

Community Board 12, Manhattan -- General Meeting Minutes
4/25/06 (I.S. 143 located at 515 West 182nd Street between Audubon & Amsterdam Ave)

Members Present

Dora Maria Abreu
Jackie Rowe Adams
Wayne Benjamin
James Berlin
Isaiah Bing
Aidee Camacho
Kotie Cannon
Emilia G. Cardona
Martin Collins
Sybil Dodson-Lucas
Vivian Ducat
Adam Eggers
George Espinal

Basilia Gomez

Beatrice Hall
Andre Harris
Fern Hertzberg
Eduardo Hoepelman
Mark Levine
Jose Lopez
Elizabeth Lorris Ritter
Maria A. Luna
Glenda Swanson Massa
Jay D. Mazur
Rita McKee
Helen Morik
Carole Mulligan

Pamela Palanque-North

Angelo Ortiz
Edith Prentiss
Zead Ramadan
Julio Rodriguez
Nelson Rojas
Ruddy Santana
Cleofis C. Sarete
Aaron Scott
Steve Simon
Bracha Statman
Gloria Vanterpool
Manny Velazquez
Janifer Wilson

Members Excused

Anita Barberis
Julissa Gomez
Joyce Humbler-Faison
Leslie Foster
Albania Jimenez
Julio Peguero
Gabriela Rosa

Members Absent

Joseph Sanchez

Meeting called to order at 7:25 pm

I. Adoption of the Agenda / Adopción de la Agenda

Call for Agenda approval- Sybil Dodson, seconded Ruddy Santana

II. Adoption of the Minutes / Adopción de los Minutos

Adoption of Minutes of last General Meetings – Tabled until May General Meeting

III. By-Laws Task force: Resolution amending Section 10.04.5 of the by laws to be consistent with Board practice: **Passed 28-2-0-20-0**

IV. Chair's Report / Informe de el Presidente: Martin Collins, Chair

Chairman Collins presented his report and distributed his report to the Board members. He recognized and thanked all Board members ending their term of service to NYC CB12M on March 31, 2006. He welcomed the new CB12M members present.

V. District Manager's Report / Informe de la Director del Distrito: Charles Defino, DM

District Manager, Defino gave his report, which focused on the lighting and potholes complaints and repairs. Report included in Board members packets.

VII. Special Election of Second Vice Chair:

The Chairman called for an election of the Second Vice Chair and asked for volunteers to assist in the distribution and counting of the ballots. The Chair reminded members of the mailing that they received two weeks before the meeting, which identified who was eligible to run for the office. Liz Ritter informed the Chair that Obed Fulcar's, name is listed as eligible to hold an office and she noted that Mr. Fulcar ended his tenure on the Board on 3/31/06. Chairman Collins thanked Ms Ritter for the reminder and he corrected the list.

Second Vice Chair Nominations:

Liz Ritter – nominated by B. Hall, and accepted the nomination; Fern Hertberg – nominated by Sybil Dodson-Lucas and accepted the nomination; Renato Meno – nominated by Ruddy Santana and declined the nomination; Angelo Ortiz – nominated by Martin Collins and accepted the nomination; Cleofis Cabral – nominated by Renato Mena and declined the nomination, Emilia Cardona – nominated by Renato Mena and accepted the nomination; Manny Velasquez - nominated by Aidee Camacho and declined the nomination; Maria Luna – nominated by Isaiah Bing and declined the nomination; Mark Levine – nominated by Zead Ramadan and declined the nomination.

Candidates: Candidates presented themselves to the Board.

Emilia Cardona (doesn't know how to say no), Fern Hertzberg (board member last two years, takes position seriously), Angelo Ortiz (Determined to work hard for all, felt it was honor to serve for the greater good of all), Liz Ritter (will serve if elected or not elected).

Ballots were distributed, counted and tallied.

Votes: Emilia Cardona – 4, Fern Hertzberg – 11, Angelo Ortiz – 15, Liz Ritter - 7
Top two candidates will run-off in a second round: They were Fern Hertzberg & Angelo Ortiz

Elections Results for run-off in a second round: Fern Hertzberg – 17, Angelo Ortiz – 21
New Second Vice Chair – Angelo Ortiz

VII. Borough President's Report:

Carlos Polanco spoke about Manhattan Borough President Stringer's initiatives, community board appointment process/training/reform.

IX. Public Session / Sesión pública (3 minutes for each speaker / 3 minutos por persona)

Ingrid Dominguez, Maria Rodriguez – Partnering with Community – spoke about services/health services and programs to support community.

Edith Prentiss – spoke about Citizens Healthcare -- <http://www.citizenshealthcare.gov/>
<http://www.citizenshealthcare.gov/info/listsign.php>

Savona Bailey Melbin – Harlem Heights Culture Loop: spoke about bus tour of Harlem & the Heights
<http://myharlem.org/>

Jeffrey Guimond – Open fire hydrants causing no water, (30 Bogardus Place – open fire hydrants, Building loses water when hydrants are open, has placed 311 complaints to no avail) Chairman Collins referred Mr., Guimond to the Pamela Palanque North, Chair, Public Safety. Pamela met with Jeffrey to follow up on this matter.

Warren Hartshurn, George Cruz – Greater Washington Heights Dog Run – spoke about getting approval for proposal of doing a dog run.

Eleanor Lundeen – 155th & Cave-In: Street caving in by 155th Street & are creating a danger to citizens; have placed calls to 311 to no avail.

Edward Schachmer – 155th & Cave-In: Architect spoke about the structure of the wall and streets around riverside drive and 155th St. area.

Emma Rodriguez (works at Boriqua College)– against Greenmarket Farmers Market being located 155 – 162 Streets, has spent a lot of work and money on the side walk , school open on Saturday & parking will be hindered if market is opened.

Zead Ramadan: stated that at the committee meeting no one was against it and that ample notification was sent out to community.

Jim Berlin – Castle Village Reconstruction: Speaking as the Castle Village Owners Association, Reconstruction of wall will begin & last about 1 year

Jose Adames – spoke about there being a parking problem in the community

X. Public Officials' Reports (6 minutes) / Informe de Oficiales Electos (6 minutes) Representatives of Elected Officials (3 minutes) / sus Representantes (3 minutos)

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer: Rosemond Pierre-Louis Deputy Borough President -refer to information provided.

State Senator Eric Schneiderman: -Lilliam Perez spoke about on going office legislation initiative and programs, Refer to information provided.

Assemblyman Herman Farrell: Frank Hess spoke. information in packets. He offered to answer questions if there were any. Refer to information packet provided.

Mayor Mike Bloomberg: Lolita Jackson ljackson@cityhall.nyc.gov – Mayor's community assistance unit – Manhattan director

D.A. Robert Morgenthau: Office Representative: Jocelyn Minaya spoke about office internship program. Refer to information provided.

NY City Comptroller Bob Thompson: Rafael Escano spoke about on going initiative in office, refer to information provided.

Councilman Miguel Martinez Office Representative: Annamaria Jones spoke about partnership with Sanitation & initiatives in office for example: launching housing inspection of over 100 buildings. Refer to information provided.

Councilman Robert Jackson: Office Representative: Joe McNearney spoke about two fulltime positions available, refer to information provided.

XI. Committee Reports / Informe de Comités:

1. By Laws: James Berlin, Chair – Resolution to Amend by law 10.04.5 28-2-0-20-0

2. Economic Development: Manny Velazquez, Chair

Refer to the April Minutes

Resolutions recommending SLA grant these new On-Premises Liquor licenses:

1) Don Ricardo Steakhouse 4460 Broadway **Passed 24-13-1-12-0**

2) Floridita Restaurant Uptown 4162 Broadway **Passed 34-3-1-12-0**

3) 4055 Broadway Restaurant Corp (d/b/a Fibe) 4055 Broadway **Passed 34-3-1-12-0**

Recommending SLA grant new Beer & Wine:

4) Caribe Ocean 2153 Amsterdam Ave. **Passed 30-7-1-12-0**

5) L'Fondac Restaurant 2023 Amsterdam Ave. **Passed 35-2-1-12-0**

Recommending SLA renews:

6) Cardidad Restaurant 4311 Broadway On-Premises Liquor **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

7) La Oaxaquena Restaurant 1969 Amsterdam Ave. On-Premises Liquor **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

8) El Renacer Grocery 595 Academy St. Grocery Store Beer & Wine **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

Recommending SLA allow

9) Jou Jou Inc to transfer existing Beer & Wine license from 603 West 168 St. to 4005 Broadway **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

Recommending TLC renew For-Hire Base licenses:

10) Seaman Radio Dispatcher **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

11) Amsterdam Radio Dispatcher **Passed 35-2-1-11-0**

3. Parks & Cultural Affairs/UMEZ Report: Zead Ramadan, Chair

Resolution to rescind the \$100,000 New York State Grant to the Hispanic Society of America

Passed 36-0-2-12-0

4. Traffic & Transportation: Jay Mazur, Chair

Resolution supporting Harlem Cultural Bus Loop - **Passed 34-2-2-12-0**

5. Public Safety: Pamela Palanque North, Chair - Reported on recent crimes in CB12M;
Please refer to meeting minutes in packet

6. Land Use: Wayne Benjamin, Chair - Refer to the April Minutes *

7. Housing & Human Services: Julio Rodriguez, Chair - Provided a report on upcoming
Committee initiatives; Refer to the April Minutes

8. Health & Environment: Steve Simon, Chair - Provided a report on upcoming committee
initiatives; Refer to the April Minutes

9. Youth & Education: Cleofis Sarete, Chair Refer to the April Minutes, Youth Empowerment
Day - Saturday June 3, 2006 @ High Bridge

10. Committee for Concerns of the Aging: Sybil R. Dodson-Lucas, Chair - Refer to the April
Minutes

XII. New Business/ Adjournment – Asuntos Nuevos / La Suspensión

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Respectfully submitted, Dora Maria Abreu, Secretary

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 4, 2006

Committee Members Present

Pamela Palanque North, Chair
Aidee Camacho
Adam Eggers
Julissa Gomez
Andre Harris

Committee Members Absent

Kotie Cannon, Asst. Chair
Joyce Holland

Board Members Present

George Espinal

Guests: PO Emily Lopez, NYPD 33rd PCT; Capt. Wishnia, NYPD-33rd PCT; Joselinne Minaya, NY County DA's Office; Det. Quinn, NYPD; Lt. Bessler, Manhattan North Vice; Sgt. McGinn, Manhattan North Vice

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Update On 3/18/06 Southern Heights Residents Meeting

Topic: Sale of Illicit Drugs, Youth Gang Violence, Prostitution, Noise and other street Crimes between W.165 and W.155 Street Edgecombe Ave to Broadway

- Law enforcement panel organized by CB12M Public Safety Committee
- Public Official: Councilman Robert Jackson
- Panelist: Chief Diaz, Patrol Borough Manhattan North, Captain Dowling 33rd Precinct Commander, Inspector Cully Narcotics Manhattan North (4 reps), Joselinne Minaya, Manhattan DA's Office

30-40 residents attended the meeting; concerns expressed about the above crimes in buildings, on the street and the vicinity as well. Residents expressed a need/ importance for more police presence in the area on all tours of duty.

1. NYPD will increase presence of officers in "hotspots" discussed during the meeting.
2. NYPD recommended forming a joint civilian and uniformed officer patrol in the area. Captain Dowling will follow up on this with Sundown and CB12M.
3. NMN officers will drop-off drug sales complaint forms at the meeting site. The forms are anonymous and can be faxed or mailed to Inspector Cully's office.

Narcotics Manhattan North follow-up on complaint of drug sales on W.168TH Street between B'way & Ft. Washington Ave

- Detective Quinn reported to the committee that he reviewed all arrest, undercover and complaint records concerning this issue and stated that there are NO indications of drugs being sold at this location over the past six months.
- Det. Quinn stated that the 33rd & 34th Precincts are No.1 in the Borough insofar as drug arrest.
- NMN had 4 new narcotics in March and 27 marijuana arrests in October.

Manhattan Vice Squad Presentation - Lt. Bessler & Sgt McGinn

Lt Bessler identified the types of crimes that are handled by the Vice Squad, they are: prostitution, gambling, alcohol and fireworks. There are three (3) Vice Squad Teams operating. Although

- There have been scattered reports of vice crimes in the 33rd & 34th Precinct YTD.
- Arrest related to gambling and alcohol on Nagel and Amsterdam Avenue
- Arrest of Mexican prostitution ring in Washington Heights
- A building where arrest was made for operating a prostitution ring a padlocked was placed on the entrance to the apartment building and tenants were evicted.
- Statistics concerning prostitution 2006- 33rd Precinct (2) complaints, (1) arrest
34th Precinct (0) complaints, (0) arrest
- In the case of the prostitution ring, men posted on corners and on street to direct customers to the buildings where prostitution is conducted. Mexican prostitution rings only solicit Mexican customers and only use Mexican prostitutes.
- Reports of prostitutes soliciting early in the morning near GWB and also at Bennett & Overlook.

- Lt Bessler will assign officer on the midnight shift to those areas.
- Gambling is illegal when money is involved. Penalties are relatively weak which allows those convicted to easily resume operation.
- Most illegal gambling related to sports and numbers.
- When arrests are made for illegal gambling the police confiscate all equipment and cash arrest those involved and issue summons to those on premise.
- There are 'Vice teams' on the street and undercover
- Vice squad must witness the bet being taken
- Street dice-games known as a 'precinct condition' and under the jurisdiction of the local Pct.
- Fireworks- this year the NYPD has a special initiative they will launch in the spring to control the sale of illegal fireworks(see attached article)
- NYPD offering a reward to citizens who identify those selling fireworks illegally.
- Lt Bessler will send the Public Safety Committee Chair the flyer with a description of the Fireworks Initiatives.
- 311 will take all complaints and info on reward
- NYPD instituting a "no excusals" policy about attendance of officers over the July 4th holiday period. 34th & 33rd and FDNY maximizing presence of police officers.

Reports from the 33rd and 34th Precinct

- 34th Precinct all crimes down with the exception of robberies and grand larceny. Robberies are primarily associated to cell phone thefts. Occurs when the owner is unaware, distracted and exposes their cell phone.
- Grand larceny associated with car theft.
- Report of vandalized cars on B'way near 189th Street. Suspicious circumstances.
- Update of complaint of shots fired on Vermylea Ave. – police ballistics report verified that shots were fired-no one shot or hurt at that location.
- 33rd Precinct crime down YTD
- Decrease in murder (-50%) YTD
- Rape (-62%) YTD
- Robberies 54 Vs 73 YTD
- Felonies (-20%) YTD
- Grand larceny 44 Vs 41 YTD –Increase in IPOD and cell phone theft. Thief reported to be on bike rides by and snatches item from person. Victim usually a youth.
- Increase in vandalism and theft of cars parked on Edgecombe and RSD.
- Arrest (1) '06 for Grand Larceny
- Report of homeless individuals in subway on W191st Street. Report of drug sales at that location, as well.
- Domestic Violence – Stabbing of a family member. DV a problem.

Report from Manhattan DA's Office

Participation and attendance at Youth Violence Conference on 4/01/06. The conference had a dynamic and informative panel. Conference organizer will work with the CB and other organizations to increase attendance next year. CB12M will be happy to collaborate on this.

- Report of Youth Gang violence and intimidation.
- "Pretty Young Pimps" or (PYP) is one gang operating in Inwood. Said to be terrorizing kids near St. Jude's. Committee said youth are requesting help from the NYPD, specifically the 34th Precinct.
- Two locations reported to be "notorious" for youth violence are IS 143 and 218.
- Report of stabbing at 'Melodia' in early February. Video did not show suspect. No arrest, open case 207th and Post Ave.
- Outreach to Our Lady Queen of Martyr's on this matter.

Date of next Public Safety Committee Meeting May 3, 7PM. Topic: Rape and Processing of Rape Victims – NYPH DOVE Program

Minutes submitted by: Pamela Palanque North, Committee Chair

COMMITTEE FOR THE AGING MINUTES

April 11, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sybil R. Dodson-Lucas, Chair
Fern Hertzberg, Asst. Chair
Mark Levine
Nelson Rojas
Gloria Vanterpool

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Glenda Swanson-Massa, (exc)
Leslie Foster, (exc)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

PUBLIC MEMBER
John Kinney

Guests: Norma DeCandido-Resident; Mary E. Jones Springer-Resident, Dr. Victoria Raveis, Columbia University, Albert Murray, VA-NYHHCS; Ed Daniels, I.V.C Inc., David Kach, Mirka Kunstek, Carmen Lopez, Stephanie Koutcher-YU-Wurzweiler-School of Social Work; Rafael Escano-NYC Comptroller Office,

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Meeting convened at 10:15am

Introduction remarks by Sybil Dodson-Lucas, Chair.

Review of mail and announcement of free "Safe return" bracelets from Alzheimer's Association
Presentation by Dr. Seneida Fernandez re: Improving hypertension outcomes with minority elders. Group counseling is a primary intervention. It will focus on diet and physical activity. Centers for recruitment will include senior centers in our community. Concern was expressed by audience regarding limited pool of study participants. Also interested in outreach to churches which exceeds \$ and time of study. The study focuses on life-style changes to keep hypertension under control.

Dr. Victoria Raveis-Diabetes and Older Adults. Impact of disease on older person and their family system. Important public health issue. Diabetes rates increasing ten-fold by 2050 in black men, while seeing a projection of a three fold increase for the general older adult population. Burden of diabetes is increased body deterioration (ages body + 10 yrs of age). Management include diet, exercise, monitoring sugar levels, foot and vision care. The burden for management is on the patient and their family as it is a lifestyle type of control (Type II diabetes). Discussion of burdens on caregivers and challenges to caregivers. Conclusion that programs and services have to include the family and caregiving issues in planning and impact on patient and family. Goal is to reach out to community and community doctors since diabetes is a chronic illness.

Medicare Part D Study in Senior Centers – the four students read much of their study. The major problems were the confusion about Part d. Latin Spanish speaking seniors were enrolled in plans but not understanding their benefits. Their recommendations are attached.

Requested that Mr. Daniels be present next month to discuss VA benefits re: prescriptions, as we make a final push on Medicare Part D information.

"Access A Ride" issues also will be on the May agenda.

Adjourned meeting 11:45am

Respectfully submitted by Fern Hertz berg, reviewed by Sybil Dodson-Lucas

Respectfully Submitted, Sybil Dodson-Lucas

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – April 5, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair
Helen Morik, Asst. Chair
Basilia Gomez
Bracha Statman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Beatrice Hall (excused)
Obed Fulcar

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Martin Collins

PUBLIC MEMBER PRESENT

Matthew Chachere

GUESTS: Lisa Weisberg - Senior VP, Gov't Affairs & Public Policy, ASPCA; Lee Steinberg, Yulisa Compres.

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1. Martin Collins opened the meeting by discussing article in today's NY Times reporting that Massachusetts has passed a precedent-setting law requiring that all residents have health insurance.
2. **Boiler inspections** – Lee Steinberg, local resident, recounted his experience dealing with a polluting smokestack at a building on W. 170th St. The boiler was not operating at the time the DEP inspector arrived, but Mr. Steinberg was able to convince the inspector to order the building's super to start the boiler so that it could be properly checked to see whether it was emitting pollutants. He recommends that DEP change its inspection procedures so that the boilers are turned on whenever an inspection is conducted.
3. **Proposed legislation on NYC's animal control program** – presentation by Lisa Weisberg, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs & Public Policy, ASPCA:
 - ASPCA gave up animal control in 1995 because it did not want to kill unclaimed strays
 - City created non-profit entity, Animal Care & Control (ACC), to take its place
 - no animal control officers today
 - ACC has to hold strays for 48 hours to see if they are claimed
 - DOHMH only licenses 18% of NYC dogs for \$8.50 fee
 - State legislation would raise fee to \$10, \$5 extra for 'intact' dogs
 - when ASPCA ran program, 60% of dogs were licensed
 - disincentive for obtaining license is that penalty for having unlicensed dog is only \$2
 - another problem is that DOHMH takes months to issue licenses; by then it's time to renew
 - ACC only has \$7.5M in current budget, needs \$25-30M to do the job right
 - in the past, City gave ASPCA \$4.5M, ASPCA raised another \$1M
 - the more dogs licensed, the fewer have to be housed by ACC
 - animal control now under Pest Control @ DOHMH
 - 22,000 dogs euthanized each year = 65% of those impounded

To deal with these issues, ASPCA has drafted a bill (yet to be introduced in the City Council) that would recodify all existing laws pertaining to animals in one section of the Administrative Code. It would require full-service shelters in all boroughs, including late-night and weekend hours. (Currently there are no shelters in the Bronx, Queens & Staten Island). It also would create a training and certification program for animal control officers. She distributed an outline of the bill and said she would like Board 12 to endorse it. The committee asked for a copy of the full text, which she promised to send along with a copy of a resolution passed by Community Board 3.

Ms. Weisberg also asked whether our community had any particular animal control problems. We told her about a long-time problem with wild stray dogs in Highbridge and Inwood Hill parks.
4. **Health fair for livery drivers and others** – M. Collins reported that a meeting will be held on 4/24 to plan for the next health fair sponsored by NY-Presbyterian Hospital (the first one was held last year at the suggestion of Board 12). The fair was so successful that the hospital wants to expand it to include workers at beauty salons, nail salons and bodegas. H. Morik noted that some drivers were immediately referred to the emergency room when they were found with very high blood pressure.
5. **Health Department's bodega initiative** – M. Collins reported that the Health Department has promised to include our community in the next phase of its program urging bodegas to carry low-fat milk, fresh fruit and vegetables, etc.,

which should begin in the summer. H. Morik: should be paired with an educational program working with the schools. Committee agreed, and Mr. Collins agreed to pass the idea along to the Health Dept.

6. Ideas for next meeting: May 3 – S. Simon noted that Harlem Hospital representatives did not attend tonight's meeting to discuss its modernization project and may want to attend next month. Also, a new health plan, CarePlus, opened an office in the community in March. It was agreed that a representative could be invited to make a presentation next month. H. Morik suggested that we invite the physician in charge of the Ambulatory Care Network site at 64 Nagle Ave. to report on her findings concerning the status of family medicine in the Dominican Republic and, at the June meeting, someone else from the hospital to discuss its new signage or 'wayfinding' plan. M. Collins suggested that we invite Dr. Dixon Despommier to discuss his ideas concerning vertical farming in the city. It was agreed that all of these speakers would be invited to future meetings.

7. Announcement – M. Chachere reported that the Lead-Safe House operated by the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. has received an award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
S. Simon

Land Use Committee - Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2006

Committee Members Present

Wayne A. Benjamin, Chair
Dora Maria Abreu
Julio Rodríguez
James Berlin
Aaron Scott
Julissa Gomez
Joyce Humber-Faison

Committee Members Absent

Anita Barberis, Asst. Chair (exc.)

Board Members Present

Emilia Cardona
Isaiah Obie Bing

Guests: Rex Curry, City College-Architectural Center, Charles Defino-District Manager,

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM.
2. Mr. Benjamin welcomed a new Board Member, Obie Bing, in attendance at the Land Use meeting and advised the committee that Anthony Borelli, the Manhattan Borough President's Director of Land Use and Development, and the Land Use staff from the Manhattan Borough President's office will attend the May 2006 Land Use committee meeting instead of tonight's meeting.
3. CB12 Chair, Martin Collins provided the committee with an update on the Sherman Creek project. It was indicated that a meeting between Con Edison and the Mayor's Office is scheduled Friday, April 7th. The agenda for the meeting is to seek Con Edison's agreement on certain concessions related to the property it controls in the Sherman Creek study area. It was also indicated that City Planning and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development are ready to commence community forums pertaining to Sherman Creek but are awaiting indication as to Con Edison's willingness to cooperate. Mr. Collins also reported that the City is working to finalize an approach to waterfront development, the street-end parks are out-to-bid and that a new location needs to be found for NYPD's vehicle pound.
4. The Land Use committee (the "Committee") and Rex Curry, City College Architectural Center discussed the arrangements for the Saturday, April 29th Community Resident's Workshop. The location of the workshop, IS 143, was confirmed. Martin Collins will coordinate with the district manager Charles DeFino and CB12 Treasurer, Sybil Dodson, with regard to the provision of lunch for the workshop participants. Mr. Curry indicated that CCAC intends to call CB12's elected officials to solicit their participation; CB12 was asked to reinforce this request with its own calls. Mr. Curry also indicated that assistance is required in reaching and obtaining the participation of certain community-based organizations and institutions, e.g.: Progressive Dominicans, Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition, Isabella Geriatric Center, Yeshiva University, in the planning study. Mr. Collins indicated that CB12 would facilitate outreach to these organizations and institutions. CCAC and the Committee also discussed inviting various city agencies to participate in the April 29th workshop, the proposed topics for small group discussion and facilitators for the small group discussions.
5. The Committee discussed the Audubon Avenue Study and agreed to defer the planned additional field work (intercept interviews of shoppers and residents) and instead present a resolution for the Board's consideration in May 2006 requesting the City Planning officially undertake rezoning initiative for the Audubon Avenue Study area and, as part of this process, work with CB12 to obtain additional public input on the matter.

6. The Committee discussed the development of 2142 Amsterdam Avenue and agreed to present a resolution for the Board's consideration in May 2006 to go on the record with Columbia University and city-government in support of the development of the site for affordable housing, consistent with agreement reached between the city-government (spearheaded by Councilman Michels) and Columbia in the context of the initial phase of the Audubon Research and Development project.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Wayne A. Benjamin

Minutes of the Traffic & Transportation Committee –April 3, 2006

Committee Members Present

Jay Mazur, Chair
James Berlin, Asst. Chair
Anita Barberis
Renato Mena

Committee Members Absent

Obed Fulcar

Guests:, Ed Nickeys, Lower Washington Heights Neighborhood Association; Sarah Morgridge, Councilman Jackson's office; Richard Hughes, Resident; John Kinney, Citizen's Police Academy; Genta Jwasaki, Hunter College; Johnny Ho, Edwards & Kelley; Syed Rahman, NYSDOT; John Culpepper, LWHMA

Chair Mazur opened the meeting at 7:15PM stating that DOT study of the Sherman Creek area would be presented at our next meeting. We had planned to address the M-4 bus route if MTA would be in attendance as well as the participation of the affected residents. Chair will clarify next month's agenda. Also, the traffic study of the 181st Street corridor has been funded.

Cars double-parking on Cooper Street between 207 and Isham Streets, while Sanitation cleans the streets, have been ticketed. There has been an unwritten understanding of "relaxed enforcement" during this 1-1/2 hour ASP (alternate-side-of-the-street) parking on one-way residential streets. Traffic Enforcement is issuing these tickets, not the 34th Police Precinct. Traffic Enforcement claims it is a play-school street, which was disclaimed in a letter from the principal of Good Shepherd School stating that that section of Isham Street is rented to the City University of NY and therefore is not a school zone. Traffic Enforcement further claims that emergency vehicles do not have access when cars are double-parked on one side of the street, which also is not the case. What action should we take? (1) Draft a resolution to the Manhattan Borough President. (2) Request assistance from our elected officials to get to Traffic Enforcement. (3) Look at it locally and have T-103 meet with our Committee. It was agreed that it should be a combination of all of the above.

State DOT reviewed the rehabilitation of the Alexander Hamilton ramps. Last October, 2005 they shared the details of this project and we requested an update. No substantial changes to the original plan. Although there are six stages, only Stages 1 and 2 will affect our community. There will be traffic mitigation along Audubon Avenue as there will be no parking from 175-178 Streets with a Traffic Enforcement agent re-routing traffic. Project is set to begin in January and go till May, 2007.

John Culpepper of LWHNA presented facts about PM 2.5, which is fine particulate matter coming from diesel engines and other sources. These microscopic particles are related to serious health problems, in particular asthma. Any concentration over 15pg/m3 is unsafe. Utilizing his sophisticated machines, 219 St. measured 226 (6/05) and 252 (11/05) truly a cause for concern.

Need to look at the car wash on 219th Street and Broadway that spills into traffic cutting off one lane. There must be a better pattern of traffic for this business so that the cleanly washed vehicles do not sit on Broadway while being dried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted: Anita Barberis

**Community Board 12, Manhattan
Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee Minutes – April 4, 2006**

Committee Members Present

Zead Ramadan, Chair
Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Asst. Chair
Emilia Cardona
Joseph Sanchez
Aaron Scott

Board Members Present

Martin Collins, Chair
Wayne Benjamin
Edith Prentiss
Steve Simon

Staff Attending

Jeffrey A. Laufer, Community Assistant

Guests: Lichiana Amigo, Resident; Claire Murray, Resident; Laura Thorpe, Javits Playground Community Alliance (JPCA); Maria Herrera, JPCA; Jocelyn Bowne, JPCA; Carol Griffin, JPCA; Julia Attaway, JPCA; Ellen Pollan, Bronx Council of the Arts; Bill Aguado, Bronx Council of the Arts; Mike Fitelson, Manhattan Times; Tom Strumolo, Cathy Chambers & Chris Gatro of the Green Market; Rosa Naparstek, Artist Unite; James Stovall, United Palace; Geoffrey Atkins, Juneteenth Committee; Yusuf Hasan, Juneteenth Committee; Nicholas Arture, Association of Hispanic Artists; Carmen Trabal, Local Artist; Maurine Knighton, UMEZ; Julie Liu, UMEZ; Luis Mirada, KC Saul, NYC Parks; Frank Foester, Local Artist; Linda Walton, Harlem Arts Alliance; Vega Rivers, Harlem Arts Alliance;

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

I. The Greenmarket (Tom Strumolo & Chris Gatro)

- ◆ Letter was set to both institutions regarding the requested change.
- ◆ They have offered to promote both institutions
- ◆ Have gathered 500 signatures from the community & residents in favor of the move.

The Greenmarket got lost in its current setting. If the market moved around the corner to Broadway, the farmers would be willing to return. Q: (Zead Ramadan) What was the response, if any, by Audubon Terrace? The Board hasn't received any correspondence. A: They were notified but did not respond. Since there seems to be no objection to the move and the fact that the Greenmarket has a petition with 500 signatures supporting the move, the move seems OK. Ms. Cardona agreed with this assessment due to the petition that the Greenmarkets has and the lack of action by Audubon Terrace, especially with the Hispanic Society of America moving. CB12 will send a letter of support.

- II. Jocelyn Bowne & Julia Attaway, Javits Playground Community Alliance:** "Neighborhood has changed since last renovations 16 years ago; there are lots of new families and various young people. The area has outgrown this playground. We are committed to community outreach, and planning a playground that works for everyone." They have met with Department of Parks & Recreation, Councilmember Robert Jackson's office. Robert Jackson has committed to supporting this with money. "We don't want a replacement playground; we want a great playground that is great for everyone." Zead Ramadan: CB 12 supports this. That playground has not had recent renovations and this group is going through the proper process, meeting with DPR & local elected officials.

- III. Geoffrey Atkins, Juneteenth Committee:** After the Emancipation Proclamation was issued in 1863, effective January 1st 1864, many slaves – particularly in the State of Texas – were not informed that they had been freed. On June 19, 1865, in Texas, freedom finally was recognized; this day has now been celebrated as a day for families. Many states observe this date as a state holiday, and there is a movement to make it a National Holiday. With support from Gov. Pataki, this is likely to become a State Holiday. There has been a Juneteenth Celebration in New York City for 13 years. The Juneteenth Committee would like to have a carnival this year in Highbridge Park. Looking at multiple venues including Highbridge to get citywide participation. Q: (Cardona) What kind of rides? A: Mechanized rides; we have insurance. Q: Have you been in contact with DPR? A: Yes, but we want feed back from CB 12. DPR requires 30-days advance notice. This will not involve street closures. Q: Where in Highbridge Park? A: (Joseph Sanchez, Dir. of Highbridge) 175th St. on the North side at the end of the hill. The carnival would not be on Juneteenth, but in conjunction with the children's festival. Presenter also noted a "walk-a-thon" on April 29, through Central Harlem called "Prison Ain't No Good!" to raise awareness about youth in prisons.

- IV. **KC Saul, Administrator of Riverside & Fort Washington Parks** spoke about current conditions in Fort Washington Park along Hudson south of GW Bridge. Mr. Saul can be reached at 212-408-0264 or KC.Sahl@parks.nyc.gov. He asked that people please reach out to him if you have any questions, issues or concerns with the park. There is a vehicular entrance to the park and you can also enter the park on the pedestrian walkway near the tennis courts. However, due to various construction projects at the GWB and by DOT to replace the stairs, vehicular traffic is a problem. Mr. Saul has worked with DOT and PANYNJ on ways to fix the area and to return parkland to DPR after construction. DPR is working with other agencies to "stay ahead of the curve" on fixing the problems that are created by the winter weather (potholes, grass, etc.).
- V. **Arts Stroll**: Zead gave a brief introduction to the Arts Stroll's history and development in the Washington Heights and Inwood community since 2003: "a beautiful marriage of the arts, performing arts & economic development". We need to figure out how to get all the groups together to increase the success and create an umbrella organization that can act not only programmatically but also as a fiscal conduit to bring money into the community and provide staff support to the artists.
- VI. **Bill Aguado & Eileen Pollan, Bronx Council of the Arts** spoke of the struggles that a new organization faces and how arts services management organizations must serve artists and their specific needs. They must have a good economic development component to be effective. There is power in numbers. There must be access to resources. Must have various organizations to help provide different kinds of technical assistance and must also continue to support the artists who actually create. Cultural development & community development need to be tied into economic development.
- VII. **Linda Walters & Vega Rivers, Harlem Arts Alliance**: gave summary on their history and development. Wanted to coordinate theater openings & work together to have a unified theater organization. There had been a cultural institution in Harlem for over 15 years until the 90's, but when of their NYC/NYS funds were transferred to the Lower Manhattan Community Council (LMCC), HAA was unable to support uptown artists. Began to meet informally and after 9/11 meet more formally as the importance and value of the arts became so clear. Currently they have over 400 members. They started with 12 groups with no space, but they had very dedicated groups to go out and recruit others. Now have a staff and office space in Riverside Church. HAA provides professional development and technical assistance, help with special projects, advocacy and education to help artists. Maureen Knighton, UMEZ: "We have provided funds to HAA & AHA. We intend to do the same in for a Washington Heights & Inwood arts group.
- VIII. **Nicholas Arture, Association of Hispanic Arts (AHA)**: Founded in 1975. An arts organization is only as strong as its constituency: that is, its artists. Can't be "top down" administration; must identify needs and meet artists where they are. Edith Prentiss raised issue of accessibility if any arts group is going to go anywhere in this community, stressing the importance of figuring out how to be ADA compliant. This is largely an infrastructure issue, but part of it is also awareness that accessibility is important.
- IX. The committee discussed a resolution regarding rescinding fiscal support for Hispanic Society of America (HSA). The vote was unanimous, in favor of the resolution: 5 committee members & 2 CB 12 members. (The members of the public did not remain for this discussion.)

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Assistant Chair & Jeffrey A. Laufer, Community Assistant
Reviewed by Zead Ramadan, Chair

