

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Beverly Donohue, Chair

February 7, 2023 at 6:30PM via Zoom

The Meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jq-tepUtNw&t=34s>

Present: Beverly Donohue, Chair; Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Alex Bell, Kristen Berger, Courtney Clark Metakis, Joshua Cohen, Kevin Corte, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley (*left early*), Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Sheldon Fine, Sonia Garcia, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Audrey Isaacs, Tibita Kaneene, K Karpen, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, Ira Mitchneck, Klari Neuwelt, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Peter Samton, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Polly Spain, Erana Stennett (*arrived late*), Anthony Thomas, Kristina Villarini and Benjamin Wu. **Absent:** Elizabeth Caputo, Robert Espier, Blanche Lawton, Sara Lind and Howard Yaruss.

Chair's Report: Beverly Donohue, Chair, began by introducing herself and our District Manager, Max Vandervliet. She then noted the following:

- She plans to begin the meetings by reviewing procedural norms, so that they're top of mind both for board members and the public speakers. If speaking during the Public session, sign up by 7:15 latest. The 2-minute clock is in effect. Please be cognizant of it.
- During the Business Session, board members will normally be limited to one comment each regarding resolutions, and the clock will be in effect.
- She referred people to the Borough President's website regarding specific items he raised during his State of the Borough Address having to do with land use, and said that our Land Use Committee would be following up on them.

District Manager's Report: Maxwell Vandervliet, District Manager, made the following points:

- There will be a piloting of the In Person/Remote Committee inside the Board office on Feb. 28th, at 5:30 PM. The number of attendees will be limited. All board members will receive a link. The reason for the meeting is to make sure hybrid meetings are working, as we anticipate the end at some point.
- There's an opportunity to tour the new facility at WSHFSH on 108th Street, with about 5 slots still open. Let the board office know if you want to attend.
- We are working to make meetings more efficient and are using the timer more, and experimenting with different timers.
- Thanked Christian Cordova for handling the voting sheets for so long. This function has now been taken over by the office.

Minutes: The Board approved the Minutes from January 2023 by acclamation.

COMMUNITY SESSION (*started at 6:44PM for YouTube Viewing*)

The following people spoke during this portion of the meeting:

- Hannah Weirnerman (Office of Council Member Jerrold Nadler)
- Ankeith Prince, Office of Daniel O'Donnell
- Erica Overton, Office of State Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal
- Zac Campbell, American Museum of Natural History
- Evan Lieberman, Office of Senator Brad Hoylman
- Kate Madigan, Public Theatre
- Council Member Gale Brewer
- Curtis Young, Public Advocate's Office
- Jack Bernatovicz, Lincoln Center
- Borough President Mark Levine
- Cynthia Doty (re affordable housing on 109th-110th Sts.)
- Peter Arndsten, Columbus Amsterdam BID
- Allison Torsiglieri (re 59th St. Shelter)
- Jennifer Zarr (re Borough President's office 'older tech' session)
- Bennett Reinhardt (re 59th St. Shelter)
- Anne Kemper (59th St. Shelter)
- Amber Moorner, Office of the BP Mark Levine
- Tiffany Brown, new liaison from the Mayor's Office (347 939-3984)
- Herb Alter, against 103rd St. changes to restricted street. Wants open discussion.

BUSINESS SESSION (Started at 7:49PM for YouTube Viewing)

Health & Human Services Committee, Sheldon Fine and Sonia Garcia, Chair

1. Re: Inclusive Playground at the Joan of Arc Educational Complex

This resolution is based on the following information and facts:

- The purpose of this initiative is to implement an Inclusive Playground at the
- Joan of Arc Education Complex. By building an inclusive playground, the goal will be to make.
- Joan of Arc Educational Complex the first truly inclusive learning school both inside the classroom and outside in the playground in New York City and a model that can be replicated at other schools. The plan is based on the belief that play is an essential form of learning and social emotional well-being for children and meets the needs of all our students. Manhattan School for Children (MS 333), Community Action School (MS258) and Lafayette Academy (MS256) are co-located in the Joan of Arc Educational Complex located at 154 W 93rd Street. All three schools are in accord on developing this
- Inclusive Playground on their campus and are working together. In the three schools, 174 of the students out of a total of 788, or 22%, are students with disabilities. The playground design will benefit the entire CB 7 community, including children with typical and atypical needs, and people of all ages, cultures, and genders. The Inclusive Playground Model will build on successful community-engagement and playground design elements of the Bloomingdale Inclusive
- Playground at PS 145 on 104th Street that was developed by the CB7 Inclusive Playground Task Force. This Inclusive Playground, like the one at Bloomingdale, will be developed as
- a safe and fun community space for children with diverse abilities and disabilities
- to play together. This project is in accord with CB 7's Core and Working Principle of Inclusion:
- To value diversity, consideration of others and promotion of the common good.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **supports** the development of an Inclusive Playground at the Joan of Arc Complex, and the goal of developing a truly inclusive learning school both inside the classroom and outside in the playground at the school.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **requests the support** of Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and Councilmember Gale Brewer to assist with the financing of this project and in facilitating negotiations with City government and agencies necessary to move the project forward.
VOTE: 38-0-0-0.

2. Re: Manhattan DA Investing \$9 million for Mental Health for those who are Arrested

This resolution is based on the following information and facts:

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg, Jr., in partnership with the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance (ISLG), announced a new \$9 million mental health initiative to immediately reach New Yorkers with deeply entrenched needs.

The initiatives aim to meet people where they are and connect them to comprehensive wraparound community support services, including housing assistance and treatment for mental illness and substance use disorders in their own communities to make them and their neighbors safer. These programs are informed by input from Manhattan community-based organizations and residents on what they have found to be the most successful strategies for creating strong, stable and safe communities. These initiatives also reflect D.A. Bragg's belief that keeping people safe requires strengthening people's connections to resources in their own neighborhoods that can help them to lead healthy and successful lives. They also illustrate the Office's belief that the criminal justice system is not the most effective way to address mental and behavioral health issues or substance use. The District Attorney's Office is investing at two distinct points: directly in neighborhoods and at criminal court arraignment. These investments are independent from all court mandated programs. Together, these initiatives aim to interrupt persistent recidivism and create lasting improvements in public safety by addressing the needs of those most in need in Manhattan by building trusting relationships and connecting them with long-term services such as supportive housing and treatment. These dual initiatives are:

- Up to \$6 million for "Neighborhood Navigators." These professionally trained individuals will work directly with unhoused individuals who may have mental health challenges or substance use issues and connect them with services. These navigators are not part of the criminal justice system, but rather social service experts who can help clients maneuver through a complex bureaucracy that too often is difficult to navigate for people seeking the help they need. They will build lasting relationships and ultimately connect people to food, clothes, medical supplies, and other key services.

- Up to \$3 million to place “Court-Based Navigators” in all Criminal Court arraignment parts. These professionally trained individuals will serve a similar high-needs population to the Neighborhood Navigators and will additionally focus on individuals who have a history of recidivism. Any services will be separate from any programming related to an individual case. The grant solicitation for this funding is expected to be released in January, 2023. The Manhattan D.A.’s Office is providing these awards through its Criminal Justice Investment Initiative (“CJII”), which was created with millions of dollars seized from major banks during criminal investigations and is administered by the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance.
 - **Neighborhood Navigators:** This solicitation seeks proposals from community-based organizations to develop networks of Neighborhood Navigators who operate directly in the community and build relationships with individuals who are unhoused or who have unstable housing and spend significant time in the streets, and who face challenges with mental health or substance use. This program will be directly overseen and managed by the CUNY ISLG. The solicitation seeks proposals to oversee programs in the following focus neighborhoods: Washington Heights and/or Inwood, Chinatown and/or the Lower East Side, Central and/or East Harlem, Hell’s Kitchen and/or Midtown West and/or Chelsea. Grants may be provided to serve similar populations in other neighborhoods based on need, with funding for up to 6 total neighborhoods available. Each grant will support six months of planning and three years of implementation.
 - **Court-Based Navigators:** Court-based Neighborhood Navigators will make an initial connection with individuals after their criminal court appearance, and then follow up with them in their communities to provide additional support. Initially navigators will help participants connect to essentials, such as Metro Cards, meals, clean clothes, and food. The goal of this phase is to build an initial connection, which is essential for developing a trusting relationship that can lead to longer-term services. Once trust is developed, the navigator can facilitate connections to treatment programs, supportive housing and more. These navigators can also help their clients deal with court mandates while they have cases pending, helping to ensure they make their court appearances and drive down recidivism. In addition to these investments, earlier this year D.A. Bragg announced the creation of the Office’s first-ever Pathways to Public Safety Division, which is elevating the use of diversion and evidence-based programming. Each of the Office’s six Trial Division bureaus has a dedicated Pathways prosecutor to help proactively identify appropriate opportunities for diversion at the beginning stages of a case in the Office’s Early Case Assessment Bureau.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan supports Manhattan D.A Bragg’s Initiatives to fund interventions that prevent people from becoming involved in the criminal legal system or provide them with support upon arrest so that they avoid incarceration.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **urges** Manhattan D.A Bragg to extend the Neighborhood Navigator solicitation for proposals to Upper West Side and Manhattan Valley community-based organizations to develop networks of Neighborhood Navigators who operate directly in the community and build relationships with individuals who are unhoused or who have unstable housing and spend significant time in the streets, and who face challenges with mental health or substance use.

VOTE: 29-0-7-0.

Parks & Environment Committee, Natasha Kazmi and Susan Schwartz, Co-Chairpersons

3. Re: Reconstruction of step ramps in Riverside Park at West 105th Street.

WHEREAS, the site of the project concerns the two staircases located at West 105th Street inside Riverside Park and adjacent to the seasonal concessionaire *Ellington in the Park* (the “Site”), and

WHEREAS, the goal of the project is to reconstruct the two deteriorated step ramps by reusing the existing granite risers and replacing the existing bluestone pavers in-kind, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project, in part, is to rectify trip hazards and irregular conditions that pose safety risks at the Site, and

WHEREAS, some portions of the Site’s foundation will be replaced, an ADA-compliant center handrail and a guardrail on the western-side cheek-walls will be installed, and

WHEREAS, we note that the center rail will not be replaced with the elaborate bronze railing that was an original feature of the park design in this location, and

WHEREAS, the existing trench drains on the staircase will be removed, and

WHEREAS, construction will be phased to keep one stair open at all times, and the concessionaire and restrooms will continue to operate throughout, seasonally,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan enthusiastically **Approves** this restoration, which is true to the historic character of Riverside Park. We urge the Department of Parks & Recreation and Riverside Park Conservancy to investigate the feasibility of restoring the original ornate center rail that graced the step ramps at the time of construction of these staircases. We believe this project is much needed to improve the condition of the Site and the safety of visitors' experience in this area.

VOTE: 32-2-5-0.

4. Re: MBPO's "Million More Trees" initiative.

WHEREAS, in February 2022, the five borough presidents of New York City unanimously called on Mayor Eric Adams to provide funding to plant one million new trees by 2030; and

WHEREAS, New York City currently has roughly 7 million trees, in comparison to its 8.8 million residents; and

WHEREAS, trees improve the livability of the city by helping clean the air of pollutants, cooling city streets, absorbing stormwater, serving as refuge for wildlife, promoting human health and well-being and, of course, adding beauty; and

WHEREAS, tree planting and cover throughout the City is also an issue of equity and environmental justice. Some neighborhoods have long enjoyed the benefits of extensive tree coverage, while communities of color and those with lower incomes remain under-planted and under-covered; and

WHEREAS, there isn't sufficient budget for the long-term care of trees, or for tree stewardship training of individuals; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Gale Brewer's office has prioritized the condition and health of trees in District 6. The office conducted a comprehensive tree survey in the spring of 2022, in which 5,248 trees were studied. Results of the survey were shared with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Transportation. In addition, last year, Greening Broadway, a project to fund the installation of 35 trees and tree guards on the sidewalks along Broadway, won \$250,000 of participatory budgeting funding; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **supports** the call from the five borough presidents of New York City to the Mayor to provide funding to plant one million new trees by 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **calls** on the City to invest in urban forestry/tree stewardship programs focused on both youth and non-youth participants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **calls** on the City to invest the funds for this project equitably, so that under-planted and under-covered neighborhoods can also start to enjoy the benefits of tree coverage, particularly communities of color and low-income communities that lack extensive tree cover, and neighborhoods with high incidences of asthma and other respiratory illness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **calls** on the city to honor the Mayor's pledge to spend 1% of the municipal budget on the city's parks. This funding should be independent of The One Million More Trees Initiative.

VOTE: 37-0-0-0.

Business & Consumer Issues Committee, Christian Cordova and Benjamin Wu, Co-Chairpersons

New and Temporary Retail Permit Application:

5. Re: 953 Amsterdam Avenue (West 106th – 107th Streets.) New and Temporary Retail Permit application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by TSR 953, Corp d/b/a Tropical Sensation.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **approves** New and Temporary Retail Permit application to the SLA for a two-Year liquor license by TSR 953, Corp d/b/a Tropical Sensation.

VOTE: 39-0-0-0.

6. Re: 425 Amsterdam Avenue (West 80th – 81st Streets.) New and Temporary Retail Permit application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by entity to be formed by Martin Whelan and Randy Adams d/b/a TBD.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **approves** New and Temporary Retail Permit application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by entity to be formed by Martin Whelan and Randy Adams d/b/a TBD.

VOTE: 38-0-0-0.

Alteration Application:

7. Resolution re: 668B-670A Amsterdam Avenue (West 93rd Street.) Alteration application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by Talia's Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Talia's Steakhouse.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **approves** Alteration application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by Talia's Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Talia's Steakhouse.

Note: Jeff Sussman, a community member spoke against this application, re the ill effects from their fan outside his windows. The vote originally failed (13/16/5/0) but it was decided to send this back to the committee next month for a discussion and thus a new vote was taken.

VOTE: 39-0-0-0.

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

8. Re: 45 West 81st Street (Columbus Avenue-Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a certificate of appropriateness for a one-story rooftop addition.

This resolution is based on the following facts:

The building was designed by Sugarman & Hess and built in 1922. It has a distinctive double pediment on its primary (south) façade, facing Theodore Roosevelt Park and the Museum of Natural History. The building has operated primarily as a transient hotel and is being converted to condominiums. The applicant proposes a full-width penthouse addition at the sixteenth-floor front façade, with a ten-foot setback on the front and no setbacks on the east or west. The front façade would be almost entirely glass windows surrounded by dark gray metal frames, and the east and west facades would be solid matte lighter gray metal. The penthouse addition would be visible from the park and museum across 81st Street, and from Columbus Avenue.

Preservation Committee members expressed various concerns about the application, including the public visibility of the proposed addition, its height, the narrowness of the ten-foot setback, the width of the addition (full width on the east and west), and the degree to which the proposed design clashes with the existing architecture. They also suggested that the glass be bird-safe and that the penthouse roof be a "green roof" (that is, covered with live plants).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 / Manhattan **approves** the application as presented, as minimally appropriate to the historic architecture of the building and of the Historic District, with a strong recommendation that the glass be bird-proof (whether or not required by Code) and that the penthouse roof be a "green roof".

VOTE: 28-7-1-0.

9. Re: 392 Columbus Avenue (West 79th Street.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a certificate of appropriateness for storefront alterations which includes the installation of windows, signage, lighting, and awnings.

This resolution is based on the following facts:

This is a corner commercial space that has been a restaurant for decades. The new tenant/applicant is Wafels & Dinges, a Belgian waffle company that has been operating from food trucks in various locations. The three new awnings would be sunflower yellow (referencing the Belgian flag), and there would be new exterior lighting, new operable windows with signage below, and an additional partially illuminated sign. The Columbus Avenue BID supports the application.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application as presented, as reasonably appropriate to the historic architecture of the building and of the Historic District.

VOTE: 34-1-0-0.

Adjournment: *With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Adler & Linda Alexander, co-secretaries*

(Wed. Feb. 8, 2022)

BUSINESS & CONSUMER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Benjamin Wu and Christian Cordova, Co-Chairpersons

February 8, 2023 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 6:32 pm by Co-Chairperson Benjamin Wu.

Present: Christian Cordova, Benjamin Wu, Joshua Cohen, Doug Kleiman, Andrew Rigie and Anthony Thomas. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Seema Reddy and Robert Espier.

New application

1. **164-166 West 75th Street** (Amsterdam Avenue.) **New application to the SLA for two-year liquor license by Sempre 75, LLC d/b/a Sempre Oggi.**

Presenting for the Applicant: Robert Guarino, Member, R.Guarino@chefdriven.com;

Presentation Comments:

- Robert Guarino: Opening a fine dining restaurant (full-service); doing a full renovation. Robert has been on the UWS since 2003, he worked at Nice Matin; He's a partner at Five Napkin Burger and Playa Betty's on the UWS; Been in NYC since 1996 running full-service restaurants

Comments by CB7 Members:

- Doug Kleiman: Doug spoke highly of Robert Guarino and his reputation. Doug is very excited and thinks the whole community should be too.
- Benjamin Wu: Ben commented about how much he enjoys Playa Betty's.

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

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Member: 2-0-0-0.

New and Temporary Retail Permit application

2. **2030 Broadway** (West 69th – 70th) New and Temporary Retail Permit application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by HDR Holdings New York, LLC d/b/a Wonder.

Presenting for the Applicant: Vivek Anand, vivek@wonder.com; Phil Dorn, Esq., Psetsky & Bookman, PC, phil@pb.law

Presentation Comments:

- Phil Dorn: Wonder will offer a variety of different food offerings under one roof; It's set-up like a Sweetgreen; occupancy of 51 people; will close at 11 pm every night and will have background music; there are some sidewalk seats on Broadway (10 seats); Wonder will partner with different restaurants and bring their concepts to the neighborhood.

Comments by CB7 Members:

- Christian Cordova: Christian asked about how they plan to use the ground floor; basement will be cellar space; Christian raised concerns about the rooftop and they confirmed that they won't be using the rooftop.
- Seema Reddy: She asked if we are looking at the liquor license and/or sidewalk cafe.
- Robert Espier: He would like to see the rooftop dressed up with lighting, etc.
- Doug Kleiman: Confirmed that the rooftop space has nothing to do with this applicant.
- Andrew Rigie: Commented that he went by the area today and said the neighborhood is excited.
- Benjamin Wu: How will the restaurant be from different concepts, given that Wonder is venture backed. Will the food be made all on premise - Phil responded that it will
- Anthony Thomas: Asked a clarifying question about the business model.

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

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Member: 2-0-0-0.

3. **New Business.**

Comments:

- Seema Reddy: attended one of the cannabis orientation meetings and asked whether BCI will be a decision maker similar to the SLA model.
- Christian Cordova: Raised that one application that was declined by the full board last night will need to be revisited soon.
- Jami Floyd: attended as a community member and came to check out a few meetings.

The meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Andrew Albert and Mark Diller, Co-Chairpersons

Joint with **PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Natasha Kazmi and Susan Schwartz, Co-Chairpersons

February 14, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The Transportation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met in a joint meeting with the Parks & Environment Committee on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:30 pm by P&E Co-Chairs Natasha Kazmi and Susan Schwartz. Transportation Committee members Andrew Albert and Mark Diller (co-chairs), Jay Adolf, Alex Bell, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, Doug Kleiman (Vice Chair), Erana Stennett, and Howard Yaruss, and P&E members Barbara Adler, Elizabeth Caputo, Ken Coughlin, participated. Also present from CB7 were Beverly Donohue (Chair CB7), Courtney Clark-Metakis, Sara Lind, Seema Reddy, Andrew Rigie, Roberta Semer, Polly Spain, and Maxwell Vandervliet (District Manager), Jessie Nieves and Alex Crawford of the District Office.

The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Proposed E-Bike Charging Station at West 72nd Street and Broadway. Concerning the proposal announced in October 2022 by Mayor Eric Adams and Senator Charles Schumer for a \$1MM federally- funded program to create physical hubs for e-bike charging and delivery worker rest stops (“Hubs”) at three locations: Williamsburg, City Hall, and the Upper West Side. The Upper West Side Hub (“UWS Hub”) is slated to replace the shuttered newsstand on the pedestrian plaza south of the headhouse (the subway station building) on the south side of West 72nd Street at Broadway. The following services would be offered: charging for electric bikes and cellphones, e-bike repair services, and a shelter and rest area for e-bikers.

Over 200 members of the public submitted written comments and testimony in advance of the meeting, which comments and testimony were reviewed by the Committee co-chairs, and were made available to the relevant Agencies and elected officials.

Presentation with Ligia Gualpa and Vanessa of the Worker Justice Project and Los Deliveristas Unidas (LDU) and representatives of delivery workers William and Antonio.

- Delivery workers are essential workers, but unprotected.
- Deliveristas typically work for 4 app delivery companies including Grub Hub, Doordash, Uber Eats and Amazon.
- Workers typically work 12-hour shifts at below minimum wage and are exposed to threats of injury due to traffic and roadway conditions.

Deliverista Hub aims to create a safe hub for recharging of e-bikes, provide education workers, and provide information and connection to resources, and provide a rest area for workers.

Program is in the design phase, and the intent is to build this infrastructure in collaboration with agencies and the community. Received a \$1-million grant. Building a survey and seeking collaboration and community input.

Presentation by David Cerron, Assistant Commissioner for Special Events at the Department of Parks and Recreation, together with First Deputy Commissioner Iris Rodriguez-Rosa, and Phillip Abramson.

- Early in the design process, however this location has been finalized. Eager to return as the design process evolves.
- Received approval from the franchise review committee to enter into negotiations with the Worker Justice Project and LDU to begin the design of the first Hubs that achieve the goals mentioned.
- Soliciting input from the community, relevant agencies and stakeholders.
- Goal to hear and incorporate solutions to concerns.
- LDU will hire an architect to review the former newsstands’ capacity and address needs.
- Will involve review by the Public Design Commission – will return for a public hearing.
- Contract will require registration by the Comptroller’s office.
- Proposal at West 72nd Street involves a newsstand that is vacant on the south side of the Broadway/72nd Street entrance to the 1/2/3 trains. Space vacant for several years.
- Early design phase – will be listening but may not yet have answers.

Natasha Kazmi:

- 203 responses received in response – 177 overwhelmingly negative about the location proposed.
- Themes/concerns included dangers of lithium-ion batteries especially when recharging; dangers of riding habits of delivery workers especially in congested areas such as those near the proposed location; concerns about regulation of e-bikes; private use of public park land; concerns about reducing open space.

Caroline Hensell Contigullia - West 71st Street Block Association

Rita Genn – West 72nd Street Block Association

- Use of this pedestrian island would further complicate a congested area and interfere with past attempts to engineer safe pedestrian crossings through a dangerous bowtie intersection.
- Points of access to the island are narrow and congested bottlenecks.
- The subway station is among the 5% of most-used stations in the subway system.
- Many seniors live near and use these pedestrian islands.
- More information is needed before any decision can be made on this proposal.
- Support meeting the needs of Deliveristas.
- Site selection is a concern – many other sites should be considered.
- Concern that MTA and DoT are not present at the meeting.

Community Comments (alternating between “for” and “against”):

One or more of the following speakers voiced one or more of the following issues and concerns:

“For”

Priya Patel; Igor Shackovsky; Daniel Schwartz; Laura Sachs; Sarah Hansen

- Trust agencies will build adequate infrastructure that will protect pedestrians and vulnerable populations.
- Can promote pedestrian safety by repurposing parking spaces.
- Concern for delays involved in seeking alternative locations. Should build as quickly as possible.
- Need to see more detail on the proposal.
- Concerns about following traffic laws can be addressed by creating capacity.
- Delivery workers is a part of City life that is here to stay.
- We need a traffic study that addresses all infrastructure issues.
- Danger in the intersection is due to unsafe behavior of cars, not e-bikes.

“Against”

Thomas Lansner, Joan Kagan, Mary Evancho; Sandra Smith, Carol Bolger; Lisa Lyman; Len Landy; Megan Martin; Beth Schwartz; Henry Ramer; Janet Schroeder; Susan Nial; Patrice LoCicero; Maria Danzilo; Nicole Barsamian; David Zelman; Maggie Murphy

- Congested pedestrian crossing – inherently dangerous location.
- Proposed area includes many schools with children of various ages using this area. Should involve the Community Education Council.
- Deliveristas deserve a better solution. No one disputes Deliveristas need someplace to go.
- Columbus Circle or Riverside Park would be a better choice.
- Guidelines and laws for e-bike are not being enforced, which should be a priority over charging stations.
- Should not implement until bikers are accountable for violating traffic laws.
- Safety issues with a busy subway station.
- Large companies profiting from Deliveristas should be paying for this effort. Should take responsibility for their workers.
- Public money should not subsidize these companies.
- Should put a docking station at every Citibike dock. Don’t need a single location for all delivery workers.
- Need a better location. Extremely dangerous location.
- Logistics of access by bikes and pedestrians is not feasible.
- Several individuals have been killed or permanently injured as pedestrians struck by e-bikes and e-scooters.
- Should spend the \$1 million on pedestrian safety.
- Building infrastructure for an industry that abuses its worker is not an appropriate use of public funds.
- Personal experiences of injury.
- Community Board should push harder for licensing, insurance, registration.
- Proposed area is too small.

Stuart Desmond (Broadway Mall Association)

- That space has been used for public art installations over the years.
- A larger installation would prevent future art installations.

Responses to Community Board Member Questions (Jay Adolf; Polly Spain; Page Cowley; Ken Coughlin; Elizabeth Caputo; Courtney Clark-Metakis; Bev Donohue; Alex Bell :

- Staffing and power would be paid for by the Workers Justice Project and LDU.
- No fees to Deliveristas. Specifics will be developed.
- Number of simultaneous charging stations will be determined as the plans are developed.
- No requirement to register the batteries. Will educate workers on use of the bikes and traffic safety issues.
- Purpose is not to be a bike parking – just to charge the bikes.
- Charging station likely will be located near the current newsstand, but precise location will be determined by the architect and experts.
- Precise space for education and worker rest area not yet determined.
- Committed to creating a safe area for pedestrians as well as Deliveristas.
- Will rely on experts to develop safe ways to charge while avoiding risk of fires both at the station and at home.
- No representative from the Delivery Apps present.
- Location chosen based on unused newsstand capacity near demand for delivery services.
- Might be possible to relocate the unused newsstand elsewhere.
- Only at the first step of design and outreach – will come back with further plans as they are developed.

Community Board Comments (Courtney Clark-Metakis; Andrew Rigie; Roberta Semer; Erana Stennett; Doug Kleiman; Andrew Albert; Howard Yaruss; Sara Lind; Jay Adolf; Page Cowley; Alex Bell; Mark Diller)

- Impossible to ignore that this location implicates the congestion issues highlighted by the public.
- Surprised that MTA and DoT are not present.
- Appears we are creating an open-air garage over a busy subway station.
- Selection of this location did not include consideration of the community's needs.
- Inappropriate to create infrastructure for private enterprise.
- Community input being sought is disingenuous since the most important issue – site selection – is a fait accompli.
- Too many details are open.
- Footprint at this location is too small.
- CB7 passed resolutions calling for registration and insurance of ebikes, including insurance from the companies who hire these workers.
- Concern for use of public space, especially given small footprint, and given historic protection of the subway head house structure.
- Deliveristas are essential workers, especially during the pandemic.
- No perfect place for this infrastructure.
- Delivery companies have not treated their workers appropriately.
- Extremely worthy project in the wrong place. Strong Consensus on both aspects.
- 12,000 riders on an average workday at this station.
- Should do a walking tour with CB7 to find a better location.
- Deliveristas should have a living wage and reasonable work conditions – that is the responsibility of the companies who profit from their labor.
- This is a good, central location. Adequate space – the public art proved as much.
- Resolution may be premature – too many design challenges are left unsettled.
- Owe our delivery workers better than this. Moribund, unprofitable and inappropriate structure is not adequate.

Natasha Kazmi –

- Shocking that a location was chosen with no other information or details known or settled.
- Funding of the contract once built is not clear.
- Initial grant will be spread very thinly.
- Sole issue at this time is location.
- Need to listen to the overwhelming opposition voiced by the community.

Proposed Resolution: addresses location issues, safety issues, and previous attempts to address safety concerns.

After due deliberation, the resolution was adopted.

Joint Committees: 9-4-2-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 2-0-2-0.

Pedestrian Crossing at West 63rd Street and West Drive in Central Park.

Presentation by Susan Schwartz:

The pedestrian crossing at West 63rd Street and the West Drive in Central Park (“the West 63rd Street crossing”) already has extra signage to address pedestrian safety: four pedestrian crossing signs, two “10 MPH” signs, and one metal barricade to narrow the road by one lane at the crossing.

The West 63rd Street crossing is used most schooldays by an average of 270 young children from Ethical Culture (grades 1 – 5) and 100 children in the West Side YMCA Early Childhood Program (aged 6 months to 5 years old) to access the Heckscher Ball Fields in Central Park. During summer months, the West Side YMCA also brings 200 summer campers into the park (aged 5 – 12 years). The crossing is also used by countless dog owners of all ages.

In September 2014, a fatal traffic accident involving a bike and pedestrian occurred at the crossing of West 63rd Street and the West Drive in Central Park resulting in the pedestrian's death.

Over 1,300 community members have signed an online petition urging DOT to address pedestrian safety concerns at this intersection.

On August 2, 2022, New York City Council Member Gale A. Brewer wrote to DOT Commissioner Rodriguez in response to ongoing, prolonged community concern, asking for mitigation measures before September 2022, which have not yet happened.

On September 26, 2022, a lawsuit was filed in the Southern District (case #22-CV-08210), asking for safety improvements on an urgent basis.

CB7 understands that the Department of Transportation is studying Central Park's roadways and traffic infrastructure to create a Master Plan.

[The presentation included video taken during an unrehearsed observation of the West 63rd Street Crossing, during which a significant number of vehicles, including bicycles, pedicabs and a Parks Department Truck, failed to stop and wait at a red-light signal at the Crossing.]

The proposal is to seek the following actions urgently, without delay, by the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Central Park Conservancy, the Department of Transportation, and all related agencies:

- Designate the crosswalk a school safety zone.
- Install lights and signs appropriate for a New York City school safety zone.
- Install traffic-calming devices such as speed bumps, a raised crosswalk, barricades, bollards, or stanchions to slow bicycles and other vehicles.
- Incorporate these added safety features and other enhanced safety features in any Master Plan when it is implemented.

Comments from Roy Ulloa – Assistant Director of Campus Safety at the Ethical Culture School:

- The danger crossing this intersection is real.
- Bicycles see nothing wrong with running red lights when children are present.
- Children must stop in the middle of the crosswalk to avoid being hit by cyclists.
- Afraid that if action is not taken, someone will be hurt, and afraid it will be one of the children. The safety of the children is more important than any inconvenience.

Responses to Community Board Questions:

Elizabeth Caputo:

- Share concern about the safety of children.
- No dog runs in Central Park.

Ken Coughlin:

- Question about data regarding safety.
- The pedestrian death prompted the introduction of the gate and other additional safety measures evident in the video.
- Is the proposal regarding school safety zones include the assignment of a crossing guard.

Mr. Ulloa:

- Teachers escort the children – cyclists and others still do not stop for the red light.
- Thank heavens there is no data – that would mean children had been injured.

Howard Yarus:

- "School safety zone" is defined to relate with areas where guns are not permitted. Not the correct term.
- Concern that the Conservancy would not permit speed bumps as a danger on the Park Drives.

Andrew Albert:

- Asked DoT to adjust light timing.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Confirms that this is a very scary crossing with children.
- Traffic-calming measures are needed here. Also crossing for kids baseball fields.

Susan Schwartz:

- Should not wait for the DPR and the Conservancy for the Master Plan.

Jay Adolf:

- Videos are sufficient data.
- Circumstances warrant choosing to act here before other locations.

Erana Stennett:

- Good reasons why speed bumps have not been installed within Central Park.
- Concern for similar safety risks near West 93rd Street, which is also heavily used by other children and multiple schools.
- Should seek immediate action at all locations used by multiple schools.
- Resolution should include recommendations for other crossings heavily used by school children.

Susan Schwartz: Agree to add a sentence to the resolution regarding other crosswalks in close proximity to schools with young children.

Mark Diller:

- Concern about a resolution that takes a position on active litigation.
- Many areas that are matters of urgency. Concern that we prioritize selected areas. Should urge the completion of the Master Plan.

Doug Kleiman:

- Support safety.

Ken Coughlin:

- Cyclists should yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Some of the behavior in the video is outrageous.
- Problem is treating recreational space as if it were a street. Not just about red lights. That is the point of the Master Plan. Premature.

Alex Bell:

- Should urge immediate action.

Susan Schwartz:

- Court action is not an impediment.

Jay Adolf:

- We are not prevented from taking a position on a matter in litigation. Example of Land Use chair offering a resolution that was adopted that took a position in an active litigation.

Seema Reddy:

- This location is on a downhill slope which adds to the safety risk.
- Location is in an area heavily used by tourists – need signage to educate about the lights.

Courtney Clark-Metakis:

- Voicing support for the Council-Member Gale Brewer's position calling for action.

Howard Yaruss:

- Something needs to be done – but something constructive.

Barbara Adler:

- Dangerous intersection.
- Should support Gale Brewer.
- Cyclists are blind to the obvious dangers.

Polly Spain:

- Should have audio signals for crosswalk.
- A: there is an audio crossing signal at this intersection already.
- Should adopt the resolution for safety.

Natasha Kazmi:

- Should support regardless of other areas of concern.
- Need to take some action – supporting Gale Brewer’s letter is such an appropriate action.

Howard Yaruss:

- Tracking relief sought in Gale’s letter.

Susan Schwartz:

- Confirming that the relief sought in Gale Brewer’s letter is the relief sought by the resolution.

Resolution with amendment discussed above:

After deliberation, the resolution was adopted:

Joint Committee: 10-4-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.

End of Joint Committee.

Mark Diller:

- Given that DoT is not present at the meeting, will follow up on open items, including.
 - Boulders at West 97th and West End Avenue
 - Need for lighting at West 96th and West End
- Thanks for patience in postponing the cross-town bike lane resolution – would be counter-productive after the long meeting.
- Future agendas will include obscured license plates – thwarts tolls and congestion pricing.

Adjourned: 9:38 pm

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Richard Asche and Kevin Corte, Co-Chairpersons

February 15, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The Meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4S8rvXP7BY&t=2840s>

Present: Kevin Corte and Richard Asche, Co-Chairs; Page Cowley, Sheldon Fine, Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Tibita Kaneene, Klari Neuwelt, Seema Reddy, Peter Samton and Ethel Sheffer. **Non-committee Board Members:** Mark Diller and Roberta Semer. **Board Office:** Max Vandervliet.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

The committee discussed various proposed initiatives and the ways and means of addressing them proactively. These included:

1. ULURP and Land Use primer for non-committee board members and the public: Louisa Craddock volunteered to spearhead a panel discussion addressing the ways and means and rationale for land use, ULURP and zoning. Ethel Sheffer volunteered to participate. Both Lois and Ethel have, in the past, authored primers on land use and zoning. The panel discussion would occur on a date in March which would not conflict with other Board meetings. The committee decided that the panel would not be made mandatory for Board members, but that all Board members would be strongly encouraged to attend.
2. The Governor's housing plan: Richard Asche volunteered to review the plan, which runs 271 pages, and which, among other topics, contains a proposed replacement for J-51, to identify issues which might be of concern to residents of the CB7 district. It was agreed that the Housing Committee would take the lead on this project and that Land Use Committee members who wish to would participate in Housing Committee meetings.
3. Office adaptive reuse study: The committee decide that this topic would have limited, if any, applicability to Community Board 7, and that no action should be taken at this time.
4. The Borough President's "Million Trees Plan:" Seem Reddy volunteered to review the plan and report back to the committee.
5. "Get Stuff Built": Shelly Fine volunteered to review this plan which represented an attempt to streamline the ULURP process, by, among other things, simplifying EIS requirements, and report back to the committee.
6. CB 7 Housing Study: The study of affordable housing in the CB 7 district is not yet complete.
7. Lincoln Square Special District proposed zoning amendment: An application to add the ABC site at 67th street and Columbus Avenue to the Lincoln Square Special District, of which CB 7 is a co-sponsor with Landmark West, has been filed. Prior objections by the staff have been met, and the proposed amendment is expected to be certified in the next few months. No action is required at this time.
8. Morningside Heights rezoning: An application has been made jointly by Community Board 9, the Borough President and the City Council land use committee, to amend the zoning resolution, primarily with respect to the CB 9 district. The proposed amendment would also cover the area from 109th to 110th street on both sides of Broadway and would up-zone these blocks from 9A contextual to 10A contextual, resulting in an increase in allowable floor area and height; the CB7 portion would be subject to mandatory inclusionary housing, and would create an unknown number of new affordable units. CB 7 has attempted to obtain a copy of the draft amendment, but as yet has been unable to do so. The committee agreed to continue requesting a copy from City Planning, the Borough President, and/or CB9.

Public comment: Lynn Max spoke against the proposed Zoning Resolution amendment as it applies to Board 7, citing the need to preserve neighborhood character and limit building heights. Steve Max noted that there is an inventory of more than 80,000 vacant rent regulated apartments in the City, and opined that it is a mistake for the city to focus its efforts with respect to affordable housing on the relatively small number of sites eligible for new affordable construction.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

SENIOR TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2023

Roberta Semer, Chair

Present: Roberta Semer, chair; Louisa Craddock, Madge Rosenberg, Marissa Folkoff and Sam Sheldon (DOROT), Lisa Beth Miller and Margaret Walters (Lighthouse Guild), Dr Joseph Feldman (Mt Sinai Urgent Care), Daniella Breton (WSFSSH), Sherri Lerner (JCC Manhattan), Khristel Simmons (Goddard Isaacs), Paula Seefeldt (LILY), Carolyn Stem (NYAM), Evan Lieberman (State Senator Hoylman-Siegel). **Board office:** Max Vandervliet (CB7)

1. Roberta Semer welcomed everyone. She said that we are trying to get more information from the OMNY program at the MTA for seniors and others who have reduced fares.
2. Robin Strashun invited the Task Force members to attend their Sentinel meeting of February 24th from 2 - 3 pm. It is "what's new in memory support programs". Presenters will be from the JCC, NCJW, the Met Museum and Search and Care. Robin reported on their grocery and nutrition program.
3. Margaret Walters spoke about the Light House's Tech Talks program on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. People are able to register on the website. Lisa Beth Miller 646-847-4615 invited people to contact her for information about programs, eye screenings and that there are still spaces available in Guild Care
4. Samuel Sheldon spoke about DOROT's GENUine Connections which will start the week of March 20th. This program connects teens with older adults in workshops and conversations GENuineconnections@dorotusa.org or 917-441-5040 for information. Marissa Folkoff explained that they are recruiting volunteers for Friendly Visitors which is now in person. They also have volunteers to help with specific tasks. Their Aging Alone Together program is successful.
5. Sherri Lerner said the JCC will sponsor 3 workshops with Mt Sinai of aging issues and memory. They are also planning to present a program on technology that is useful for people with hearing and vision loss. Roberta suggested she look at the YouTube video from the Task Force's workshop in 2021 on tech by LightHouse and the Center for Hearing and Communication
6. Daniella Breton spoke about the programs at Red Oaks and Frederick Douglas Seniors. People like getting together.
7. Khristel Simmons announced that next week there will be hosting to events planned for Black History Month by an inter-generational group consisting of 4 young adults and 4 older adults - they plan to grow the group.
8. Carolyn Stem advised that DFTA has on their website "Best Practices for Intergenerational Programing. She also suggested having a cooking class to teach seniors how to both make nutritional and delicious meals. Roberta said she will talk to WSCAH to see if they will do a workshop.
9. Paula Seefeldt praised intergenerational work, it is great for the seniors and the younger volunteers. She raised the issue of rising food costs and the inability of seniors to afford nutritional food including fresh fruits and vegetables. Sherri suggested that she contact God's Love We Deliver. Roberta will reach out to our City Council members and Borough President.
10. Dr. Joseph Feldman spoke about the MT Sinai Urgent Care center which provides care, enabling seniors to avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency room.

Next Task Force Meeting is Thursday March 16th at 10 am

YOUTH, EDUCATION & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Courtney Clark Metakis and Kristen Berger, Co-Chairpersons

February 16, 2023 at 6:30PM

The Meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/live/J8vrxbA49g?feature=share>

Present: Courtney Clark Metakis and Kristen Berger, Co-Chairs; Alex Bell, Audrey Isaacs, Blanche Lawton, Ira Mitchneck, Michelle Parker and Seema Reddy. **Chair:** Beverly Donohue. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Robert Espier.
Board Office: Alex Crawford.

Discussion of NYPL Updates/Impact of Budget Cuts

Guest Speaker: Frances Urroz, Manager, NYPL Government and Community Affairs

- FU: 5.9million peg, which we were able to manage and absorb mainly due to our own financial planning and lags in hiring. Not the best, experiencing maintaining difficulty extended hours, not our goal to keep absorbing pegs. Proposed an 8.9M cut to baseline it. Not only for FY 24 but years following. Preliminary budget hearing set for March 20th. Working on our advocacy strategy – priority is to make sure we do not receive any cuts, and maintain baseline funding from City Council. CC last year gave us 15. Want to make sure we have the support of the CB particularly for our expense ask, that's what pays our staff. Start letter writing ask for board's support. Make sure we continue to make gains on eliminating inequities in library system. Continue to provide back to school support for teens, path to college programs, increasing the number of teen centers. BLM will be getting a teen center before the end of this fiscal year. Want to prioritize programs in high need areas programmatically. Formula – proximity to schools, demonstrated need, ... but of course funding is taken away this year, different.
- BL: Different than any year?
- FU: Higher number of shortfalls, more difficult to meet our capital needs. So re-evaluating every year we're fighting to restore what's lost. Not like we're operating from glass is full.
- RE: Affiliated with Boriken Health Center.
- BD: In my experience at OMB, this same dance was part of the annual budget process. Same position the Mayor's office has taken for decades – libraries are a local interest, City Council will swoop in and ensure that the libraries are made sufficiently solid for what the local communities need. It sounds like we're back in that game again. Immensely frustrating for libraries because need planning time. Question is: what work have you done to date with Council Members and how can we assist in making sure those cases they bring are as strong as possible. Hearing that has been scheduled. How can we participate in that hearing.
- FU: Last month started to meet with electeds, first Boro president and then CC members. Communicate our budget asks and then bring up needs in district. As far as advocacy, finalizing what our strategy will be, testimony you can offer. Will be sending out communications directly to you.
- AB: Total budget is \$400m, so 6million is like 4%. Are we getting our money's worth out of those growth. Why does the budget keep growing.
- FU: The majority of our budget goes to staffing, and providing competitive wages for our staff. Maintaining the level of programming. Post pandemic, now offering in person and remote programming. Small business support, tech connect program that provides coding classes. Programming increasing. Goal of the library is always to be a strong partner for the city. Just started a page program. Really thinking holistically. Also thinking about the digital divide, started a pilot program -wireless access. Pilot program to offer free wireless access. And our collections, takes an enormous
- BL: One of the things that fascinated me was that all 3 libraries, and she expanded on the programs, is there community involvement in what programs each library develops and executes.
- FU: we rely a lot on our library managers to be partners in their communities. To listen to patrons needs. Programs are usually designed, give freedom to managers to tell us what are needed. Of course there are standardized programs that need funding and need to be rolled out in more standardized ways We are taking – one of our goals is to do more civic engagement programming, be more involved in the city's participatory budget process. One of the things we're interested in is developing a survey for our patrons.
- CCM: Do you collect info/data on attendance/program usage over time?

- FU: We do collect that information. For this FY (JULY_DEC) we're overperforming from what we did in FY22, where we had 109,000 visits in FY 22, we're well over 106k visits now. More program attendance.
- SR: Want to get down to the nitty gritty for strategy. Letter to electeds?
- FU: Still finalizing our strategy, offering testimony sending in . also letter to electeds. Emails to send letters to elected officials. 10:30a on Monday march 20
- BD: One of the consequences for budget cuts in the past. Inability to keep libraries open 6 days a week. Maybe less of an issue now because many programs are virtual. Can you speak to what you anticipate in terms of money not restored in terms of access to the libraries over a course of the week?
- FU: Running the numbers. But we, you know, as I said, the FY23 cut was of 5.9 million dollars, which we were able to absorb without too much disruption to service, but that's all, mainly because of the lags and hiring. We've had, and it's not a good place to be in because of these lags and hiring, we're seeing service interruptions and in libraries, you know, we have community organizations elected officials who want to have programming. the libraries beyond our hours, and we're seeing ourselves very stretched, thin, specially with security.
- KB: Do other committees have comment on the preliminary budget, are we submitting one testimony or is like one budget area.
- BD: The council holds individual hearings on different agencies, so we need to pinpoint our own concerns are greatest and attend a whole series of such hearings based on a different agency presentation.
- BL: What is NYPL policy on local policy doing their own fundraising
- FU: Will need to get back to you on protocol, but tend to centralize that. But library does get a large portion of its budget from private funding, so it's not something we're staying away from.
- BL: in CB7, significant corporate presence.

Letter in support of NYPL budget passes: *Committee Members: 7-0-0 Non-Committee Members: 3-0-0*

Discussion of New Youth Basketball Team

Guest Speaker: Keith Harris

- KH: Parents there concerned about safety in parks, rash of robberies items taken, some items in the parks were chased home. Answer we got was that they'd increase police in park. Someone from police said they had safe space to play sports. 84th at Brandeis, other was on 123rd street what about area in between? Mentioned that would be something they would work on. Growing up in the area in the 90s, the court was a safe space for us. Thought there needs to be something in the interim. So reached out to couple of parents, wants to participate in training program. I work at PS 165, so providing structure is what I do by profession. I had 6 players, working at Riverside Park, blessed to have a very mild fall so practiced, ran drills. Reached out to a network of coaches and came up with a team, All in Together. Participate in Riverbank Live City Tournament. Have to go up to Riverbank State Park to play. Fortunately one parents had communal athletic area within their building. Started in September, having an enriching time, also the parents are very happy. Tomorrow NY1 will be coming to one of our practices to do a segment.
- KB: What's the age group?
- KH: One team, primarily 7th and 8th. Next year
- KB: Same school?
- KH: 3 from WESS, 2 from 165, 5 from WESS 2 from Mott Hall 2
- BL: One team or trying to establish a league.
- KH: Going to play for the spring, will be playing in another league with the cornerstone and graham program across the city. Don't have a home gym yet, have to go to other locations to play. Once we secure a home gym, will be able to host, and then branch out into our own league.

New Business

- AB: Playground – follow up re: hippo playground/toys (intro Alex to fundraising group?)
- BD: Boro Board—last year as part of state's budget, class size law. Law is tied to a 5-year implementation schedule, CB2 has a resolution re: public participation in the process of phasing in the class size law. Seems that would be

important in our district both HS level and CSD3, looking at issues and problems, include physical space and buildings, and all kinds of different service levels for diff groups of kids. Makes sense that the CSD

- KB: see this as more districting, more CEC3 auspices.
- IM: a lot of schools because of the pandemic have capacity. Whole question of seats floating around. SCA presentation,

Motion to adjourn

- The proposed [cuts of \\$13 million this fiscal year and more than \\$20 million next year](#) have sparked concern among families, elected officials and library leaders. Libraries could respond to the trimmed budget by scaling back hours, workers or programming.
- City libraries all took a 3% hit to their operating subsidies in FY 2023 for a total of \$13.6 million in cuts, growing to a \$20.5 million reduction in the outyears. Thus far, service cuts have not been announced but it is unclear how the libraries can meet these targets.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Beverly Donohue, Chairperson

February 21 at 6:30 p.m.

The Meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NQu6GUqM0M>

Present: Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Kristen Berger, Elizabeth Caputo, Sheldon Fine, Sonia Garcia, Courtney Clark Metakis, Christian Cordova, Louisa Craddock, Mark Diller, Beverly Donohue, Natasha Kazmi, Doug Kleiman, William Ortiz, Michele Parker, Madge Rosenberg, Seema Reddy, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer and Polly Spain. **Non-Committee Board Members:** Ken Coughlin, Robert Espier and Ethel Sheffer. **Board Office:** Max Vandervliet, District Manager. **Absent:** Kevin Corte, K Karpen, Anthony Thomas, Kristina Villarini and Benjamin Wu.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:31PM

I. Chair's Report:

- Chair Beverly Donohue began by congratulating Madge Rosenberg, announcing that she has been appointed co-chair of the Preservation Committee.
- Reminded all that March 17th is the last date to apply to the Borough President (BP) for reappointment. Please alert the office if not reapplying. The BP will hold virtual interviews and will take attendance into consideration.
- Congratulated the Parks & Environment and Transportation Committees on their recent handling of the e-bike charging station proposal at 72nd Street, which drew many public speakers. She gave a special shoutout to Natasha Kazmi, who led the discussion.
- A proposal made at the last Bylaws Task Force meeting was to require only one co-chair from each committee to attend Steering. She requested board members email their thoughts on the proposal to chair Susan Schwartz and to her.
- The Board is requesting BP capital funding for the 2nd floor of the Bloomingdale Library.
- Many have noticed changes in the attendance Minutes for Full board meetings: Board members arriving more than 30 minutes late, will be marked "late"; and if leaving more than 30 minutes prior to the end of meeting, it will be noted they "left early." Staying for less than one hour duration during the meeting will be noted as an absence.

II. District Manager's Report:

- District Manager Max Vandervliet began by noting that the In Person/Remote Task Force, headed by Elizabeth Caputo, will be meeting in person at the board office at 5:30PM on February 28th, as well as holding the first in-person and remote meeting. He will be sending an invite to all board members and stipulated in-house space is limited.
- The Open Meetings Law has been extended through March.
- The office is trying hard to transition to Google Docs for everyone and still offering one-on-one training to board members, either in-person or remotely.

III. Co-Chair Updates:

Brief reports were made by all committee co-chairs and task-force chairs regarding upcoming agendas and expected resolutions at the next full board meeting. A full description of upcoming meetings is on the YouTube link on page 1.

- **Business & Consumer Issues:** 2 Resolutions to be presented at Full Board.
- **Preservation Committee:** 3 Resolutions to be presented at Full Board.
- **Housing Committee:** 1 possible Resolution to be presented at Full Board.
- **Transportation Committee Joint meeting with Parks Committee:** 2 major resolutions (e-bike charging station & 63rd St. crosswalk in Central Park).
- **Land Use Committee:** 1 Resolution re grand money paid to George Janes and now potentially using it for the upzoning from 109th-110th Streets.
- **Health & Human Services:** 1 Resolution in support of a Safe Haven to be presented at Full Board.
- **Youth, Education & Libraries:** No Resolutions this month.
- **Public Safety Committee:** No Resolutions this month, but Transit Police Chief Michael Kemper will be presenting at the 2.22 committee meeting.
- **Budget and Strategy:** No Resolutions. Committee is planning to work with the other committees to get better details on individual District Needs information, as the more specificity, the greater the chance for funding.
- **Senior Task Force:** No Resolutions. The MTA's OMNY program for seniors will be explained by Council Member Brewer in March, who will hold a session on technology.

- **In Person/Remote Task Force:** Will hold final meeting both in person and remotely on February 28th, as noted in District Manager's Report above.
- **Ethel Sheffer's Amsterdam Avenue Field Study:** Will be focusing on the length of Amsterdam Avenue with its diverse characteristics to determine. Its mission is to determine how well our neighborhood streets are functioning and what could make them better. Looking for new members.
- **Bylaws:** No Resolutions. (One was withdrawn, and the other withdrawn temporarily.)

With no old or new business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn, and the meeting ended at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Adler & Linda Alexander, *Co-Secretaries*

Health & Human Services Committee Meeting Minutes

Sheldon Fine and Sonia Garcia, Co-Chairperson

February 28, 2023 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

The Meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LIEJ-UQsrQ&t=17s>

Present: Sheldon J. Fine and Sonia Garcia, Co-Chairs; Ken Coughlin, Audrey Isaacs and Sara Lind. **Chair:** Beverly Donohue.

Non-Committee Board Members: Kristin Berger, Courtney Clark Metakis , K Karpen, Doug Kleiman and Seema Reddy.

Board Office: Max Vandervliet and Alex Crawford. **Absent:** Robert Espier and Kristina Villarini.

Sheldon Fine, Co-Chair Introduced the topic for the meeting by recalling that MCB7 has made a Safe Haven a top priority in our District Needs and Capital Budget Requests for the past three years. He also shared two anecdotal stories of his experience with homeless individuals on the Upper West Side.

Then he introduced the following representatives for the Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and the service provider for the planned Safe Haven at 106-108 West 83rd Street - Breaking Ground.

Department of Social Services/Homeless Services:

- Hailey Nolasco, Assistant Commissioner for Intergovernmental Affairs
- Julie Harrison, Assistant Commissioner for DHS Street Homeless Solutions
- Marsha Horne - Manhattan Borough HRA Director
- Leilani Irvin, DSS Manhattan Borough Director

Breaking Ground

- Erin Madden, Vice President, Programs
- Roberta Solomon, Deputy Vice President, Programs
- Patrick Bonck, Assistant Vice President, Communications
- Keona Serrano, Assistant Vice President, Programs

Erin Madden of Breaking Ground conducted the Power Point Presentation of the 83rd Street Safe Haven. She began by defining a Safe Haven as a form of low-barrier transitional housing for people living unsheltered on the streets who have shown reluctance to utilize the shelter system. Safe havens tend to have robust onsite services and programming, including psychiatric and primary medical care. Safe Havens do not have requirements for residents to leave during the day – all clients have access to the facilities 24 hours.

Who will the 83rd Street Safe Haven Serve?

- People of all genders experiencing street homelessness from the surrounding neighborhood, and to a lesser extent people living.
- unsheltered in the subways.
- All residents are referred directly by outreach teams who have been building rapport with and bringing services to unsheltered individuals.
- (primarily the Manhattan Outreach Consortium, which includes the Center for Urban Community Services, Goddard Riverside, and Breaking Ground.)
- As one of the only Safe Havens in Manhattan north of Midtown, it will allow new access to shelter and services for those currently experiencing street.
- homelessness in the area.

What is the 83rd Street Safe Haven Program?

- 24- hour security and Breaking Ground staffing.
- Clinical staff, Case Management , Housing Specialists & Harm Reduction Specialist.
- 3 meals/day.
- Onsite psychiatric care (and, eventually, primary medical care).

- Extensive programming developed with resident input could include art programs, gardening, substance use support.
- and other peer groups, yoga and meditation, and Residentials Aides staff each floor and perform regular neighborhood walk-arounds.
- Small backyard space to be open at certain hours (typically around mealtimes.)
- Common area/lounge space for residents throughout building.
- Single, double, triple, and quad room configurations.
- Individual bathrooms increase privacy and serve all genders.

Timeline

- April 2023 – begin accepting referrals from outreach teams (80 beds to be filled over the first few months.)
- Summer 2023 – additional 28 beds come online.

Following the presentation, Mr. Fine facilitated questions from Committee and other Board members to the presenters. Then, in the absence of a sign-up sheet, Mr. Fine read the 50+ pro and con comments and questions posed by community members under the Q&A.. The questions were answered by the representatives from DSS, DHS and Breaking Ground.

Finally, there was a vote on the Resolution to support the Safe Haven and to request that a Community Advisory Board be formed for the Safe Haven, that includes representation from local schools, block associations, religious institutions, elected officials, the 20th Police Precinct and other community stakeholders. Another request in the Resolutions was for Breaking Ground to provide a direct contact number to the community so that concerns could be addressed directly.

The vote on the Resolution was:

Committee: 5-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 5-0-0-0. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

***** Please note, meeting minutes will be forthcoming. *****

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

K Karpen and Michele Parker, Co-Chairpersons

February 9, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety <https://www.youtube.com/live/6scR5DljE9s?feature=share>

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Louisa Craddock and Kristina Villarini, Co-Chairpersons

February 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety <https://www.youtube.com/live/ZQ-kBTa0vEE?feature=share>

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

William Ortiz and Polly Spain, Co-Chairpersons

February 22, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety <https://www.youtube.com/live/7nBds5xcDdY?feature=share>