

FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Beverly Donohue, Chair

June 20, 2023 at 6:30PM at St. Paul & St. Andrew Church and via Zoom

Present in-person: Barbara Adler, Jay Adolf, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Kristen Berger, Elizabeth Caputo, Joshua Cohen, Kenneth Coughlin, Page Cowley, Louisa Craddock, Beverly Donohue, Sheldon Fine, Jami Floyd, Sonia Garcia (*late*), Miranda Goodwin-Raab, Audrey Isaacs, Tibita Kaneene, Avi Flatto-Katz, Natasha Kazmi, Daria Kim, Doug Kleiman, Rhonda Marshall, George Morillo, Klari Neuwelt, Michele Parker, Kevin Reevy, Andrew Rigie, Ava Stryker-Robbins, Madge Rosenberg, Melissa Rosenberg, Benjamin Rosenfield, Susan Schwartz, Roberta Semer, Ethel Sheffer, Anthony Thomas and Howard Yaruss. **Present via Zoom** (*with excused absences*): Alex Bell, Blanche Lawton, Seema Reddy, Peter Sampton and Benjamin Wu. **Absent:** Murat Akaydin, Kevin Corte, Mark Diller, K Karpen, Ira Mitchneck, William Ortiz, Polly Spain, Susan Schwartz and Erana Stennett.

Chair's Report: Beverly Donohue, *Chair of the Board*, officially began the meeting at 6:03 PM. She made the following remarks:

The Chair began by welcoming everyone to the first in-person Full Board meeting of CB7 in over 3 years. She explained that this was a supplemental business-only meeting, as the June Full board was held on June 6th, which included a public session. Tonight's goal is to ensure the Full Board votes on all resolutions passed since we held our earlier June meeting, so no time-sensitive matters are on hold during our summer break. We are meeting under the Open Meetings Law that was revised to allow for hybrid meetings, as the Mayor's declaration of Emergency ended yesterday. She went on to explain that the revised statute requires that a quorum of Board members be present in person in order to conduct business. Board members may request, ahead of time, approval for remote participation based on an approved set of circumstances. Such approval permits them to vote, but their attendance does not count towards quorum. This Board approved a preliminary list of circumstances by resolution last July. According to the statute, the reasons for each approved remote attendee must be made public. She then provided details on members who were voting remotely tonight.

- Seems Reddy: unexpected care-giving responsibilities
- Alex Bell: unexpected work travel
- Ben Wu: unexpected care-giving responsibilities (will need to leave early)
- Peter Samton: medical reasons
- Blanche Lawton: unexpected location-specific work responsibilities

The Chair also reminded all co-chairs that District Needs Statement bullets and Budget Priorities are due at the end of June, and thanked all new members who turned in their requests for committee memberships. The resulting assignments will be sent out to all board members by the end of the week.

District Manager's Report: Maxwell Vandervliet reported on the following:

There was no information on the Open Meeting Law (OML), and as we are all here in-person, the assumption was that OML was not extended.

The weather for the board outing at Ellington in the Park, planned for this Thursday, isn't looking good. Max requested tenting over the area, in case of rain.

Presentation of data sources and methods for use by CB7: Alex Bell, a CB7 board member, showed and discussed a power-point presentation on ways to collect data for use by CB7 committees on various topics. The presentation came out of one he had recently done for the Youth, Education & Libraries Committee, in which data was collected from online sources for the purpose of seeing where no-standing zones in front of schools and teacher parking existed or did not exist.

Update from Lincoln Center: Elenni Desiervo and several colleagues from Lincoln Center gave an overview of their plans for opening up the Amsterdam side of the complex to make it more inclusive with the community. Engagement begins this summer, beginning with a listening and hearing mode, then analyzing the information they receive this fall, and starting eventually starting a participatory planning process with community members. Their initial work includes canvassing in front of the NYCHA houses on Amsterdam Avenue and a survey on their website, to determine how people use the Lincoln Center complex, and what they'd like this project to include. They can be reached at planningprocess@lincolncenter.org.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the June 6th Full Board meeting were approved.

VOTE: 40-4-1-0

Business Session

Youth, Education and Libraries Committee, Kristen Berger, Chairperson

Joint with Transportation Committee, Andrew Albert and Mark Diller, Co-Chairpersons

1. Re: Increase equity within MCB7's School Community:

A. For "No Standing" spots

B. Of authorized school faculty parking spots

This resolution is based on the following facts:

A. For "No Standing" spots

WHEREAS, there are numerous schools, both public and private, in Community Board 7/ Manhattan (MCB7) that have designated curb side "Authorized" faculty parking spots and "no standing" zones for the safe pickup and drop-off of children;

WHEREAS, based on our calculations for schools that do have either parking or no standing zones, the average ratio of teachers to parking spots is 9.8 teachers per spot and for standing zones, it is 63 students per spot;

WHEREAS, our analysis of 57 schools and complexes in the Upper West Side shows that 45% have parking spots for teachers and 60% have standing spots for loading and unloading, which leaves 22% of the students with zero "no standing" zones to enter and exit the school;

WHEREAS, "no standing" zones in front of schools are designed to provide a safe means for children to be picked up and dropped off from school without blocking an entire street.

WHEREAS, other changes to curb use are being considered including congestion pricing, garbage collection and more. This issue should be considered in conjunction.

WHEREAS, research has uncovered no publicly available source setting forth the criteria or methodology by which the Department of Transportation (DoT) allocates space adjacent to public or independent schools for either student arrival/dismissal or for teacher parking.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/ Manhattan calls on the DOT, in consultation with the Department of Education (DoE) to formulate and present to CB7 a plan to achieve approximate equity in the amount of "no standing" spots allocated to each school in CB7's District, from 3-K through high school, taking into consideration amounts of "no-standing" spots that are reasonable and appropriate for each school's size, street frontage, student population, and needs.

VOTE: 34-4-2-0.

B. Of authorized school faculty parking spots

WHEREAS, there are numerous schools, both public and private, in Community Board 7/ Manhattan (MCB7) that have designated curb side "Authorized" faculty parking spots and "No Standing" zones for the safe pickup and drop-off of children;

WHEREAS, based on our calculations for schools that do have either parking or no standing zones, the average ratio of teachers to parking spots is 9.8 teachers per spot and for standing zones, it is 63 students per spot;

WHEREAS, our analysis of 57 schools and complexes in the Upper West Side shows that 45% have parking spots for teachers and 60% have standing spots for loading and unloading, which leaves 22% of the students with zero "no standing" zones to enter and exit the school;

WHEREAS, "no standing" zones in front of schools are designed to provide a safe means for children to be picked up and dropped off from school without blocking an entire street.

WHEREAS, other changes to curb use are being considered including congestion pricing, garbage collection and more. This issue should be considered in conjunction.

WHEREAS, research has uncovered no publicly available source setting forth the criteria or methodology by which the Department of Transportation (DoT) allocates space adjacent to public or independent schools for either student arrival/dismissal or for teacher parking.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 calls on the DOT, in consultation with the Department of Education (DoE) to formulate and present to CB7 a plan to achieve approximate equity in the amount of "no standing" spots allocated to each school in CB7's District, from 3-K through high school, taking into consideration amounts of "no-standing" spots that are reasonable and appropriate for each school's size, street frontage, student population, and needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan calls on the DOT, in consultation with DoE and the United Federation of Teachers, to present a plan to achieve approximate equity in the amount of Authorized faculty parking spots allocated to each school in CB7's District, from 3-K through high school, taking into consideration amounts of Authorized faculty parking spots that are reasonable and appropriate for each school's size, faculty composition, and needs.

VOTE: 19-15-5-0 (the resolution failed)

Transportation Committee, Andrew Albert and Mark Diller, Co-Chairpersons

2. Request for a Secondary Street Renaming by the Alexander Robertson School and Second Presbyterian Church in honor of Catherine "Katy" Ferguson on West 95th Street and Central Park West on the Southwest corner.

This resolution is based on the following facts:

- Catherine "Katy" Ferguson was born into slavery in 1779. Her mother was sold away from her when Katy was 8.
- At the age of 10, at great personal peril, she found her way to New York City and eventually secured her own freedom from slavery through an arrangement with a congregant at the Second Presbyterian Church in New York City (the "Congregation"). The Congregation was active in the abolitionist movement at the time.
- Katy Ferguson was the first woman of color to join the Congregation. Though she never learned to read or write, she used scripture stories and invited other learned individuals into her home to help educate young children on religious and secular matters, and in so doing created the first Sunday School in New York City.
- After the untimely death of her husband and children due to cholera, she brought into her home and educational programs vulnerable children from alms houses, the streets, and negligent parents. She raised many of these children herself, and placed the others in suitable homes.
- ARS is the current name of the school founded by the Congregation that was so ably served by "Aunt Katy" during her lifetime. Katy Ferguson was a seminal influence on the mission of ARS from its early days, and continues to be a source of inspiration and pride to both ARS and the Congregation.
- Upon her untimely death in 1854 due to cholera, W.E.B. DuBois included Katy Ferguson alongside Sojourner Truth, Phyllis Wheatley and Harriet Tubman as among "the most notable colored [sic] women of importance."
- On-going efforts to carry forward her legacy include the Katy Ferguson Literacy Initiative under the aegis of ARS and the Congregation, which recently raised funds and donated over 300 books to literacy efforts at the nearby NYCHA Frederick Douglass Houses.
- This street renaming will prompt inquiry into this remarkable person's life story and work, countering the pernicious trend to obscure or omit the contributions of African Americans to our shared history and school curriculums.
- Catherine "Katy" Ferguson's remarkable personal story, her groundbreaking work in serving vulnerable children of all faiths and races, and her contributions to the Congregation and ARS, more than amply satisfy the criteria for a secondary street co-naming.
- Our Community and City would be enriched by raising consciousness of her contributions and presence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan recommends that the Southwest Corner of Central Park West and West 95th Street be secondarily re-named "Catherine 'Katy' Ferguson Way."

VOTE: 39-0-1-0.

Preservation Committee, K Karpen and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

3. Re: 140 West 81st Street (Amsterdam–Columbus Avenues). Application LPC-23-04861 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a certificate of appropriateness to coat the [West 81st Street (north) façade] primary façade's rock-faced brickwork with a potassium silicate coating (Keim S 119).

This resolution is based on the following facts:

- The subject building is 3-story plus basement church building constructed ca. 1893 in the Romanesque Revival style by architects Thom & Wilson. It is included in the Upper West Side – Central Park West Historic District. The front façade is composed of buff (unglazed) brick with a rusticated appearance with decorative elements constructed out of limestone, brick and marble. The building features a peaked roof in the front.
- The front façade includes decorative elements surrounding window openings and doorways and other framing effects.
- The current condition of the front façade reflects pronounced discoloration of the buff/unglazed rusticated brick that forms the lion's share of the surface of the front façade.

- The original color was a color similar to limestone or sandstone; over time the bricks have taken on a mottled, yellow-black splotchy appearance.
- The proposal is to clean the façade and then apply Keim Mineral Stain S119. This material is a silica-based compound that seals and preserves the cleaned bricks. The applicant tested different concentrations, and proposes a 1:1 dilution to achieve the desired color and appearance.
- This product does not harm the brick or cause it to spall or crumble.

The cleaning and restoration of the rusticated brick façade, especially if the color of the treatment is that produced by the 1:1 ratio of the coating, is appropriate to the character of this building and of the Historic District to which it contributes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application to apply Keim Mineral Stain S119 as appropriate to the character of the building and the Historic District, with a strong recommendation that the color of the stain as applied be that produced by the 1:1 ratio of the preparation of that product.

VOTE: 39-0-1-0

Business & Consumer Issues Committee, Josh Cohen and Benjamin Wu, Co-Chairpersons

4. Re: 891 Amsterdam Avenue (West 104th Street). Temporary Retail Permit and Class Change application to the SLA for a two-year liquor license by

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 American Youth Hostels, Inc.

VOTE: 40-0-1-0

With no further business, a motion was made and seconded to end the meeting, at 8:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Adler & Linda Alexander,
co-secretaries*

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

K Karpen and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

July 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

The Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan met on Thursday, July 13, 2023, in-person at the District Office, 250 West 87th Street, in the District, and via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:50 pm (after resolution of certain technical issues) by Acting Preservation Co-Chair Michele Parker and Preservation Chair Madge Rosenberg. Preservation Committee members Jay Adolf, Page Cowley, and Mark Diller were also present in person, and Committee Member Peter Samton participated via Zoom. Also present and participating via Zoom from CB7 were Board Chair Bev Donohue, and Board Members Sheldon Fine and George Morillo, and District Manager Max Vandervliet and Yasiel Nieves of the District Office.

The following discussions were had and actions taken.

Re: 230 Riverside Drive, Apartment 6K (West 95th – 96th Streets). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a certificate of appropriateness for window replacement.

The subject building is an 18-story plus basement and penthouse apartment building constructed ca. 1930-31 in the Medieval Revival style by architect Charles H. Lench. It is included in the Riverside Drive – West End Historic District Extension II. The front façade is composed of brick and stone with stone and terra cotta decorative elements.

Presentation by: Rebecca Levin – Architectural expediter

- The application seeks to replace the 5 windows solely in apartment 6K in the Building (the “Apartment”). The windows are in the primary façade facing West 95th Street.
- The original condition on the primary and secondary facades of the building were paired steel casement windows with muntins creating a divided light effect on the panes and the transom above.
- Aside from the 5 original windows still extant in the Apartment, only approximately 4% of the original windows remain on the primary facades of the Building – i.e. the 5 windows in the Apartment plus 24 other original windows as compared with 693 windows that were replaced prior to designation.
- The majority of the replaced windows now consist of 1:1 double-hung aluminum windows. The remaining replacement windows include modern replacement paired casements and some single-opening casements.
- There is no master plan for window replacement in this Building (despite repeated suggestions to that effect).
- The proposal is to replace the original windows with 1:1 double-hung aluminum clad double-glazed modern replacement windows.
- The color of the proposed windows will be deep bronze to approximate the current condition and that of the majority of the other replacement windows in the Building.
- Precedent for replacing original casements include 908 West End Avenue and 120 Riverside Drive.
- The Building façade needs to return to uniformity – approving 1:1 double-hung windows is the surest path to uniformity.

Questions and Comments from the Community Board:

Jay:

- Q: When was the most recent replacement permit granted?
- A: No permit for window replacement has been granted since designation.

Page:

- Q: What replacement windows have been installed?
- A: Many replacement windows – most are 1:1 double-hung windows.
- Q: How are A/C units installed?
- A: No consistent method – a/c units are installed in the casement transom, through the wall, or through side or lower panes on original or replacement windows.
- Concern that there is no master plan. Building needs to return to uniformity.

Shelly:

- The overwhelming pattern on this façade is 1:1 double-hung windows.
- The application is consistent with the dominant pattern that is currently on the façade.
- Finds appropriate and recommends approval.

Bev:

- The style is appropriate to the Building and the Historic District.
- The A/C installation methodology is not a question that is before the Committee or Board in this Application.
- CB7 should recommend that the Building adopt a master plan, but the absence of such a plan should not stand in the way of approval.

MND:

- The standard often applied to replacement of divided light original windows with 1:1 or similar replacement windows includes an analysis of whether the façade includes sufficient other decorative elements such that the elimination of divided light from the historic fabric would denude the façade.
- In this instance, the decorative stone and terra cotta elements are minimally adequate to survive the elimination of the divided light from the façade.
- The most relevant precedent is actually the prior application concerning 370 Riverside Drive (West 109th Street), whose replacement of divided light windows with 1:1 double-hung windows were approved by CB7 and LPC based in part on the level of decoration on the façade.
- Should still recommend a master plan for the future.

RESOLUTION

Approve the application as presented as minimally appropriate to the character of the Building and the Historic District based on the level of decoration remaining on the primary facades, with a strong recommendation that the Building adopt a master plan for future window replacement.

After deliberation, the resolution was adopted by the Committee.
Committee Vote: 5-0-0-0.

This application is not yet calendared for a public hearing at LPC.

New Business:

Discussion of whether CB7 can require applicants to appear in person regardless of whether the public or Committee/Board Members would or would not be permitted to participate remotely.

The Committee congratulated colleague Sheldon Fine for his appointment to the Federal Chaplain Corps.

Adjournment: 8:00 pm