

## May 2004 Resolutions

### Parks & Preservation Committee

**Lenore Norman, Chairperson**

#### **1. Re: 169 West 87<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Church (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.)**

**Full Board Vote: 28 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

WHEREAS, St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Church houses a head start program accommodating 64 children, 32 of whom are full time students; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive federal funds, the building must be able to accommodate children and adults with physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the proposal to install a small outdoor lift which does not touch the steps or the stone railings meets those requirements; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of the fence from 7 feet to 3 feet and the change in the design is appropriate and is in response to a request from the Landmarks Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the bar across the lift is required for safety purposes; and

WHEREAS, the windows are being changed from metal to wood and the building is being restored in an appropriate manner;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #040140 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a barrier free access lift and a fence at the areaway.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.*

#### **2. Re: 169 West 78<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.)**

**Full Board Vote: 29 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

WHEREAS, the building has had a painted facade since before it became a co-op and long before it was included in the historic district; and

WHEREAS, the condition of the facade is so poor, painting the facade again seemed to be the only affordable alternative; and

WHEREAS, the co-op replaced the fence, which could not be repaired, with a design which matches a neighboring building on the block;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #040140 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to install a barrier free access lift and a fence at the areaway.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.*

#### **3. Re: 200 West 84<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus-Amsterdam Avenues.)**

**Full Board Vote: 30 In favor 0 Against 1 Abstention 0 Present**

WHEREAS, the canopy meets all Department of Transportation requirements; and

WHEREAS, there is no objection to the shape or size of the canopy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #045685 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to legalize the installation of a canopy without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.*

### Parks & Preservation Committee

**Joint with Community Development Committee**

**Marlene Guy, Chairperson**

**4. Re: Final plans for the construction of playing fields between West 103<sup>rd</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup> Streets, Riverside Park.**

**Full Board Vote: 29 In favor 3 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present**

WHEREAS, the renovation of the ballfields at West 103<sup>rd</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup> Streets has been a budget priority of Community Board 7 for several years; and

WHEREAS, several elected officials have committed substantial discretionary funds for this project; and

WHEREAS, community-based organizations, primarily the West Side Soccer League and the West Side Little League, have been raising money for this project for several years and have raised over \$1 million and are confident that they can raise all the additional funding necessary to bridge the gap between the amount of public financing available and the total cost; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 Community Board 7 passed a resolution approving the renovation of one of these fields with artificial turf; and

WHEREAS, the project area is on landfill, and has always been devoted to active team sports and other active recreation; and

WHEREAS, natural turf (grass) at these locations is very expensive to maintain and has a very short life-span, whereas artificial turf, although initially more expensive, is significantly less expensive to maintain and has a much longer life-span; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong need for additional active recreation capacity in our community, and in Riverside Park in particular; and

WHEREAS, the use of artificial turf on these fields will permit them to be used year-round, and in all weather conditions, while fields with natural turf are closed to the public for most of the year for grass restoration; and

WHEREAS, the current generation of artificial turf appears to have a good safety record;

WHEREAS, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has promised to return to CB7 for input prior to converting any other field in Riverside Park to artificial turf;

Community Board 7/Manhattan:

(1) approves the proposal to renovate the fields at West 103<sup>rd</sup> Street and 107<sup>th</sup> Street in Riverside Park as presented by DPR, including the use of artificial turf; and

(2) does not, by such approval, express any position about the use of artificial turf at any other site; and

(3) requests that DPR report to it on a regular basis after the project is completed about maintenance, usage and injury issues at this site.

*Committee: 7-0-0-0. Public Members: 2-1-0-0.*

**Community Development Committee**

**5. Re: Department of Education's 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Retention Policy.**

**Full Board Vote: TABLED**

WHEREAS, the new Chancellor's Regulation A-501, dated 4/5/04, establishes a new process for the retention of third grade students which may have profound impact on their education and well-being; and

WHEREAS, neither parents nor school professionals have been given adequate preparation to fairly and appropriately participate in the appeal process outlined in these regulations; and

WHEREAS, the role of guidance and School Based Support Team members have not been defined;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan requests that the Chancellor reconsider the timeframe for implementation of the third grade retention process in his new Regulation A-501 for the 2004-2005 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 requests that appropriate parent education and professional development and planning programs for school staff and administrators should be developed in order to ensure a fair and truly professional process.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.*

## **Strategy & Budget Committee**

**Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson**

### **6. Re: Neighborhood Development Area.**

**Full Board Vote: 29 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) receives federal funds under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program. New York City matches a portion with tax levy funds. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) makes grants to NY State, which passes them along to DYCD. HHS has reduced overall funding by 25%.

Based on 2000 Census data and a formula that focuses on "communities of poverty", rather than individuals, DYCD reduced the Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) in Community District 7 (CD7) from the entire district to West 97<sup>th</sup>-110<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Funding in June 2005 will be

approximately \$125,000 (50% less than current funding) to serve 12,000 people below 125% of poverty in CD7's new NDA.

The new boundaries:

- Exclude thousands of low-income residents of Amsterdam Houses, the NYCHA housing bounded by West 60<sup>th</sup>-65<sup>th</sup> Streets and Amsterdam and West End Avenues;
- Prohibit not-for-profits that currently serve the poor in CD7 from applying for funds because they are located outside the boundaries;
- Require the constitution of a new Neighborhood Advisory Group (NAB) because members must live in the designated area.

Community Board 7/Manhattan calls on DYCD:

- To include "pockets of poverty" like Amsterdam Houses in the agency's funding plans;
- To accept proposals in the next round of funding from not-for-profits that can demonstrate they will serve people in the designated NDA even though they are based outside the area;
- To work with the current NAB, the local council members, and CB7 to plan and implement a transition that will maximize services and funding;
- To develop a tracking system, to be utilized by not-for-profits receiving funds under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program, which will provide quarterly documentation describing the type of encounters and/or referrals made by the agencies. These reports should include, but not be limited to, demographic profile of clients, type of services provided, referral

outcomes, and any other data which will measure the effectiveness of the intervention.

*Committee: 4-0-0-0.*

**Commerce Committee**

**George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Chairperson**

**7. Re: Star Night Club, 100 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street (246 Columbus Avenue.)**

**Full Board Vote: 27 In favor 1 Against 0 Abstentions 1 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the application for a cabaret license to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Green Mountain Productions LLC, d/b/a Star Club at 100 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street (aka 246 Columbus Avenue); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 urges the Department of Consumer Affairs of the City of New York to withdraw the six-month "interim" cabaret license that was issued to the applicant without any input or approval from Community Board 7; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 urges that the New York State Liquor Authority withdraw the license issued for this location, and further recommends that the State Liquor Authority disapprove any application from this applicant for this location; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 urges that the landlord/owner, 100 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street Associates, and its managing agent Walker-Malloy seek a less disruptive alternative use for the subject premises.

*Committee: 3-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0.*

**Land Use Committee**

**Richard Asche, Chairperson**

**8. Re: 699/717 West End Avenue (West 94<sup>th</sup>-95<sup>th</sup> Streets).**

**Full Board Vote: 27 In favor 1 Against 0 Abstentions 1 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #813-63-BZ to the Board of Standards and Appeals by Howard Zipser for Central Parking Corporation to amend the existing garage permit to include all 125 existing parking spaces.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0.*

**Land Use Committee**

**Joint with Transportation Committee**

**Andrew Albert, Chairperson**

**Full Board Vote: 22 In favor 1 Against 4 Abstentions 0 Present**

**9. Re: ULURP N040202ZRY Community Facilities Zoning Text Change.**

The New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) has proposed a zoning text amendment respecting community facilities. For the most part, the amendment concerns low density areas of the city, primarily outside of Manhattan.

Unfortunately, the text change fails to address issues of importance within Community Board 7, including a substantial FAR bonus for community facilities and an exemption to the rear yard requirements in R7-2 zones for schools and hospitals.

Community Board 7 believes that the existence of a FAR bonus for community facilities development will place undue pressure on housing stock, particularly in R7-2 districts. In R7-2 zones, community facility uses should not replace residential uses, but should instead supplement residential uses, limited to the bonusable FAR.

Community Board 7 also believes that encroachment into rear yards in R7-2 zones by schools may not always be in the best interest of the surrounding community. All encroachments should be by special permit. Moreover, 23 feet is excessively high; at least half of that allowable height should be below the average grade of the curb.

Accordingly, Community Board 7/Manhattan RESOLVES that:

In connection with the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Resolution (ULURP #N040202ZRY) affecting community facilities,

1) the community facility use of sites in R7-2 zone be limited to the bonusable area;

2) the availability of an exemption from the prohibition on building in required rear yards for schools, day care centers, houses of worship, colleges and universities, and hospitals or health care facilities be made subject to special permit, and not as of right;

3) 50% of the right of any rear yard extension be below average grade level; and

4) that DCP reconsider its proposal for mandated off-street parking for houses of worship in view of the inappropriateness of such a requirement for Orthodox and Conservative synagogues.

*Committee: 3-0-0-0. Board/Public Members: 2-0-0-1.*

**Transportation Committee**

**10. Re: Request for curb cut at PS 87, West 77<sup>th</sup> Street.**

**Full Board Vote: 28 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan supports the Department of Parks and Recreation's application to the Department of Buildings to install a curb cut on West 77<sup>th</sup> Street, east of Amsterdam Avenue, to allow for snow removal and maintenance at **both** PS 87 playgrounds.

*Committee: 4-0-0-0.*

**11. Re: 254 West 87<sup>th</sup> Street, d/b/a West Side M.R.I. (Broadway-West End Avenue.)**

**Full Board Vote: 3 In favor 18 Against 4 Abstentions 0 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan supports West Side M.R.I.'s request to the Department of Transportation for 20-foot "No Parking" zone in front of their business, to allow for ambulettes to pull to the curb.

*Committee: 3-2-0-0. Public Member: 0-1-0-0.*

**12. Re: Broadway at West 110<sup>th</sup> Street protected left-turn.**

**Full Board Vote: 28 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan reiterates its **approval** of the installation of a protected left-turn (eastbound) movement for traffic on southbound Broadway at West 110<sup>th</sup> Street.

*Committee: 7-0-0-0. Public Members: 2-0-0-0.*

**13. Re: 423 Amsterdam Avenue (West 80<sup>th</sup>-81<sup>st</sup> Street.)**

**Full Board Vote: 25 In favor 1 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application to the Department of Consumer Affairs by BSWR, Corp. d/b/a Sarabeth's Kitchen, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 10 seats.

*Committee: 5-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.*

**14. Re: 695 Amsterdam Avenue (West 93<sup>rd</sup>-94<sup>th</sup> Streets.)**

**Full Board Vote: 25 In favor 2 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal application #B01527 to NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission by New Family Radio Dispatch, Inc. at 695 Amsterdam Avenue for a For Hire Base Station license.

*Committee: 7-0-0-0. Public Member: 0-0-1-0.*