



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
District Manager

Transportation, Historic Preservation, and Landmarks Committee

Monday, May 7, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

Hon. Raquel Vazquez, Chair
Hon. Lisa Downing & Hon. Maurice Sessoms, Vice-Chairs

In attendance: Raquel Vazquez, Lisa Dowling, Maurice Sessoms, Crystal Shipp
Board Members in Attendance: John Lynch, Eboni Mason, Jerika Richardson, Deborah Yates,
Safiya Mann

Excused Absence: Karen Horry

Unexcused Absence: Daniel Clark, Troy Gethers, Seitu Jewel Hart, Keith Taylor, Danni Tyson

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting began started at 6:15 pm.

- 1. Welcome/Introductions**
- 2. Discussion Items:**

203 West 138th Street

Parramatta LLC is seeking to remove, relocate and rebuild the length of brick garden wall that faces the shared driveway, extending the rear yard by 3.5 feet and to install a double wide roll up door to provide access to the parking in the rear yard and to replace the existing rear yard pavement with new concrete slab at the parking area.

The existing zoning requires a 30 ft yard. Currently the existing structure is non compliant. Dixon Advisory services the contractor argued that their reputation is important as they do a lot of work in the community. They promised to send notices to neighbors in advance of construction to address issues relating to debris and blockage.

The owner obtained a letter of support from both block associations 138th Strivers Row Block Association and Kings Court West 139th Block Association with whom they have been in communication on the matter since March 2014. The block associations authorized approval based upon plans shared and requested that no construction vehicles and/or dumpsters be places in the private driveway and block the flow of residential traffic and sanitation vehicles.

234 West 139th Street

The owners are seeking to legalize their rear garage which has a full width extension which was done without property permits. According to the owners, many other properties on the block have full width extensions. They are seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The wall and structure meet the code as built.

The resident from 232 West 139th street indicated that the alteration of the existing structure would block her light and air. A 3.5 ft parapets wall will block her light the resident was encouraged to speak with the Block Associations so that she can recommend the type of wall that would not be a disruption.

2633 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd

The New York Public Library is seeking to convert a 3,500 retail space located at the Harlem River Houses, a New York City landmarked public housing complex designed in 1975, for its new Macomb's Bridge Branch Library. Presently the library is housed in a studio apartment on the housing campus comprised of 650 sq ft. The new location will be comprised of 7 empty storefronts.

The NYPL is seeking permission from the Landmarks committee for some of the exterior modifications such as: to relocate the entrance of the library to the side perpendicular to the avenue with a canopy. They will also be putting in new floor to ceiling store front windows and taking down the existing iron gates, a new dormer with clerestory windows on 2nd floor roof above Children's area and new condenser units on the upper roof.

While the architects propose a state of the art desperately needed library facility to be completed in 2019. The space will be fully ADA compliant, equipped with new restrooms and will have 3 separate areas to accommodate children, teens and adults. There will be a community meeting room with a retractable glass wall.

There was extensive debate between residents and the NYPL regarding the use of the space, the ultimate location of the library, the insufficient amount of space proposed for such an underserved and densely populated area and the overall lack of community engagement.

NYPL acknowledged their short comings and promised to do better moving forward.

Questions: What will happened to the existing space?

There was no quorum at this meeting so votes will be held at the executive board meeting. Have extensive debate among all parties.

3. New Business

4. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.