

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2021 at 6:30pm via ZOOM

Steven Brown, Chairperson

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

The full Board of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, on the Zoom online platform. Chair Steven Brown called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm after the Secretary confirmed a quorum was present. The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Chair's Welcome – Steven Brown:

- Review of agenda and procedures.

Christian Cordova:

- Separate voting sheets for election of officers and recording votes on resolutions in the business session.

Presentation on the Independent Redistricting Commission

Miranda Goodwin-Raab, a CB7 Member and Staff to the Independent Redistricting Commission:

- Purpose of the IRC is to redraw Congressional, and State legislative district lines based on data from the decennial census.
- The IRC was created in 2014 as an alternative to the previous redistricting process in which the houses of the State Legislature created their own proposed district maps and used standard legislative procedures to redraw districts.
- IRC is composed of 10 Commissioners, whose biographical information is available on the IRC website (<https://www.nyirc.gov/>).
- IRC is currently seeking input on the two draft redistricting plans/maps that have been proposed.
- Public hearings being conducted in various locations across the State. Testimony can be submitted live, via email, using the website and other means.
- Commissioners want to hear from everyone.
- Commissioners actually do read every comment and testimony submitted.
- IRC will evaluate the testimony received, make any changes to the current proposals deemed appropriate, and submit the final proposal to the Legislature for an up-or-down vote.
- Redistricting is necessary due to population changes revealed by the decennial census, including the loss of 1 Congressional seat.
- NYS population increased during the interval since the 2010 Census, but at a slower rate than other parts of the Country. NYS missed the target for keeping its current complement of Congressional seats by 89 individuals.
- Population changes not constant across the State: 39 NYS counties lost population since 2010; 23 counties gained population.
- Pursuant to NYS law, incarcerated persons will be counted for purposes of redistricting as residents of their last known address before incarceration, rather than their place of incarceration.
- The timeline for the redistricting process has been moved up to facilitate federal primary elections in June rather than the prior practice of holding primaries in September.

Jay Adolf:

- Q: What is the procedure if the State Legislature does not approve the final recommendation from the IRC?
- A: IRC is empowered to revise its proposal and resubmit. If subsequent proposals are not adopted, the Legislature can take over the process.

Mark Diller

- It would be appropriate for CB7 to express proposed criteria for drawing new lines – it is inevitable that certain district lines will divide or cut across areas that are considered a unit – CB7 should offer criteria that express our community’s values as to which areas should not be divided (e.g. NYCHA developments should not be split into two districts as it would diminish their ability to be heard by their electeds).

Thanksgiving Turkey Give-Away – Call for Volunteers

Jason Haber:

- The Haber family will once again sponsor giving Thanksgiving turkeys to families in need. A family tradition.
- Last year despite the pandemic, the family gave away approximately 500 turkeys, with the help of the Bernie Wohl Center of Goddard-Riverside.
- CB7 Members have volunteered in the past to assist in the event – calling for volunteers again this year.
- Interested volunteers may contact Jason Haber at jasonhaber@gmail.com
- Current plan is to hold the give-away at the Bernie Wohl Center this year on Tuesday, November 23rd.

Public Safety Session

Deputy Inspector Naoki Yaguchi, Commanding Officer of the 24th Precinct, presenting on behalf of the 24th, 20th and Central Park Precincts (Captains Zuber and Gallagher are on assignment and unable to join):

- The 24th Precinct has experienced an uptick in serious crimes in the last month, including robberies and grand larcenies.
- Shooting incident at 589 Amsterdam Avenue involving 3 individuals this past weekend – cannot comment in detail because the investigation is on-going.
- Shootings are on the increase in the local precincts and across the City in the August – September period, including a double shooting incident at West 104th Street and Amsterdam on August 30th.
- The trend is troubling, and force allocations are being adjusted to interdict.

Q&A:

Courtney Clark Metakis:

- Q: Also a shooting recently at West 72nd Street and Columbus Avenue. Is there any explanation as to why there is a trend of increased shooting incidents after a fairly quiet period of years?
- A: Hard to pinpoint causes for changes in crime, especially shootings.
 - Equally hard to pinpoint causes that led to a decrease in violent crime a decade ago, with economists, criminologists and sociologists offering competing explanations.
 - NYPD has recognized that multiple incidents appear to involve the same individuals, and the trend toward repeat gun offenses by the same individuals.
 - trend of the same individuals involved in multiple offenses also observed for other crimes such as robbery and larceny.
 - it is not appropriate for NYPD to comment on legislative or social policy such as bail reform, only to report trends observed.

Rich Robbins:

- Q: Requesting update on traffic crashes and injury data.
- A: Concern for a recent fatality from a collision at West 99th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. The investigation is on-going.
 - Issuance of vehicular summonses focus on behavior that affects pedestrian safety.
 - Also concern for cyclist safety, particularly along the Central Park West bike lane
 - While most safety issues involve a motor vehicle vs bike interaction, equally concerned with bike vs pedestrian interactions.

Doug Kleiman:

- Q: Recent shootings are of growing concern. Is there any reason to attribute incidents to gang or drug activity?
- A: Since the investigations are on-going, it is not possible to comment in detail.
 - Early indications that many of the problematic crimes appear to involve individuals who have had a history or prior criminal activity.
 - Shootings in particular appear to involve individuals who know each other – not random encounters.
- A: Completely understand the concern and destabilizing effect of violent crime, especially shootings, on the community, and NYPD is dedicating resources to address the current problematic trends.

Megan Martin:

- Q: As parent of two small children, concern for both increases in shootings and robberies, which create problematic examples of behavior for children and youth. Especially concerned about the observation of recidivism among these offenders.
 - Concerned by lack of action by local electeds.
 - Should the community employ private security as a means to address the increase in crime?
- A: Will not comment on bail reform as a source of the recidivism problem observed.
 - Appreciates that the increases in crime leave business owners and the community feeling unsafe.
 - It is important to vote for elected officials whose policies reflect the concerns of the community (without endorsing any specific policy proposal).
 - NYPD is seeking patterns among recent shooting incidents to better prepare for future policing practices.

Peter Arndtsen (Columbus-Amsterdam BID):

- Observed increased patrols in the Manhattan Valley / Bloomingdale area – both as to robberies and larcenies, and as to speeding by all manner of vehicles.
- Recommend that all bicycles be registered so that irresponsible behavior can be reported and traced.
- Q: How can the use of guns in the neighborhood be addressed?
- A: NYPD has done a lot of work to take guns off the street. Since August, the 20, 24 and Central Park Precincts have each had success in apprehending individuals responsible for gun violence, and for removing guns from the street.
 - the 24 Precinct is especially targeting the area outside but nearby the Douglass Houses, to work in tandem with PSA 6 which polices the NYCHA development itself.
 - Despite these efforts, gun use continues to rise.

Susan Schwartz:

- Concern for irresponsible bike behavior in and around the West 71st Street / Broadway bowtie.
- Q: Request analysis of enforcement options so that a plan for effective enforcement can be formulated and implemented.
- Also recommend speed bumps on the Park Drives in Central Park.
- A: Will share comments with Captains Zuber and Gallagher.

Peter Samton:

- Concern for constant and long-term parking in front of fire hydrants.

Business Session

Election Committee – Josh Cohen, Chair

- While each office has only one candidate, and thus is technically uncontested, our bylaws require that election be by a majority vote.
- Candidates:
 1. For Chair – Steven Brown
 2. For 2 Vice Chairs – Andrew Rigie and Doug Kleiman
 3. For 2 Co-Secretaries – Beverly Donohue and Seema Reddy
- Issues with separate online voting sheet.

MOTION: To vote for the current slate of candidates, with the current offices of Andrew Rigie as First Vice Chair and Doug Kleiman as Second Vice Chair.

After deliberation, the motion to elect the slate of candidates as presented was adopted.

VOTE: 38-1-2-0.

Budget Committee, Roberta Semer, Chair

Resolution Re: The Capital Budget and Expense Priorities for FY2023

Capital Budget Priorities

Roberta Semer

- We asked each committee to focus on the CB7 top three priorities -- Affordable Housing, Education and Youth Programs, and Social Services. We also took into account the pandemic – specifically, the fact that 25% of our community is food insecure and 20% are seniors.
- People not at the Steering Committee meeting will get to speak first.
- The final District Needs Statement (DNS) shall have more information fleshed out for each item. Here the items are truncated for ease of use by the board members. All items shall be sent as a master list to the Department of City Planning (DCP). And from there, each relevant agency will receive the appropriate needs list.
- Item 19 should be the Kayak Dock capital project.

Ken Coughlin

- Thank you for the Kayak item change.
- He has a concern about item #21: A year ago, the Transportation Committee voted 37-6 for a proposal for the bike lane, not a study to be done for the bike lane.
- An informal vote was taken to get a sense of the board. Ken's proposal was not approved.
- We do not need funding from the board to study. The City should fund the proposal for a bike lane. We are voting on the following verbiage for Capital Priority #21: "Fund the work required to give CB7 its requested proposal for protected bike lanes on W72nd Street."

Susan Schwartz

- The kayak project was supposed to be removed.
- The Transportation Committee meeting voted for a study, not a proposal.

Roberta Semer

- The resolution was changed to request a study, as opposed to a proposal, at the Steering Committee following the Transportation Committee meeting.

Howard Yaruss

- It is not right for the Steering Committee to supersede the actions of the Transportation Committee.

Klari Neuwelt

- It is unclear now what we are voting on. Are we asking for a capital allocation to create a proposal or to create a cross town bike lane?
- Why, as a capital matter, would be asking for a proposal? But we haven't reached the point where we have affirmatively decided that we approve of a bike lane. So, the vote is unclear.

Rich Robbins

- The funding was for a proposal. We should be consistent with the vote at the board level.

Barbara

- I agree with Susan. At the Steering Committee, a discussion with DOT was had about the difficulty of a bike lane on W72nd St. The vote was for a study, NOT a proposal.

Jay Adolf

- Why would this be capital? Shouldn't it be in the expense priorities.
- Robert Espier agrees and suggests that it be moved to the Expense side. But we should vote now.
- At the Transportation mtg, my recollection is that DOT was asked to look at all of the concerns - it was a general request to study W72nd St. in its entirety and how to regulate traffic, parking, bikes, etc. Not just a proposal for a protected bike lane.
- Any proposal should include all of it!

After due deliberation, vote to modify the resolution to include Ken's language was not adopted.

VOTE: 15-22-0-0.

Roberta Semer

- Here is the revised order for the capital priorities from 1-20. Item #21 will be moved to the expense priorities as #22.

Approved CB7 Capital Priorities for FY2023

1. Preserve the New York City Housing Authority as a source of deeply affordable housing in CD7 by working to repair and maintain all property and individual apartments, including front doors, elevators and security systems. This housing provides affordable housing for lower income working families and seniors, ensuring the diversity of the neighborhood. Repairs need to be efficient and timely to ensure the safety of all residents

2. Provide funds to ensure that all playgrounds are in working condition, clean, updated and inviting. Specifically, prioritize upgrades to Frederick Douglass Playground and Sol Bloom Playground. The Frederick Douglass Playground needs a total renovation of the playground, handball courts (\$350K) and a comfort station. It is used by a large population because it is adjacent to the NYCHA complex, Frederick Douglass Houses, and several area schools. The Sol Bloom Playground PS84 during school hours and the surrounding community after school and weekends. While it has received major financing from City Councilmember Helen Rosenthal, work in the playground that still needs funding include: the spray shower, play equipment, safety surface, paving, seating, fencing and landscaping (\$2.1M), reconstructing the handball court (\$650K), and replacing the sidewalk (\$760K).

3. Provide free high quality and safe broadband for all NYCHA households, to ensure access for educational, tele-health, social services, economic and workforce opportunities. CBOs will need to assist with providing training to residents. A NYC Government analysis of the economic impact of access to broadband will have a favorable impact on residents and the city. Broadband is essential for those seeking employment opportunities, access to medical care, quality education and social services. The lack of broadband access during the Pandemic has been a major hardship especially for families with children unable to keep up with course work, young people needing to join the workforce and seniors.

4. Create a dedicated Health Clinic for abused children.

More trauma-informed care is needed for victims of child abuse. In Community District 7, a hospital unit or community health center could work in collaboration with Safe Horizon and NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault to establish a child-centered clinic or child advocacy center that provides evidence-based mental health care treatment and intervention for children who experience 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. Seventy percent of assaults are directed at children, yet most funding is designated for adult victims.

5. Upgrade school facilities to conform with new COVID-protocols and needs such as faster school Wi-Fi and automatic water faucets to support hand washing, ensuring a stockpile of important capital equipment (e.g., air purification/ventilation systems) for schools and city-funded family and youth programs. DOE personnel in CSD 3 have stressed the need for improved Wi-Fi, additional ventilation system upgrades and handwashing facilities in the schools. These same issues persist in non-DOE sites under contract with the City to provide youth programming. These needs are directly related to the need to respond to the Pandemic and provide supplemental virtual instruction to assist students in reversing the instructional losses of the last year and a half.

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. Ensuring pedestrian safety throughout CD7 is a major priority especially for our most vulnerable populations including seniors, children and people with disabilities.

7. Create a Safe Haven Shelter to address the rising number of those living on the street in Community District 7. 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.

8. Create permanent affordable housing in SROs threatened with conversion. The SROs that are threatened with conversion need to be purchased by the City through the Neighborhood Pillars Program and acquired by non-profit housing providers. The SROs need to be rent regulated through preservation financing; preserved through regulatory agreements ensuring that they are maintained as permanent affordable rental housing. When possible, convert SROs into supportive housing to serve the most vulnerable and help reduce the homeless population.

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.

While the first floor of the library has been renovated, the upper floor has not and requires renovation to offer quality services. The basement area has been vacated since 2016 except for ad-hoc staff use and housekeeping storage. It is elevator accessible, making it friendly to people with disabilities. The area is prime for development that can better serve the varied needs of the community — a computer center, program space for literacy classes, wellness and fitness classes, public meeting rooms and other uses. CB7 requests that community input be sought for ideas for usage and asks that consideration be given to including restroom facilities on this level.

10. Build a Comfort Station in Riverside Park South at 62nd Street with a DPR Maintenance and Operation facility. This was included in the designated plans for the Riverside South Park. The final phase of the Park will include a multi-purpose playing field along with other amenities which will result in a strong need for this amenity.

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; expand 3K seat availability in CSD3 to meet demand. The DOE's 3-K Finder for schoolyear 2021-2022 shows only two 3K sites in Community School District 3, not nearly enough to meet district demand. Looking forward to FY2023 and to the continued rollout of 3K for all and the on-going demand for Pre-K, schools in CSD3 are concerned that necessary changes to facilities be made timely, including children's toilets and drinking fountains, indoor and outdoor exercise space, food preparation and storage areas, appropriate furniture and other items outlined in the School Construction Authority's (SCA) Pre K and 3 K design requirements. Given the crowded nature of many CSD3 schools, where additional 3K and UPK sites are needed but would take space away from valued district programs, CD7 requests the School Construction Authority to seek alternative sites in the many non-profit spaces available in the neighborhood.

12. Create permanent affordable housing in Manhattan Valley under HPD's Neighborhood Pillars Program. HPD's Neighborhood Pillars program needs to continue to target buildings in Manhattan Valley for purchase by nonprofit developers for renovation. These need to provide long term regulatory agreements to maintain them as affordable rent stabilized units.

13. Rebuild Ramp at Riverside Park and 78th St. The step-ramp leading to the 78th Street underpass below the northbound off-ramp from the Henry Hudson Parkway is badly deteriorated. NYC DOT is in the final stages for a major reconstruction of the 79th Street Rotunda, but the project does not include restoration of the stairs. The bluestone stairs and pathways provide pedestrian access from the lower level of Riverside Park to the upper level. It is essential that they be restored by the time work on the Rotunda is completed.

14. Ensure funding for projects in CD7 that were previously allocated funding from the HPD capital budget. Fund and convert vacant and/or underutilized hotels into permanent affordable housing with supportive services if necessary.

15. Reconstruct interior path and perimeter sidewalk from 95th Street to 110th Street in Riverside Park. The paths and sidewalk are badly deteriorated and have suffered from lack of maintenance. The project needs to include improving drainage, repairing and rebuilding retaining walls and steps in the area. The interior paths between 104th and 116th Streets are in greatest need of repair. The sidewalk between 95th and 97th has been reconstructed.

16. Obtain 2020-24 Capital Plan funding for four additional elementary and middle schools in Community School District 3 to ensure that at least one-third of these schools are handicapped accessible. The DoE/SCA 2020-24 Capital Plan includes \$750 million in new funding to make schools accessible. The stated goal of the Capital Plan is to convert one-third of the approximately 1,400 school buildings in the NYC DoE system to some level of accessibility. Currently, only 4 of the 23 buildings housing public elementary and middle schools located in Community School District 3, qualify as fully accessible under the ADA. Eight elementary and middle schools in Community School District 3 are listed on the NYC DOE's website as not accessible at all. CB7 requests that new capital commitments for 4 additional schools should be equitably distributed throughout the CSD3, be appropriately split between elementary and middle schools, and consider the current locations of special programs that would otherwise not be available to physically handicapped students (such as dual language, arts, and STEM programs).

17. Replace skylight at Gertrude Ederle Recreation Center over the multi-purpose room built in the early 1990s in the old portion of the room. Heavy rains caused leaks in the skylight which caused damage to the rubber flooring. Many of the facilities in the Rec Center are unusable whenever it rains. The Rec Center has been closed to the public but is used as a remote learning center for public school children during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

18. Increase the number of accessible subway stations, including adding escalators and elevators. Without access at many stations in CD7 people with disabilities, seniors, parents with young children and others are unable to use the subway system. Subways provide efficient, environmentally friendly transportation.

19. Recreate a kayaking dock for the resumption of a kayak program in Riverside Park. In the past a non-profit volunteer group provided a free program on weekends; however, the program was suspended when the dock and its underwater structure were destroyed in a storm in 2015.

20. Study the possibility of installing a 96th Street exit option for South-bound traffic on the Henry Hudson Parkway and calming traffic at the intersection of 96th and West End Avenue. Presently traffic exits the Parkway on 95th Street. There have been multiple accidents at 95th and West End Avenue by cars speeding through the traffic light or making turns onto West End Avenue. Additionally, there are serious problems of cars speeding through the intersection at 96th and West End Avenue

After due deliberation, the resolution to approve the capital priorities was adopted.

VOTE: 33-1-0-0.

Expense Budget Priorities

Roberta Semer

- Item #8 should read, "request enforcement for all vehicles including cars, trucks, e-bikes and all alternative vehicles for all traffic violations in the district" ... Item #22 is the study for the W72nd St. bike lane.

K Karpen

- I want to support the first priority of Food insecurity. At the West Side Campaign for Hunger (WSCAH) food for 100,000 meals/week is being distributed! That is a lot of food, and much more than previously!

Ken Coughlin

- Item #8 about enforcement. I propose adding: "Such enforcement should be proportional to the deaths and injuries caused by each type of vehicle, based on crash data."
- Roberta disagrees with the proposed amendment.

Susan Schwartz

- Thank you to Roberta Semer and Beverly Donohue for their hard work on all of these priorities!

Erana Stennett

- Would the HHS Committee consider a modification to item #3, adding some funding for legal services related to evictions which leads to homelessness.

Shelley Fine

- We welcome the input, but this would be best handled at the committee level, rather than in the DNS now. One of the nonprofits does deal with eviction issues as part of their work.

Howard Yaruss

- Regarding item #8, It is problematic to call for more enforcement when the police has finite resources. We would be calling for reduced enforcement in other areas. We would also be second guessing the NYPD's efforts. It is insulting.
- I feel strongly against the provision and would not be voting for it as a result. I would change or eliminate it. We should show respect for the NYPD who put their lives on the line every day. We should not second guess them without giving them an opportunity to answer for their choices first.

Stephen Brown

- It doesn't seem like we are making the NYPD choose. This is about all vehicles. I support the language. I will be supporting it.
- Call the question. But I request any amendments to be proposed first.

Ken Coughlin's proposal with Rich Robbins' modification: "With the goal of reducing injuries and fatalities to the greatest extent possible, Increased enforcement of all vehicles, such enforcement should be proportional to the deaths and injuries caused by each type of vehicle, based on crash data."

Roberta Semer

- I am ok with adding "... with the goal of reducing injuries and fatalities to the greatest extent possible." to the end of the proposed language.
- Item #8 should now read, "Request enforcement for all vehicles, including cars, trucks, e-bikes and all alternative vehicles for all traffic violations with the intention of reducing death and injuries in CD7."
- Here are the revised expense priorities.

Approved Expense Budget Priorities

1. Provide funding for programs that address food insecurity, including West Side Campaign Against Hunger (WSCAH), Meals on Wheels, DOROT, other food pantries, 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 annual Meal Gap is 4 million meals, up from 3.3 million pre-Pandemic. More than one in four people in Community District 7 is food insecure. WSCAH donates food for 100,000 meals every week. Public Schools provide free breakfast and lunch for children only when school is in session. These children need nutritious food on weekends and when school is not in session.

2. Provide on-going free broadband service for all NYCHA households and on-going technical training for residents. This is essential for access to tele-health, social services, educational, economic and workforce

opportunities. The economic impact of access to broadband has been shown to result in increase in jobs, health and educational outcomes

3. Homeless Outreach: More funding 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 remains high. It can take up to 200 interactions 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."

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 to identify and deal effectively and appropriately with mental health issues in encounters with the public.

Community District 7 requests that the new crisis intervention curriculum -- Integrating Communications, Assessment and Tactics (ICAT) -- announced in June 2021, be made available to all officers in Manhattan precincts 20 and 24, as well as the Central Park precinct. While Community Board 7 has great confidence in the officers serving the district, it has been troubling that previous training for officers in how to recognize and work with people in crisis was suspended during the pandemic at a time when mental health stresses in the community were on the rise and national concerns around police procedures were at a height. This request has the support of the NYPD and the precincts serving the Upper West Side.

5. Fund all schools at least 100% of Fair Student Funding, which will -- among other critical needs -- enable schools to increase needed school staffing positions (e.g., additional teachers, literacy specialists, social workers, and school psychologists). The City, State and Federal governments responded in FY2022 with significant new resources to address the Covid crisis facing NYC students. The challenge will be sustaining funding levels beyond the 2021-2022 school year, as one-time federal funds are spent down by the City and State. For school year 2021-2022, full funding of State Foundation Aid has provided NYC public schools with 100 percent of the allocation due under the DOE's Fair Student Funding (FSF) formula, offering much-needed relief to schools which have not received their full allotment of funding since the adoption of the formula in 2007. See the Education section of MCB7's District Needs Statement for detail on the specific costs schools and students face. See the Education section of MCB7's District Needs Statement for detail on the specific costs schools and students face in emerging from one and a half years of mostly virtual instruction. . These needs will persist through FY2023 and beyond.

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. DYCD's programs provide a respite for young people traumatized by the Covid Pandemic. Baselining funding for them and providing the same collective bargaining allowances to the non-profits that run them that are provided to City agencies would allow for planning and effective implementation. Service providers have explained to MCB7 that last minute funding restorations achieved by down-to-the-wire budget negotiations between the Mayor and City Council in FY2022 left the providers with little time to plan productive and appropriate services to meet the needs of the children and youth, particularly for summer initiatives. Some providers were unable to hire key staff. As the needs of vulnerable children will not expire with FY2022 funding, much of which is based on one-time federal and state resources, CB7 requests that substitute and additional funding streams be identified early to preserve the programs and services young people need in CD7 and City-wide.

7. Mental Health Training: Allocate expense budget 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). 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. Seventy percent of assaults are directed at children, yet most funding is designated for adult victims.

8. Request enforcement for all vehicles, including cars, trucks, e-bikes and all alternative vehicles for all traffic violations with the intention of reducing death and injuries in CD7. Traffic in CD7 keeps increasing with more types of vehicles vying for space on the streets, in bike lanes, sometimes on sidewalks including e-bikes, e-scooters, for rent bikes and motorcycles, in addition to increasing numbers of trucks and automobiles.

9. Address sexual assault of adolescents and adults: CB7 requests increased funding for the Crime Victims Treatment Center (CVTC) to administer and provide services for sexual assault survivors, including training of SAFE Examiners. 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.

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 socio-emotional training for those who work with students (e.g., teachers, principals, administrators, and any adults in contact with students). Community Board 7 also requests that the Department of Education allocate adequate professional development dollars to schools in Community School District 3 and Citywide for training for teachers and staff on new curriculum and for 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.

12. Install additional solar trash compactors and trash cans in Community District 7 and restore litter basket collection to 7 days a week. Due to budget cuts at DSNY in 2020, sanitation conditions in CD7 deteriorated. The increase in Park visitors due to the Pandemic resulted in an increase in trash volume, which has contributed to flooding by clogging drains. The exposed waste, mostly food, has led to an explosion of the rat population. Solar trash compactors (such as the "Big Belly") are needed in Verdi, Strauss, and Riverside Park, as well as a variety of playgrounds in the district. Additionally, more trash cans are needed throughout the district - at least two on blocks with greenmarkets and one on all other blocks.

13. Restore funding for permanent and seasonal staffing for the parks, as well as additional playground associates and recreation specialists. Parks full time workforce are responsible for park maintenance and cleanliness (City Park Workers, Associate Park Service Workers and Gardeners). Seasonal workers provide additional services to maintain the Parks. Funding cuts have eliminated too many staff. The FY22 budget included the restoration of \$25 million in PlayFair funds. Additional funds are needed to rebuild the agency's permanent year-round workforce and sufficient seasonal workers.

14. Provide funding for increased medical and school safety support staff (e.g., nurses, school safety agents and crossing guards). Many schools in Community School District 3 have shared nurses during the pandemic such that there is not consistent availability. Safety remains a major parental concern, both within schools and on the streets, students must navigate end route to and from schools.

15. Restore overtime funding for the NYPD in the 20th, 24th and Central Park Precincts.

Overtime is an effective way to supplement the ability of the police to respond to changing circumstances and create a presence when needed. With the use of certain data models for permanent assignment of officers, the use of overtime is needed to fill in gaps of coverage, respond to exigencies, and evenly distribute workflow, and will enable officer's familiar with their own precincts to be the ones to respond to such exigencies and needs.

16. Hire additional Park Enforcement Personnel (PEP) Officers for Riverside Park and Central Park. CD7 is covered by the 16 city funded PEP officers who report out of North Meadow in Central Park. They cover both the east and west sides of Manhattan above 59th Street to 125th Street, including Riverside Park. They help cover calls that fixed post officers in Central Park aren't able to cover. In addition, there are four fixed post officers, paid by dedicated funding, who are available in Riverside Park only for emergencies. An additional eight officers and a sergeant are needed to improve safety and address graffiti, other vandalism, littering, skateboarding, electric bikes on paths, homelessness, alcohol, dogs off-leash, smoking and other quality of life issues.

17. Provide schools with ongoing supplies and maintenance materials to mitigate the impact of the Pandemic (e.g., a continuous supply of PPE/masks, air filters, back-up electronic devices for students to replace those that are lost or broken). Community Board 7 requests the Department of Education to prioritize funding and procurement support for schools to ensure that sufficient supplies necessary to keep students safe and connected on-line are readily available on an on-going basis.

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. Some of the innovative programming launched during the 2020-2021 school year has proven successful in reaching and engaging the highest need students and should continue to be leveraged. While returning to 100% in-person learning is critical to helping students rebound from the learning loss experienced during the pandemic, programs which supplement the learning done during in-person school hours will continue to be beneficial, including evening/weekend programming and remote options for supplemental work. Given teacher shortages, the DOE could explore using streaming infrastructure to share teaching staff among multiple schools.

19. Funding for staffing and training to expand certain Community School District 3 educational programs which have been available on a limited or pilot basis that does not meet demand. These programs include U3K, dual language schools and programs, language enrichment programs, support for English language learners and computer science coursework.

20. Funding for reliable, accurate, and rapid Covid-19 testing of staff working in congregate settings (nursing homes and adult care facilities). While New York State now requires nursing home staff to be vaccinated (with medical and religious exceptions), risks from those with waivers and from breakthrough infections leave patients in these settings vulnerable.

21. Provide an increase to the Community Board budget for CB7 to take account of inflation and increased needs related to the Pandemic to purchase and maintain expensive equipment necessary for hybrid and online meetings, computer back-up systems and other technology.

22. Fund the work required to give CB7 its requested proposal for possible cross-town protected bike lanes on west 72nd street from Central Park to Riverside Drive. There has been a rapid increase in bike ridership throughout CD7, increasing the need for cross-town protected bike lanes connecting through Central Park to the East Side.

Vote to approve expenses: 35-2-1-0

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

Christian Cordova

- All of the applications were approved. There was no dissension or controversy. All of the items shall be bundled.

Jay Adolf

- The music in the expansion requests are potentially concerning. Does the committee do any outreach to neighbors? We support the continued existence of our restaurants, but the music can be concerning.

Linda Alexander

- Pre-covid, outreach was done. But not as much now. However, the committee is always sensitive to these concerns. Music is only allowed indoors, not outside.

Erana Stennett

- There has not been much public participation during Covid. Jay's point is well-taken, especially with the street dining now. Erana and Michelle Booker will work together to hopefully increase outreach to the public via social media and email. The only restaurant to propose live music is the first one, and during brunch.

Doug Kleiman

- I am ineligible for 688 Columbus due to a relationship with the co-op board for that building.

Robert Espier

- Given the outdoor environment of restaurants now, the vermin situation has become bad. I would like to see a partnership between BCI and Department of Health (DOH) or Department of Sanitation (DSNY) regarding a vermin reduction plan in these applications.

Linda Alexander

- A list of questions was sent to DOT and other agencies regarding details of the outdoor dining plan. Hopefully, we can have a discussion at the November meeting.

Jay Adolf

- I object to bundling the resolutions.

Resolution Re: New applications to the SLA for two-year liquor licenses

1. 688 Columbus Avenue (West 93rd – 94th Street.) Agave Fields, LLC d/b/a Agave.

2. 2799 Broadway (West 108th St.) Leticia Young or Entity to be formed d/b/a 152 Lolo's Chicken Shack, LLC

After due deliberation, the resolution to approve for 688 Columbus and 2799 Broadway was adopted.

VOTE: 35-1-1-0

Resolution Re: Alterations

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 service bar into a full bar.

VOTE: 32-2-0-1

Resolution Re: Class Change

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 Friedmans.

VOTE: 35-1-0-0

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.

VOTE: 32-1-1-0

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.

VOTE: 31-1-1-0

Resolution Re: 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.

VOTE: 34-1-1-0

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.

VOTE:

32-1-1-0

Resolution Re: Expansion onto Municipal Property

9. 442 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81st Street.) Expansion onto Municipal Property Licensee #1027412/1117014 to the State Liquor Authority by 442 Amsterdam Restaurant Corp d/b/a Gin Mill. Change to include Live Music, recorded music and security personnel for the establishment.

VOTE: 33-1-1-0

Resolution to Approval of Minutes from Previous Full Board Meeting in September 2021

VOTE: Unanimous vote, except for 1 abstention (Klari Neuwelt)

Chair's Report, Steven Brown - Deferred Report

District Manager's Report, Michelle Booker.

- Manhattan Borough President's (MBP's) Office recommends CBs and stakeholders voice their viewpoint on the open meetings law. After Jan 2022, all public boards will be required to host public meetings in person. It is important for CBs to advocate for their positions - e.g., to hold virtual or hybrid meetings if desired.
- The process for hiring for the Assistant District Manager (ADM) is underway now.
- Borough Board Meeting: Thanks to Mark Diller for work in that area

- The office has been going through a lot of updating. A new server and improved equipment and ongoing repairs are happening.

Community Session

Manhattan Borough President (MBP), Gale Brewer

- Congestion Pricing – The governor is supportive of it. MBP is pushing hard for this. Gale Brewer testified and wanted cabs (green and yellow) to not be included in the fee. CBs should weigh in, especially on the 60th street issues.
- We have promoted April Adams.
- People were holding doors open to some of the fast-food restaurants for pay, especially in the W90s. We are working with security of businesses, including for McDonald's, and working with 24 Precinct to keep the area safe and to stop this.
- Noise complaints at 120 West End Ave (the Con Edison plant). The Department of Environmental Protection inspected it and found that there was a broken fan in the AC unit that was contributing to the noise. It is improved but it is still noisy. We are continuing to work on this.
- Complaint about the traffic at 96th and Broadway! NYPD and DOT should have a traffic agent there. The construction vehicles are obstructing so much!
- Everyone is talking about rats! The issue is that the rats from the parks are not just from the parks. People using the parks are constantly complaining. Parks Department personnel show up at 7am and work until 2pm. The rats have a lot of food available in afternoon and night! We are asking that there be another, additional pick up of garbage at 7pm. CBs should help push for this.
- Pushing for Soldiers & Sailors Monument - trying hard to get it renovated.
- Starting again with Fresh Food for Seniors. \$9 for a full bag of veggies. We are working with Goddard Riverside, etc. to do outreach. Anyone can participate.
- Amazing exhibit opening of Maggie Peyton Gallery at Center Street with paintings, visuals, and sculptures of the pandemic. It will be up until mid-Dec.
- Open House is Sat 10/16 - Maps from 1811, and individually give people a portion of where people are living/from. Masks necessary. 10am-4pm.
- All are pushing for curbside composting to return. Manhattanites need to sign up for it
- Talks on Tuesdays about vaccines and funding. This week was focused on Mental Health.
- We are working on a lot of trash and park issues. We have to figure out how to get rid of the rats!

NYS Assembly Person Linda Rosenthal

- I congratulate everyone who ran and was elected on the CB.
- Soldiers & Sailors monument: I attended an event to draw attention to the needs of the monument. We need to figure out how to fund the \$35M required to renovate/restore it.
- Composting: DSNY is saying there is not enough demand. Please encourage people to put their requests in!
- Albany items:
 - The bill with State Senator Hoylman on ghost guns passed in June. There is an uptick in people using ghost guns to commit crimes. Ghost Guns do not have markings or serial numbers. They don't require a background check. They are assembled at home from parts bought online. We are especially concerned about people getting access to these guns who could not otherwise legally have a firearm. Hopefully the Governor will sign the bill soon.
 - A bill about opioids is drafted that would provide services to people with substance abuse problems in jail and out. Moneys will be available to help support treatment and education. The crisis has been the worst this past year than ever.

- Transit Signal Priority Letter
- Congestion Pricing: I will be testifying in favor. I will reflect the concern about the potential for 61st Street to become a parking lot. DOT understands that they are studying this potential problem already. \$60,000 was the planned cutoff annual income that people in the zone. That is no longer enough. There should also be some other exemptions: seniors, disabled people, etc. But exemptions should be kept to a minimum.
- The Brooklyn Fare Grocery Store (took the place of Western Beef) should be open in a week or two. It will be much better, cleaner than Western Beef.
- My office did a survey this summer of playgrounds in the district.
- A few more events to be happening soon:
 - Flu shot day at Mount Sinai is approaching. Email or call office
 - Covid 19 testing event at LC Neighborhood Center.
 - Shred day on 11/14, 10am-2pm in front of Assembly Person Rosenthal's office, jointly sponsored with Congressman José Serrano.

Community Member - **Ashley Gonzalez: Librarian at St. Agnes branch.** They have been open since end of July. Big announcement is that there will be no more fines for all NYC libraries. And waiving all past library fines as well. Library fines don't make people return books. Celebrating Welcome Week: 10/18-10/23 at St. Agnes there will be some in-person programs and the first movie. Slowly rolling out in person programming as staff and public is more comfortable. Virtual programming will continue also.

Michael Stinson (Comptroller Stringer): We have a back-to-school guide and a new newsletter available. This is my last CB7 meeting. I will be leaving the comptroller's office next week!

Hannah Weinerman: Congressman Jerry Nadler is with President Biden on the need to pass both bills. We will be back to enumerate all the spending within the bills. The Judiciary Committee passed 13 bills - one of which is the Moore Act about legalizing marijuana. The bill passed the House. If you have a mail issue, contact our office.

Peter Arndtsen: Our open streets will have the following celebrations:

- New sculpture at 97th and Amsterdam, thanks to DOT Arts. We are hoping to do something on 10/17 with the artist there. The work of art is a celebration of Puerto Rican lace making, symbolizing the strength, resilience and contributions to our neighborhood
- There will be celebrations around Halloween and the Day of the Dead.
- History Talk on 10/18 about Names of NY with Joshua Jelly-Schapiro, based on a book he's written

Rich Robbins: What is the process to deal with the Open Meetings Law issue? There are a number of benefits to having virtual/hybrid meetings. Stephen Brown will meet with the new executive committee and come up with the process.

Courtney Clarke Metakis: I am voicing support for what Estee Williams had to say about the playgrounds issue (see comment below from the Chat). I encourage folks to go to the Parks Committee to address the issue.

Doug Kleiman: I want to emphasize what Courtney just said. It's not something to wait on. If there are predators in our area, we need to address this asap.

Barbara Adler: Officer Gallagher, from Central Park, will be coming to the Parks meeting, and can hopefully help address the issue, at least in part.

Public Elected Officials, From the Chat

Good evening all, **Jacques Brunvil on behalf of The office of the Manhattan District Attorney, Cy Vance**. Earlier today, DA Vance and NYPD Police Commissioner Shea announced the indictment of several people involved in the trafficking and sale of illegal firearms from Tennessee to NYC. <https://www.manhattanda.org/d-a-vance-commissioner-shea-midtown-doorman-others-charged-with-trafficking-80-guns-from-tennessee-to-n-y-c/>

If you have any questions or concerns for our office, you can reach out to me via email at brunvil@dany.nyc.gov.

Mandi Heller (NYS Senator Serrano): eviction act... Senator extended the moratorium, protecting NYers as we continue to face the pandemic. Shred Event on 10/14. Joined with others in a letter to Schumer requesting an extension to all federal unemployment insurance.

Dana Gallagher (Assembly Member O'Donnell): Excited to share that passed the Gender Recognition Act, passed 10years after Marriage Equality. Looking forward to new legislation to est office of Congressional Ombudsman regarding the correction system.

Bryce Petre (AM Gottfried): 2 bills passed regarding Clean Water (Emerging Contaminant Bill) - allows for testing of drinking water for dangerous contaminants; and tougher standards for school drinking water re. Lead contamination. Remediate to 5 parts per million from 15ppm. \$3bn restore Mother Nature bond act will be on the ballot. City Council Bill would crack down on hotels - requiring registration of hotels. Big proponent of Dr. Mary Basset, new NYS Health Commissioner.

Office of Assembly Member Gottfried, 212-807-7900, gottfriedr@nyassembly.gov, <https://www.facebook.com/RichardNGottfried>, Twitter @DickGottfried, Community Board 7 Liaison: Brice Peyre, peyrebr@nyassembly.gov
Gottfried Community & Legislative Update: <https://conta.cc/3mFZ9qr>

Cindy Cardinal (CM Helen Rosenthal): Successful shredding event. Housing Clinic tomorrow night regarding repairs during the pandemic. Partnering with MBP on Fresh Food for Seniors program. Upcoming e-waste event at JCC 10/10 at 10am-2pm. Lots of questions on composting roll-out for DOS.

Hope Kaye. Good evening on behalf of **Senator Jackson**, who was busy today participating at an oversight hearing for Foundation Aid - reviewing how school districts are spending Foundation Aid increases and American Rescue Plan funds. More details about this in the latest newsletter. <https://pubfiles.nysenate.gov/crm/jackson/view/799074ad96e7d71a>. The Senator is continuing his push for a remote learning option. If you have concerns about your child's school relative to Covid policies, please complete this form: <https://www.nysenate.gov/questionnaires/robert-jackson/senator-jacksons-schools-covid-concern-form-formulario-sobre>. I can be reached at hope@senatorjackson.com or 212-544-0173. Go Yankees!

April Adams. As the Manhattan Borough President mentioned, tomorrow, Wednesday (10/6) at 6 pm is the next virtual hearing about the MTA's proposed congestion pricing plan. The MTA is accepting testimony from people living and/or working in Manhattan on 61st St. and above. Watch the hearing here: <https://mta.zoom.us/j/82606738045#success> Save the date! Saturday, 10/16 is the first day of the annual Open House New York weekend & the Borough President will once again display the set of maps executed by John Randel-- the first that plotted the 1811 "Commissioner's Plan," which established the Manhattan street grid from Houston St. to 155th St. Join us on Saturday, 10/16 from 10 am - 4 pm at the Municipal Building, 1 Centre Street (North entrance). Masks and proof of vaccinations are required.

Tevin Williams. Hi Everyone. **Senator Hoylman** could not make it tonight to the meeting, however I do have his Board Report here. Please let me know if you have any further questions by reaching out via email. tvwillia@nysenate.gov
https://docs.google.com/document/d/16DWHF4cBe9EwrJvO5wH5UoS-Cks_RBTy/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106885352774759409806&rtpof=true&sd=true

Community Members, From the Chat

Estee Williams: Lately there has been an increase in incidents of adults entering children's playgrounds - esp at Riverside (eg, Hippo Playground). Occasionally inappropriately behaving. How can these types of incidents be prevented from happening?

- Stephen Brown: Perhaps you can speak with the Parks Dept and the PD to figure out solutions. Appreciate you raising this concern.

Suggestion that CB get specific data on how well Goddard's outreach efforts with the homeless population are going.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Howard Yaruss and Andrew Albert, Co-Chairpersons

October 12, 6:30 PM via ZOOM

Present: Andrew Albert and Howard Yaruss, co-chairs; Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Doug Kleiman, Sara Lind, William Ortiz, Roberta Semer. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Christian Cordova, Mark Diller, Paul Fisher, Natasha Kazmi, Seema Reddy, Rich Robbins and District Manager Michelle Booker. **Absent:** Erana Stennett.

1. Presentation by Frank Annicaro, Acting President of Buses for NYC Transit, re several new bus initiatives.

Mr. Annicaro was accompanied by several colleagues who assisted in answering questions. The presentation was received extremely enthusiastically by the committee and others. Here are the highlights that were discussed:

- There will be 20 miles of new or improved bus lanes, and up to 5 new busways.
- Enforcement cameras will be installed: 300 in 2022 and 600 in 2023, which will bring coverage to over 85% of all existing citywide city-wide bus lane mileage. They have also committed to tripling the number of cameras onboard buses in 2022, reaching 15% of bus lanes.
- Accessibility: 25 inaccessible bus stops will be made accessible, and the MTA will purchase 800 new buses in the next year with wider doors and more flexible seating.
- Schedule improvement is expected to be made on at least 15 routes.
- Real-time info: 1,000 buses will acquire new digital screens in 2021 and 2022, which will account for 64% of all buses. They are working on a new design for real-time information at the bus stops.
- Transit Signal Priority (TSP): in order to bring focused improvements on priority routes, 500 intersections are planned for this year, and 750 more for next.
- Zero emissions: 45 new buses will be purchased this year, with deliveries expected late 2022, and the MTA hopes to achieve a 100% zero-emissions fleet by 2040.

Mr. Annicaro and his staff answered numerous questions from board members and others on the call.

2. 2642 Broadway 3rd Floor (West 100th – 101st Streets.) Renewal application #B01743 to NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission by Two-Way Black Cars & Radio Group Transportation, Inc. for a renewal of their For Hire Base Station License: The representative from Two-Way Black Cars said that his company has received no complaints, judgments, or violations and there have been no material changes to the company. A Resolution to Approve was voted on, **RESOLVED:**

WHEREAS, Two-Way Black Cars & Radio Group Transportation, Inc. seeking a renewal for their company has had no violations, judgments or complaints against them, and that there have been no material changes in the way that they operate,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 7 Approves this application for a renewal license.

Committee Vote: 10-0-0-0; Non-Committee Vote: 6-0-0-0

3. Discussion regarding the potentially dangerous conflicts between bike lanes and outdoor restaurant street seating and ways to eliminate these conflicts.

Numerous board members factored in on this discussion. Some of the comments included moving the restaurants adjacent to the sidewalk, with the bike lane on the street side, with various types of bollards or buffers; adding lights to the structures so the bike lane is visible at night for diners; limiting restaurant seating to the sidewalk until a better solution can be found., as well as other suggestions. In the end, it was determined to leave the specifics up to DOT, asking them to come up with safer configurations in the short term, and to deal with the situation as it currently exists. The committee adopted this resolution, **RESOLVED:**

WHEREAS, CB7 sees an urgent safety concern, as outdoor dining on roadways requires restaurant patrons and staff to walk directly in the path of bike lanes, and we are concerned that it is just a matter of time until there are fatalities,

THEREFORE, CB7 calls upon DOT to come up with a short-term solution while the emergency rules are in effect, to make things safer for everyone.

Vote: 7-0-2-0; Non-committee Vote: 4-0-0-0

4. Discussion regarding the feasibility of restaurant street seating on the west side of Columbus Avenue: The discussion amongst board members and others concerned the fact that Columbus Avenue has had a ban on using the western lane for parking or any structures for three hours each weekday during the morning rush, with a similar ban on using the eastern lane on Amsterdam Avenue. Both are due the fact that these are our truck routes through the Upper West Side. It was noted that a few restaurants on the banned avenues with restaurant structures on these sides have been sent “cease and desist” letters, but have continued to do business despite their warnings. After a discussion, it was determined to pass the following resolution,

RESOLVED:

WHEREAS, Restaurants in our District have received violations from the Department of Transportation arising from the creation of in-street outdoor dining structures on portions of Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues subject to rush-hour regulations, which is unfair to those just trying to do the same business as the other side of the Avenues,

THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan calls on DOT and all enforcement agencies to suspend the rush hour regulations that would interfere with the use of in-street or curbside dining structures during the period in which such structures are permitted under the current temporary outdoor dining regulations.

Vote: 7-0-2-0. Non-committee Vote: 3-0-0-0

5. Discussion of the shortage of CitiBikes at most docking stations: After a brief discussion, it was determined that an effort must be made to get CitiBike to our next meeting. Previous attempts to reach out to them have resulted in no response.

6. New Business: The Transportation Committee has asked DOT on numerous occasions to take a look at the intersection of 65th Street and Central Park West, as cars turning east through the transverse have only a flashing yellow light at all times. Having to cross both the crosswalk and bike lane to reach the transverse, it has been noted that drivers say this is a very dangerous intersection, being difficult if not impossible to watch the vehicles in the bike lane and the pedestrian path at the same time, and that the lights for both bikes and other e-vehicles and cars must be changed to make things safer. Colleen Chattergoon from DOT said that she’d asked someone to check this intersection, but had not heard back. CB7 agreed to add this intersection to its list of the ten most dangerous intersections, with hopes of getting DOT to do something before a tragedy occurs.

7. Old Business: DOT had no updates for us on any of the items we had previously inquired about.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Adler

Oct. 13, 2021

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Linda Alexander and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

October 13, 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 6:31pm by Co-Chairperson Christian Cordova.

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

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

1. 2701 Broadway (West 103rd Street.) Shree Sethiya, Inc. d/b/a Aangan Restaurant.

Presenting for the Applicant: Amit Sethiya, Owner, 04.sethiya@gmail.com;

- Restaurant reopened on September 1st, 2021 but restaurant had been there for 12 years and now Amit is taking over.
- Hours of operation is 5:00pm to 10:30pm, Tuesday through Sunday. Will eventually opens on Mondays.
- Will employ delivery workers in near future but now uses third party delivery companies only.

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

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

2. 300 Amsterdam Avenue (West 74th – 75th Streets.) HBM UWS, LLC d/b/a Miriam.

Presenting for the Applicant: Rafael Hasid, President, RHasid@gmail.com; Frank Palillo, Attorney, Fwpalillo@gmail.com;

- Rafael is chef / owner of Miriam restaurant in Brooklyn for 16 years in Brooklyn.
- Middle Eastern restaurant.
- New location will be same concept and food as Brooklyn location.
- Hours of operations: 9:00am to 11:00pm, Monday and Tuesday; 9:00am to Midnight, Wednesday through Sunday. Offer brunch and dinner seven days a week.
- Recorded music only.
- Offer delivery through third party delivery platforms.
- Plans to open by December 1st.

Comments:

- Barbara Adler asked about cooking infrastructure because past restaurants created concerns for residents in the building due to cooking related smells. Rafael explained that he invested \$100,000 in kitchen modifications to address concerns.

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

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

3. New Business.

Comments:

- Christian Cordova stated that BCI members will begin doing site checks for notice postings starting in October, which had been suspended during the pandemic.
- Christian Cordova and Doug Kleiman explained that the Transportation Committee passed resolutions to support Open Restaurants on the westside of Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue and to study the co-existence of roadway restaurant seating and bike lanes.

The meeting ended at 7:09pm

SENIOR TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Roberta Semer, Chair

October 14, 2021

Present: Amy Hyman, Louisa Craddock, Beverly Donahue, Madeline Innocent, Madge Rosenberg, Daniel Leinweber (Mt Sinai), Lisa Beth Miller, Janet Weinstein, Maggie Walters (Lighthouse Guild), Betsey Margolis (JCC), Mark Jennings (Project Find), Susan Martloff-Nieves (Goddard Riverside) and Robin Strashun (Share and Care). **Non-Task Force Board Member:** Doug Kleiman. **Elected Representatives Present:** April Adams, Hannah Weinerman, Cindy Cardinal and Rita Glenn.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

1. Introductions:

Robin Strashun introduced Share and Care an organization that is new to the Upper West Side. 212-289-5500 and ask for Robin. Robin also said that a major problem they are seeing is a lack of home care aids, which means that many people who have been hospitalized or are not able to stay at home alone are in great jeopardy of needing to go to nursing or rehab homes.

Janet Weinstein; the Lighthouse Guild has opened its technology center, the Lighthouse Guild is also able to offer eye exams for people with low vision. She is retiring the end of this year. She introduced Maggie Walters who will be in charge of outreach and support. Lisa Miller offered her work phone number 646-847-4615 to anyone in the group who have questions or need help

Susan Matloff-Nieves announced that this will be her last meeting with the task force, Aaron Rooney will be attending going forward, he is the Associate Deputy Executive Director of Aging Services. Susan will continue to work in a Senior Management position at Goddard.

Rita Glenn discussed the ongoing work the Council Member Rosenthal's office has been doing for seniors. They are working with Borough President Brewer's office to create bags of fresh vegetables and fruits which seniors are able to purchase for \$9 once a week for 4 weeks. Rita also spoke about a program they did with WSCAH to get fresh and nonperishable food to housebound seniors. There is an urgent need for additional funds.

Amy Hyman and others spoke at length about the ongoing problem of food insecurity, which is becoming worse as funding disappears.

2. Plans for ongoing events:

Rita Glenn said that their office is working on a health resource fair. Everyone liked the idea of doing a series of one issue forums on topics ranging from tele-health, housing, food, how to protect oneself from scams. Roberta Semer suggested that while they will be on zoom it will be nice to be able to have the senior centers and other locations where some seniors can gather safely to watch a simulcast, which someone suggest calling Simulcast Parties. We will create a small working group including Rita, Cindy, Mark, Lisa, Roberta and anyone else who wants to join to plan ongoing events

3. Next meeting of the Task Force- Wednesday, November 10, 10:00am

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

October 14, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, October 14, 2021, via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Preservation Co-Chairs Michele Parker and K Karpen. Preservation Committee members Jay Adolf, Joshua Cohen, Page Cowley, William Ortiz, Madge Rosenberg, Peter Samton, and Mark Diller, as well as non-Committee Board member and Vice Chair Doug Kleiman participated. The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Re: 143 West 72nd Street (Amsterdam-Columbus Avenues). Application #LPC-20-00052 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a full-width rear yard addition on the third and fourth floors with the addition of a Juliette balcony on the new proposed rear facade, new fenestration, and the removal of common brick and recladding the rear facade in stucco; and the addition of a fifth floor with rooftop stair and elevator bulkheads.

The subject building is a five-story commercial building with retail infill on the ground floor. The original structure was a brick townhouse by Thom and Wilson ca. 1883, which was drastically modified and expanded ca. 1922 by architect Samuel Hertz, and was modified again in the 1940s and 1960s and again ca. 2006. It is included in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

The existing front façade is in a muted Art Deco style, with tall metal casement windows with a gently curved to lintel set in a limestone frame with a center medallion and etched lines accenting the upper floors. A fourth floor added ca. 1940s after the first conversion and set back approximately 6'9" from the plane of the front façade, presents a blank limestone wall above the decorated elevation.

Presentation by Mark Buchsbaum and Aziz Akhodov of Greg Rothstein, architects.

- The application concerns renovations and modifications performed pursuant to a ca. 2006 permit based on a Certificate of Appropriateness from the LPC.
- The plans for the 2006 renovations and modifications included the addition of a fifth floor, the infill of setbacks on the rear façade at the third and fourth floors to create a full-width 4-story rear addition that extends to approximately 5'1" from the rear lot line, and certain other changes.
- For reasons not currently known, the permit granted ca. 2006 by the LPC did not include the fifth floor and rear addition infill, and the applicant now seeks approval for those changes. Prior to the 2006 modifications, the rear façade included a full-width extension on the first and second floors that extends to within 5'1" of the rear lot line. The rear façade then set back approximately 11'0" at the third floor, and another 6'9" at the fourth floor, with the setbacks creating terraces.
- The previous rear façade was clad in common red brick.
- The prior rear façade included casement windows and doors at the ground/first floor, no fenestration at the rear of the second floor, and casement windows and doors leading to the setback terraces at the third and fourth floors.
- The front façade prior to the 2006 modifications included a stair bulkhead that is not visible from the public way and a fire ladder attached to the front of the blank expanse above the decorated front façade.
- The applicant seeks retroactive approval for the construction of the fifth floor that aligns in the front with the fourth floor (i.e. set back from the decorated front façade by 6'9") and which extends 61'5", or approximately 29' from the modified fourth floor rear facade.
- The applicant also seeks retroactive approval for extending the prior rear facades at the third and fourth floors to align with the full-width extension at the first and second floors (i.e. 5'1" from the rear lot line), erasing the rear façade setbacks. The fenestration at the modified third and fourth floor façade consists of casement windows surrounded by masonry, as well as floor-to-ceiling casement windows and doors at the rear of the proposed fifth floor. No fenestration is planned for the existing second floor rear façade. There are fire escape landings at the third and fourth floor levels for fire egress.
- The modified rear extension is entirely clad in stucco in a neutral color.
- The work proposed to be done currently includes removing the fire ladder from the front façade, adding a green roof above the fifth floor, and removing certain wires currently dangling in front of the upper front façade.
- Current proposed new work also includes removing an existing front flagpole, adding a new rear ladder to the fire escape landings, and adding railings that will not be visible to the front and rear roof.
- Applicant also seeks to add new elevator and stair bulkheads to the roof of the modified fifth floor. The bulkheads will not be visible from the public way.

Community Questions and Comments:

Susan Nial:

- This is effectively a legalization, and approval should be denied unless design elements are improved starting with adding windows to the blank façade in the front.

Committee Discussion:

Jay:

- Q: Is this a legalization?
- A: Uncertain whether a violation has been issued, or whether the discrepancies between the plans and the permit was discovered prior to the issuance of a violation.
- CB7 should treat this application as if the work had not already been done, neither being more lenient nor more strict that if the project was presented prior to such work.

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- Q: Is this project as of right from a zoning density perspective?
- A: DoB reviewed the project and has not objected based on the FAR.
- Concern that the plans do not include maintenance or other egress to the rear yard.
- West 72nd Street is much improved since the designation of the Historic District – this building should conform to such improvements. Adding windows is an important first step.

Mark:

- Concerned that this mid-block building had a 2-story, and now a 4-story, full width extension to within 5-feet of the rear lot line. This building is not within 100' of either commercial avenue, so a full-depth extension would not be as of right, and could not be 2 (let alone 4) stories in height.
- The design features of the modified structure are not appropriate. Even accounting for the difference between the Art Deco style of this façade vs the others on this block, the nearly full-depth rear extension, the blank monolithic expanse above the decorated front façade, the lack of fenestration on the front façade at the fourth and fifth floors and on the rear façade at the second floor, the use of stucco in the rear yard, and the addition of a fifth floor bulk to this modest original structure are significantly out of step with the character of the Historic District and the neighboring buildings on the street and in the donut.

Peter:

- Should add windows on the fourth and fifth floors in the front.
- The applicant is missing an opportunity to rectify inappropriate design decisions from previous modifications.

K:

- While the changes made ca. 2006 are positive in cleaning up the front façade, they do not go far enough.
- The applicant should make further changes to the way the building presents itself to the street.

Michele:

- Should have included windows on the front façade.

Resolution: To Disapprove the application as inappropriate to the character of the Historic District based on the absence of fenestration on the front façade at the fourth and fifth floors and the rear façade at the second floor; the addition of massing and bulk through the addition of the fifth floor; the extension of the rear façade to within 5' of the rear lot line, and the cladding of the entire rear façade in stucco.

VOTE: *Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members present: 1-0-0-0.*

Calendared: November 9th

Re: 6-16 West 77th Street (Central Park West - Columbus Avenues). **Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to enlarge and alter an existing penthouse on the eastern portion of the roof.**

The subject building is a 15-story apartment building in the Neo-Renaissance style and is constructed out of brick with limestone and terra cotta trim. It was constructed in 1927-29 by architect Nathan Korn. It is included in and a contributing structure to the Upper West Side / Central Park West Historic District.

The application concerns demolition and replacement of an existing penthouse structure on the eastern portion of the roof.

Presentation by Valerie Campbell, Esq. of Kramer Levin, attorneys; Bill Higgins of Higgins Quasebarth, preservation consultants; Russell Hales of Foster & Partners, architects; and Frank Sciame, contractor.

- The existing penthouse structure is set back 12' from the primary façade fronting West 77th Street, 24' from the secondary façade and airway facing east toward the New-York Historical Society buildings, and 12' from a secondary façade facing south.
- The existing structure is a one-story brick structure that has been subsequently covered in stucco. The original window groupings have been expanded and reconfigured over time, in each iteration separated by masonry surrounds in various tall thin groupings.
- The roof above the existing penthouse includes a pair of elevator bulkheads and assorted mechanical equipment.
- The existing penthouse structure is minimally / partially visible only over/ above secondary facades.
- The proposal is to replace the existing structure with a new two-level penthouse. The lower level of the new penthouse would have a smaller footprint than the existing one, and would wrap around the existing elevator bulkheads. The proposed upper level of the new penthouse would occupy a small portion of the roof of the lower level, with its mass shifted to the west side of the structure.
- The height of the first level of the proposed penthouse would be approximately 15' from the roof, which is roughly equivalent with the separate and remaining original penthouse to the west. The proposed upper level would rise approximately an additional 12' above the lower level. Interior ceiling heights for both levels would be approximately 10'.
- The proposed new penthouse would replace the stucco clad brick and window and door units with floor-to-ceiling windows on all sides, with thin metal poles framing the glass at wide intervals, and a plain metal band defining the roof line at each level. The metal would be black stainless steel. The north elevation of the proposed penthouse is set back 3' from the original, and the roof overhangs that dimension.
- The proposed structure would sit atop a platform to further delineate and separate the new from the old.
- The proposed structure would be composed of black stainless steel thin supports with a matte finish, and floor-to-ceiling glass. Interior materials would include travertine marble flooring.
- The new structure would be surrounded by rooftop gardens featuring native grasses and plants.
- The fenestration and framing of the proposed new penthouse are intended to call to mind the pavilion architecture found in the Glass House in New Canaan, Connecticut by noted architect Philip Johnson.
- Visibility: The existing and proposed structures are visible from within Central Park and from a distance away from the building on West 77th Street and at locations along Central Park West as well as through a vacant lot on West 76th Street. Most visibility is over secondary facades.
- Precedents include the Rose Center/Hayden Planetarium, which contrasts an all-glass cube with the historic stone fabric of the American Museum of Natural History.
- Foster & Partners has successfully combined modern, large glass additions to traditional structures, including at the Sackler Galleries as well as the glass tower build within the Hearst building on Eighth Avenue at West 57th Street.
- It is appropriate to have a high-design intervention to a traditional building.
- The design will include modest pinpoint lights and internal blinds to reduce having the structure appear at night as an illuminated box.
- The proposal adds to without compromising the existing masonry primary facades.

Committee Questions and Comments:

K:

- Q: Will the structure use bird-friendly glass for the fenestration?
- A: The walls will be a low-iron, low-reflective coated glass to minimize glare.
- Q: Has the applicant approached the Audubon Society for its guidelines on bird-friendly glazing?
- A: No.

Michele:

- Bird-friendly glazing is now required by Code.

- Q: Concern for construction timing and staging.
- A: (Frank Sciamè) will coordinate with projects at the New-York Historical Society, including the potential to share a crane rather than installing two. Expect 18-22 months of construction. Using the latest technology and practices to expedite the project.

Peter:

- Respect for the work of Foster & Partners.
- Concern with the use of black steel in this location. The existing roof edge is decorated in red terra cotta – the new structure should establish a relationship of the proposed new elements with the existing materials.
- This design is foreign to the building.
- Also the glazing issue should be handled the same as at the Rockefeller Wing of the Met.

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- Concerns include that the use of the black metal will not complement the existing façade and materials.
- The applicant should resist the impulse to tear down and build anew just because the current structure is run down.
- It is possible to create a contemporary design without using 10'6" windows, which will be visible and appear like false teeth on a historic face.
- This will set a very bad precedent for other rooftops in the Historic District.

Community Questions and Comments:

Paul Goldberger (architecture critic and author; Beresford resident):

- The Foster & Partners design adds to the historic fabric by juxtaposition rather than imitation.
- The new design has gravitas and yet is deferential. Modern elements can give new life to old buildings. This is an opportunity to replace one of the least distinguished features of a notable building.
- In the spirit of modern glass additions to traditional facades such as at the Royal Academy, the British Museum, and the Hearst Tower.
- Sensitivity to the historic does not require imitation. Citation to [Building With History](#) – this design would be a worthy addition to the book.

Marie Timell (resident of the subject building):

- Concern for bird strikes. Insufficient consideration has been given to birds who will be lured to the light in the studio space.

Edward & Mary Smyth (residents of the subject building):

- Residents have fought the previous proposals by the New-York Historical Society to build out-of-character towers above the historic building.
- Concern that this modern addition will set a precedent for building taller, more modern structures that will overtake the historic baseline.
- There is an appropriate hierarchy of building facades that this proposal violates. There are no echoes of the existing structure in this design.
- The design looks like an addition to space in Malibu – beautiful, but ludicrous in this location.

Susan Nial (Upper West Side):

- Appropriateness is the standard, and it is not defined by the expertise of the architect.
- The inquiry should be as to how the proposal affects the surrounding areas below.
- This design is too tall and out of character with the surrounding buildings and the entire Historic District.
- This will be highly visible from several vantage points, especially at night.
- The existing cornice is a terra cotta "crown" in keeping with the character of the neighborhood – this will overwhelm it.
- Statements about pinpoint lighting are irrelevant – regardless of how the architects design the space, residents will use lighting as suits their occupancy.

Frances Halsband (resident of the subject building):

- As a former Commissioner on the Landmarks Preservation Commission, supports this addition. The existing pink stucco façade of the penthouse is nothing worth preserving.
- The glass structure is equally appropriate as the Planetarium.
- LPC does not govern internal lighting.
- This high design is an improvement over the utilitarian mechanical junk usually found on rooftops.

Belle Horwitz (Upper West Side):

- Concern for the impact of the construction on the infrastructure of this aging building.
- The design is inconsistent with the existing building and is not appropriate.

Eric Krebs (Upper West Side):

- Appreciates the Hearst Tower.
- This proposal will create its own new “crown” to the building in much the way the towers at the San Remo have done.

John Phufas (Beresford resident):

- Speaking on behalf of the Board of the Beresford, supports the design as impressive, discreet and appropriate.

Paul Hilal (Upper West Side):

- The new design is beautiful.
- The design is not meant to be an extension of the building below – they transform rather than repeat the visual appearance of the overall building.

Susan Solomon (Beresford resident):

- Design is elegant and discreet.
- The visibility from the street is minimal and enhances the overall appearance of the building.

Louise Mirrer (Executive Director of the New-York Historical Society):

- The project will not interfere with the N-YHS projects. Creates an opportunity to work together.
- Appreciates that the applicant approached the N-YHS early on to coordinate.
- Appreciates the focus on native plantings, which N-YHS hopes to emulate in its own gardens.

John Richards (Upper West Side):

- The design is indeed visible.
- The modern structures cited as precedent are distinguishable because in all such cases the modern structure is beside the traditional, not on top of it.

Judith Nierenberg (Upper West Side):

- The new structure will appear enormous and will affect the infrastructure of the 94-year-old building below.
- The addition is too much for the building to handle.

Irwin Cohen (Chelsea Market proprietor):

- Comparison to the addition of the High Line to Chelsea – comparable contrast, and a great success.

Beverly Dolmsky (Upper West Side):

- The new design will be a positive addition and will enhance the building.

Jill Sloane (Upper West Side):

- Preservation should not mean stagnation.
- This tasteful addition will be an improvement.

Bill Ackman (applicant/owner):

- The secondary façade facing Central Park was not designed as a primary façade because the builder expected there to be another tall building to the east.
- This project will add a distinguished penthouse that compares favorably with other rooftop structures in the area.
- Willing to replace the western penthouse with a similar design if it becomes available for purchase.
- Will be sure to protect birds.
- Biggest risk to the building is if the deteriorated current structure remains.
- This design will be a gift and contribution to the Upper West Side – contributing to the Community.

Committee Discussion/Consensus:

Mark:

- While the design is beautiful, the appropriateness question concerns whether the beautiful design belongs in the proposed location.
- CB7 has approved other modern “International” style penthouses above traditional apartment buildings nearby (example on West 70th Street). Concern for consistency.
- Will not recommend changes to the design – take it or leave it.
- On balance, it is better to have a modern addition that is clearly distinct from the original structure than to attempt to imitate the original and fail.
- Can accept as appropriate.

Jay:

- A more robust visibility analysis is in order.
- Appropriate – citing the example of a glass addition proposed for the Columbia Grammar School.
- Agrees that modern juxtaposition is to be preferred over rehashing old elements.

Resolution: To Approve the application as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE: *Preservation Committee: 5-0-3-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 1-0-0-0.*

Calendared at LPC: 11/16/21.

Re: 500 West End Avenue (West 84-85th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a window master plan.

The subject building is a 13-story plus basement apartment building in the Renaissance Revival style built by Schwartz & Gross, architects, ca. 1914-15. The façade is common brown brick with a stone base and mini-cornices above the third, fourth, tenth and eleventh floors, and with decorative stone detail beneath each window opening on the building’s two primary facades.

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

Presentation by Nora Martins and Massamiliano Galassi, architects.

- The decorated façade includes stone Juliet balconies across its two primary facades.
- The existing fenestration consists of aluminum replacement windows in configurations that include single, paired and tripartite windows, all in a 1:1 double-hung operation. No original divided-light windows remain on any façade.
- The original condition is believed to be divided-light double-hung windows in single, double and tripartite configurations, believed to be 12:1 and 9:1 divided light panes.
- The proposal include replacing existing pairs of narrower double-hung windows with a single, wide double-hung window in conformity with the original design.
- The proposal also includes a close emulation of the original brick molds, and dimensions for the tripartite windows and mullions that more closely follow the original
- The master plan proposes a lighter brown color than the current dark bronze aluminum, which is believed to be closer to the original.
- The single stained glass window in the lobby will remain in place, and will have a single-pane protective window installed outside the window to preserve it in place.

- Other Schwartz & Gross buildings of the same era were originally constructed with 1:1 double-hung windows (e.g. 271 Central Park West and 111 West 71st Street).
- LPC has approved replacements using 1:1 double hung windows under similar circumstances at 150 West 79th Street, 360 Riverside Drive, and 771 West End Avenue.

Community Questions and Comments:

- [None]

Committee Discussion/Consensus: Appropriate

Mark:

- While the standard is hard to discern of late, the decorated nature of this façade is sufficient to preserve the original design without the reintroduction of divided light fenestration to the fabric of the façade.

Resolution: To Approve as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members: 1-0-0-0.

Calendared at LPC on 11/9/21.

Re: 61 West 86th Street (Columbus Avenue). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace the storefront infill.

The subject building is a 5-story flats-style apartment building at the corner of West 86th Street and Columbus Avenue. It was built ca. 1888-89 by architect John G. Prague in the Romanesque Revival style with its two primary facades clad in red common brick with brownstone accents.

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

Presentation by Anastasios Giannopoulos, architect.

- The existing ground floor storefronts include two cladding schemes. The corner store is clad in a thin faux stone of a deep red color with faux mortar that gives new meaning to the term “unfortunate.” The thin stone treatment is in a significantly deteriorated state, with the cladding peeling away from the main façade at several spots.
- The second storefront on the northern portion of the Columbus Avenue façade consists of glazed tile mounted with the long edge vertical to unsuccessfully resemble common red brick.
- Both storefronts include aluminum storefront windows above a base of approximately 4’ in height that would be typical of the 1970s.
- The proposal is to replace the existing storefront infill for both stores with a series of tall metal window units framed above and in between the units by new limestone detail. The window units would include tripartite clerestory windows, a main picture window, and metal recessed panels along the plinth. There will be 5 such units with associated doors on the Columbus elevation, and two units on the West 86th Street elevation.
- An existing but obscured limestone sign band will be repaired and used.

Committee Questions and Comments:

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- Q: Why are some of the entrance doors recessed?
- A: Will all be flush – error in drawings.

Doug:

- Noting ineligibility to vote due to representation of the owner.
- The improved storefront will help attract quality retail tenants to this location and others nearby.

Community Questions and Comments:

- [None]

Resolution: To Approve as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board members: 0-0-0-1.

Calendared at LPC: _____.

Re: 1 West 88th Street, Trevor Day School (Central Park West). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for modifications of the entryway to provide improved ADA access, including the creation of a sidewalk ramp and new landing, installation of an ADA lift over existing stairs, and modification to existing basement stair enclosures.

The subject building is a four-story school building constructed ca. 1967 of brick and concrete by Edgar Tafel, architect. It is included in the Upper West Side / Central Park West Historic District.

Presentation by Mary Dierickx, preservation consultant.

- The project seeks to create barrier-free access to the Trevor Day School.
- The building was originally constructed as the home of the Walden School, and was minimally modified in 1987.
- The existing main entrance includes two sets of three steps up from the sidewalk between tall white walls, the western of which encloses a deteriorated stair to the cellar. The walls are taller than needed for safety concerns.
- The proposal includes lowering the wall enclosing the cellar stair to that required by Code; lowering the east wall to the level of the landing behind it and installing a modest railing with pickets, installing a ramp and landing on the sidewalk with a railing to meet the first landing level, and installing a retractable chair lift to ascend the second set of stairs to the level of the main entrance doors.
- The existing walls create a dark and obscured area adjacent to the entrance.
- The existing and proposed new landings will be covered in blue stone to match the original.
- The cellar steps would also be replaced in concrete instead of metal, which has deteriorated badly over the years.
- The proposed railing will blend in to match the façade.

Committee Questions and Comments:

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- The street view of the lowered walls with modest railings will be a big improvement over the current foreboding condition.

Mark:

- Q: In order to avoid an unsightly chair lift, couldn't the ramp be extended and loop back on itself to the east to reach the main entrance level?
- A: All options were explored as the chair lift is not a favored solution.

Peter:

- The space to the East could be used to create a ramp long enough to meet ADA requirements.

Community Comments:

Marie Timell:

- The sidewalk is narrower than it appears in the drawings, and can become quite congested at drop-off and dismissal, especially with the Dwight School next door.

Resolution: To Approve as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE: *Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 1-0-0-0.*

Calendared at LPC: 11/19/21.

Re: 33 West 89th Street (Central Park West – Columbus Avenue). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for restoration of the front stoop and façade; a full-width rear yard addition; and rooftop additions to include an elevator and expanded stair bulkhead, a shade structure, and mechanical enclosures.

The subject building is a 4-story plus basement townhouse constructed ca. 1894-95 by Gilbert A. Schellenberger in the Renaissance Revival Style. It is composed of brick on the upper floors with a brownstone base at the basement and parlor floors. It is included in the Upper West Side / Central Park West Historic District.

Presentation by Joe Jatusso, architect.

- The project includes restoring an L-shaped front stoop, with new wood double doors to the parlor floor, and improvements to the areaway beneath including replicating original iron grate details.

- The existing stoop at the adjacent 35 West 89th Street will be the template for the restored stoop. New front façade windows will also be part of the project.
- The proposal also includes adding partial-width rooftop stair and elevator bulkheads.
- The existing rear façade includes a basement plus 3-story L extension that proceeds 13' from the main rear façade. The extension includes punched 1:1 aluminum replacement windows facing north from the extension.
- The existing extension is composed of common brick, which has been painted a medium grey color.
- The proposal is to construct a basement plus 3-story full-width extension that aligns with the full-width rear extension next door at 31 West 89th Street. The full-width extension would not extend as deeply into the rear yard as the existing condition.
- The new extension and remaining rear façade would be clad in common brick that is a sandy brown color.
- There are several other full-width rear additions in the donut.
- The fenestration of the proposed extension would include tall, thin columns of windows with divided light. On the basement and parlor floors, the proposal is four sets of such windows/doors side-by-side with red brick surrounding the entire grouping. On the second and third floors, the proposal is for three individual pairs of such windows surrounded and separated by brick masonry. All windows would have contrasting stone-colored lintels as accents.
- The proposal also calls for similar windows on the fourth floor in place of the smaller punched windows.
- The stair and elevator bulkheads proposed for the roof occupy approximately half the width of the roof.

Committee Questions and Comments:

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- Concern for the construction techniques to build the dog-leg stoop. LPC standards for stoops do not adequately account for application of brownstone treatment to poured concrete structures.

Community Comment:

- [None]

Resolution: To approve as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE: *Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 1-0-0-0.*

Calendared at LPC: 11/9/21

Re: 311 West 102nd Street (Riverside Drive – West End Avenue). **Application # LPC 22-01899 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to enlarge an existing beveled-edge rear façade with a two-story full-width rear addition.**

The subject building is a basement plus 3-story townhouse constructed ca. 1892 by Clarence True, architect, in the French Renaissance Revival style. The front façade is clad in limestone. The house is one of four remaining of an original group of five townhouses. It is included in the Riverside Drive – West End Historic District Extension II.

Presentation by Eric Andreasen and Frank Doyle, architects.

- The existing rear façade features a beveled extension that angles back to the main rear façade on either side.
- The current condition includes a square metal patio surrounding the beveled rear façade with metal stairs curving to the garden below and the patio creating an overhang to the ground floor.
- The companion building to the east, which includes a similar beveled rear façade, has a two-story squared rear yard extension, with the ground floor extension proceeding deep into the rear yard, and the parlor floor extension proceeding about half that depth.
- The proposal is to construct a ground and parlor floor extension of equal depth that aligns with the deepest part of the neighboring extension.
- The new extension would be clad in common brick.
- The fenestration would consist of steel frame windows in dark bronze in three tall, thin columns with modest divided light surrounded and separated by brick masonry. The columns would be divided into pairs of panes in a 2x4 arrangement, with one window forming a door for access to the garden.
- The existing punched windows on the second and third floors above would remain, except that one original window would become a door for access to the terrace to be created by the proposed extension.

Committee Questions and Comments:

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- Q: The beveled existing rear façade appears not to be perfectly symmetrical – there is a 2’6” gap between the beveled façade and the west lot line.
- A: Actually, the 2’6” gap is on the neighbor’s side at 313 West 102. This rear façade is flush to the lot line.

Peter:

- Concern that the 2-story extension will overshadow the neighbors.

Mark:

- The beveled rear façade is a defining characteristic and it would be inappropriate to square it off.

Community Comment:

- [None]

Resolution: to Approve as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

VOTE: Preservation Committee: 5-3-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 0-0-1-0.

Calendared at LPC: 11/16/21

360 Riverside Drive (West 108th Street). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for permission to use GFRC in lieu of original terra cotta in connection with restoration/replacement of certain façade details and ornamentation.

The subject building is a 13-story apartment house with two primary facades constructed ca. 1915 by architect Gaetano Ajello in the Renaissance Revival Style. It is included in the Riverside Drive – West End Historic District Extension II.

Presentation by Jonathan Raible, architect.

- The primary facades consist of light colored common brick with significant ornamental detail at several floors, including the 6th and 13th floors.
- In the course of Local Law 11 work, the highly deteriorated condition of the steel beams cantilevering out of the façade to support the stone mini Juliet balconies and window decorations was fully revealed.
- Replacement of the outrigger steel beams will be included in the revised project.
- The proposal is to replace the decorations at the 6th and 13th floors with designs modeled after and as close as possible to the original.
- The proposal is to fabricate the replacement details out of GFRC (glass fiber-reinforced concrete) rather than the original terra cotta.
- The reasons proposed for using GFRC include:
 - GFRC is lighter in weight and will impose less stress on all aspects of the facades.
 - The cost of GFRC represents a significant savings.
 - Fabricating replacement elements from terra cotta will require significantly greater lead time.
- LPC rules do not permit the use of GFRC or similar “replacement” materials at or below the 6th floor.
- The applicant has identified a skilled fabricator who can create impressive replicas of the original decorations. Surviving brackets and other decoration elements will be used to create the molds for the replacement elements.
- While the GFRC decorations will have soft joints, with settling and exposure to the City air, the joints will cease to be visible.

Committee Questions and Comments:

Michele:

- Q: How do GFRC and terra cotta differ?

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- A: GFRC is lighter weight, and can be mounted onto the façade much more easily.
- Terra cotta is labor-intensive to fabricate and difficult to retrofit.

Mark:

- Q: Observed an application at LPC some time ago at which one of the Commissioners objected to the use of GFRC because it would leave gaps or seams between the pieces combined to make a whole decorative element. How will that play out here?

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- A: Need a manufacturer that is sensitive to the fine tolerances needed for decorations of this type.. Must pay particular attention to the mortar joints, and employ a double-seal.

Applicant:

- A: All existing joints will remain, and the existing brackets underneath the decorative elements will be reused, so no gaps are expected to be visible from below.
- A: Also, lighter weight decorations are essential given the compromised condition of the outrigger steel.

Community Comment:

- [None]

Resolution: To approve the application as presented as appropriate to the character of the Historic District based on the ability to fabricate and install replacement elements that emulate the original.VOTE: *Preservation Committee: 8-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 1-0-0-0.*

Calendared at LPC: 11/16/21

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Diller

BYLAWS TASK FORCE

October 19, 2021

Present: Barbara Adler (BA), Jay Adolf (JA), Josh Cohen (JC), Natasha Kazmi (NK), and Chair Susan Schwartz (SS). **Absent:** Michele Parker (MP).

Meeting on Zoom was called to order at 10A and adjourned at 11A.

We had a productive conversation about process moving forward. It was agreed that rather than reading the current Bylaws aloud and drafting revisions as a group, Susan will draft proposed revisions and circulate them before the next meeting and we will proceed to discussion and additional revisions, as needed.

We completed the first half of the MBPO Bylaws (through III. Board Meetings, F. Notice, halfway through page 11)!!! We agreed that we would like to present the first half of the Bylaws at the November 3, 2021 Full Board meeting for an approval resolution. We also agreed that any changes or suggestions from the board be taken back to the task force for careful consideration rather than having alternate language drafted and approved during the meeting. The first half of the Bylaws will be distributed prior to the Full Board meeting along with all of the other board materials.

Next Steps

1. Susan to discuss voting on the first half of the Bylaws at the November Full Board meeting with Steven
2. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 10-11A and then again on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 10-11A.
3. Susan will send out the materials for the next meeting well in advance of the meeting, so everyone can review the proposed language in advance.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2021 at 6:30pm

Steven Brown, Chair

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

The Steering Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, on the Zoom online platform. Chair Steven Brown called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm after the Secretary confirmed a quorum was present. The following discussions were had, and actions taken.

DISTRICT MANAGER UPDATE

Michelle Booker, District Manager

Ms. Booker provided an update on the search process for the Assistant District Manager (ADM) position. We have had some good candidates in for zoom interviews and are now narrowing down to finalists. We hope to have someone on board in a few weeks.

CHAIR UPDATE

Steven Brown, Chair:

1. Committee Announcement: For the Parks & Environment Committee, Klari Neuwelt has decided to step down as Co-Chair. We thank her for her commitment and great work through the years! We welcome Natasha Kazmi as the new co-chair of Parks.
2. Responsibilities of the co-chairs of committees: It is very important that we continue to remember the responsibilities of this role! Submitting minutes, resolutions, and agendas to the Board Office in a timely manner is important. Missing some of this work has a real impact on staff and their work. Please be diligent about this.
3. Update – I met with the executive team. We welcome Seema Reddy as a new co-secretary. We discussed the Open Meetings Law and need to decide how to respond to the Manhattan Borough President's Office regarding How to conduct CB7 meetings in the future. The current Open Meetings Law which allows for virtual meetings is set to expire in January 2022. We plan to appoint a CB7 task force to further dig into this issue.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Andrew Alpert, Transportation Committee

I expect that there will be 3 resolutions coming to the full board for consideration.

1. Renewal of a black car and radio base station.
2. We plan a discussion of the potential conflict between bike lanes and outdoor dining. The resolution shall urge the Department of Transportation (DOT) to make sure these situations are as safe as possible.
3. Seating on the west side of Columbus Ave. DOT has been threatening these restaurants with fines and shutting them down because the seating interferes with rush hour traffic regulations. A resolution will be presented to call on the DOT to suspend the rush hour regulations until the outdoor dining regulations are decided.

Linda Alexander, Business & Consumer Issues Committee

BCI has already submitted minutes for its recent meeting!

We will present two resolutions regarding new liquor license applications.

1. Aangan, a longstanding Indian restaurant at 2701 Broadway
2. Miriam, a new restaurant at 300 Amsterdam Ave (at W74th St.) They have built new infrastructure to shield noise from neighbors.

Other items: For new business, BCI is hoping that DOT will visit the next Nov meeting to discuss the future of outdoor dining regulations.

Stephen Brown: Perhaps a future meeting can discuss the issues faced by delivery workers.

K Karpen, Preservation Committee

There will be eight or nine resolutions coming. Many of them are not controversial. But there are a few that people will want to discuss. At least one resolution was to disapprove an application.

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There will be no resolutions coming from this committee. Four presentations were given during an interesting meeting. Natasha Kazmi. We are working on a meeting to get ambassadors from the community who are involved in sanitation issues – specifically regarding the environmental issues in the microneighborhood (e.g., Columbus/Amsterdam bid, block associations, etc.) Everyone seems to have prioritized sanitation and rat issues now. We don't yet have a representative from the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) or a Parks Department person involved in these issues with whom we can work. We may need some help with that.

Stephen - Captain Gallagher presented at the meeting. It was a really a good meeting!

Jeanette Rausch, Land Use Committee

No resolutions are expected.

1. Hal Fetner of Fetner Development will come to our next meeting to discuss the 96th St. project. He does not need approvals from us, but will give an update on the project and touch on some logistics issues, the inclusionary housing program, brownfield remediation status, etc.
2. Scaffolding that never disappears is an issue for us to discuss. There has been a bill (Ben Kallos' bill) languishing in city council for a few years meant to deal with that problem.

Jay Adolf: Maybe the committee should review the draft legislation for some history on this issue. Jay Adolf has interacted with Helen Rosenthal's office trying to push this issue forward.

Shelley Fine, Health & Human Services Committee (HHS)

There was a dual meeting this month for the Youth, Education & Libraries YEL (Committee) and HHS. The focus of the meeting is on youth and violence. One part will deal with mental health issues related to the pandemic and other stresses on young people and how that has impacted our community and the services available to them. We will have both youth coordinators from 20th and 24th NYPD Precincts present at the meeting to what their role is. It would be good to understand what their training is, what they are trying to accomplish, and what their role is. There are no resolution planned as of now. But maybe we will, depending on how the meeting goes.

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They had a meeting and had minutes in the next day! It was a good meeting. They are planning some forums with NYC Council Member Helen Rosenthal and NYS Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal and several agencies. They will have several zooms, with the first one to be focused on health. The task force also plans to have TV screens where seniors can watch simulcast. They will report back on future agenda items.

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NEW BUSINESS

Robert Espier: I am worried about delays in granting liquor licenses for restaurants. Can BCI intervene? I am worried that restaurants will not survive without a liquor license.

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Ken Coughlin: Have all the committee assignments been made for the coming year?

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Michelle Booker: A constituent also reached out to the office about a similar traffic concern – about bicycles at W96th and Broadway/Amsterdam Ave.

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Richard Ashe and Jeannette Rausch, Co-Chairpersons

October 20, 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 6:30pm by Co-Chairperson Richard Ashe.

Present: Richard Ashe, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Sheldon Fine, Jeannette Rausch, Richard Robbins, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton and Ethel Sheffer. **Absent:** William Ortiz, Andrew Ridge; Seema Reddy, **Non-Committee Board Members:** Mark Diller, Doug Kleiman and Roberta Semer. **Guest:** 270 W 96th St Development Team: Hal Fetner, Alex Fetner, Soufiane Nezil, Chris Grant, Daniela Alvarado.

The following matters were discussed:

1. **Co-Chairs Report:** NA

2. **266-270 West 96th Street**

Prior to the meeting the development team notified the Board that they expected to close in November on a transfer of the city-owned portion of the development site (City Department of Housing Preservation and Development). At the committee's request, the developers presented general project components, their construction timetable, and arrangements made with the Department of Transportation to accommodate the bus stop at the southeast corner of West End Avenue and 96th street.

The team shared the general configuration of the building units, which would include a good number of micro-units as approved by NYCDHP. Following up on previous discussion with the community board, and in an effort to accommodate the general wishes of potential seniors occupying the new micro-units, they also advised that a yet undetermined number of mini apartments would be rented without built-in furniture to accommodate the wishes of older tenants who might wish to use their own furniture.

The development team reported that they expected demolition to commence shortly after closing, followed by remediation, foundation work and superstructure. Completion is anticipated in 2024. During construction the developers would occupy a lane of traffic on 96th street, equivalent to the traffic lane used during the building project at the corner of 96th Street and Broadway. A covered pedestrian walkway would be provided throughout the construction process, and flagmen would be located at the east and west ends of the project area. The development team indicated they would be available and happy to address any issues within their purview that may come up during construction and would have an on-site construction office adjacent to the site.

Responding to committee questions, the development team advised that cartouches from the existing Con Ed substation structure would be removed, stored, cleaned, and replaced on the new building.

The development team also indicated that the MTA plans to relocate the existing mid-block M96 and M106 bus stop further west at the corner and accommodate bus layover along the southeast corner of Broadway and 96th Street.

The committee discussed the need to learn more about these plans from the need to learn more about these plans from the MTA and DOT.

After a number of clarification and informational questions, the committee thanked the development team for being forthcoming and bringing their team to the committee. The meeting being informational only, no action was required of the committee.

3. **Scaffolding:**

The committee engaged in a general and preliminary discussion of problems posed by building owners leaving scaffolding in place for excessive periods, sometimes extending several years or more, and often posing real safety issues. The committee agreed that this was an area worth examining and that it might propose legislation to address the issues identified.

Upon motion duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

Barbara Adler and Natasha Kazmi, Co-Chairpersons

(The meeting was held virtually, using the Zoom platform. For the recording of the meeting, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6V9EYBILL-k>)

Present: Barbara Adler and Natasha Kazmi, co-chair; Daniela Alvarado, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, William Ortiz, Susan Schwartz and Polly Spain. **Chair:** Steven Brown. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Mark Diller, Doug Kleiman, Courtney Clark Metakis and Seema Reddy.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Co-chair Barbara Adler.

Adler began by noting the resignation of Klari Neuwelt from the committee and as its longtime co-chair, and thanked Klari for her many years of service. She also announced Natasha Kazmi's appointment as co-chair and that the committee has a new member, William Ortiz, as well as Daniela Alvarado.

1. Spotted Lanternflies, A Serious Invasive Pest: Dr. Anne Nielsen, Associate Professor of Entomology, Rutgers University.

Dr. Nielsen gave an overview of the recent invasion of spotted lanternflies (SLFs), an insect that poses dangers to certain trees.

The insects, which originated in China, use their strong mouth part to drill through the bark and extract sugar sap that trees need to survive in winter, weakening and sometimes killing the trees. SLFs also excrete a sticky substance that can be a nuisance. They are drawn to trees with strong aromas, such as the Tree of Heaven, which itself is an invasive species. There is also significant feeding in vineyards. Annual estimated economic losses from SLFs is \$324 million if left unmanaged, with this loss sustained primarily by nursery operators, fruit growers and Christmas tree farms. Losses for apple, pear and peach growers have been less than expected, however. New Jersey saw a 300-fold increase in SLFs between 2019 and 2020. There are SLF infestations now in the mid-Atlantic states and west to the Ohio border and north to central Massachusetts. SLFs are prevalent in New York but have not yet reached New Jersey's levels.

What can community members do? Dr. Nielsen advised reporting sightings (in New York to spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov), although people only need to report them once. There is currently a "scraping and squashing" campaign – scraping eggs from trees and killing the bugs where seen. Removing Tree of Heaven where possible is another approach, as is trunk banding. She also discussed various kinds of insecticide management.

Dr. Nielsen said that all these efforts will take many years to have an impact on the population, but they are starting to have an effect. A species of tiny wasp that will lay eggs inside SLF eggs is looking like an effective biological control agent.

Dr. Nielsen doesn't think the SLF will be eradicated but we hope we can control it and learn how to live with it. There is no need to panic, she concluded.

2. Chat with the Commanding Officer of the Central Park Precinct, Captain William Gallagher, on their recent acquisition of electric cars + enforcement of illegal e-vehicles that are not permitted to be on the park paths.

Captain Gallagher said that the Central Park precinct has received one of the first-ever police electric car-charging stations. The precinct is now testing an electric car to see how it functions as a police vehicle. The precinct operates five hybrid patrol vehicles.

Capt. Gallagher then addressed the presence and reckless operation of mopeds and small motorcycles inside the park. He said the good news is that so far this year these vehicles have been involved in only two reported incidents inside the park, neither of which resulted in serious injury. Since the beginning of June, the precinct has issued 87 summonses to mopeds or motorcycles. Asked about the precinct's approach to e-scooters and e-bikes on the park drives, he said these vehicles currently operate in a legal gray area, so the only enforcement against them is for speeding or otherwise operating unreasonably.

The greatest traffic-related danger in the park, Capt. Gallagher said, occurs on the transverses in winter. They freeze more quickly than other roads, and if a driver hits some ice and swerves into a cyclist, the results can be tragic. He directs his team to focus on patrolling the transverses during such winter conditions. But in the summer, he said the major traffic concern in the park is the mopeds.

There was a discussion of cyclists going through red lights. While Capt. Gallagher said he gets complaints about cyclists running red lights, he is not inclined to rigidly enforce red-light violations, saying that police power has to be applied reasonably and fairly. Steven Brown suggested that given the fact that there are more than 45 traffic lights on the drives, perhaps red lights could be used at certain high-traffic crossings and that others could become blinking yellow or some similar modification. Capt. Gallagher said that it's time to reassess the lights and said he would ask DOT to assess the feasibility of making changes.

There was a discussion of an apparent rise in incidents of sexual offenders inside neighborhood playgrounds, including Central Park playgrounds. Capt. Gallagher said that an individual was recently arrested, and he may be the source of the recent incidents. If not, he assured the committee that another arrest would eventually happen. He said that calling 911 immediately is important, and giving the number of the nearest lamppost in the park is also crucial because those are the park's "street signs." He said photos and videos can be powerful evidence, but only if it can be done safely.

3. Presentation on the Ecological Redesign of the Broadway Malls to Address Long-Overdue Problems from Climate Change Impacts: Robert F. Herrmann, Chair of the Broadway Mall Association and Emily Walker, Executive Director.

Robert Hermann introduced the Broadway Mall Association's new executive director, Emily Walker. Walker gave a brief overview of the BMA's various projects and activities to maintain and improve the Broadway malls, and then moved on to a presentation on the BMA's new 120-page restoration and management plan. The plan will improve the ecosystem services of the malls with new, diverse plantings of native plants and trees, as well as upgrade stormwater management. The plan is being phased in on five test blocks, two of which are in our district – at 73rd and 83rd streets. There was a discussion of rats in the malls and the possibility of more "walk-through" malls. Walker provided the link for those interested in volunteering with the BMA: <https://broadwaymall.org/volunteer-2/>

4. Presentation on the Compelling Need for Frederick Douglass Playground (Amsterdam Avenue bet.100th-101st Sts.) to get a Makeover: Seema Reddy, member of CB7's Environmental Justice Working Group.

The Douglass playground is one of two playgrounds in need of upgrades in the North Environmental Justice Area of Community District 7 (the other is Anibal Aviles playground on 108th Street). In this Environmental Justice Area, 27 percent of residents live below the poverty line and 75 percent are members of a minority group. The Douglass playground was last renovated in 2008 and the fencing is forbidding, almost prison-like. Some of the floor tiles are uneven and are a tripping hazard. The basketball nets are torn and the surface is cracked; the handball court, while in good repair, is bleak looking; the playground's play structures are unimaginative; and there is insufficient seating. Reddy said that the Bloomingdale playground to the north could serve as an excellent model for what Douglass could be. Another problem is that the field that comprises the playground's northern section is often taken over by soccer clubs and other groups and is not available for free play. The Douglass playground was #2 on Community Board 7's list of capital budget priorities this year.

In light of the fact that the current Council Member for this district, Mark Levine, will likely be the next Manhattan Borough President, it was agreed that a letter from the committee to Levine reminding him of the Douglass playground's need for renovation would be a good idea.

New Business:

New sinkhole at the Dinosaur Playground: Wesley Hamilton, the new manager of Riverside Park, said that recent flooding caused the sinkhole and that engineers and foresters will examine it, and it should be filled in by next week, although the removal of one park bench may be necessary.

Why does the Parks Department use so many gas-powered parks vehicles in Riverside Park? The Parks Department's Matt Genrich said some vehicles are already electric and the Department continues to expand its fleet. However, electric vehicles now on the market aren't sufficient to plow snow.

Can the uneven path leading to the dog run at 98th St. in Riverside Park be fixed? Hamilton said he will take a look.

The meeting was adjourned 8:43 pm.

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Blanche Lawton and Courtney Clark Metakis, Co-Chairpersons

JOINT WITH **Health & Human Services Committee**

Catherine DeLazzer and Sheldon Fine, Co-Chairpersons

October 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

The Youth, Education and Libraries Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee of Community Board 7/ Manhattan met as part of a joint committee meeting on Thursday October 21, 2021 by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 by co-chairs Blanche Lawton, Courtney Clark Metakis, and Sheldon Fine. Committee members Mark Diller, Audrey Isaacs, Seema Reddy, Beverly Donohue, Ira Mitchneck, Benjamin Wu, Madge Rosenberg, K. Karpen, Robert Espier, and Sara Lind, as well as non-committee member Roberta Semer participated.

Presentation on the work being done in the community to prevent and address youth-centered criminal activity, and the heightened stresses leading to negative/destructive behavior

Guest speakers:

- Detective David Collado, Community Affairs Crime Prevention, NYPD BSA Area 6
- Officer Francesca Than, Youth Coordination Officer, 24th. Precinct
- Officer Eydrin Henao, Youth Coordination Officer, 20th. Precinct
- Eliot Goldman and Susannah Agosto-Sanchez, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Blanche Lawton: exploring an issue of importance: uptick in violent criminal behavior in last year, plus. Invited our guests tonight to explore and explain the trends of this behavior, any changes. What the forces are doing, and what we might do to help them and ourselves.

24th Precinct goes from 86th to 110th, 20th Precinct goes from the south side of 86th down to 59th.

Officer Henao: Youth Officer for 20th Precinct, cover from W 59th to the south side of W 86th, Riverside to CP. Top 3 schools I deal with are LGA, MLK, and Brandeis HS. Very good connection with school staff, principals, safety agents. When have incidents, reach out to me first and inform me. Top crimes: assaults and bringing weapons into the schools. IN the summer, relied of SM to communicate with other students, and say when we go back to school, will resolve this. Sometimes spill into street but mostly in school. They'd get arrested and we'd never hear from them again. Resolved in school once had fight. This year, only one fight at MLK and one fight at Brandeis. Crimes in general in 20th: majority is youth on youth crime – not random. People they know. Did have an incident: we had a juvenile that removed purse from AMC, active investigation.

Blanche Lawton: how do you reach out to parents? DO they come to you/you to them? School administration reaches out to parents and shares my contact info. Parents are surprised, scared, most are 1st time offenders. IN past, had hostile parents said kids wouldn't listen. We do follow up visits, follow up with the kids, sit down with parents and discuss what's going on in the household. Kid wanted to play basketball – we found a basketball league. He was a runaway, but now he has a reason to be out – mom knows where he is, has contact info of coach. That was a situation we were able to resolve through communication

Sheldon Fine: Are there other resources needed?

Officer Henao: Local resources: most are in Harlem or Washington Heights. Basketball league was Harlem PAL. If local, that would be helpful.

Sheldon Fine: Try the 59th Street Recreation Center. Also, in my synagogue we have the Morehouse "Fencing in the Schools" program.

Blanche Lawton: Officer Collado has checked in:

Officer Henao: Started in 2016, then the title was school's officer. In 2019, NCO program kicked in, removed the school team because 1PP thought NCOs could deal with the schools. Wanted to be able to handle not just the schools but also youth in the precinct. Changed name to youth coordination officer. We deal with crimes inside of schools and outside of schools. Follow up on juveniles who are victims, criminals, and missing. We do home visits, contact parents, and see what do they need. How can we prevent -- steer them on the right path? We are here to support you, not lock you up. We do also have the Explorers program, from age of 12 to 17. They learn police duties, teach the role of Pos. Take them to 6 flags, museums, etc. We also do run Sports leagues. New leagues call the Blue Chips. IN the summer, we had a basketball league. Each player was given a t-shirt provided by the department. IN July we had the soccer league. Juveniles from 12-17 Recruit via Twitter and also flyers. No restrictions to join, free of cost, free transportation. Also have flag football team.

Eliot Goldman: Some of it sounds like there's a need for parenting skills and communication skills, are you finding anything else helpful? Are you finding parenting skills – helping the parents communicate better with the kids?

Blanche Lawton: Have you had special training to serve in that unit?

Officer Henao: Yes, 2-week YCO training at the academy. How to do mediation, taught on what type of questions to ask the kids, recommendations to tell the parents. Haven't had any experience with parent having difficulty with regard to teaching the kid how to be – any parenting skills. Parents have their own agencies to reach out to. If anyone knows programs like that, would definitely take it.

Robert Espier: Several years ago, had memory of the 20th – had a spike in gang activity. Does that unit still exist, either in NYPD or Housing Police? 2nd part given the provocation, like TikTok or whatever. Is there a cybercrimes unit to work with young people?

Det. David Collado: Police area # 6. Covers 20th, 24th, 32nd, and much of the housing in Manhattan North. Yes, and yes. The unit does exist, we do still have a gang unit, reshuffled and renamed. It falls under the OCCB unit – crime and control bureau. Now falls under the detective bureau. Also have field intel officers, they handle more of the cyber investigation when it comes to dealing with youth, especial SM and trying to keep track. Every precinct has what we call the field intel officers. With us, we encompass several precincts at each time, though we're primarily within the housing developments in each precinct. So, we work hand in hand with each precinct. Because of the realignment, we have physical control of the 24th, 26th and 32nd only. In 20th, 33, 34, although we're notified of it, it does fall on the housing bureau, but day to day enforcement falls on individual precinct.

Robert Espier: Know the suffering families go through. Internet, and bullying. If you uncover that, do you have jurisdiction to talk to family or have to call ACS to remedy? We all work hand in hand. Basically, field intel officers with monitor SM, that's where we get a lot of our info. Advertise home parties, or where they're going to shoot rap videos, can intercept that get info out to the precincts, YCOs and can get personnel on-site, whether we decide to do onsite. We do still have those units out there. FB is really good with us, able to... when have vigil for members, we're there, we monitor, do try to have personnel on the ground.

Seema Reddy: is there a gendered component – are aggressors mainly men/boys?

Officer Henao In 20th – equally split.

Detective Collado: in 20th and Housing, equal to some extent, men outnumber but women are more aggressive

Peter Arndsten, Columbus Ave BID: I am interested in hearing more on interventions addressing gang violence between neighborhoods

Detective Collado: Housing perspective, we have pulled all stops on youth activity – we will do whatever we can, trying to partner up with violence interrupters, partner up with schools, any programs in our community to address issues with our youth. With pandemic, had to readjust – these kids need an outlet. Try to partner up with them. Get their attention and interject any types of activities. Too much time on their hands, inability to go out to socialize, they weren't able to go to school, socialize with their friends, as they went, created more of a problem. We try everything possible. Try to take that time to educate them. Build that dialogue. Sometimes something as simple as

Officer Than: How we are addressing gang violence: had a commissioner's day 1x a week for 4 hours. Engaged with the community, try to keep them occupied through sports, arts, dance. Hold youth monthly meetings. In that monthly meeting, 24th is having our kids come into a safe space, talking about online dating, topics like that. Trying to have a communication relationship with youth. That's how we're trying to target – keeping them occupied because a lot of these kids don't have a place to go after school, or they have to pay for it. With parents: every kid we try to reach, try to have parents come.

Sheldon Fine: Are there any other services or support that would help you do your job?

Officer Than: We trying to build a rec center. Don't have one – most are up north. Working with children's aid society plus others on how to cook, how to clean, not be on play station, becoming ready for college or their future. Maybe want to pick up a trade, should be given these options before they're shut down. Will take any help on rec center – will

be painting, getting computers donated so can have media research lab. Community has been very helpful so far.
Francessa.then@nypd.org

Roberta Semer: Goddard Riverside has some wonderful programs, including at the HS have a program teaching child how to work, have programs for them plus options program – how to apply for college, have some wonderful tutoring programs.

Robert Espier: FIT had students creating murals. Could be a massive project. As a way of engaging these young people.

Officer Than: In Explorers program, we do graffiti cleanup. Kid doing the graft, got him to clean and now he's into it. Almost the same thing – just expressing himself fully. NYPD: each precinct is picking a location where they can graffiti or do a mural. Positive reinforcement. Currently working on something we hope may help.

Sheldon Fine: On November 21st the Friends of Bloomingdale Inclusive Park and Playground will run an "It's Our Park Day" IT will include a game of Wheelchair Basketball with talented disabled players and able-bodied players. Both groups will play from wheelchairs. Also, there will be a frisbee demonstration by the Disk-abilities Group. Our "Friends" organization would love to involve the police precincts in this event.

Courtney Clark Metakis: Do you have enough resources / enough seats for kids who want one in our district?

Officer Than: We're not turning kids away: Blue Chips program, but also have afterschool programs from different schools waiting to take kids in to do art, music, learn an instrument. Getting emails, phone numbers,

Blanche Lawton: A lot of the criminal activity that goes on, particularly in 24th – done primarily by young people out of area, is that still the case?

Det. Collado: it varies. Sometimes difficult to keep track of who has an alliance with whom. We have a crew: CAG – Columbus Ave Gunners, and Money Comes First. That was a challenge during the summer, kids getting involved in the crew and. Using firearms very often. Sometimes from 13, 14, 15, 16 years old. Primarily because older guys put them up to it. Because not as stiff a penalty. Big problem in the 26th precinct.

Courtney Clark Metakis: Is that new since "Raise the Age?"

Det. Collado: relatively new, they're not stupid. Just had a kid shoot in front of bus. Earlier today, another juvenile, 15 yo, walked into St. Luke's and admitted he'd been shot on that day.

Peter Arndsten: We've had enormous increase in shootings, how are you trying to break the cycle? Love to hear from Officer Than or Collado to break that, anything that can be done from the community level.

Officer Than: We currently have been going old school: patrolling on foot, in the cold, engaging with community, going into the parks, talking with the kids. Keep the kids occupied. Activity in park, bring parents, locations to keep themselves occupied.

Peter Arndsten: We appreciate that. Have seen more officers.

Carmen Reyes: parent coordinator at West Prep Academy. Will reach out to you because want to know more about these programs. I know E. Harlem has a SAFE program to address youth in gangs. Does the 24th precinct have something like the SAFE program?

Officer Than: We don't, closest thing is the domestic violence program, it is there but not 100%.

Eliot Goldman and Susannah Sanchez, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Eliot Goldman: we're coming at this from a different angle. How do we understand the actions. Easy to think about pandemic

PP presentation: very high stress on parents. Risk factors: social isolation, multiple losses, lost of structure. Schools are really important in a lot of kids' lives, structure, contact with caring adults, breakfast and lunch. Most positive feedback.

Kids really dealing with a lot of loss; health, routine, safety. Some is still going on now – talk about gun violence on UWS, Amsterdam Avenue. A lot of these factors impact youth. A lot of children are expressing anxiety about returning to school, a lot of kids having trouble sleeping and eating, focusing. A good deal of argumentative/anger. Kids who were at risk/vulnerable are even more so.

Family stressors: parents may be essential workers, may not be enough money/food. Parents less available. Sets the stage for behavior problems going forward.

Susannah Sanchez: Behavior changes to watch for: youth 11-19, watch for these changes: fear, worrying, unhealthy habits, acting out and risky behaviors, avoidance, substance abuse, irritability. Caregivers: assess risk and establish ground rules. Key concern is keeping our kids safe, engaged. How can we communicate the ability to our children to feel safe? Make time to connect. Listen and acknowledge. Communicate with school and teachers. Encourage parents to seek support. Focusing on how family can play a role, not just connecting with the child.

Mental health warning signs: intense feelings, feeling down often for more than 2 weeks. Problems with daily activities, substance abuse. Consider frequency, intensity and duration.

Challenges in helping youth: stigma (worried about what people may think), unsure about counseling, finding a therapist who understands your culture, language, or background, navigating the mental health system. Called something called the national night's out. Great approach to partner with our officers, resources in the community: food services, services in place

Eliot Goldman: both Susannah and I are working on programming throughout neighborhood on a very large scale – these are communities particularly hard hit by COVID, won't go down a list, but they'll get a lot of services and training, as well as enhanced access to care. Our thrust is understanding the causes, identifying kids at risk/struggling and how to help them from mental health side. This presentation will be available to any group in the community. Program is launching soon. What can parents/teachers do. Happy to inform CB7 about that and make it available

Sheldon Fine: Very often our community is left out of city run programs because we have pockets of poverty while the overall community is not a community of poverty.

We have NYCHA Developments: Douglass Houses (With 3,000 residents). the 36 West side Urban Renewal Brownstones, Wise Towers, DeHostos Apartments and Amsterdam Houses that could use the mental health support programs of DOHMH., Sheldon asked the presenters from DOHMH to communicate this to their Manhattan liaison. for the DOHMH Office of External Affairs, Pauline Ferrante.

Cynthia Tibbs: NYCHA developments are not included in a lot of these programs, since the uptick of violence, these presidents have banded together. We've made our apartments safe havens, they have our numbers, we intercept them, walk them home. We have a lot of high school students who live in NYCHA who have offered services to walk them home. I have opened up my community room, for residents to come and speak to the police, a lot of them are afraid of 89th street since shooting, they feel they can come speak to the police without someone seeing them. We have a very close relationship with 24th and PSA 6. Since kids can't do the afterschool sports because not vaccinated.

Peter Arndsten: Interested in the mental health for different cultures. Had spoken to – possible that DOH would be able to provide those counseling possibilities to local residents. People who have escaped from Yemen to people in our own backyard who need people available. Was not aware that you had the culturally appropriate –

Eliot Goldman: not sure about being able to provide counselors but can provide list of therapists that can be contacted. I know NYU has counselors for traumatized

Peter Arndsten: We have events coming up, if I could get info that'd be great.

Erica Overton, Assemblymember Rosenthal's office: Mental health in schools: Assembly member Rosenthal has a bill, would license school psychologists have masters not PhD. Cannot provide services outside of school, so lack of continuity of care, who would want access after school or on weekends. Would license them so have the same ability.

Eliot Goldman: Can you send me the information; I know who to send it to. Higher ed – they don't like to give license to new professions, but something she's been working on.

Blanche Lawton: anyone think resolutions coming out of this?

Mark Diller: just finished budget process, advectioned for these things, don't want to water down that. Might be room in future meeting, perhaps November, to take up assembly members bill, that may free up resources in our community.

Blanche Lawton: resources that people don't know about. Shelly, mentioned fencing. Roberta mentioned several from Goddard. Shortcoming of CB7 – we collect information and don't share it with people who need it.

Mark Diller: Board has services of BETANYC, that is one way to connect folks to the services. Updating our website with things that provide links.

HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Louisa Craddock and Melissa Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons
October 25, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

- Committee Members
 - Louisa Craddock, Chair
 - Melissa Rosenberg, Chair
 - Ira Mitchneck
 - Rich Robbins
 - Robert Espier
 - Ethel Sheffer
- Non-Committee Members
 - Mark Diller
 - Doug Kleiman
 - Roberta Semer
 - Michelle Booker, District Manager
- The meeting was conducted via Zoom
- MR gave introduction and ran through agenda
- LC gave overview of legislation and status
 - AM Linda Rosenthal will describe need for bill and most salient points
- Warren Harding, Chairman of the steering committee of Mitchell-Lama United
 - MLU is a partnership of 3 advocacy orgs – Brooklyn ML task force, ML Residents Coalition and Cooperators United for ML.
 - Formed in 2020 to focus on reform to ML law
 - Passage of Mitchell-Lama omnibus bill led by SS Brian Kavanagh and AM Rosenthal
 - Meant to strengthen and expand ML program
 - AM LR Program created in 1955 by NYS legislature
 - Effort to enable affordable rental and co-op housing for moderate and middle-income families and stabilize blighted areas
 - Real estate tax abatement and low-interest mortgages made program attractive to developers
 - RE – effort to stem exodus of middle class from NYC by creating housing
- AM Rosenthal, AD-67
 - Appreciate opportunity to speak on bill
 - Years ago, chaired Assembly task force on ML
 - Knew about ML due to the urban renewal area near my district
 - Before the pandemic, activists approached regarding need for reform
 - Had already introduced bills on this
 - ML had been on back-burner
 - ML residents must become experts to protect themselves
 - Worked with tenants on series of bills
 - 2019 Rent Stabilization Laws, ML was not included in the reforms
 - ML was one of the most successful state affordable housing programs
 - Have lost many ML units over the years
 - Can tie homelessness crisis to loss of affordable housing
 - Bill sponsored by Kavanagh in NYS Senate
 - Worked hard to pass bills in senate and assembly, not yet sent to the governor
 - Strategizing on how to get her to sign it
 - Main provisions
 - Reform voting procedures – ends proxy voting. This has enabled powerful board members to strong arm tenants and harvest votes.
 - Want to eliminate proxy voting and introduce secret ballots and absentee ballots
 - Guarantees more transparency – requires 6 open meetings per year, no minimum currently

- Some co-op boards meet 10 times a year, others less – HPD does not like this provision; thinks 6 meetings is too much
- Have seen buildings where Board of Directors keen to privatize – they use funding and even if shareholders reject, start again
- Bill would increase threshold for dissolution to 80%. Current threshold is 66%, which can be met through proxy voting and apathy
 - No operating funds for research or other documents for promoting privatization
- Prevents a new vote for 5 years after vote against dissolution – decreases stress on residents
- Some Boards the want to privatize but some want to amend rules to allow different type of deals, which HPD supports
- Other points of contention
- Have lost close to 90% of rental ML and over 10% of co-ops
- Philosophy behind ML is that people can affordably live in NYC, not to make money from housing; privatization is counter to this philosophy
- MR – what is strategy in getting governor on board? Why are we waiting on timing?
 - AM – Gov has hundreds of bills to look at, huge backlog
 - This bill and another on housing vouchers waiting to go to her
 - Thinking of strategy, but not sure on timing
 - Talking with Governor Hochul’s new staff
 - HPD is opposed on certain fronts and HCR opposed on certain fronts
 - Thousands of ML tenants, can’t live in NYC unless you have a lot of money
 - Good opportunity to show governor understands struggle of middle and low-income tenants
 - On new mayor and gov to strategize
- LC- what is opposition from HPD and HCR?
 - AM – HCR objections were smaller
 - HPD didn’t like 6 meeting requirements. Both didn’t like this.
 - HPD wanted to allow conversion to Article XI – changes income limits for ownership
 - Also, raises buy-in price to \$300k
 - An attorney opposing bill used to work at AG’s office on co-op conversion and worked on Article XI conversions – Erica Buckley
- LC – isn’t the program for middle income, not high earners?
 - AM -because you are not making profit off of housing you got an affordable price
 - Also, there are arguments on income limits and what you should have to pay to get in
- RE – Want to point out that HDFCs have same buyout problem
 - People in those buildings also want to make money
 - Threats to MLs and other affordable home ownership programs from the inside as well
- Doug – used to be on ML taskforce and was a TA president at an ML rental. Does this affect rentals at all?
 - AM – just co-ops. Have a rental in district and they struggle with rent increases. HPD wants to increase rents 29% over 3 years
 - HPD staff have been doing this for decades, might need a fresh look at issue
 - Say 6 meetings is too much, why not require more transparency?
 - Activists in coalition spend many hours on this and would be happy to do 6 meetings
 - Voting system leads to no board turnover – many of the members then push to privatize
 - Echo what RE said about HDFC meeting. Fundamental issue. During conversion of ML, people were over- and under-housed. People did not want to be downsized. Similar question: you had opportunity to raise a family, should now let others do the same

- AM – diminishing number of affordable units. And now 421-a has been a bust. Spent billions and have not gotten enough affordable housing. Buildings that are luxury don't need a tax abatement.
 - MR – committee should take up 421-a as a topic for a future meeting
- LC – what is role of HPD on UWS?
 - AM – has a bill about HPD actually enforcing rules in MLs. HPD vociferously opposes. Don't want to be told what to do.
 - No firm hand overseeing MLs
 - Hope they get more invested in protecting MLs
- ES – on the last point, since HPD has been playing a passive role or a role counter to needed improvements to legislation, is there a need for new mayor to focus on getting rid of passivity and negativity in agency on this issue?
 - AM – saw Adams recently. Said to him they have to discuss housing. Can't let this be another agency with random appointments. Need a real focus on housing creation and preservation, though not at same rate. We've lost so many units. Partly because of state role. But also, MLs leaving program.
- LC – Adams has proposed converting hotels. Is this realistic?
 - AM – yes, there is the HONDA (Housing Our Neighbors with Dignity) bill with \$100M to fund these in NYC. He agreed that is a good venture. Would be for nonprofits.
 - It's a good idea, need to see how to implement
 - Not meant to be city or state government proposing projects
 - Some hotel rooms not suitable. A lot of requirements to make habitable
- IM – Has done a lot of supportive and affordable housing as an architect. \$100M is not enough in NYC. Could be one project. Bigger commitment down the line? Leverage other programs? Seed money for pre-development and acquisitions? Often NPs are outbid by private actors.
 - AM – agree. \$100M sounds big, but not a lot for housing conversions. Talking about pouring in more money.
 - Hotels seem to have a lot more potential than office buildings due to light and air issues. MDL only applies in NYC and has a section on lofts. Could create another article for conversions of office.
 - AM – have heard that money is not enough. But let's try with nonprofits in city. Many thorny questions.
 - MR – this topic deserves its own meeting as well
 - IM – many reasons housing prices are how.
- MR – want to give opportunity for public to speak and add onto what AM has shared
- RE – why are we waiting on Governor Hochul? Any strategy?
 - AM – Gov has given Lt. Governor Brian Benjamin a lot of housing portfolio. He understands importance of MLs. Have been speaking to his office.
 - Other interests at work. Some co-ops spending thousands on lobbyists
 - East Midtown Plaza spending \$8k per month to lobby
 - Not in the best interest of residents and future New Yorkers
- PS – once bill is passed, when is it effective? Will each board need to change configuration or bylaws?
 - AM – yes, will need to modify bylaws. Need to check effective date.
 - LC – in her building, bylaws do specify number of meetings, but not all do
 - AM – 90 days, but will be negotiation
 - Any fine for noncompliance?
 - AM – no fine, but it's the law. Don't think huge developments would defy law. HCR and HPD would have oversight.

- Many board members have been there for years and control everything. Will resist change.
- Adele Niederman – President of Cooperators United for Mitchell-Lama who is a ML resident who lives on 90th and Columbus
 - Has lived in ML almost her whole life
 - One of the biggest issues for CB to consider is that it is unseemly for someone to purchase apartment for \$3,000 40 years ago to go make a profit off of public subsidy.
 - When privatization is an issue, Board can think of nothing else. Elephant in the room. Prevents working on issues that need work.
 - Buildings are fantasizing about going private. At Southbridge, privatized in 2015 after bitter fight. Won by 10 votes. In January, banks stopped giving mortgages to buyers, and sellers could not sell due to financial situation of development.
 - Real estate taxes shoot up when privatized. But flip tax or transfer fees cannot cover everything. Scheme does not work.
 - Agencies do not listen to ML residents. They think they have no knowledge.
 - Buildings cannot address capital needs then. Concerned about safety repercussions.
 - AM – agencies so vehement about avoiding passage of ML Omnibus bill.
 - Bill does not cost government anything. Do sometimes need refinancing from city/state. Her (AN) building is using private financing for flexibility but leaving money on the table.
 - MLs in CB7 have brought tremendous stability and diversity to neighborhood.
 - Allows families to live here and seniors to age in place.
 - Clauses in bill are there due to issues activists have seen over last 20-30 years
 - There is a lot of corruption in some ML boards. HPD knew about it and did nothing.
 - MLU has written many materials and papers on ML that they can share
- AM – resolution would be helpful. Will go to other CBs as well.
- Committee discussion
 - Robert- absolutely support this
 - MR – can discuss core ideas now and work on text of reso after
 - MD – the therefore clause should congratulate assembly and senate for passing and call on governor to sign
 - Reso could then just identify problem we are looking to solve – threat to ML housing and loss of affordable housing
 - Anti-democratic process threatens program
 - MR – are we supportive with blanket support? Or question any provisions?
 - Restated main provisions of bill
 - RE – important nuance on transparency, entire board meeting must be open, not just first 15 minutes
 - MD – Bill language does say entire meeting must be open to public, except personnel matters or getting counsel from lawyer, which is concerning
 - MR – just make sure that we are all supportive of all provisions before blanket supporting
 - ⊖ ES – can state provisions and state support in
 - Rich Robbins – struck that we are calling for open meetings and transparency but voting on a resolution that does not exist. Would be best practice to create in google docs
- Vote in favor of creating resolution supporting A7272/S6412 and urging governor to sign it.
 - Committee: 7-0-0-0; Non-committee: 2-0-0-0