will eliminate the existing sign band and awning, and the metal panels and louvers.
- The second floor and space above the proposed new first floor treatment would be clad in a series of two bands of custom metal panels with thin metal articulations calling to mind the pattern of the former etched glass. The

existing metal framing on the second floor is too thin and unable to handle the weight of modern glazing, so a series of metal panels with the detail from the former glazing is proposed in its place. A new awning centered over the set of three folding doors would cover the lower set of articulated metal panels.

- The proposal also includes the installation of a blade sign on the west side of the store entrance slightly above the new awning.

Rear Addition

- The existing condition includes a three-story L extension in the rear yard of a modest depth.
- The proposal is to build a one-story extension from the main rear façade to the rear lot line – approximately 37 feet from the main rear façade.
- The rear yard is not accessible by any of the residential tenants, and is covered in concrete and is surrounded by a knee-height wall with fences above.
- There is a full-depth one-story commercial infill extension at 102 West 73rd Street that partially overlaps with the rear lot line of the subject premises.
- The existing L extension and the main rear façade are clad in common red brick. There is a single window centered on the north façade of the existing L extension on the first floor.
- The proposed rear yard infill would include two skylights on its roof, and would not include windows on any of its three sides. The height of the proposed extension is calibrated not to obscure any windows from the residential units above.
- The walls of the rear yard infill are proposed to be clad in pigmented stucco in a sandy or light brown color.
- The height of the rear yard infill would be 14'6" above the curb level.

Committee Questions and Comments:

Store Infill-

Madge:

- Q: What is the height of the proposed accordion doors?
- A: 7'.

Peter:

- Q: Why are the accordion doors on the front façade so short?
- A: The 7' height of the accordion doors is aligned to match the height of the existing historic residential entrance door, and the new matching store entrance.

William:

- Q: Are the accordion doors part of the historic precedent?
- A: No, but the ability to provide access to sidewalk and curbside seating is an essential driver of this proposal.

Rear Yard Addition-

Michele:

- Q: Who uses the existing rear yard?
- A: It is accessible only to the existing store tenant (Malachy's), and is presently unused. The proposal would create residential tenant access to the roof of the new infill.

Jay:

- Q: What provisions for sound attenuation will be made with the installation of HVAC compressors in the rear yard?
- A: The new equipment will be modern and likely be much quieter than the existing. The project will include analysis as to what is required to meet the noise Code for the new equipment.
- Q: What materials will be used on the rear infill?
- A: The cladding will be stucco in a tan or sandy color.

Community Questions and Comments:

Robert Muth:

- Q: Will the rear yard addition block any existing windows?
- A: No – there is a space of several feet between the lot line and any windows on the neighboring building.

Committee Discussion/Consensus:

Mark:

- Since the entire existing rear façade is in common red brick, and the proposed addition has no fenestration on any side, it would be far more appropriate for some or all of the proposed extension to be clad in red brick to blend more appropriately with the existing and surrounding conditions.
- A: The use of red brick, or a thin red brick treatment, will be raised with the owner. While the rear yard full-depth addition will partially disrupt the pattern of rear yards, this is far from an intact donut, and accommodations of this type are necessary to enable our small businesses to truly recover from the economic downturn from the pandemic and the challenges for brick and mortar stores that preceded it.

RESOLUTION – The project has been broken into two resolutions:

- A. Concerning the front façade: Resolution to approve the proposal as presented.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 7-0-1-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.

- B. Concerning the rear yard full-depth infill: Resolution to approve with a recommendation that the extension be clad in common red brick or a resilient thin red brick treatment.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-0-0.

Calendared at LPC: 9/14/21.

300 West End Avenue (West 74th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to increase the height of an existing elevator bulkhead.

The subject building is a 13-story plus basement apartment building in the Colonial Revival style built by Schwartz & Gross, architects, ca. 1916-17. The façade is common red brick with a stone base and multiple bands of light stone accenting various floors above, and with stone sashes on many of its windows.

The building is included in the West End – Collegiate Historic District Extension I.

Presentation by John Gordon of SUK Design Group, architects.

- The application is to increase the height of a passenger elevator bulkhead. The additional height is needed in order to extend a passenger elevator to provide access to the roof.
- The existing bulkhead is located in the southwest portion of the roof of the building. Its footprint is approximately 8'4" x 10'8", and its current height is 12'8".
- Also located on the roof near the subject bulkhead is a service elevator bulkhead that is approximately as tall as the proposed new bulkhead, and a second passenger elevator bulkhead of similar dimensions to the existing subject bulkhead, as well as a typical water tower on the northern edge of the roof that is taller than the proposed new bulkhead, and a tall chimney on the eastern edge of the roof – all of which are partially visible from secondary facades.
- All of the existing bulkheads are clad in common red brick.
- The proposed new bulkhead would have the same footprint, but its height would increase to 29'4". The additional height would also be clad in red brick.
- The proposal also calls for the creation of a metal stair leading to a stair landing spanning between the proposed new bulkhead at about two-thirds of the height of the proposed bulkhead, with additional stairs to provide access from the landing to the top of the bulkhead.
- The existing bulkheads, as well as other rooftop structures, are visible over secondary facades from Broadway and from vantage points near Riverside Drive further west on West 74th Street. They are not visible from West End Avenue or immediately adjacent to the building on West 74th Street.

Committee Questions and Comments:

Michele:

- Q: Can the mock-up be seen from Broadway?
- A: Yes – among other rooftop structures.

Mark:

- Q: Will there eventually be a companion proposal to extend the second passenger elevator?
- A: None planned at this time – one elevator is deemed sufficient to provide roof access.

Jay:

- Q: How does the height of the proposed bulkhead compare with other roof structures?
- A: The existing water tower is significantly taller; the chimney on the roof is also quite tall.

Community Questions and Comments:

[None]

Committee Discussion/Consensus: Appropriate

Doug:

- Building has an interesting history, including that when artists Harry Belafonte and Lena Horne were excluded from residing in other buildings, they bought this one. It continues to be the home of prominent artists.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

VOTE Preservation Comm: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members: 2-0-0-0.

Calendared At LPC: 9/28/21.

Re: 330 West End Avenue (West 74th-75th Streets). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for replacement of glass-enclosed greenhouse balconies.

The subject building is a 12-story apartment building in the Arts and Crafts style with limestone cartouches, window surround keystones and other color-contrasting details, as well as ornamental wrought iron detail on its main façade. It was built ca. 1915-16 by architect Robert M. Farrington.

The building is included in the West End – Collegiate Historic District Extension I.

Presentation by Lisa Vengelas and Geosiris Solano of Linea LLP, Architects

- The application is to replace the existing aluminum greenhouse structures situated on balconies on the rear/east (secondary) façade of the building with new aluminum greenhouses of approximately the same dimensions.
- The existing condition consists of a metal tower structure attaching concrete balconies to the top 5 floors of the rear/east façade of the building.
- The top 5 floors' existing balconies are enclosed by greenhouses consisting of untreated aluminum frames with a curved roof and plexiglass windows, with alternating fixed and jalousie windows. The entire enclosure, including the curved return roof, is glazed within aluminum framing. There are panels on each roof glazing that are operable to allow access and ventilation.
- Each existing balcony measures approximately 12'8.5" x 6'9", and is 9'10" at its highest point where the curved roof returns to the brick rear façade.
- The proposal is to replace the existing greenhouses on the top 4 floors (only) with new aluminum frames that are powder-coated a dark bronze color.
- The greenhouses would have a fixed center panel on the long edge with pairs of 5' wide sliding windows on either side. There would also be a sliding window on the narrower north face of the new greenhouses.
- While the footprint of the greenhouses would remain the same, the roof of the greenhouse would be a squared-off slant rather than the existing curve.
- The panels in the proposed greenhouse would be insulated glass rather than the existing plexiglass. The existing balcony framing cannot support the weight of modern insulated glass.
- Visibility from a public way: The existing and proposed greenhouses are visible from an alleyway on West 76th Street that is enclosed by a masonry/stone arch and gate that partially obscure the view between the subject building and its rear yard neighbors.

Committee Questions and Comments:

Peter:

- Q: The proposal should include a drawing showing the existing and proposed elevations.
- A: Such a drawing is in the works, and will be provided to the Community Board prior to the full Board vote. The project presentation was rushed to meet the revised date of the Preservation Committee meeting.

K:

- Q: What is the reason for the replacement?
- A: The existing greenhouses are poorly ventilated, and are too hot or too cold to use for much of the year. Also, the existing plexiglass has faded and is unsightly.

Community Questions and Comments:

[None]

Committee Discussion and Consensus:

Michele:

- Appropriate, and only partially visible.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 7-1-0-0; Non-Committee Board members: 2-0-0-0.

Calendared at LPC: 9/28/21.

Re: 780 West End Avenue, Apt 11A (West 98th Street). Application #LPC-21-05268 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for window replacement.

The subject building is a 12-story plus basement apartment building in the Arts and Crafts style with a façade composed of various dimensions of light-colored brick with limestone and terra cotta accents and details, including surrounding one of the windows in the subject apartment. The building was built ca. 1912-14 by architects George and Edward Blum.

The building is included in the Riverside -West End Historic District Extension II.

Presentation by Alfred Karman, Architect.

- The application is to replace 7 existing aluminum windows in a 1:1 double-hung configuration in a single apartment in kind.
- The window replacement cannot be approved at LPC Staff level because the original window condition was double-hung windows with divided light – either 3:3 or 2:2 depending on the width of the windows.
- The building has primary facades on the west (facing West End Avenue) and north (facing West 98th Street). The windows to be replaced wrap around both primary facades.
- The condition as of the time of the designation of the Historic District Extension II is that none of the historic multi-light windows remain on either primary façade. The building replaced all of the windows on the primary and secondary facades long before Designation; the current windows have outlived their useful life.
- Installing multi-light windows on the 11th floor of the facades in a single apartment would create discontinuity and a mottled effect.

Committee and Board Questions and Comments:

Mark:

- Q: Will the new replacement windows use the same brick molds as the current replacement windows throughout the building?
- A: Yes. Research uncovered an old example of the original brick mold on an existing window in the basement rear façade (without divided light), and it compares favorably to the existing and proposed brick mold for the replacement windows.
- Q: Is the Building considering a master plan for window replacement?
- A: The applicant offered to propose one, but the Building was not interested.

K:

- Q: Why was a public hearing required for a single apartment application instead of a Staff level approval:

- A: The Staff cannot approve a replacement proposal for single-pane windows when the historic condition was divided-light.

Community Questions and Comments:

[None]

Committee Discussion and Consensus:

Appropriate under the circumstances, especially given there are only 7 windows at issue vs. a façade of over a hundred.

Resolution: To approve as presented.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members: 2-0-0-0.

Calendared at LPC: 9/28/21.

New Business:

Michele:

- The application to install a pergola at 333 Central Park West, which application CB7 disapproved, was heard at LPC in July.
- LPC approved the application, but with significant modifications including requiring a darker color than the white aluminum, and removing the internal lighting of the pergola, that were the source of CB7's objections to its calling undue attention to what should be utilitarian rooftop elements. So the spirit if not the text of CB7's resolution was honored by the result.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Richard Ashe and Jeannette Rausch, Co-Chairpersons

September 2, 2021 at 6:30 via ZOOM

Land Use Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met via the Videoconferencing application Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Co-Chairperson Richard Ashe.

Present: Richard Ashe, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Sheldon Fine, Jeannette Rausch, Andrew Ridge, Seema Reddy, Richard Robbins, Peter Samton and Ethel Sheffer. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Linda Alexander, Andrew Albert, Joshua Cohen, Ken Coughlin, Mark Diller, Paul Fischer, Doug Kleiman, Ira Mitchneck and Roberta Semer. **Absent:** William Ortiz and Melissa Rosenberg.

Guests: Sylvia Li and Jose Trucios from DCP and Colleen Chattergoon from DOT.

The following matters were discussed:

1. Co-Chairs Report:

Follow-ups & New Items: Jeannette Rausch reported that Hal Fetner, the developer for 266-270 West 96th Street had notified the CB that Programs administered by the inclusionary housing program require that the development team to notify their relevant community board at least 45 days prior to closing, and thus a notification was being sent to the Board Office. In addition, a Brownfield Cleanup Agreement with DEC was agreed to and can be reviewed at the St. Agnes Public Library or online at the following address:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/der/factsheet/c231133cuprop.pdf>

2. Zoning Text Amendment ULURP # N210434ZRY: Open Restaurants/Sidewalk Cafes Citywide Text Amendment

The NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) and the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) made presentations of the proposed text amendment, which would eliminate, in its entirety, *Chapter 4 – Sidewalk Café Regulations* of Article 1 within the Zoning Resolution (ZR). A power point presentation can be found at:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/planning/download/pdf/plans-studies/open-retaurants/cpc-presentation-062121.pdf>

The handout provided to CB7 at the meeting can be found here:

[Preview attachment OR Referral Package_063021.pdf](#)

The following points were made during the presentation:

- The text within Chapter 4 addresses primarily: 1) city blocks and neighborhoods which are off-limits to cafes; 2) the structure and placement of enclosed cafes; and 3) delegation to the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP), of the authority to grant rules relating to sidewalk cafes and to grant or deny café license applications.
- No replacement of text is offered at this time; however, the intent is for the agencies to work together with the City Council and define new guidelines and permitting criteria for a Permanent Open Restaurant Program (POR) that would now be administered by DOT. DOT stated its intention to streamline the application process and to formalize the status of roadway cafes, which have come into widespread use during the pandemic. The proposed ZR amendment would eliminate any location-based restrictions on cafes and remove the authority of DCWP before DOT has developed new guidelines.
- DCP and DOT indicated that the timing of such proposal was originally accelerated due to the anticipated ending of Emergency Executive Order 126 on October 31, 2020. This Executive Order, issued on June 18, 2020, suspended certain provisions of the Administrative Code, the Rules, and the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York and directed DOT to “*establish and administer a program to expand seating options for restaurants, bars and other establishments in certain outdoor areas, including the sidewalk, curbside and street space ...the Open Restaurants Program (OPR).*”
- OPR allows any food service establishment licensed by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that has business frontage on the ground floor to temporarily use public sidewalk or roadway space for outdoor dining. Executive Order 126 had a significant impact on expanding the outside footprint of cafes, bars, and restaurants and, for the first time, permitted customer seating to be placed in roadways. On September 25, 2020, Mayor de Blasio extended the Executive Order and announce it would be year-round and ultimately permanent.
- DCP and DOT stated that the ZR amendment would be the first step toward rethinking and redesigning café guidelines, particularly in view of the expanded presence of cafes brought about by relaxation of the rules

during the pandemic. The proposed ZR amendment would permanently eliminate all location-based restrictions on cafes and remove the authority of DCWP to regulate cafes. The next step would be a City Council resolution permanently transferring authority over cafes from DCWP to DOT, only then to be followed by the development of new guidelines by DOT.

- DOT indicated it would look to local communities for input, as it was at this meeting
- Passage of the proposed text amendment would have no immediate effect because the current Covid-19 emergency rules have eliminated the need for café applications and approvals through December 2022.

There was significant discussion by community board members that centered on the following statements and conclusions:

- The present application may be the last opportunity community boards have to weigh in on this issue, which has profound impact on everyday life in our communities. CB7 pointed out that at this stage there are no assurances that community boards (and the communities they serve) will have the opportunity to participate as DOT develops new guidelines, or that such new guidelines will include opportunities for community boards (or the communities they serve) to provide input and guidance on the substance of any proposed outdoor dining facilities on an application-by-application basis, as currently provided for in DCWP rules.
- CB 7 does not wish to relinquish its seat at the table or its essential opportunity to weigh in on location issues or the appropriate agency to oversee cafes before it has had an opportunity to examine and provide meaningful comment on DOT's proposed guidelines.
- Due to the extension of Executive Order 126, there is no longer any urgency to the proposed amendment. Until at least year-end 2022, the zoning text of Chapter 4, including the geographic restrictions on location of cafes have been made null and void as per Executive Order 126.
- Prior to permanently deleting this text, CB 7 believes the first step in the process should be the creation of proposed guidelines, followed by City Council approval of the change in authority and an only then an amendment to the ZR.
- Since the current amendment application takes no position on any of the is should not comment at this time on any specifics regarding the placement, structure, and physical appearance of cafes, all of which are proposed to be addressed by DOT, except that CB7 rejects any procedure which precludes community board review of the DOT guidelines before they take effect, and the siting and issuance of permits for roadside cafes, assuming they are allowed under the new guidelines.
- Community Board 7 enthusiastically supports efforts by the Applicants to rationalize and update café guidelines. We are mindful and sympathetic to the plight of restaurants during the pandemic and the need to stretch the rules to permit as much outdoor dining as possible. We support continuation of the temporary emergency.

Following the discussion, the chairs opened the discussion to any public members who wished to speak and thereafter drafted and voted on a resolution that would **disapprove** the proposed Zoning Text Amendment to eliminate Article 1, Chapter 4 and related provisions of the Zoning Resolution at this time, but with the following points made:

1. DCP and DOT should withdraw the current ULURP until such time as proposed café guidelines have been circulated by DOT and community boards have had an opportunity to consider and provide advice on the guidelines;
2. The City Council should delay any legislation which transfers authority over cafes from DCWP to DOT until such time as DOT has circulated at least preliminary proposed regulations;
3. Community Board 7 commends the applicants for embarking on a process to overhaul café guidelines, but will take no position at this time on whether DCWP, DOT or some other agency is best suited to lead this process; and
4. Community Board 7 will object to any procedures which are not fully transparent, which fail to give community boards an opportunity to influence the proposed guidelines (which may differ from community to community) or will be proposed by which deprives community boards of the opportunity to review individual applications for sidewalk or roadway licenses, as well as guidelines for their siting, manner of construction, appearance, and adequacy of safety features.

The resolution passed on the following vote:

Committee: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 1-2-2-0.

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2021 at 6:30pm

Steven Brown, Chairperson

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

Absent: Robert Espier, Audrey Isaacs, Blanche Lawton, Peter Samton, Meg Schmitt and Susan Schwartz.

The full Board of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, September 9, 2021, via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was able to be held via Zoom thanks to the State Legislature and Governor adopting an act amending the Open Meetings Law to permit meeting via virtual means on or about September 1, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by chair Steven Brown after the secretary confirmed a quorum was present.

Introductory Remarks – Chair Steven Brown:

- Welcome to Board members and the community after a long period in which CB7 was unable to meet due to the end of the New York State state of emergency in June 2021, which precluded meeting via Zoom until September 1, 2021, when the Legislature and Governor enacted legislation enabling CB7 and similar public boards to meet virtually under January 15, 2022.
- Thanks to several Board Members, especially K Karpen, as well as the District Manager and Office Staff for efforts above and beyond the call of duty to create and prepare for alternative spaces for an in-person meeting. While the recent legislation obviated the need to use the safe in-person alternative innovated by the team, the efforts are nonetheless greatly appreciated.

Public Safety Session

Captain Lazarus, Executive Officer of the 24th Precinct:

- Newly assigned to the 24 – familiarizing with the great work and dedicated cops in this command.
- The most serious crimes tracked by the NYPD are down 13% over the most recent 28-day period measured against the equivalent period the prior year. Overall, such crimes are up 6.2% for the year to date.
- The trend in significant crimes in the 24 Precinct concerns Grand Larceny – Auto (“GLA”). In particular, the autos being stolen disproportionately include Honda CRV mini-SUVs in unobserved areas such as those parked along Riverside Drive.
- The Precinct is retrieving surveillance video from local sources as part of the efforts to combat this trend.
- Shootings in the Precinct are down for the YTD, and gun arrests are up 100% over the previous year.
- There were two shooting incidents on August 30th at West 104th Street and Columbus Avenue, one involving an individual in a convenience store, another in a nail salon. Both victims have recovered.
- Recent reports of shots fired have been made around Wise Towers (3 incidents) and near Douglass Houses (4 incidents). Precinct is responding by assigning increased Officer presence in both areas.
- Traffic update includes an increase of 13% in collisions in the district, with a 1% increase in collisions resulting in injuries, over the equivalent period the prior year.
- Collisions involving cyclists are down 33%.
- Traffic summonses have exceeded the prior year, with the most common summonses being written for failure to yield red light violations, especially along the West 96-97 Street corridor.
- Parking – 47% of parking summonses related to double-parking, largely delivery trucks.
- The 24th Precinct received 24 new officers in May; 6 in July; and 5 in August.
- POs and NCOs (Neighborhood Coordination Officers) are combining focus to address homeless encampments.
- Youth Coordination Officers (YCOs) held a successful back-to-school event at which 300 backpacks loaded with school supplies were given away to young children.

Captain Neil Zuber – Commanding Officer, 20th Precinct:

- “Help Ayden” initiative – seeking volunteers to register for bone marrow or T-cell donation needed to help a 4-year-old battle cancer. Screening and registry available at the Lincoln Center Rubinstein Atrium. Continues Friday, September 10, 2021 from 11-6.
- Grateful for the assistance of Block Associations spreading the word.
- Crime in the 20 Precinct has generally been on the decline. GLAs continue to plague the Upper West Side. In addition to Honda CRVs, thefts target motorcycles, Vespas, mopeds and scooters. One pattern involves two on a motorcycle who cruise parked vehicles, find a motorcycle or scooter, and one steals the vehicle while the other keeps watch until they ride off together.
- Continuing scourge of roving bands of ATVs, dirt bikes and other two-wheelers speeding and driving recklessly on main Avenues. NYPD will not give high-speed chase as that would further endanger pedestrians and others. NYPD is increasing its presence on the street, although visible presence sometimes has the undesired effect of inducing aggressive driving so the driver can take a photo of a wheelie with a cop car in the frame.
- Recent trend in Grand Larcenies continues to be scams on the vulnerable, often based on claims that loved ones are in danger. Rule of thumb is not to take out cash or otherwise remit money without checking family first. Call 911 before sending money anywhere.

Captain William Gallagher – Commanding Officer, Central Park Precinct:

- Crime down YTD in Central Park 11% over prior year.
- Most common crime in Central Park is the theft of unattended property, especially electronic devices. Urging to keep an eye on valuables.
- Recent and upcoming concerts and festivals all proceeded safely.
- Precinct POs have responded to numerous calls by rescuing motorists from flooded vehicles in the Transverse roads during Hurricanes Henri and Ida. A total of 18 recent rescues – a sample video is available on Twitter. NYPD as a community service, not just law enforcement.

Q&A for Precincts:

Rich Robbins:

- Q: Statistics on summonses for speeding
- A: Captain Lazarus – 28-day speeding summonses up 278% over prior year.
- A: Captain Gallagher – most complaints in Central Park about speeding involve mopeds and ebikes. 66 summonses written in recent 28-day period.
- A: Captain Zuber – will follow up with statistics. Radar enforcement difficult on narrow roadways, and curbside dining sheds make such enforcement difficult. Also, only a handful of POs in each Precinct have been trained to use a radar gun. Captain Myrie will attend CB7 Transportation Committee next week and will provide statistics.

Andrew Albert:

- Scourge of ATVs and dirt bikes speeding and acting aggressively continues, and with it a persistent threat to pedestrians and cyclists.
- A: Captain Zuber – most important enforcement tool is visible NYPD presence. Giving chase is inherently unsafe. NYPD presence includes marked cars with high intensity search lights. Often able to follow these marauders to gas stations or bridges where they must slow down.

Business Session

Election Committee – Josh Cohen, Chair

- Election Committee Members are Barbara Adler, Christian Cordova, Susan Schwartz and Benjamin Wu.
- Nominations duly made and seconded as follows:
 - For Chair – Steven Brown
 - For Vice Chair – Andrew Rigie and Doug Kleiman
 - For Co-Secretary – Beverly Donohue and Seema Reddy
- Nominations duly closed.
- Voting will take place at the October full Board meeting.

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

Resolution 1: Support of Food Delivery Workers and Bathroom Access.

- Robust discussions had on all aspects of the issue held at a series of Committee meetings in the Spring.
- Resolution crafted based on input from numerous participants.
- Special thanks in drafting language to CB7 Member Ken Coughlin.
- Steven Brown: Proud of the work done by the Board in holding a series of thoughtful meetings and discussions and employing a measured process to arrive at a thoughtful and appropriate resolution.

After due deliberation the resolution of support was adopted.

VOTE: 37-0-1-0.

Resolution 2: Resolution to support applications to the State Liquor Authority for new two-year on-premises liquor licenses for:

- 206 West 79th Street (Amsterdam Avenue) – Sal 79 Associates d/b/a Coppola's West
- 464 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82nd Street) – Loki Hospitality LLC d/b/a Song E Nupale
- Great to see new restaurants opening in the current economic environment.

After due deliberation, the resolution to support the applications was adopted.

VOTE: 40-0-0-0.

Resolution 3: Resolution to support an application to the State Liquor Authority for a two-year on-premises liquor license due to the alteration of ownership for:

- 774 Amsterdam Avenue (West 98th Street) – JPDB Hospitality LLC d/b/a Moonrise Izakaya

After due deliberation, the resolution to support the application was adopted.

VOTE: 40-0-0-0.

Transportation Committee – Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairs.

Resolution 4: Resolution concerning Electric-Assisted Bicycles ("Ebikes") safety, enforcement and regulation.

Steven Brown:

- Revised and updated text of the resolution was distributed prior to the meeting.

Co-Chair Andrew Albert:

- The Transportation Committee has grappled with concerns relating to Ebikes and powered scooters and mopeds over the course of many meetings.
- Concerns voiced by the community and Board members include speeding, riding in the wrong direction on one-way roadways, and riding on sidewalks.

- Resolution as revised seeks:
 - Interim ban on Ebikes and Scooters/Mopeds using the protected bike lanes on the Upper West Side;
 - Accelerated enforcement of existing traffic regulations; and
 - A study by the NYC DoT of the feasibility of enacting additional safety measures for Ebikes and Scooters, including without limitation helmet requirements, registration or alternative identifications methodology, traffic signal cameras, insurance and financial responsibility for operators, age requirements, and other potential measures.
- Ebikes and Scooters should not be able to travel as fast as they do.
- Our bike lanes are not designed or constructed to accommodate these vehicles.
- Distinguish Ebikes from pedal-assist electric bikes, which do not travel at the same high rates of speed.
- In terms of enforcement, the Precinct Commanders have confirmed that Ebikes have proliferated in the last year.
- At one time Ebikes were per se illegal on the street. Recently they were legalized by legislation. Little if any analysis or research was evident before Ebikes were legalized.

Doug Kleiman:

- Support the resolution as a means to control the “Wild Wild West” of Ebike behavior.
- Concern for the most vulnerable street users, including mobility challenged, elderly, and parents with strollers etc.

Rich Robbins:

- Concern that the resolution is over-inclusive, attributing to Ebikes behavior that is problematic with a separate group of ATVs, dirt bikes and other powered vehicles that are ridden aggressively.
- This resolution without saying so targets delivery workers and would force them into the travel lanes of our commercial avenues where they will be far less safe.
- The resolution would also force out of the bike lanes the 20% of Citibikes that are electrically-assisted.
- The requirements of a helmet and identification called for in the resolution are already in place for delivery workers.
- The resolution seeks insurance coverage as a condition to riding Ebikes, but no such insurance is currently available, and delivery workers could not afford it in any event.
- Safety would be better promoted by requiring delivery apps and restaurants to treat delivery workers as W-2 employees.
- Safety would also be greatly enhanced by re-routing bike lanes that run through current curbside dining structures – urgently needed reforms.

Richard Asche:

- Distinguish pedal-assist from Ebikes – not all can travel at high speeds. Should not ban pedal-assist bikes along with Ebikes.
- There is no reason to believe that Ebikes riding in traffic would be any safer for anyone than they would be in the bike lanes.
- Of the three prongs of the resolution, support for the study but not the bans and calls for enforcement in advance of the study’s findings. Premature.

Christian Cordova:

- We should not force Ebikes into traffic.
- Enforcement is needed for irresponsible behavior.
- We need to adjust curbside seating and bike lanes – it is an accident waiting to happen.

Ken Coughlin:

- Resolution will discourage green alternatives at a time when the consequences of climate change are increasingly apparent.
- The Resolution would embarrass CB7 as intolerant and uninformed.
- Ebikes also include delivery bikes with cargo trailers as well as family bikes with kid seating – we should not lump them all together.
- Mopeds and scooters are the worst offenders in bike lanes and are already prohibited.
- The spirit of the resolution evinces hostility to delivery workers.
- Instead of this resolution, CB7 should take positive actions to promote safety, including:
 - Addressing current incentives for delivery workers to ride irresponsibly.
 - Require third-party app companies to give workers the same type of identification now required of restaurant-specific delivery workers.
 - Require app companies to carry liability insurance on all their delivery workers.
 - Confiscate illegal high-powered mopeds, as well as e-scooters capable of traveling more than 15 miles-per-hour.
 - Change hit-and-run laws so they are the same for all vehicles.
 - Widen bike lanes to accommodate the growing number of different legal users.

Kristen Berger:

- The prohibition language of the resolution in “therefore” paragraph 1 is inconsistent with the call in paragraph 3 for a research study.

Jay Adolf:

- Resolution drafted intentionally to call both for interim prohibitions and a study. It would create a temporary solution and a path to a long-term solution.
- Agrees to exclude pedal-assist electric bikes from the definition of Ebikes to be prohibited from the bike lanes.

Sara Lind:

- Mopeds belong in traffic; not Ebikes.
- There are throttle-assisted electric bikes used by elderly users who cannot pedal up hills etc.
- The resolution ignores recent complaints about Ebikes weaving in and out of traffic on the travel lanes instead of the bike lanes.
- The net effect of Ebikes being forced into the travel lanes is to make the entire street less safe.
- In view of the consequences of climate change, Ebikes should be encouraged over powered vehicles.
- Enforcement often targets low-hanging fruit of riders able to be given summonses but not riding unsafely.

Klari Neuwelt:

- Confirming that pedal-assist electric bikes are now not a part of the resolution.
- Ebikes are not permitted anywhere in NYC Parks.
- Even pedal-assist bikes may be safer for the cyclist, but not necessarily for pedestrians.

Miranda Raab:

- Banning Ebikes from bike lanes is a step too far.
- Such a ban would put delivery workers at great risk.

Jeannette Rausch:

- Voting against the resolution is not an endorsement of the current situation.

- Planners have many tools to affect behavior – should complete the study and assess the recommendations before taking action.

Barbara Adler:

- Near misses between Ebikes and pedestrians occur too frequently, especially when riding the wrong way on one-way streets.
- Contributes to a general sense of being unsafe on the streets.

Co-Chair Howard Yaruss:

- Share concerns about street safety.
- Banning Ebikes from the bike lanes will make the bike lanes safer but will make the rest of the street less safe.
- The study is the only appropriate step – we should look to our DoT experts for guidance on effective means to make our streets safer.
- CB7 should not be in the business of asking NYPD ad hoc to change its enforcement priorities.

Community Comments:

Christina Weyl:

- Parents use Ebikes to take children to school.
- Horrified to contemplate being forced to ride in traffic with a child.

Lisa Orman:

- The resolution and discussion have focused on anecdotal examples of concerns. Need data to support and inform discussion and conclusions.
- Appalled that the UWS is contemplating targeting delivery workers.
- Banning Ebikes will incentivize delivery workers to use gas-powered mopeds and other vehicles, which we should not encourage.

CB7 Further Discussion:

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Supports only the portion of the resolution calling for a study and enhanced enforcement of existing rules.

Steven Brown:

- Q: Will the proponent of the resolution agree to a friendly amendment to remove the first decretal paragraph re banning Ebikes from bike lanes?

Jay Adolf:

- A: Will not agree.
- As a practical matter, the intent in drafting was not to target only delivery workers.
- There are three major bike lanes on the UWS – CPW, Columbus and Amsterdam. Delivery workers must routinely go beyond the bike lanes, including down side streets and across to Broadway, WEA and Riverside Drive.

Steven Brown:

- CB7 has done a great job moving forward with protected bike lanes.
- Our streets remain chaotic.
- Many are uncomfortable with the speed of Ebikes.
- The greater good of street safety is promoted by this resolution.
- The focus on a study is appropriate.
- The chief complaint heard by our electeds on streets concerns Ebikes.

Richard Ashe:

- Motion: Proposed amendment: Eliminate the first “Therefore” paragraph (banning Ebikes from the bike lanes) and include in the third paragraph a call to study the effect of moving Ebikes into the traffic lanes.
- [motion seconded]

Vote on proposed amendment: after deliberation, the proposed amendment was accepted: 25-12-5-0.

Vote on resolution: after deliberation, the resolution as amended was adopted: 29-8-3-0.

Land Use Committee – Richard Ashe and Jeannette Rausch, Co-Chairs.

Resolutions 5: 2523 Broadway (West 94-95th Streets) – Application 287-01-BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals for an extension of a previously granted special permit that allowed the operation of a physical culture establishment. and Resolution 7: Zoning Resolution Text Amendment relating to Health and Fitness Establishments.

Co-Chair Richard Ashe:

- Resolution 5 concerns a special permit to operate a “physical culture establishment” (“PCE”).
- The applicant, New York Sports Club, has operated a PCE for years at this location without incident.
- The origin of special permits for PCEs dates to the 1970s and before, as a zoning solution to the then-existing proliferation of massage parlors engaging in illicit and unsavory sexual practices under the guise of a PCE.
- The need for this zoning provision has outlived its usefulness.
- Resolution 5 would approve the current application.
- Resolution 7 would amend the Zoning Resolution to eliminate the need for future such applications.
- Propose bundled vote (accepted).

Doug Kleiman:

- The costs associated with securing a PCE special permit from the BSA is a significant barrier to new businesses starting up, with no associated benefit to the community.

After due deliberation, Resolution 5 approving the special permit to the applicant and Resolution 7 approving the Zoning Text Amendment were adopted.

VOTE: 37-0-0-0.

Resolution 6: Citywide Zoning Text Amendment – Requiring all new hotels and all hotel enlargements where hotels are permitted as of right (with certain defined exceptions) to secure a City Planning Commission special permit.

Co-Chair Jeannette Rausch:

- The proposed text amendment would require a new or expanded hotel operator to obtain a special permit from the City Planning Commission.
- DCP has not defined the criteria for the special permit.
- The requirement would increase project costs and delays in connection with building or expanding hotels.
- Concern that the new special permit requirement would make it more difficult to meet the hoped-for goal of expanding capacity to meet demand and encourage tourism as a part of the recovery of the economy.
- Concern that the project costs would be passed along to consumers, which in turn would make disfavored alternatives like illegal Air BnB be more attractive.

After deliberation, the resolution to oppose the text amendment was adopted.

VOTE: 37-1-3-0.

Resolution 8: Proposed Citywide Text Amendment, application No. N210434 ZRY, eliminating in its entirety Article 1, Chapter 4, of the Zoning Resolution relating to Sidewalk Café Regulations.

Co-Chair Richard Asche:

- The City wants to overhaul the existing guidelines relating to the location and operation of sidewalk cafés as well as curbside dining.
- Temporary rules and guidelines were adopted during the pandemic which, among other things, transferred authority over sidewalk cafés from the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) to the Department of Transportation (DoT).
- Concerns relate not to the support of restaurants' continued use of the outdoor spaces, but to the process of creating new guidelines.
- We should first have an opportunity to provide input and collaboration on creating the new criteria and guidelines, and only then to remove the existing zoning provisions.
- The timing of the current application is driven by considerations that are no longer relevant – the temporary guidelines once slated to expire shortly have been extended at least through the end of calendar 2022.
- As such, this resolution is premature at least until Community Boards know what will replace the existing text.
- The proposed text amendment would effectively remove all references to sidewalk cafés from the Zoning Resolution.

Concern – this may be the only opportunity for Community Boards to weigh in on both the proposed guidelines and potentially on the siting of individual restaurant cafés.

- Resolution is to reject the text amendment at this time (and encourage DCP to withdraw the proposal) as a means of preserving the role of the Community and the Community Boards in having a seat at the table for the creation and vetting of any future regulations and governing provisions.

Co-Chair Jeannette Rausch:

- The question before CB7 is NOT what the future of outdoor dining should be.
- The limited question at present is the elimination of zoning rules relating to sidewalk cafés.
- Deleting existing regulations should only occur when the replacement is properly adopted.
- Concern that once the Zoning Resolution is amended and the text deleted, there will be no enforceable requirement for DCP or DoT to work with Community Boards. DCP and DoT reassure otherwise, but such assurances are not enforceable.

Shelly Fine:

- There is no guarantee that DoT will provide opportunities for Community Boards to have meaningful input to the new DoT guidelines that will replace the existing web of regulation.
- The emergency nature of this proposal should have been mooted by the Mayor's extending the interim regulations through the end of 2022.

Christian Cordova:

- Conflicting concerns. Desire to support extending restaurants' ability to use sidewalk and outdoor spaces for dining as a part of moving economic recovery forward.
- Also, it is important to keep certain restrictions on siting of cafés.

Jay Adolf:

- The current resolution and action on the text amendment concerns the process of the zoning resolution, not on whether or how open seating for restaurants should proceed.
- Community Boards should retain input going forward at the appropriate time on the regulations governing sidewalk cafés.

- When the new guidelines are in process, CB7 should hold a joint meeting with the Transportation, BCI and Preservation Committees.

Roberta Semer:

- Restaurants must be given guidance.
- The Community Board should have input into replacement guidelines. For example, mid-block outdoor dining is not permitted, and should be re-examined.
- This is an “emperor has no clothes” moment.

Josh Cohen:

- As a business owner, I see that outdoor seating has been especially helpful to recovery from the worst of the pandemic.
- CB7 voting against this resolution sends a bad message to the business community.
- Confident that DoT and DCP will in fact engage with Community Boards at the appropriate time.

Louisa Craddock:

- While text amendments must be presented to Community Boards, DoT Regulations are not subject to such a requirement.
- It is essential that Community Boards are involved in new regulations to ensure that the needs of restaurants, pedestrians, vehicles and other street users are properly balanced.
- Voting against the text amendment at this time is our way of remaining involved.

Linda Alexander:

- This resolution should have been considered at a joint Committee meeting with Land Use and BCI.
- The current text amendment only relates to sidewalk cafés, not other outdoor dining, which remains under the temporary rules adopted by DoT.
- The limitations being removed from the Zoning Resolution have little relevance to CB7 but are important to restaurants in other Boroughs. We should support those restaurants.

Doug Kleiman:

- Eliminating the limitations from the Zoning Resolution is an important first step.
- Community Boards will have an opportunity to advocate with respect to any new regulations proposed by DoT when those regulations come before the City Council.
- Appreciates the concern that the text amendment would take away Community Boards’ seat at the table.

Howard Yaruss:

- The proposed text amendment supports restaurants now.
- Concern that CB7 will be viewed as not taking an available step to support restaurants.
- Confident CB7 will not lose its seat at the table.
- Should be seen as supporting more vibrant outdoor dining opportunities.

Andrew Rigie:

- Opposes disapproval of the text amendment.
- Outdoor dining opportunities are monumentally important to restaurants’ economic recovery.
- Vote on this text amendment will be seen as symbolic of the Board’s support for restaurants.
- Replacement regulations can be subject to City Council legislation.
- CB7 should send a message of symbolic support of restaurants.
- Outdoor dining opportunities saved more than 100,000 jobs during the pandemic.

- The current process is not perfect, but CB7 needs to see the bigger picture.

Jeannette Rausch:

- The future of outdoor dining is not part of the resolution before CB7 now.
- Important to focus on the process by which future regulations will be adopted. For example, regulations need to address sound/noise issues, and DoT is not equipped to regulate such concerns.
- The Media can spin CB7's vote in any way it wants.

Richard Asche:

- With respect to symbolism, the proposed resolution on the table at paragraph 4 expresses robust support for local restaurants and their recovery.
- Meanwhile, the emergency procedures and regulations remain in place through 2022, so there will be no net effect to the text amendment as proposed at least until then.

Rich Robbins:

- Motion: substitute resolution to change disapproval to approval, with the call for Community Board involved in the creation of the new replacement regulations.
- [motion duly seconded]

Ethel Sheffer:

- The original resolution was thoughtfully balanced.
- DoT will remain in control of outdoor dining for more than another year.
- While respecting DoT, the substitute resolution would place DoT in charge of the entire process potentially without Community Board input.

Jay Adolf:

- Opposes the substitute resolution.

Shelly Fine:

- The existing original draft resolution already properly expresses appropriate support for restaurants.

Andrew Rigie:

- The original resolution will be seen as a rejection of open outdoor dining.
- Asking for an opportunity to collaborate and have meaningful input into new regulations after having rejected the text amendment will be seen as inappropriate and uncooperative, so having a seat at the table will be harder to achieve.

After deliberation, the substitute resolution was not adopted.

VOTE: 15-23-3-0.

After further deliberation, the original resolution to oppose the text amendment was adopted:

VOTE: 21-17-3-0.

Preservation Committee – Michele Parker and K Karpen, Co-Chairs.

Resolution 9: 103 West 72nd Street (Columbus Avenue). **Application LPC 21-08152 to replace storefront infill and construct a one-story full-depth rear yard extension.**

Co-Chair K Karpen:

- The proposal includes removal of non-historic elements of the commercial façade and return historical original conditions.

- Recommending red brick cladding rather than stucco for the rear yard extension.

Page Cowley:

- Gold star to the applicant for using the remaining original Art Deco door as the template for the new doors as part of the refurbished façade.

After deliberation, the resolutions to approve each of the renovations were adopted:

VOTE:

- *Resolution 9A – storefront infill: 40-0-0-0.*
- *Resolution 9B – rear yard extension: 40-0-0-0.*

Resolution 10: 260 West End Avenue (West 72nd Street). Application LPC 21-07273 for a window master plan.

Co-Chair K Karpen:

- Initially heard this application at the June Preservation Committee meeting. In the absence of a July Full Board meeting, the application proceeded to LPC.
- Master plan requires a public hearing because it proposed 1:1 double-hung windows in kind to the existing replacement windows, whereas the original condition was divided light (e.g. 6:6 or 4:4).
- LPC recommended only the top panes be divided light (e.g. 6:1 or 4:1).
- Application heard again at the September CB7 Preservation meeting.

After deliberation, the resolution to approve the application subject to the recommendations from LPC was adopted:

VOTE: 38-0-1-1.

Resolution 11: 43 West 74th Street (Columbus Avenue). Application LPC 21-07897 to remove a portion of a rear yard addition and align it with similar existing rear yard extensions on the same block.

Co-Chair K Karpen:

- Proposal to remove a portion of a deep rear yard extension in order to enjoy more of the garden area in the donut.
- The existing extension was added several years after the original building was constructed.
- The removal will restore the dental pattern of shorter L extensions in the donut.

Page Cowley:

- It is a good thing to eliminate excessive encroachments into the rear yard.

After deliberation, the resolution to approve the removal of a portion of the rear yard extension was adopted.

VOTE: 39-0-0-0.

Resolution 12: 300 West End Avenue ((West 74th Street). Application to increase the height of an existing elevator bulkhead.

Co-Chair K Karpen:

- The application proposes to increase the height of an existing elevator bulkhead to provide access to the roof.
- The existing and increased bulkhead is visible only from a distance and is only minimally visible over secondary facades.
- The new structure is utilitarian and appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

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

VOTE: 37-1-0-0.

Resolution 13: 330 West End Avenue (West 76th Street). Application for replacement of glass enclosed greenhouses on rear façade balconies.

Co-Chair Michele Parker:

- The proposal is to replace existing plexiglass greenhouses on the rear yard balconies. Four of the five balcony greenhouses are proposed to be replaced.
- The greenhouses were added after 1933 (when plexiglass was invented).
- The existing greenhouses are too hot in the summer and cold in the winter.

- The balconies are visible from West 76th Street through an alley between buildings. The balcony greenhouse not being replaced is on a lower floor that is partially obscured by a masonry archway at the sidewalk entrance to the alley.
- The proposed new greenhouses will be in a dark bronze aluminum, in contrast to the existing silver colored aluminum, which will further reduce their prominence.
- The new greenhouses will be of a more squared-off design than the curved existing ones.

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

VOTE: 38-0-0-0-0.

Resolution 14: 121 West 88th Street (Amsterdam Avenue). **Application LPC 21-06920 for a full-floor rooftop addition, relocation of the main entrance, and expanded fenestration and new balconies on the rear façade.**

Co-Chair Michele Parker:

- Application for a full-floor rooftop addition and a new rear fenestration.
- The recommendation is to approve the new windows in the rear as appropriate.
- The proposed rooftop addition is too bulky, ungainly and out of character with the rooftops of neighboring townhouses.

Page Cowley:

- Relaying concerns of colleague Peter Samton that the proposed rooftop addition is too tall and bulky.
- The addition would be visible from across the rear yard and adjacent playground.
- Also, the proposed addition would be built on top of a party wall with a neighboring building, which would burden the structural integrity of two buildings.
- We must resist the trend to build ever taller on townhouse roofs.

After deliberation, the resolution to approve the rear fenestration and disapprove the rooftop addition was adopted.

VOTE:

- *Resolution 14A – approve rear fenestration: 33-0-3-0.*
- *Resolution 14B – disapprove rooftop addition: 33-0-3-0.*

Resolution 15: 333 Central Park West (West 93rd Street). **Application LPC 21-05268 for an open-air rooftop pergola shade structure and a stair bulkhead with a rest room.**

Co-Chair Michelle Parker:

- The proposed pergola would sit atop a raised platform to provide seating with a panoramic view of Central Park.
- The pergola would be constructed of white metal and would be lit from within.
- LPC heard the application and required modifications including changing the color of the materials, eliminating the lighting, and suggesting lowering the height.

Madge Rosenberg:

- The proposed structure would be visible from several vantage points along the roadways and within Central Park.

Ethel Sheffer:

- Q: Purpose of the structure?
- A: Shaded rooftop seating.

Linda Alexander:

- Rooftop seating is a lovely amenity and is not per se inappropriate.

Louisa Craddock:

- CB7 does approve similar rooftop seating areas, including ones that are visible.

Page Cowley:

- The Committee explored with the applicant the ability to push the structure back further on the roof to mitigate its visibility.
- The structure will be an invitation to rooftop parties.

Erana Stennett:

- Q: Is this an individual landmark?
- A: Within the Upper West Side / Central Park West Historic District.

Miranda Raab:

- Q: What impact would this structure have on nearby buildings?
- A: It would be visible from neighboring buildings on CPW; not visible from shorter buildings on the side street.

Mark Diller:

- While CB7 does approve rooftop amenities such as seating areas and pergolas, even when visible, the unifying theme is that rooftop structures are utilitarian in design and do not unduly call attention to themselves.
- In contrast, this proposal, with brightly colored reflective metal materials, internal lighting, and placement as far forward on the roof as possible, this structure shouts to call attention to itself, and is therefore inappropriate.
- Disapproval of this structure will not set a precedent precluding approval of more modest and appropriate shade structures in the future.

Jay Adolf:

- Disapproval here would send a message of what is appropriate on rooftops.

Richard Asche:

- Q: If LPC has already voted, why should CB7 take a vote?
- A: In order to set our own CB7 precedent. While LPC addressed our core concerns about appropriateness, it is important for CB7 to define its own body of precedent.

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

VOTE: 27-2-5-0.

Resolution 16: 780 West End Avenue, Apt. 11A (West 98th Street). Application LPC 21-08658 for window replacement.

Co-Chair Michele Parker:

- The existing windows are 1:1 double-hung windows and were installed pre-designation.
- The original windows had divided light, and no such original windows remain on either main façade of the building.
- Requiring just one apartment to install historic divided light windows would create a mottled appearance on a uniform façade.

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

VOTE: 30-0-0-0.

Parks & Environment Committee – Co-Chairs Barbara Adler and Klari Neuwelt

Resolution 17: Renovation of the basketball court at the Sol Bloom Playground (Central Park West – Columbus Avenue between West 91-92 Streets).

Co-Chair Klari Neuwelt:

- The playground is adjacent to PS 84. Other parts of the playground are already under renovation as part of separate projects.
- Grateful to Council Member Helen Rosenthal for funding the \$600,000 cost of the basketball court renovation.
- The design of the basketball court emulates and complements a whimsical design motif painted as a mural on the west wall of the PS 84 school building. The mural is popular with the students and surrounding community.

Steven Brown:

- Q: Concern for the durability of the paint to be used for such a prominent design.
- A: A color seal will be used to enhance durability.
- A: In previous similar projects, Parks has reassured the Committee that colors and paint are appropriately durable.

Erana Stennett:

- Should conduct outreach to the adjacent NYCHA building, whose residents make use of the basketball court.
- Court is heavily used, including for a popular basketball tournament.
- Encourage the Parks Department to reach out to the neighbors.

Steven Brown:

- The PS 84 community is aware of the proposal.

Klari Neuwelt:

- Parks did reach out to the neighboring buildings and community.

Amy Hyman:

- Supports the redesign of the court – it is beautiful.
- Has experience with heavily used NYCHA basketball courts. Provided that Parks applies the sealant every 2-3 years, the colors and design should be durable.
- Should encourage Parks to plan now for future resealing.

Paul Fischer:

- Encourage quick completion of the project.

After deliberation, the resolution to approve the proposed renovation of the basketball court was adopted.

VOTE: 33-0-0-0.

Resolution 18: Proposal to install a medallion in Central Park near the finish line of the NYC Marathon in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Marathon.

Co-Chair Barbara Adler:

- The proposal is for a bronze marker 16" square in layered bronze relief.

Erana Stennett:

- Since Central Park is an individual scenic landmark, Preservation should weigh in.

Barbara Adler:

- The New York Road Runners and the Parks Department are eager to install the marker in time for the Marathon in November.
- The Committee reviewed the design schematic at a public meeting.

After deliberation, the resolution to approve the installation of the marker was adopted.

VOTE: 37-0-2-0.

Approval of minutes. The minutes of the full Board meetings held on May 4, June 1 and July 2, 2021 were all approved by acclamation.

Chairs Report – Steven Brown

- Many thanks to all the Board colleagues who assisted in various capacities over the summer in preparing for a potential return to in-person meetings.

Michelle Booker, District Manager:

- The District Service Cabinet will resume on September 14th.
- The DSC is an important opportunity for CB7 to coordinate with the City agencies whose work affects our community. We welcome additional issues to address in future meetings.

Reports by Elected Officials:

Gale Brewer – Manhattan Borough President:

- Grateful that the Open Meetings Law was amended to permit resumption of Community Board and other public meetings via Zoom during the pandemic.
- The Committee on Open Government will offer guidelines on conducting hybrid remote/in-person meetings on September 16th at 10 am.
- Aware of continuing problems for small businesses on Broadway between West 95-96 Streets, with loitering and interference with business operations.
- Addressing this quality-of-life challenge with sensitivity.
- Grateful for the continued assistance of the 24 Precinct.
- The renovation of the 79th Street Boat Basin is proceeding, including dredging the marina.

- Concern for the “live-aboards” who live year-round on houseboats and will be displaced during renovations.
- Fighting to keep the rents reasonable and for their right to return once the renovations are complete.
- Forming a CAB (Community Advisory Board) with respect to the former Women’s Shelter at West 107th Street and Broadway to address on-going issues. The West 107th Block Association, Ascension Church and other neighborhood stakeholders are working together to revive the CAB with CB7 and DHS.
- Also reviving the CAB for the Veterans’ Shelter on West 95th Street.
- Supporting the small business initiatives at the City Council.
- Support the acquisition of the former Manhattan Neighborhood Network building on West 59th Street by Project Renewal.
- Believes the new facility should be permanent affordable housing rather than another transitional shelter.
- Supports the renovation of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Riverside Park. Cost expected to exceed \$30 million.
- Concern for tenants once the eviction moratorium is lifted.
- The Mayor should have a remote learning option for families who are not ready to send unvaccinated students back to school.
- Borough Board will take up text amendments proposed by DCP on September 23rd (different date than usual due to religious observances).
- Vaccine working group meets every Tuesday afternoon.

Linda B. Rosenthal – NYS Assembly, 67th District:

- The new Governor is well-versed in the important issues of the day from her service as Lieutenant Governor and wide travels across the State.
- Approach to governing is a breath of fresh air.
- The State extended the eviction moratorium to January 15, 2022.
- Providing support for small landlords affected by non-payment.
- Working to facilitate payments under ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) funded by the federal government. Too little funding has been distributed to date.
- When fully distributed, the initial ERAP funding of \$2.6 Billion will not be enough.
- State Legislation restored the ability of Community Boards and other bodies to meet remotely through January 15, 2022. Important protection and opportunity for civic engagement.
- Working to address persistent gaps and delays in USPS service. Local manifestation of a nationwide problem.
- Calling on NYCHA to monitor contractors’ work and integrity of scaffolds at Amsterdam Houses.

Robert Jackson – NYS Senate, 31st District:

- Wrote to the Mayor to urge a remote learning option for students and families concerned about the return to in-person learning.
- Shared concerns about stores affected by complex issues on Broadway between West 95-96 Streets – took part in strategy meetings with electeds and the 24 Precinct.

Brad Hoylman – NYS Senate, 27th District

- Congratulations to colleague Brian Benjamin, Currently the NYS Senator for the 30th District and about to be sworn in as Lieutenant Governor.
- NYCHA will be a part of LG Benjamin’s portfolio of responsibilities, capitalizing on his experience with affordable housing management and NYCHA advocacy.
- Sponsoring the Tenants’ Safe Harbor Act to provide protection from eviction due to non-payment of rent.
- Supports requirement that, once FDA approval is secured, all students be required to be vaccinated against Covid as with other required vaccinations for public school students.

Community Session

Jody Sperling – Time Lapse Dance Group

- Promoting the Amsterdam Avenue Eco/Arts Festival on September 18 from noon to 6:30 pm on Amsterdam Avenue between West 109-110 Streets.
- Co-produced by Time Lapse Dance and the Columbus-Amsterdam Business Improvement District.
- Event will feature live arts performances, as well as Zumba and Karate demonstrations and workshops.
- Also, will feature a presentation on Native Peoples and the land on which we live.
- Event is part of “Parking Day” exploring alternative uses of street spaces.
- [Timelapsdance.com/events](https://timelapsdance.com/events).

Zac Campbell – Gilder Center, American Museum of Natural History

- Gilder Center Construction: superstructure and steel installation have been completed.
- Tower crane has been removed.
- Currently applying shock-crete to create interior walls.
- Installation of stone façade will occur later in the year.
- AMNH will shortly start work on the renovation of portions of Theodore Roosevelt Park, primarily in the northwest corner of the park, including new fencing, new pathways, the relocation of the Nobel obelisk, and new plantings.
- The dog run and access to the Rose Center will continue during construction.

Peter Arndtsen – Columbus-Amsterdam BID

- Upcoming events on the BID website.
- Also, the Bloomingdale History Group will discuss the history and current execution of the 97th Street Greenmarket, with guest Margaret Hoffman – September 22nd via Zoom.

Chris Giordano – West Side Coalition of Neighborhood and Block Associations

- The Coalition is presenting a forum on transportation safety in the area on September 22nd at 7 pm via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 pm

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Catherine DeLazzer and Sheldon Fine, Co-Chairpersons

September 13, 2021 at 7:00 – 8:30 PM via ZOOM

Shelly Fine, Co-Chair, welcomed everyone to the September Health and Human Services Committee Meeting.

He introduced representatives from Goddard Riverside: Presenting for Goddard will be Executive Director Rod Jones, Kimberly Wing--who serves as an Associate Deputy Director, overseeing their Supportive and Transitional Housing programs and Larry Wood, Director of Organizing.

First, the Goddard team presented a power point overview of the work of Goddard Riverside as a nonprofit community service organization in our community and borough.

Next, they presented an overview of their new undertaking at 235 West 107th Street. They made it clear that it is still early in the project and program development- so a good number of the specific details are still in flux. There will be a reduction in the number of units from the current C of O, but they are not sure of how many yet. It will be a mixed population of special needs and general population (including current tenants), but they are not sure of the exact ratio yet.

Then, they proceeded to describe the evolving project's plan to redevelop the building at 235 West 107th Street as follows:

- In May, Goddard Riverside acquired 235 West 107th Street... It is their intention to develop the property, originally a 95-unit SRO, and to preserve its past use as permanent affordable housing.

Currently, Goddard's plan is to create about 82 units for single people, with shared kitchenettes and at least one bathroom for every two units. The units are expected to be a mix of affordable low-income housing and supportive housing for men and women exiting homelessness. Those tenants, assessed by Goddard's Homeless Outreach team for suitability for permanent housing, may have mental illness, physical disability, and substance abuse problems.

Goddard will provide on-site social services and case management, including nursing, psychiatric care, wellness, and social programming, as well as 24-hour security and a front desk staffed around the clock. Daytime staff will include administrators for social services and for facilities management.

The building will undergo significant renovation, likely to begin in January or February 2022, before transitioning to its new use in 2023. In the meantime, a new superintendent is maintaining the facility. Current occupants of the building include seven SRO tenants, who will be permitted to stay permanently/

The Goddard Team opened the floor for several questions from HHS members and non-committee Board members. The Committee will seek updates from Goddard as the project progresses. We thanked the team from Goddard for coming to CB7 early in their planning.

Next, Shelly Fine reported on his research on SAFE Training for Medical Professionals and his meeting with representatives of the Crime Victims Treatment Center. His findings were compiled in the following addition to our HHS section of the CB7 District Needs Statement:

SAFE Training for Medical Professionals

Over 600 victims of sexual assault were served by Mount Sinai West and Mount Sinai Morningside Hospitals in 2020. The medical staff is trained in a comprehensive 40-Hour SAFE Training Course, called "The Assessment and Evaluation of Adult/Adolescent Survivors of Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence" The course trains medical professionals to provide competent, compassionate care to sexual assault victims, while using the most advanced technology associated with DNA and other sexual assault forensic evidence collection and preservation. Upon completion of all course requirements, course participants will be able to use the Certificate of Completion in order to be certified as a SAFE with the NYS Department of Health.

The objectives of this course address the development of skillful assessment techniques, thorough understanding of the dynamics of rape and intimate partner violence and the mechanics of injury which provide a solid foundation for working with survivors.

He thanked Beverly Donohue on her help incorporating the new item in the DNS and for her worked in editing.

In order to address this, need we added a new Expense Budget Priority to our list:

Sexual Assault of Adolescents and Adults

Funding for the Crime Victims Treatment Center (CVTC) to administer and provide services for sexual assault survivors, including training of SAFE Examiners/ This course combines the knowledge and expertise of a nationally recognized faculty with a variety of educational methods to give participants the maximum opportunity for professional growth in this advanced practice role. In addition, this course includes a clinical session that utilizes Gynecological Teaching Associates who offer live clinical pelvic examinations.

CVTC previous provided these services for the city-funded New York Alliance for Sexual Assault (NYASA)/ NYASA closed down in June of 2021

Following a presentation by Roberta Semer on the Budget Priority Process, we proceeded to consider our recommendations. With the recommendations of Audrey Isaacs and others, we decided the following:

By a unanimous vote of the committee (5-0-0-0) and a unanimous vote of the non-committee Board members present 4-0-0-0,) we approved the following Capital and Expense budget items in order of priority:

CAPITAL PRIORITIES

1) Health clinic for abused children.

In Community District 7, funding for a hospital unit or community health center to establish a clinic that provides evidence-based mental health care treatment and intervention for children who experience abuse (there is only one in NYC). Since the start of the pandemic, many children have not had access to school staff and caseworkers; and there has been an increase in health care provider reports of sexual assaults against children. 70% of assaults are directed at children, yet most funding is designated for adult victims. (FY22 CB7 Overall Capital Priority #2)

2) Safe Haven

Funding is needed to build an additional Safe Haven shelter in Community District 7 to most effectively address the rising number of those living on the street in the district. The Safe Haven model includes smaller facilities (50-60 beds) and supportive services, and is considered to be the most effective means by which to persuade those living on the street to accept an offer of shelter (Center for Urban Community Services). Providers who do street outreach report that most people reject offers of shelter if they are not proximate to the neighborhood to which they've become accustomed. Currently, Community District 7 has only one Safe Haven shelter; adding another would provide a valuable tool for street outreach teams working to move this vulnerable population off the streets in Community District 7 and into the shelter system. (FY22 Overall Capital Budget Priority #4)

EXPENSE PRIORITIES

1) Food insecurity Programs.

Funding for programs that address food insecurity, including West Side Campaign Against Hunger and Get Food NYC. The Meal Gap, NYC's measure of food insecurity, represents families' and individuals' missing meals that result from inadequate household food budgets. In Community District 7, the Meal Gap is 3.3 million meals. More than one in ten people in Community District 7 are food insecure. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Priority #1)

2) Supportive Housing.

Funding is needed to cover services and operational costs for supportive housing facilities in Community District 7. Supportive housing is the most successful way to end homelessness for individuals and families, especially those living with physical and psychiatric disabilities. Even prior to the pandemic, there was not sufficient supply to meet the record demand, and state reimbursement rates for supportive housing lagged behind operational costs. Without additional funding support, cuts in the most recent city budget will force supportive housing centers and facilities in Community District 7 to make drastic cuts to the social work, mental health, and medical services they provide, and place some facilities in jeopardy of closure. An anticipated 20% cut to city agencies could result in significant cuts to CB7's supportive housing facilities, such as case management services, social work, mental health services, health services related to medication, nutrition, and social activities. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #7)

3) Homeless Outreach.

More funding is needed for the Manhattan Outreach Consortium (MOC), a multiagency effort established by Goddard Riverside, to provide outreach to those experiencing street homelessness. Goddard Riverside dispatches MOC teams to respond to 311 calls; and Goddard's caseload has recently increased along with 311 calls. Of NYC's 80,000+ people experience homelessness, an estimated 3,600 [16] or 5% [17] live on the street, and lack access to basic needs such as food, water, and bathrooms. It can take up to 200 interactions [18] over months or years to develop relationships with those experiencing street homelessness and provide them with access to healthcare, counseling, nutrition, and shelter. According to Goddard Riverside, since 2007, "the MOC has placed more than 1,500 formerly homeless adults in permanent housing. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #8)

4) Sexual Assault of Adolescents and Adults

Funding for the Crime Victims Treatment Center (CVTC) to administer and provide services for sexual assault survivors, including training of SAFE Examiners/ This course combines the knowledge and expertise of a nationally recognized faculty with a variety of educational methods to give participants the maximum opportunity for professional growth in this advanced practice role. In addition, this course includes a clinical session that utilizes Gynecological Teaching Associates who offer live clinical pelvic examinations.

We will also advocate for the following expense items:

- **Mental Health Training.**

In Community District 7 and citywide, funding for hospitals and healthcare facilities to provide training for medical providers in trauma-informed care and forensics (in order to identify, report, and care for children who are victims of sexual assault and abuse). Since the start of the pandemic, many children have not had access to school staff and caseworkers; and there has been an increase in health care provider reports of sexual assaults against children. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Priority #2)

- **Technology access.**

Funding for shelter and supportive housing residents to have access to a) technology, including Wi-Fi and cell service; and b) staff to conduct training on how to use it. This is urgently needed for residents to communicate with medical and mental health providers and access care as well as have education. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #13)

- **Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence.**

Funding for research on integrated (interagency) approaches to addressing short- and long-term racial and economic disparities that impact Community District 7 and city residents, particularly in health and education, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and economic crisis. Covid-19 has disproportionately affected people and communities of color, due to segregation [and inequalities in housing, education, employment, healthcare, hospital access, and insurance (United Hospital Fund). The Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence “is a data intelligence team in the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Office of the Mayor, who establishes partnerships that can leverage the analytical resources of the City of New York through an innovative inter-agency research agenda.” (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #14)

- **Funding for reliable, accurate, and rapid Covid-19 testing of staff working in congregate settings (nursing homes and adult care facilities).**

After government-provided supplies deplete, this can cost facilities \$100 per test. DOHMH requires that staff of nursing homes and adult care facilities must be screened weekly. CMS supplies a limited number of tests to nursing homes and many staff do not have employer-provided health insurance. There are two state licensed nursing homes in Community District 7: The Riverside facility (The Riverside Premier Rehabilitation and Healing Center) and the New Jewish Center, Manhattan campus. At these facilities, 46 and 47 confirmed Covid-19 deaths occurred, respectively. These were the highest number of deaths seen at any state-licensed facility in New York County. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #20)

- **Funding for Mental Health Training for NYPD internally and in relation to the public.**

Funding is needed to provide mental health training and support for uniformed officers of the NYPD both to manage internal issues in light of the devastating impact of recent suicides by NYPD personnel, and to enable NYPD uniformed officers identify and deal effectively and appropriately with mental health issues in encounters with the public. (FY22 CB7 Overall Expense Budget Priority #27)

Shelly thanked Madge Rosenberg for volunteering to research and update data on Food Insecurity for our section of the District Needs Statement. He asked other committee members to contact him if they wanted to help update any other part of DNS.

Robert suggested that we follow-up on the availability of the money that was not spent by the city-funded New York Alliance for Sexual Assault after it closed down in June of 2021.

Shelly asked committee members to send Catherine and him their recommendations for topics for our upcoming committee meetings.

Finally, Shelly wished all a healthy and successful year ahead and adjourned the meeting.

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

September 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM

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

Present: Linda Alexander, Christian Cordova, Joshua Cohen, Paul Fischer, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Doug Kleiman, Erana Stennett, Benjamin Wu and Andrew Rigie. **Absent:** Madelyn Innocent. **Non-Committee Members Present:** Mark Diller.

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

1. 2799 Broadway (West 108th Street.) Leticia Young or Entity to be formed d/b/a 152 Lolo's Chicken Shack, LLC.

Presenting for the Applicant: Leticia Young, Owner, lolosseafoodshack@gmail.com;

- Restaurant will be open until 2am, serving food from Mexico and Yucatan peninsula, including Belize cuisine.
- Live jazz music is planned during brunch hours.
- Anticipate opening in the next two months.

Comments:

- Committee Members unanimously supported the application.

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

2. 688 Columbus Avenue (West 93rd – 94th Streets.) Agave Fields LLC d/b/a Agave.

Presenting for the Applicant: James McCartin, **Owner**, AgaveMcCartin@outlook.com; Benjamin Savitsky, Bernstein Redo, P.C. Attorneys at Law, Ben@BRPCLaw.com;

- Mr. Savitsky submitted revised operating hours to the CB7 office earlier today.
- Restaurant will operate until 2pm.

Comments:

- Doug Kleiman, who represents the building owners, and recused himself from voting on the application, spoke favorably about the operators, and is in full support.
- Erana Stennett lives around the corner from the restaurant, and also spoke in support.

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

Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-1 (Doug ineligible to vote due to relationship with building owner).

Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

Alteration Liquor License Application to the SLA:

3. 505 Columbus Avenue (West 84th – 85th Streets.) Alteration Licensee #1315668 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor license by Jspin Management, LLC d/b/a Tasca. Alteration is to change the wine-and-beer service into full bar.

Presenting for the Applicant: Jesus Espinal, Managing Member, norjay@hotmail.com;

- Restaurant will operate until 4am (Wednesday-Sunday), with live music on the lower level of the restaurant.
- Owners have not had any issues to date.
- Questions concerning disability came up, which the owner said he would address tomorrow.

Comments:

- Following questions, the Committee supported the application.

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

Class Change Liquor License Applications to the SLA:

4. 130 West 72nd Street (Broadway – Columbus Avenue.) Class Change Licensee #1312275 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor licenses by Pag 72nd Street, Inc. d/b/a Friedman's.

Presenting for the Applicant: Rosa M. Ruiz, Rosa@RosaMRuiz.com;

- Friedman's is applying for a class change.
- Hours of operation are the same 8am-Midnight.

Comments:

- No discussion

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

5. 145 West 72nd Street (Amsterdam – Columbus Avenues.) Class Change Licensee #1284638 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor licenses by La Dinastia, Inc d/b/a La Dinastia.

Presenting for the Applicant: Richard Lam, President, RLam86@gmail.com; Winnie Mok, Esq., WMok11@aol.com;

- Operating since 1986, Chinese American and Cuban cuisine, serving mostly beer and wine, seeking an on-premise liquor license.
- Richard Lam took over operations from his father for the past seven years.
- The business suffered from the pandemic.
- Operator is trying to increase revenue, having been affected by the pandemic.

Comments:

- Committee in full support

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

6. 452 Amsterdam Avenue (West 82nd Street.) Class Change Licensee #13306635 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor licenses by 9 Senn, Inc. d/b/a Senn Thai Comfort Food.

Presenting for the Applicant: James Lam, CPA, co-owner, James17676@gmail.com;

- Opened the restaurant on April 2020.
- Looking for class change from beer and wine service to full liquor to supplement food revenue.
- Will operate from 11:30am-9pm, seven days a week.

Comments:

- Committee unanimously in support

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0. Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0.

Method of Operation Change:

7. 442 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81st Street.) Method of Operation Change Licensee #1027412 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor licenses by 442 Amsterdam Restaurant Corp d/b/a Gin Mill. Change to include Live Music. The original application does not reflect previously approved recorded music and security personnel for the establishment.

Presenting for the Applicant: Mitchell Banchik, Trustee, MitchellBanchik@gmail.com; Michael Staff, Operating Partner, theginmill@nycbestbars.com;

- Has offered live music for the past 25 years, would like to continue.
- Application to serve alcohol in outdoor cafe.

Comments:

- Josh is ineligible to vote.
- Linda spoke favorably.
- Bundled Item 9 on the Agenda with the same vote.

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

Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-1 (Josh ineligible to vote) Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

8. 519 Columbus Avenue (West 85th Street.) Method of Operation Change Licensee #1319450 to the State Liquor Authority for two-year liquor licenses by The Consulate NYC, LLC d/b/a The Consulate. Change to include live music consisting of jazz and classical music with vocals. Live music will be on occasions during the week and/or weekend.

Presenting for the Applicant: Metodija Mihajlov, Member, Mihajlov.Metodija@gmail.com; Benjamin Savitsky, Bernstein Redo, P.C. Attorneys at Law, Ben@BRPCLaw.com;

- Metodija Mihajlov, operator of The Consulate, represented by Benjamin Savitsky.
- Application to provide live ambient jazz music, one to two nights a week, one-two hours per session.
- Neighbors inquired about introducing music similar to the owners' previous restaurant in the Village, i.e., Why Not Jazz Room.

Comments:

- No discussion

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

Committee VOTE: 9-0-0-0

Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

Expansion onto Municipal Property:

9. 442 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81st Street.) Expansion onto Municipal Property Licensee #1117014 to the State Liquor Authority by 442 Amsterdam Restaurant Corp d/b/a Gin Mill. Intent to utilize its City-approved outdoor dining space to include the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Presenting for the Applicant: Mitchell Banchik, Trustee, MitchellBanchik@gmail.com; Michael Staff, Operating Partner, theginmill@nycbestbars.com;

Comments:

- First time the committee reviews an Expansion onto Municipal Property SLA application.
- The license enables the operator to serve alcohol on the Street Seating space area.
- Application voted earlier as part of item #7.

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

Committee VOTE: 8-0-0-1 (Josh ineligible to vote) Non-Committee VOTE: 1-0-0-0

10. New Business:

- Nicole Paynter, Executive Director, Columbus Avenue BID, announced the upcoming Taste of the Upper West Side, October 1-2. Please visit their website columbusavenuebid.org for details.
- Andrew Rigie reported on the City's plans to continue outdoor dining, that will establish new guidelines and remove applications from the Department of Consumer Affairs to the Department of Transportation (DOT).
 - Andrew discussed the city council process that will include public hearings, with restaurants applying to move from the emergency outdoor dining program to the permanent program.
 - Various questions concerning the design and location have been raised by the community, which will be part of the City's proposal that hopefully community boards will have the opportunity to comment

on.

- There will be restrictions, limitations, and accommodations for disabled diners.
- Doug Kleiman reported on a presentation to the Borough Board and CB7 Land Use Committee which referenced the City Planning Commission land-use modifications. Sidewalk and roadway seating will require licensing by DOT.
- Andrew explained how the NYC Hospitality Alliance notified members that current structures may change and will have to be modified in the future based on new guidelines.
 - Last year after the program was launched, the regulations and guidelines changed after monetary investments in the restaurant structures.
 - Due to the emergency nature of the outdoor dining program, owners self-certified, but that will not be the case under the new plan.
 - Since restaurant owners will not be able to proceed before certification, this will mitigate building structures found retroactively not in compliance.
 - Under the new program, there will be guidelines, and existing structures will have to be modified to meet the new standards and guidelines.
- Doug said some owners took advantage of the situation during the emergency program.
- Erana suggested a joint meeting with Transportation, Land Use and BCI to discuss the new regulations.
- Christian Cordova recommended holding a joint meeting when we have a formal application from the City.
- Mark Diller suggested we begin to examine current issues that surfaced during the emergency period in preparation for the larger discussion during the formal application period. Mark gave one example of self-certification and urged the committee to consider its continuance.
- Nicole Paynter (Columbus Avenue BID) discussed several new restaurants coming to Columbus Avenue.
 - She also raised concerns about the location of protected bike lanes and their impact on outdoor seating as well as the location of Citi Bike's instructive docking locations.
 - It was felt that bus stops also created challenges, but relocation of bus stops on the UWS must factor in possibly inconveniencing the elderly and disabled.
- Benjamin Wu spoke in support for outdoor seating and believes having consistent guidelines is important.
- Doug raised the issue of the current onerous and lengthy process (six to eight months) liquor licensing permitting process, and the severe financial hardship for restaurant owners and workers.
- Andrew explained technical changes are underway that will require a special session of the State Legislature to take up the issues.

The meeting ended at 7:56 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, Co-Chairpersons

September 14, 2021 at 6:30 PM Via Zoom

YouTube link to meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3UldHo-E3s>

The Transportation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met virtually on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Co-Chairs Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss.

Present: Andrew Albert, Howard Yaruss, Barbara Adler, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Doug Kleiman, Sara Lind and William Ortiz. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Steven Brown, Christian Cordova, Mark Diller and Richard Robbins.

The following discussions were had, and actions taken.

1) **Follow-up discussion with Revel.** The Committee heard from **Haley Robinson** of Revel, who shared a presentation/update on their ride share and focus on electrification, as an update from 2020 committee conversations. They reject the “gig economy” approach to workers and said they only use W2 employees. They list their benefits as:

- Mopeds. Near street legal. Vehicles have DMV license plates; users must have valid driver’s license; throttled at 30 mph; helmets and insurance provided
- Space Efficient and emissions free: 100% emissions free and quiet
- Cost effective: pay as you go, hourly and daily
- Maintain vehicles – swap batteries rather than taking mopeds off the road
- Discussed safety and enforcement: they pass along tickets to enforce behavior and cited 24/7 customer service (unlike competitors), discussed green spaces
- Electric Charging – discussed fast charging and how that could be expanded to generate green jobs throughout NYC

Committee Questions:

- **Ken Coughlin** asked 4 questions related to Revel: 1) going borough-to-borough and on the bike path, and on bridges (Revel says they have the technology to see this, for an infraction is a violation) 2) enforcement when they violate (Revel says they are focused on bike paths along bridges) 3) data questions
- **Andrew Albert** asked whether inter-borough trips were allowed; Revel said some lower-speed bridges
- **Elizabeth Caputo** asked about safety and business model, and data – how is that info being shared with city planners and/or sold? Answer: meeting with DOT and they share monthly data. Also, about congestion pricing and whether Revel will expand its service in a new era of congestion pricing?
- **Doug Kleiman** asked and said it was fun and invigorating but concerned about safety. Asked about safety issues and how enforcement will work.
- **William Ortiz** – asked about safety, and how to remember the “grey areas” – asked about best practice, and empower NYers like subway advertisements etc and using multi-modal solutions)
- **Rich Robbins** – asked about safety scores and balancing issues and wanted to make sure CB7 could receive details on camera violations and crash data
- **Barbara Adler** – asked if Revel could share the safety video, and spoke from a parks perspective on how Revels are being used inside the parks and how that will be monitored going forward in green spaces (Revel responded on GPS and other tracking means of enforcement, directed to customer service)

2) **Conversation with Colleen Chattergoon on DOT resolutions and updates:**

- **Colleen Chattergoon** updated status of:
 - Central Park Transverse (2/20) – still in review and hopes to have answers from Bike Division shortly, working with NYPD and Conservancy
 - Crosstown Bike Lane on 72nd – DOT working on it, in review stage
 - Daylighting – Borough Commissioner Pincar working with others
 - Westbound cyclists on 100th street – still in review stage and hopes to have something by early 2022 for Community Board review
- **Andrew Albert** asked about 79th Street and notifications and asked about whether progress had been made.
- **Howard Yaruss** asked about 65th Street and CPW; making turns into the transverse: asked about mixing at the intersection and what progress had been made; Colleen said she would confirm for signals
- **Ken Coughlin** asked whether review stage of 72nd Street moving and also 86th/CPW
- **79th Street Rotunda project:** **Andrew Albert** asked for an update – **Colleen:**
- **Rich Robbins** asked about the recent fatalities on the UWS (99th Street, and 66th/Amsterdam)

3) **Congestion Pricing Update:**

- **Andrew Albert** updated on NYC's Congestion Pricing plans and provided details for dates for public hearings. Hearings go 6-8pm. Hearings will include 28 counties and 22 million people; MTA will compile all data and send to FHA, Andrew proposed whether CB7 should submit a statement. He will send hearing info and will coordinate with CB7 to get info on website including the link to speak.

4) **Restaurant Seating and Land Use Resolution (conversation with DOT Colleen Chattergoon):**

Discussion with DOT's Colleen Chattergoon and Board about DOT's possible involvement in restaurant shelters – and how to have safe barriers to the structures in restaurants, structures that were originally emergency to help restaurant owners but now the question becomes if and how they should be permanent, and which city agency is responsible for regulation on the streets.

- **Andrew Albert** gave report on Land Use Committee re: the proposed text amendment changes related to sidewalk cafes (Richard, Jeannette) and included Andrew Rigie. Richard and Jeannette crafted a reso that would include more CB input.
- Text Change would put sidewalk cafe regulation into hands DOT and take away CB options to address size and style of cafes, location and noise levels
- **Barbara Adler** expressed concern about building codes and structures
- **Richard Robbins** asked about impact on the structures and impact on bike lanes
- **Doug Kleiman** proposes a letter to advocate for restaurants and potentially changing the no-standing zone to make cafes legal. DOT says they would not remove the sign.
- **DOT** offers to come back to CB7 with a plan
- **Ken Coughlin** and **Christian Cordova** also asked questions to DOT about rules on structures related to both loading zones, traffic, and

5) **DNS conversation with Transportation Co-Chairs**

Discussion re: items to propose to come out, things to come in. Andrew and Howard will review after committee discussion in time for Steering Committee 9/30.

- 106th issue comes out (Howard and Andrew)
- **Ken Coughlin** asked to:
 - o acknowledge WEA neighborhood pilot, call for its expansion
 - o left turn calming measures (cites April reso) to make left turns safer
 - o daylighting at every corner (cites new reso asking to make sure it relates to schools)
 - o parking (calls for a study on curbside usage)
 - o West 100th Street resolution
- **William Ortiz** asked whether Transportation Committee should rank its district needs based on how Full Board voted
- **Steven Brown and Mark Diller** clarified from a Chair's perspective on how to rank priorities
- **Doug Kleiman** – added to ask to list the e-bike study; wants to make sure Transportation Committee can weigh in on regulations
- **Barbara Adler** – asked about enforcement on West Drive and in RSP about vehicles that should not be in the parks

6) **New Business**

- **Howard Yaruss** will make effort to get Citibike/ Lyft to come to a new meeting citing unbalanced stations and commuters' increased demand
- **Andrew Albert** – wants to bring SVP of subways Demetrius Crichlow, he is responsive, and he can correct it quickly – mentioned that all 472 stations have cameras, and how to address fare evasion.
- **Chris Giordano** spoke from community about research on transportation issues impacting block associations – asked where Transportation Committee sees its biggest challenges and issues; **William Ortiz** mentioned 72nd/WEA as a key safety issue to consider for the BAs.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9pm EST.

YOUTH, EDUCATION & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Blanche Lawton and Courtney Clark Metakis, Co-Chairpersons

September 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM

The Youth, Education and Libraries Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan met on Thursday September 23, 2021 by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by co-chairs Courtney Clark-Metakis and Blanche Lawton. Committee members Rosa Arenas, Kristen Berger, Beverly Donohue, Amy Hyman, Audrey Isaacs, Natasha Kazmi, Ira Mitchneck, Seema Reddy, and Mark Diller participated.

The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Welcome – Co-chair Blanche Lawton:

- Welcome to new YEL members Kristen Berger and Benjamin Wu.
- Thanks to Bev Donohue for an expert job of re-working the narrative portion of the District Needs Statement as it pertains to YEL issues.
- Farewell and best wishes as former YEL member Julian Giordano enters Harvard College as a freshman. CB7's loss is Harvard's and the World's gain.

Discussions and vote on proposed budget priorities for the Fiscal Year 2023 Expense and Capital budgets.

Expense Priorities:

Co-Chair Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Review – under the proposed procedures for CB7 re FY 2023, only 20 Capital and 20 Expense budget priorities will be included in the official submission to DCP and OMB with the DNS. The remaining priorities from each committee will be included in a letter to elected and relevant agencies.
- One of the criteria proposed for the pared-down list of priorities is the extent to which it is considered likely that a particular item will be funded without additional CB7 support.
- Another criterion is the extent to which a proposed priority relates to core CB7 values.

Discussion of proposed priorities, including editing and re-ordering of the proposed priorities, during which the following comments were offered:

Amy Hyman:

- Focus on the Summer Rising program limits CB7's priority for these services to those included in schools – language should be broader to include programs run through Community Based Organizations.
- Seeking return to funding at "pre-pandemic" levels does not take into account increases in costs (e.g., \$15 minimum wage) or increases in participation by youth. Revise language to provide opportunities for expanded access and increased costs.

Mark Diller:

- If we are calling out certain DYCD-funded programs, CB7 should include the other programs CB7 traditionally champions, including SYEP, SONYC, Beacon, Cornerstone and Compass.

Bev Donohue:

- Should include full funding for all aspects of resources and services needed for students, but should distinguish those resources and personnel who are traditionally funded through school-based budgets (e.g. teachers, school psychologists) from those typically funded through DoE Central (e.g. nurses, crossing guards).

Kristen Berger:

- Training for faculty and administration should focus on the new programs being introduced to provide services to students, particularly those who have not been well-served during the remote learning periods of the pandemic.
- DoE is introducing multiple new programs and protocols at the same time – crucial that the most important initiatives be selected for professional development early on in the year.

- Essential that the social/emotional well-being of students (and faculty and staff) be prioritized as all schools return to in-person learning.

Amy Hyman:

- Training that identifies learning issues or gaps due to the pandemic is only the first step.
- Faculty likely can recognize learning gaps – must then have programs in place to address both academic and social/emotional needs.
- Training and assessments must then lead to provision of services.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Training on new assessments is a key to providing help early on to those who need it most.

Bev Donohue:

- Training and implementation should prioritize social/emotional well-being.

Amy Hyman and Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Walk-in programs and less-structured services for youth are important elements of serving at-risk youth.
- History of funding and staffing these programs improved after DYCD ceased allocating funding based on the perceived affluence by zip code, which ignored pockets of need amid wealthier neighborhoods (examples of which are present in CB7).

Kristen Berger:

- Should not lose or allow to erode the gains in technology and infrastructure developed during remote learning.
- Digital and online learning should be an integral part of all students' experiences in school anyway – should preserve the "silver lining" earned from adapting to the pandemic.

Kristen Berger:

- Priority for school-based additional programs should include the introduction of U3K and UPK as well as dual language/dual immersion programs.

Ira Mitchneck:

- Priority should embrace both enrichment and remedial (ELL) dual language programs.

Capital Priorities:

Bev Donohue:

- Should broaden call for environmental equipment to address ventilation – air purifiers even if bought in bulk may not qualify as capital-eligible.
- Should call for upgrades to ventilation systems as a whole, which may include air purifiers as one element.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Move air purifiers to the Expense budget; revise Capital priority to focus on those schools with systemic ventilation needs.

Ira Mitchneck:

- U3K expansion into CSD3 presents a risk of overcrowding certain schools – should take a holistic approach to rollout.

Bev Donohue:

- Should include expansion of both U3K and UPK in the Capital priority.

Kristen Berger:

- Concern that DoE views both U3K and UPK as moveable programs that can be relocated based on changes in building utilization and other factors.
- Families view programs as an introduction to a school community, and thus are not fungible or moveable.

Blanche Lawton

- Distinguish "refurbishment" of existing program spaces on the second floor of the Bloomingdale Branch Library from the need for wholesale renovation and adaptation of the vacant basement space in the same building.
- Both are essential.

Kristen Berger:

- Priority from CB7's DNS for FY 2022 and previous – calling for at least one-third of CSD3 schools to be adapted to be ADA-compliant or at least to provide a more reasonable accommodation. Should include in the FY 2023 priorities.

Ira Mitchneck:

- ADA renovations are difficult, are often difficult subjects on which to engage potential funders, and are often under-funded.
- ADA compliance is enormously expensive for buildings constructed 50-100 years ago when disability considerations were not a part of design.
- As difficult a project to fund as the attempt to make subways ADA compliant.

After additional wordsmithing, discussion and deliberation, the final list of YEL budget priorities referred to the Steering Committee for inclusion in CB7's overall DNS and statement of District Budget Priorities was adopted.
Committee: 8-0-0-0.

New Business:

Blanche Lawton:

- Concern regarding the perceived and documented increases in both violent and property-based crime on the Upper West Side.
- Much of the criminal activity is committed by those from outside the District.
- Youth are both frequent perpetrators and victims of such crimes.
- Proposal to pursue as a potential YEL agenda item.

Bev Donohue and Mark Diller:

- Perhaps pursue as a joint matter with the HHS committee or other committees with CB7.
- CB7 does not have a public safety committee.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Will reach out to the CB7 HHS Committee for brainstorming and scheduling.

Blanche Lawton and Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Welcome additional topics for future agenda items.

Adjourn: 8:10 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted: Mark Diller

CB7 Budget Priorities Request FY2023 – Proposed Rank Order

Draft 9.24.21

Expense

1. Funding all CB7 schools at least 100% of Fair Student Funding, which will – among other critical needs – enable schools to increase funding for needed school staffing positions (e.g., additional teachers, literacy specialists, social workers, and school psychologists).
2. Providing increased funding for DYCD programs sufficient to provide the purchasing power needed cover any increase in costs for community programming, including the Summer Rising initiative, community-based centers/camps, after school programming (Cornerstone, Beacon, SONYC, Compass), Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), Work-Grow-Learn (WGL) and other programs.
3. Provide funding for increased medical and school safety support staff (e.g., nurses, school safety agents, and crossing guards).
4. Ongoing training for those who work with students (e.g., social-emotional training for teachers, principals, administrators, and any adult in contact with students); training for teachers and staff on the new curriculum; professional development for teachers at all levels on the design and use of formative assessments to identify and track students so that the appropriate services are provided.
5. Ongoing supplies, maintenance, and construction to mitigate the impact of the Pandemic (e.g., a continuous supply of PPE/masks).
6. Funding to support the virtual learning infrastructure developed during the Pandemic to supplement in-person learning and make new resources available to schools on an ongoing basis.
7. Funding to support the expansion of the District's educational programs, such as U3K, dual language schools/language enrichment programs, ELL support, and computer science coursework (including staffing and training).

Capital

1. Upgrades to facilities to support new COVID-protocols and needs such as faster school Wi-Fi and automatic water faucets to support hand-washing; ensuring a stockpile of important equipment (e.g., air purification/ventilation systems) for schools and city-funded family and youth programs.
2. Funding for continued renovations of the NYPL Bloomingdale Branch, including refurbishment of the upper floor (e.g., children's area and community rooms) and reconstruction of the facility's basement to facilitate a broad and flexible community purpose.
3. Funding for District schools selected as new U3K and UPK sites to ensure their facilities are suitable to serve the needs of the City's youngest learners without compromising educational opportunities for existing students.
4. Obtain 2020-24 Capital Plan funding for four additional elementary and middle schools in CSD3 to ensure that at least one-third of these schools are handicapped accessible.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 30, 2021 at 6:30pm

Steven Brown, Chairperson

Present: Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Rosa Arenas, Steven Brown, Elizabeth Caputo, Courtney Clark-Metakis, Christian Cordova, Ken Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Beverly Donohue, Robert Espier, Shelly Fine, Madelyn Innocent, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, Blanch Lawton, Sara Lind, Ira Mitchneck, Michele Parker, Jeannette Rausch, Seema Reddy, Rich Robbins, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Polly Spain and Howard Yaruss. **Absent:** Richard Asche, Catherine DeLazzerio, K Karpen, Klari Neuwelt and Andrew Rigue.

The Steering Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, September 30, 2021, using the Zoom platform. The meeting was called to order by CB7 and Steering Committee Chair Steven Brown at 6:32 pm. The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Welcome

Chair Steven Brown:

- Thanks to all Board Members who are participating in the Steering meeting and in the Public Hearing concerning the Fiscal Year 2023 Capital and Expense Budget that was convened earlier in the day.
- Special thanks to Roberta Semer and Beverly Donohue, the Budget Committee, for such thoughtful and organized work on the District Needs Statement and the assimilation and presentation of a set of proposed budget priorities for each of the Capital and Expense Budgets for FY 2023.

Michelle Booker, District Manager:

- Thanks, and applaud the efforts of all those who helped over the summer to make the District Office operational after a long period of it being closed due to the pandemic.
- CB7 is in the process of interviewing and hiring a third staff member for the role of Assistant District Manager.
- The Budget Consultations convened by the Office of Management and Budget have now concluded. CB7 moderated the consultation sessions with three agencies: The Department of Education, the Department of Youth and Community Development, and the Administration for Children's Services.
- CB7 has purchased new equipment to facilitate the operation of the District Office, including new, more powerful servers for the network, equipment to facilitate hybrid remote-and-in-person meetings, and related peripherals.
- Call to Committee Chairs timely to submit agendas, minutes and resolutions for upcoming meetings.

Budget Priorities

Steven Brown:

- The main items on the Steering agenda are the consideration and adoption of proposed budget priorities for the FY 2023 capital and expense budget.
- Everyone who wishes to speak will be heard, but each Board member will be given the floor only once for each of the Capital and Expense budgets.

Roberta Semer:

- The proposed budget priorities received from the Committees were received and assembled into the proposed list of priorities under discussion.
- The list of proposed priorities was selected using filters based on the three most significant needs identified by CB7 during the DNS process, which were:
 - Affordable housing
 - Education and youth services
 - Social services
- Additional considerations in organizing the proposed priorities into a single, unified list included:
 - 25% of Upper West Siders are food insecure
 - 20% of Upper West Siders are seniors.
- The list under discussion includes shorthand descriptions of the proposed priorities – the fuller explanations for each priority item will be drawn from the narrative DNS and included in the online DCP portal.
- Items identified as priorities by Committees that did not make the cut for the proposed priorities list will be included in a separate statement that will be bundled and provided to the respective agencies as well as to local elected officials for their further consideration.
- Approximately 25-40 separate items were received for each of the Capital and Expense priorities list, which was pared down to 21 items to include in the list of priorities to be submitted with the DNS.

Comments on the Proposed List of Capital Budget Priorities:

Howard Yaruss:

- Q: Process – approval of the proposed list of priorities at Steering?
- A: Steering will discuss and approve a set of priorities, which will then be presented at and voted upon by the CB7 Full Board at its October 5, 2021 meeting.

Robert Espier:

- Q: Have any priorities been communicated to agencies already?
- A: No. Only those priorities approved by the Full Board will be shared with agencies and electeds.

Shelly Fine:

- Pleased that the proposal for a health clinic for abused children and youth is included among the higher priorities.
- This item was CB7's #2 capital priority for FY 2022, and the situation that led to its inclusion has only grown worse in the last year.
- Data demonstrates that CB7 is home to a significant number of abused children, confirming the need for a separate, dedicated facility to address their needs.
- This item should be higher on the list.
- Proposal for a new Safe Haven shelter facility should also be higher on the list of capital priorities.
- The community continues to struggle with options to address chronic street homelessness.
- Experts agree that Safe Havens are an essential and important tool in the outreach efforts to convince street homeless individuals to accept shelter and other services, especially those who resist placement in traditional shelters.
- Safe Havens are considered the gold standard for outreach efforts, and have an enviable track record of placing formerly homeless individuals in permanent and supportive housing.

Christian Cordova:

- Echoing Shelly's comments.
- The mental health facility for abused children should move up to #2, and the Safe Haven should move up to #6.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- All of the items on the list are worthy and present difficult decisions about ranking.
- The item relating to upgrading the Covid-readiness of school buildings and facilities is essential as students return exclusively to in-person learning this year – should move up in the ranking.

Sara Lind:

- The New York Times and the West Side Rag recently ran stories concerning the increase in the numbers of deaths and injuries on our streets to the highest levels in a decade.
- CB7 has repeatedly asked the Department of Transportation for a host of different street safety improvements, many of which are captured in item #7.
- Given the carnage on our roads, this item should move up in the rankings.

Barbara Adler:

- The item addressing the need for renovations and upgrades to various children's playgrounds throughout the Upper West Side, with specific call-outs for the playground at Frederick Douglass Houses and the Sol Bloom Playground, is crucial, and should remain a high priority.
- Concerned that there is a priority proposed for the implementation of a protected bike lane along the length of West 72nd Street, especially since CB7's full Board resolution on this topic called only for a "study" of the potential for such a treatment.
A: Text of the item will be amended.
- While there is enthusiasm for the replacement of the kayak dock that serves the all-volunteer free kayak program, both the NYC Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Parks Chief of Staff have made it clear that the pending renovation of the Marina at the 79th Street Boat Basin is not the appropriate location for such a facility. This item should not be among the proposed priorities.

Robert Espier:

- Safe Havens address the populations of street homeless who have the greatest needs.
- These facilities are our best chance to address street homelessness. Best for everyone – the homeless and the community – to have this alternative.

Susan Schwartz:

- The item relating to means of addressing street safety issues presented by left-turning vehicles should be tailored to the 10 most dangerous intersections as determined by crash and injury data, as was discussed at the Transportation Committee and included in the full Board resolution on the subject.
- There is another free kayak dock facility approximately a mile south. This item should not be among the priorities.
- Endorses adding “study” to the item concerning the West 72nd Street bike lane.

Ken Coughlin:

- Street safety improvements should move up in the rankings.
- The kayak dock proposal should not be limited to the potential to include it in the Marina renovation project. It could be rebuilt at its prior separate location in Riverside Park.
- This item was CB7’s #2 overall capital priority in a previous year.
- The resolution concerning the West 72nd Street protected bike lane did not call for a “study” but rather a “proposal.” If we amend the language, that is how it should read.

Polly Spain:

- Very important that preservation and restoration of the livability of NYCHA facilities be our #1 priority again this year (as it was for FY 2022). This item highlights that preserving NYCHA is very important as a resource for affordable housing, and also for the community – often providing transitional housing for recently homeless people/families.
- It is also important for the Frederick Douglass playground to be renovated – important for children and adults to have outdoor space within which to recreate. It should remain a high priority.
- Providing the infrastructure for high-speed broadband internet connections in NYCHA facilities is also important and should remain at #3 – too many children who were consigned to remote learning in the last year were unable to access the internet despite being provided devices because of lack of WiFi access.

Mark Diller:

- Grateful to the Budget Committee for the huge effort to combine and merge separate lists of budget priorities – will not propose changes in ranking order as a result.
- Grateful that the kayak dock was included. In addition to points already made, it is important to keep in mind that the kayak dock is a program conceived, organized and executed entirely by community volunteers. Most of our priorities are proposed either by Community Based Organizations or the respective City Agencies and electeds. This proposal is thus unique and should remain on the list.
- Applaud continuing to place NYCHA as our #1 priority.

Jay Adolf:

- CB7 should express our view of what is/is not a priority without regard to whether relevant City agencies agree – that is the whole point of involving Community Boards in this process.
- The kayak dock does not need to be linked with or included in the Marina project.
- The renovation of playgrounds and the creation of a mental health facility for abused children should switch rankings.

Madelyn Innocent:

- The top 3 Capital priorities, which address various NYCHA needs, should not change.
- NYCHA has been in crisis for decades. This is a moment in time when there is a possibility of reversing that trend.
- Important that we send a message that counters the experience of current NYCHA residents who are too often threatened by management when they insist on basic repairs.

Linda Alexander:

- Kudos to Roberta and Bev.
- The kayak dock item should not move up in the rankings.
- Q: Can we create separate lists of priorities based on the agencies to which they are referred?
- A: No – the DCP website/portal cannot accept priorities in such a way.

Blanche Lawton:

- Calls for renovation of playgrounds should be separated or distinguished between those under the jurisdiction of the DPR vs those under other jurisdiction (e.g. DoE or NYCHA).

Jeannette Rausch:

- Endorsing a high priority for the Frederick Douglass playground – has been a high priority in previous years.
- Concerning that a single priority that seeks renovations of multiple playgrounds will not generate the focus that Frederick Douglass deserves.

Roberta Semer:

- Based on the discussion and input received, the order and language of the proposed Capital budget priorities has been revised [see list attached below]

After deliberation, the resolution to present the attached ranked list of Capital Budget Priorities was adopted.
Committee: 14-0-1-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 13-1-2-0.

Comments on the Proposed List of Expense Budget Priorities:

Andrew Albert:

- Call for enforcement of all manner of vehicles is important.
- Wording should make clear that speed limit enforcement should not be limited to areas proximate to schools.

Doug Kleiman:

- Should change text of call for enforcement of all manner of vehicles from enforcement of “signals” to “laws” – scope should include failures to yield and other dangerous behavior that references to “signals” might not capture.
- Items for increased funding for homeless outreach and mental health training should move up to top 5.
- NYPD overtime restoration should also move up.

Blanche Lawton:

- Q: Are cost figure required, and how are they determined?
- A: DCP has made clear that cost estimates are welcome but not required. Often agencies assist in the estimation of costs.

Shelly Fine:

- While the restoration of the operating budget of the Community Board is a worthy priority, it should move down so that funding programs that address food insecurity can move up.
- The pandemic revealed and exacerbated the food insecurity present on the Upper West Side. The next phase of the pandemic response includes changes and potential cutbacks to the supports for those who are food insecure. This priority is crucial.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- All worthy items.
- Those that address the needs of students attempting to rebound from a year that some lost to remote learning, including essential staff as well as those who treat social/emotional needs, must remain high priorities.
- The current FY 2022 budget used one-time funding from the federal and State governments to meet these needs; the FY 2023 budget may have significant gaps when that funding is exhausted.

Jeannette Rausch:

- Agrees that placing the CB7 budget at #1 is too self-serving.
- Outreach to street homeless has been raised at nearly every meeting this past year by the community.
- Should prioritize homeless outreach over NYPD overtime.

Christian Cordova:

- Concern that even with the Fair Student Funding priority, NYC schools will continue to be under-funded based on NYS formulas.

Barbara Adler:

- Agree we should make the CB7 budget a lower priority.
- Should move up staffing for Parks personnel. Parks have been a lifeline for many during the pandemic. The cuts to staffing have led to the Parks being less clean, less safe, and less able to withstand the storms and damage brought about by Climate Change.
- Similarly, eliminating rodents in our Parks and making them more livable requires the trash compactors and baskets, and corresponding basked service from DSNY and DPR, as proposed in priority #16 – should move up.

Natasha Kazmi:

- Trash compactors and baskets, and the DSNY basket service on a 7-day cycle, is essential to address a host of community concerns.
- Increased basket service is also essential to address the effects of Climate Change, since overflowing baskets result in blocked storm drains, a condition exacerbated by the reduced frequency of street cleaning.

Rich Robbins:

- NYCHA issues should include the on-going issues with trash management at NYCHA facilities.
 - Calls for enforcement unfairly call out ebikes without also calling out cars and trucks, which statistically produce and are involved in the lion's share of crashes and injuries.
- A: Will adjust language.

Polly Spain:

- Agree with items relating to NYCHA remaining high priorities.
- Agree that homeless outreach and mental health training should move up.

Jay Adolf:

- The call for enforcement of street vehicles should remain a top 5 priority.

Mark Diller:

- Agree that the CB7 budget should move down. The language should be revisited, as citing the FY2018 budget as a benchmark may set the bar too low and will not include the supplemental funding provided by the City Council per Carlos Menchaca (which created one-off additions of \$42,500 for each of FY 2019 and 2020).

Ken Coughlin:

- The anti-idling resolution and item did not make the list.
A: It will be included among the items presented along with the ranked priorities to the respective agencies.
- Concerned with an order that prioritizes PEP officers over funding programs and staff who enrich and support creating a positive experience in our Parks, especially given their essential role in the pandemic.
- This proposed ranking would continue a troubling national trend of underfunding services, and then over-funding enforcement when marginalized populations respond with anti-social behavior – it is a vicious cycle.

Robert Espier:

- Agree that homeless outreach should be a high priority – it works hand-in-glove with the Safe Haven capital priority to address concerns raised by the community.
- Funding is needed to develop and support the teams who build relationships that can eventually lead to fewer individuals experiencing street homelessness.

Susan Schwartz:

- Agrees that enforcement of street users is needed throughout the District, not just near schools.
- Calls for NYPD overtime funding should be a higher priority (#4 rather than #8) and should expand to include the Central Park Precinct.
- Rodents of unusual size seen attacking a rare and beautiful quail in the Park – it is essential that trash remediation be a high priority.

Roberta Semer:

- Based on the discussion and input received, the order and language of the proposed Expense budget priorities has been revised [see list attached below]

After deliberation, the resolution to present the attached ranked list of Expense Budget Priorities was adopted.

Committee: 14-0-1-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 14-1-1-0.

Committee Chair Reports:

Andrew Albert:

- Frank Annicaro, the chair of the MTA Bus Division, will be a speaker at the upcoming October Transportation Committee meeting.

Jeannette Rausch:

- The October Land Use meeting will include a discussion of the project at 270 West 96th Street (sometimes referred to as the Fetner project), which includes the former MTA substation site.

- The discussion will include the latest information on:
 - The cleanup of the brownfield condition at the former IRT substation. And
 - The implementation of the HPD affordable housing program in the new building.

Barbara Adler:

- At the October 18th Parks & Environment meeting, we will hear from an entomologist on the beautiful but highly destructive spotted lantern insect.

Shelly Fine:

- The October HHS meeting will include a presentation on the transformation of the current Test & Trace Corps response team organized to address the pandemic into the NYC Health Corps with a broader mandate.

New Business:

Jay Adolf:

- Q: Hate to see the CB7 budget move down in the rankings – can it be presented as a separate item apart from the ranked items?
- A: DCP's website cannot accommodate such an approach.

Michelle Booker:

- Congestion pricing hearings are underway. CB7 should add its voice.

Howard Yaruss:

- CB7 has adopted a resolution in support and will testify at the upcoming hearings based on the resolution.

Shelly Fine:

- With cold weather coming, the need for a mid-block crossing signal on West 106th Street between the Red Oak Senior Supportive housing facility and the JHH nursing facility will grower more acute.
A: DoT has agreed to install an on-demand push-button signal. Expected to be installed before winter.

Rich Robbins:

- Concerned that no members of the public were among the attendees. CB7 should redouble outreach efforts.
- Use of virtual platforms during the pandemic created much larger audience and community participation than previous in-person meetings. CB7 should lobby now (before the January 15, 2022 expiration) for the authority to participate in CB7 meetings remotely without the absurd requirement to admit the public into Board Members' homes.

Doug Kleiman:

- Concern for rising tide of violent crime, including the non-fatal but serious shootings of two individuals this week at West 88th Street.
- CB7 should focus on gun violence. The presentations and updates from the Precincts at full Board meetings is a good start on which we should build.

Blanche Lawton:

- This concern will be discussed at the October YEL meeting, since both the perpetrators and victims of such violence are too often children or youth.

Robert Espier:

- Should involve the gang violence specialists from the Precincts to such a meeting.

Ken Coughlin:

- The plague of noisy, environmentally unfriendly and intrusive helicopters hovering overhead for tourist photo ops has grown more problematic.
- The Stop The Chop initiative has expressed interest in co-sponsoring a Helicopter Town Hall with CB7.

Steven Brown:

- Renewing thanks to Roberta Semer and Bev Donohue for their yeoman's work on the Budget Priorities and DNS.

Adjourned at 8:33 pm

Respectfully submitted – Mark Diller

DRAFT CB7 CAPITAL PRIORITIES for FY2023:

1. Preserve NYCHA as a source of deeply affordable housing by working to repair and maintain all property and individual apartments, including front doors, elevators and security systems
2. Provide funds to ensure that all playgrounds are in working condition, clean, up-dated and inviting. Specifically, prioritize upgrades to Frederick Douglass Playground and Sol Bloom Playground.
3. Provide free high quality and safe broadband for all NYCHA households, enabling access for educational, tele-health, social services, economic and workforce opportunities.
4. Create a dedicated Health Clinic for abused children
5. Upgrade school facilities to support new COVID-protocols and needs such as faster school Wi-Fi and automatic water faucets to support handwashing, ensuring a stockpile of important capital equipment (e.g., air purification/ventilation systems) for schools and city-funded family and youth programs.
6. Install street safety improvements including count-down timers, speed cameras, red light cameras, speed bumps, thermo-plastic street markings and Stop Here signs for left turns at every cross street on Broadway.
7. Create a Safe Haven Shelter to address the rising number of those living on the street in the district, with supportive services.
8. Create permanent affordable housing in SROs threatened with conversion
9. Secure funding for continued renovations of the NYPL Bloomingdale Branch, including refurbishment of the upper floor (e.g., children's area and community rooms) and reconstruction of the facility's basement to facilitate a broad and flexible community purpose.
10. Construct a Comfort Station in Riverside Park South at 62nd Street.
11. Provide funding for District schools selected as new U3K and UPK sites to ensure their facilities are suitable to serve the needs of the City's youngest learners without compromising educational opportunities for existing students.
12. Create permanent affordable housing in Manhattan Valley under HPD's Neighborhood Pillars Program.
13. Rebuild Ramp at Riverside Park and 78th St.
14. Restore HPD funding for affordable housing
15. Reconstruct interior path and perimeter sidewalk from 95th Street to 110th Street in Riverside Park
16. Obtain 2020-24 Capital Plan funding for four additional elementary and middle schools in CSD3 to ensure that at least one-third of these schools are handicapped accessible.
17. Replace skylights at Gertrude Ederle Recreation Center.
18. Increase the number of accessible subway stations, including adding escalators and elevators.
19. Fund a kayaking program in CD7
20. Study the possibility of Installing a 96th Street exit option for South-bound traffic on the Henry Hudson Parkway.
21. Study the possibility of cross-town protected bike lanes on West 72nd street from CPW to RSD

DRAFT EXPENSE BUDGET PRIORITIES for FY2023:

1. Food insecurity Programs: Provide funding for programs that address food insecurity, including West Side Campaign Against Hunger and Get Food NYC. The Meal Gap, NYC's measure of food insecurity, represents families' and individuals' missing meals that result from inadequate household food budgets. On the Upper West Side, the annual Meal Gap is four million meals. More than one in ten people in Community District 7 is food insecure.
2. Providing for on-going free broadband service for all NYCHA households and on-going technical training for residents.
3. Homeless Outreach: More funding is needed for the Manhattan Outreach Consortium (MOC), a multiagency effort established by Goddard Riverside, to provide outreach to those experiencing street homelessness.
4. Funding to provide mental health training and support for uniformed officers of the NYPD both to manage internal issues and to enable NYPD uniformed officers identify and deal effectively and appropriately with mental health issues in encounters with the public.
5. Fund all CB7 schools at least 100% of Fair Student Funding, which will – among other critical needs – enable schools to increase funding for needed school staffing positions (e.g., additional teachers, literacy specialists, social workers, and school psychologists).
6. Providing increased funding for DYCD programs sufficient to provide the purchasing power to cover increases in costs for community programming, including the Summer Rising initiative, community-based centers/camps, after school programming (Cornerstone, Beacon, SONYC, Compass), Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), Work-Grow-Learn (WGL) and other programs.
7. Mental Health Training: Allocate funding for hospitals and healthcare facilities to provide training for medical providers in trauma-informed care and forensics (to identify, report, and care for children who are victims of sexual assault and abuse).
8. Request enforcement for all vehicles, including cars, trucks, e-bikes and all alternative vehicles of the 25-mph speed limit, all traffic signals, and the 20-mph speed limit around all schools.
9. Address sexual assault of adolescents and adults: Funding for the Crime Victims Treatment Center (CVTC) to administer and provide services for sexual assault survivors, including training of SAFE Examiners
10. Supportive Housing: Funding to cover services and operational costs for supportive housing facilities in Community District 7. Supportive housing is the most successful way to end homelessness for individuals and families, especially those living with physical and psychiatric disabilities.
11. Provide Department of Education funding for ongoing training for those who work with students (e.g. social-emotional training for teachers, principals, administrators, and any adults in contact with students); training for teachers and staff on new curriculum, professional development for teachers at all levels on the design and use of formative assessments to identify and tack students so tha the appropriate services are provided.
12. Install additional solar trash compactors and trash cans in CD7 and restore litter basket collection to 7 days a week.
13. Restore funding for permanent and seasonal staffing for the parks, as well as additional playground associates and recreation specialists.
14. Provide funding for increased medical and school safety support staff (e.g. nurses, school safety agents and crossing guards).
15. Restore overtime funding for the NYPD in the 20th and 24th precincts
16. Hire additional PEP Officers for Riverside Park and Central Park
17. Provide schools with ongoing supplies and maintenance materials to mitigate the impact of the Pandemic (e.g., a continuous supply of PPE/masks).
18. Funding to support the virtual learning infrastructure developed during the Pandemic to supplement in-person learning and make new resources available to schools on an ongoing basis.
19. Funding to support the expansion of the CSD3's educational programs, such as U3K, dual language schools/language enrichment programs, ELL support, and computer science coursework (including staffing and training).
20. Funding for reliable, accurate, and rapid Covid-19 testing of staff working in congregate settings (nursing homes and adult care facilities). There are two state licensed nursing homes in Community District 7: The Riverside facility (The Riverside Premier Rehabilitation and Healing Center) and the New Jewish Center, Manhattan campus.
21. Provide increased Community Board budget for CB7 to take account of cost inflation and increased needs related to the pandemic.