

**Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1, 2009**

**Committee Member**

Emilia Cardona, Chair  
George Cruz  
Andria Reyes

**Committee Absentees**

Ninoska Uribe - excused  
Ingrid Dominques-Brito  
Rev. Antonio Almonte  
Cleofis Sarete  
Jennifer Araujo

**Board Members Attending**

Edith Prentiss

**Staff:** Deborah Blow, Community Coordinator

**Guests:** Dep Insp. Joseph Dowling, NYPD 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct., Emily Lopez, 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct., PO Robinson Hewitt, 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct., Joselinne Minaya-Man. DA's Office, Lt. Rivera, NYPD 34<sup>th</sup> Pct., Deborah Cardona-Resident, Candice Delevante-resident

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Ms. Cardona, called meeting to order at 7:15pm

Ms. Cardona opened up the discussion sharing a complaint from a resident who recently became a tenant of 838 Riverside Drive. There are concerns re: drug activity in the vicinity. It was stated that the building is not secured from the front door to the roof door. Tenant explained that she is in the process of relocating due to this extreme activity.

Deputy Inspector Dowling of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Pct. commented that if tenant was agreeable to using her apartment for observation, then his team would be able to eradicate the situation. In addition, Deputy Inspector Dowling ask for the number to the owner so that his team might also be able to set up surveillance in an empty apartment which would not interfere with the primary tenant's lodging.

Deputy Inspector Dowling provided the group with stats: 1 homicide for the year, down in rapes, decrease in robberies, increase in assaults, stealing cars increase

	<u>status</u>	<u>09</u>
Homicide	<u>UI</u>	<u>1</u>
Shooting		<u>3</u>
Rapes	<u>decrease</u>	<u>6</u>
Robberies	<u>decrease</u>	<u>38</u>
Felonies		<u>31</u>
Burglaries		<u>14</u>
Grand larceny	<u>decrease</u>	<u>32</u>
Grand larceny auto	<u>Increase</u>	<u>17</u>
Assaults	<u>Increase</u>	

:UI – under investigation

Inspector Dowling reported that he will be sitting down with the Impact Captain and the Impact Response Team to address the concerns at the W. 157<sup>th</sup> Street subway.

Lt. Rivera of the 34<sup>th</sup> Pct. reported for the last 28 days crime is down 29.8%, overall crime categories is down 18%, there is a spike in robbery 12% for the year. Collars are over, summer monitoring of Dyckman Marina and W. 207<sup>th</sup> Street are in place even though there will be a decrease in rookie participation.

Cardona: recommended that the Stimulus monies which will be included to their budget might be better used applying the money to scooters cars that are working properly, etc.

Ms. Cardona commented that in preparation to summer activities, she will be sending a letter out inviting Chief Raymond Diaz of North Manhattan Patrol and the Commanding officers of both local precincts to discuss the overall neighborhood's concerns. She provided the group with an example of various questions of interests.

G. Cruz reported that police enforcement could be better utilized monitoring the motorcycle racing which takes place every summer. Lt. Rivera said hopefully a consistent vigil will discourage these riders and they will go back to Randalls Island.

Resident spoke to the group about vibrations that some of these car sound systems cause when riding through the neighborhoods.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Blow and reviewed by Emilia Cardona

Committee for the Concerns for the Aging  
April 14, 2009

Committee Members Present: Gloria Vanterpool, Edgard Nau, Ramona Gomez, Rev. Almonte

Guests: Norma De Candido, Zamira Setara-Con Edison, Jim McNiff, Raphael Escano-Comptroller's Office, Rosemary Cortez, Mary Jones Springer, Ernestine Walker

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Meeting opened at 10:15am by Chairperson, Gloria Vanterpool. A welcome was extended to all present and a new committee member, Rev. Almonte was introduced. He shared his background and explained why he joined the committee.

**Boro President Advisory Meeting Report**

A representative from the N Y Academy of Medicine discussed a findings report that has just been completed. He mentioned that communities around the world are in the midst of major demographic transformation, and New York City is no exception. New Yorkers are living longer and healthier lives. By 2030, one fifth of our City's population will be over the age of 60. The time is now to plan for our aging population. N Y C. Mayor's Office and the N Y C City Council have joined together with the N Y Academy of Medicine and others to evaluate the City's age -friendliness and to develop a new vision of what it means to older here. The report was distributed in a booklet to all present and encouraged to read it and bring suggestions to our next aging meeting to submit to this to the Mayor's office.

**Mayor's Aging Advisory**

Gloria Vanterpool (chairperson) attended that meeting at which the new Commissioner of Department for Aging, Lillian Barrios Pauli, was introduced. A memo was distributed updating everyone on the highlights of the comments made by the commissioner at the March 30 City Council Aging Budget Hearing. She has also accepted an invitation to speak at our Washington Heights Interagency Council on April 23, 2009 at Isabella Geriatric Center.

**N.Y.Public Library Ft. Washington Heights 179<sup>th</sup>**

A new librarian -in -charge has been chosen. Her name is Jennifer Zorr. Ms. Vanterpool attended a meeting at the reformation of the Support Group in March. At that time, other community persons expressed various ideas in attendance and they were informed of the new outreach operation. At present, a librarian visits Ft. Tryon Nursing Home and offers a story hour weekly. At the next meeting, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am, more activities will be announced. Ms Zorr will be attending committee meeting as well as the General Meetings with the Community Board #12.

**U.S. Postal Service**

Once again, there is serious concern regarding the service at the neighborhood post office (180<sup>th</sup>). It was mentioned that the window for handicapped individuals and seniors is most often not manned. This causes those persons to stand on long lines for a half hour or more. It was also mentioned that (180<sup>th</sup>) office would be moving. All were concerned as to where this will be. An effort will be made to have a representative from the post office at a future meeting.

**Upper Manhattan Partnership Visit**

At our last meeting in March, we visited the Upper Manhattan Partnership at 218<sup>th</sup> St. and Broadway and all who attended felt that it was a positive visit, meeting the staff and being informed of the operation. and service for our community

**Money Management Program**

Procedures were reviewed and distributed and appeal was made to refer any person 62years of older who might need this service.

Meeting ended at 11:25 am    Next meeting is scheduled May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Note: April 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am @Isabella Geriatric Center  
Washington Hghts. Inter/Agency Council  
Commissioner for Dept. for Aging to speak

May 1 @ 8:30 am –1:00 pm  
Yeshiva University- Workshop  
“Navigating the Health Care Maze

Respectfully submitted by: Gloria Vanterpool

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## HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES - MINUTES

April 2, 2009

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cheryl Pahaham, Chair  
Glenda Swanson Massa, Asst. Chair  
Carole Mulligan

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Pamela Palanque-North (Excused)  
Ruddy Santana (Excused)

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

**Staff Member Present:** Ebenezer Smith

**Guests:** Anthony Parson and Rosenny Chavez, Residents

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Chairperson Cheryl Pahaham convened the meeting at 7:11 PM.

Pahaham announced a seminar on environmental health to be held by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and Community Board 12 on April 30, 2009, from 6 to 9 PM. She asked committee members to save the date and to spread the word about the seminar, which includes practical information on pesticides, indoor and outdoor air quality, mold and lead abatement, pest management, fire and building safety, among other issues. The event will be held in the Garden Café at New York Presbyterian Hospital, with access from the 167<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway entrance. The event will be taped for television. HPD would prepare a flyer for distribution.

The committee discussed planning a forum on housing court. Committee members agreed that the goal of the forum would be to hear stories from residents about their experiences in housing court, to provide information to residents on how to navigate housing court with and without legal representation, and to discuss the appointment and removal processes for housing court judges. Committee members selected the evening of June 17, 2009 (from 6 to 9 PM) for the forum and agreed to invite a legal aid attorney, a housing court judge, the Citywide Task Force on Housing Court and Manhattan Together, as well as all CD 12 housing advocates and tenant associations. Committee members agreed to invite relevant players and secure a location either in an Inwood church or in an apartment building.

Pahaham suggested that representatives from the Furman Center be invited to discuss the new affordable housing database currently in development. The database would track when subsidies or agreements for such housing would expire, enabling communities to mobilize to save this type of housing. Committee members wanted to hear more about the database. Parson asked about a presentation on food stamps from the New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA). He noted that he could not understand why a disabled senior living off SSDI would receive only \$10 in food stamps. Committee members Swanson Massa and Mulligan agreed that they wanted to better understand eligibility and would appreciate a presentation from HRA. Pahaham noted that no committee members attended the last presentation on food stamps by the Food Bank of New York. Swanson Massa added that she would like HRA to present an overview of the impact of the federal stimulus funds on benefits administered by HRA. Pahaham agreed to contact the Furman Center and HRA so that either one could present, possibly at the next committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Minutes submitted by Cheryl Pahaham, 04/08/09

## Land Use Committee - Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2009

### Committee Members Present

Wayne Benjamin, Chair  
Anita Barberis, Asst. Chair  
James Berlin  
Isaiah Bing  
Richard Allman  
Tamara Rivera  
Dora Maria Abreu

### Committee Members Absent

Ines Saldana-Olesen  
Vivian Ducat (excused)

### Board Members

Steve Simon

Staffer: Deborah Blow, Community Coordinator

Guests: Miguel Martinez-Councilmember, Renato Mena, Rafael Escano-NYC Comptroller Off., Tamara Milstyn-Resident, Julio Peguero-BID, George Sanchez, Ex. Dir-Washington Heights BID, Michael Kolber-MBPO Fellowship, Kevin Daly, Project Mgr-Walter B. Melvin Architects, Mike Demurjian, Steve Hoffman, Edwin Marshall-Manhattan DCP,

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1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM with welcoming remarks and introductions. Land Use Chair Wayne Benjamin provided a brief update on the March 24th public hearing held by the Landmarks Preservation Commission ("LPC") noting that a LPC representative advised that the public comments received concerning the proposed designation of the Audubon Park Historic District and Fort Washington Presbyterian Church were generally positive. It was also noted that LPC referred the Cloisters to Community Board 12-Manhattan ("CB12-M") to discuss a proposed project and that the matter is on the agenda for tonight's Land Use Committee ("LU" or the "Committee") meeting.

2. Edwin Marshall from the Department of City Planning ("DCP") made a presentation to the Committee outlining proposed modifications to the Privately-owned Public Plazas zoning text amendment (the "Text Amendment"). CB12-M supported the Text Amendment when DCP proposed it in 2007. DCP is now proposing modifications to the Text Amendment to clarify its intent. Mr. Marshall advised that the modifications are not a ULURP action and do not require a public hearing. He also noted that publicly-owned private plazas are typically provided as a pedestrian amenity in high-density zoning districts and that the only district in CB12-M impacted by the Text Amendment or modifications thereto is the Columbia University Audubon Research and Development Complex. The modifications generally seek to make the plazas livelier and aesthetically pleasing. They clarify where seating and planting can occur, provide for greater flexibility to locate seating, planting and water features, require at least 20% of the plaza area to have surface-level planting and further define required signage and the size of signs. Additionally, with regard to the enforcement of the provisions of the Text Amendment, the modifications require an initial compliance and certification report, complete with photo documentation of the privately-owned public plaza, and follow-up compliance and certification reports every three years. As part of the modified enforcement process, the compliance and certification reports will be provided to the impacted community boards, in addition to DCP, for review and comment. After further discussion a motion was made (Anita Barberis) and seconded (Tamara Rivera) in support of DCP's proposed modifications to the Text Amendments. The resolution was approved based on the following vote:

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Committee Members	7	0	0
Other Board Members	0	0	0
Members of the Public	1	0	0

3. Kevin Daly of Walter B. Melvin Architects made a presentation on behalf of The Cloisters museum concerning the proposed replacement of a stained glass window in the Langon Chapel section of the museum. Mr. Daly advised that LPC is scheduled to consider this proposed project on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Committee was informed that The Cloisters is part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art ("MMA") and is devoted to the art and architecture of medieval Europe. The Cloister was designed to provide the public access to MMA's collection of medieval art and architectural elements in a setting that is evocative of that era. It was constructed in the 1930s but includes actual historic 14<sup>th</sup> century architectural elements such as doorways, windows, rooms and stained glass. The Langon Chapel, located at the northwest section of the main floor, is one such 14<sup>th</sup> century architectural element. In the Langon Chapel, as well as in other locations throughout The Cloisters, stained-glass panels from MMA's collection were set in the window openings of exterior walls so that they can be seen in natural light. Some of the stained glass windows are 14<sup>th</sup> century; others (the diamond-pattern design) are from the 1930's. The Committee was also informed that a project has been undertaken to address deficiencies to the water proofing of the building envelope of The Cloisters. As part of this project new thermal windows are to be installed to the exterior of the decorative stained glass windows. These new windows will also reduce ultra-violet light which can be damaging to artwork. In the Langon Chapel it is proposed that when a 1930s diamond pattern stained-glass window is removed to facilitate installation of a new thermal window it not be reinstalled but rather be replaced with a 14<sup>th</sup> century stained glass window from MMA's collection. The result will be to restore a 14<sup>th</sup> century glazing to a 14<sup>th</sup> century architectural setting. The diamond-pattern stained glass would be retained and used, as needed, to repair similar stained glass windows throughout The Cloisters. Mr. Daly noted that the installation of the 14<sup>th</sup> century stained glass window is technically a display. However, since it impacts the exterior of The Cloisters, which is a NYC landmark, it must be reviewed and approved by LPC. After further discussion a motion was made (Jim Berlin) and seconded (Richard Allman) in support of the proposed replacement in the Langon Chapel of the diamond pattern stained glass with 14<sup>th</sup> century stained glass. The resolution was approved based on the following vote:

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Committee Members	7	0	0
Other Board Members	0	0	0
Members of the Public	2	0	0

4. Planning Intern, Michael Kolber updated the Committee on the status of his Soft Site analysis of Washington Height and Inwood. He noted that a soft site analysis looks at sites that are underdeveloped. This study focuses on two categories of under-built sites - those that are built 50% to 75% of their as-of-right density and those that are built 50% or less of their as-of right density. It also examines sites zoned C8 (this zoning designation does not permit residential use) and makes initial recommendations as to which C8 sites might be considered for rezoning. Mr. Kolber noted that the initial analysis prepared in March was refined to eliminate churches and oddly configured sites and to separately identify tax-payer sites in areas with commercial overlays, i.e.: one-story retail structures in areas where denser mixed-use development is permitted. The LU Chair and Edwin Marshall

recommended that churches and oddly shaped sites not be eliminated from the study at this juncture but rather be separately identified so that we can see where they are located. Concerning the C8 sites, after discussion it was generally agreed that all of these sites with the exception of those near the West 207<sup>th</sup> Street MTA train yard should be considered for rezoning. Mike expects to finalize the study in time for the May 2009 LU and General Meetings.

5. Michael Demurjian, Steve Hoffman and their architects made an initial presentation to the Committee on a proposed mixed-use development project located at north side of West 187<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Wadsworth Avenue. Mr. Demurjian indicated that he and his family have long-standing roots in Washington Heights, the acquisition of the property that is the subject of the proposed development project began decades ago by his father and that he continued efforts commenced by his father to assemble the site. The Committee was also advised that Mr. Demurjian and Mr. Hoffman have known each other since childhood. Mr. Demurjian expressed concerns that Washington Heights, especially east of Broadway, has historically been overlooked and stated that their interest in is developing a project that will put Washington Heights on the map, generating jobs and new career alternatives for local residents and creating a renaissance for the area. The vision for the project is for it to include an education / job training component and for it to facilitate gentrification without displacement. It was also indicated that the project has been in the works for approximately three years. The project architect, GKV Architects, continued the presentation indicating that the proposed project is a 204,000 square foot, 36-story mixed-use building on a steeply sloping 17,000 square foot site in a R7-2 zoning district. R7-2 zoning allows for maximum building density / FAR of 3.44 to 4 for residential uses and 6.5 for community facility uses. The proposed project includes a hotel, banquet, residential, parking and possibly retail uses. The proposed build does not conform to existing zoning. In order to facilitate development of the project the development team is considering requesting that the site be rezoned to C6-4 and that its permissible density be increased to a FAR of 10 to 12. Total development costs are estimated at \$65 million. The rezoning process is estimated at 18 to 24 months. The construction duration is estimated at an additional 24 months. The committee was advised that based on preliminary conversations with Columbia Medical Center is generates approximately \$35-40 million in hotel room visits per year; these guest typically stay in New Jersey. LU was advised that the proposed building will be green and will use alternative energy sources. The Committee asked questions about the project's overall financial feasibility, the demand for hotel rooms, the construction schedule, the process and schedule for rezoning, why the site is vacant, if LPC has expressed any interest in the vacant buildings on the site, the affordability level of the residential units, the appropriateness of the height and density of the proposed project given the existing buildings and the possibility of developing project without the residential, i.e.: tower component. After further discussion LU indicated that it wished to be kept informed as to the project's progress, in particular as it pertains to any discussions with DCP on rezoning, as well as on project financing and development feasibility matters.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by Wayne Benjamin



## **Traffic & Transportation Committee Minutes**

### **April 6, 2009**

#### **Committee Members Present**

Mark Levine  
James Berlin  
Edith Prentiss  
Rita McKee

#### **Committee Members Excused**

Anita Barberis  
George Cruz

#### **Committee Members Absent**

George Nelson Preston

#### **C.B. 12 Members Present :**

**Guests:** Elizabeth Porter, Filomena Acevedo, Griselda Batista, Juan Hidalgo, Miguelina Echavarria, Delis Hernandez, Felix B. Checo, Josh Orzeck – DOT, Carolina D. Davis – PAL Armory, Irma Tejeda, Modesto Bautista, Juliana Hernandez, Santos Acevedo, Raisa Marcial, Ramona Hernandez, Luis Martinez, Anthony Stevens, Justin Seagal.

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#### **Updates from DoT**

- As per the committee's request, the Alternate modes division of DoT is currently completing a feasibility study for the creation of a "greenway" along Dyckman St. Josh Orzeck of DoT reports a short document containing the results is expected in early May
- Mr. Orzeck also provided an update on the 181<sup>st</sup> St. congestion study, which has been delayed due to the expansion of its scope to include additional peripheral streets, including 178<sup>th</sup> & 179<sup>th</sup> St. A new "technical menu" will be completed in April, with a presentation in May to the Project Advisory Committee, followed by a public meeting.
- In response to a query from the committee, Mr. Orzeck offered to look into the possibility of prioritizing the installation of a new bus shelter at 207<sup>th</sup> & Broadway, where one was recently removed.

#### **Street renaming**

- After testimony from representatives of the Juan Pablo Duarte Foundation, including Dr. Ramona Hernandez and Anthony Stevens-Acevedo, the committee approved a resolution in support of the renaming of the NW corner of 190<sup>th</sup> St. & Amsterdam Ave. in honor of former president of the Dominican Republic, Prof. Juan Bosch.
- The vote: 4 - 0 - 0 for committee, 30 - 0 - 1 among members of public.

#### **Illegal bus parking at MTA stops**

- The committee request that the District Manager work with the Armory to prevent buses carrying track competitors from parking in MTA bus stops.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Anita Barberis

## HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – April 2, 2009

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Simon, Isaiah Bing, Martin Collins, Helen Morik, Edgard Nau, Andria Reyes, Beatrice Hall (Public Member).

**CB 12 MEMBERS:** George Espinal, Audrey Perez.

**GUESTS:** Dan Rieber and Jules Douge, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. (NMIC); Wendy Garcia, Manhattan Borough President's Office.

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Steve Simon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. **Weatherization Program and City Council Intro. 599, the proposed "Bioheat Act"** – Dan Rieber, Director of NMIC's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), began by discussing his program:

- WAP is a federally funded program for low-income people
- NY received \$404M, largest portion nationally, of the \$5B in federal stimulus package for weatherization programs – half goes to NYC
- NMIC's workload will triple in 2 years; service area covers much of Manhattan, from 145<sup>th</sup> St. north including Marble Hill, and the east side from 96<sup>th</sup> St. down to bottom of island.
- Works with owners of apt. bldgs or small homes
- At least half of residents must be eligible by having up to 60% of the state median income. A single person should have an income under \$24,000; a family of four under approx. \$45,000. If enough tenants satisfy income requirements, whole building can be served.
- Building owners pay a fee: minimum of 25% - 35% of work scope; can get J-51 tax credit.
- Owner not allowed to raise rents as a result of improvements, no MCI increases.
- WAP does energy audits, determines what are most cost-effective, energy- efficient measures that need to be done, also looks for leaks and mold.
- Hires subcontractors to replace boilers, windows, roof insulation, lighting, refrigerators, heating and water pipes, ventilation.
- Has own crew to install smoke alarms, CO detectors, compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Last year installed air conditioners for 110 income-eligible clients under 60 with documented medical need
- Program has served total of 13,513 apts. In 405 bldgs. since 1981 -- majority have been in WH&I.
- Just finished 17 Fort George Hill. Hoping to work in 11 Fort George Hill and 45 Fairview Ave. Majority of individuals who qualify are seniors.

Rieber then discussed what he knew about the use of biodiesel (a blend of diesel fuel and soybean oil) for home heating, without taking a position on the issue. He distributed a few articles from trade publications and reported that Pennsylvania now requires a 5% biodiesel blend and Seattle is considering a 30% blend. Brookhaven National Laboratories is studying the effect on heating oil equipment. ASTM has approved 5% blend for use in equipment; also passed UL approval. Manufacturers are OK with its use. He hasn't heard of any negative side effects. Biodiesel coming close to fuel oil prices. There is a difference in CO2 emissions. Bing: it's OK for buses, trucks, cars and boats, but not for boilers. Burning biodiesel degrades rubber gaskets, hoses, fuel pumps – auxiliary parts of boilers; would have to change filters 24 hours a day. It also only has a 6-month shelf life.

Rieber volunteered to find a neutral expert to talk to us on the subject, maybe someone from Brookhaven National Laboratories. Simon accepted his offer and said the committee would table any action in regard to the City Council bill for further discussion.

2. **Update on Con Edison's M29 Transmission Line and Substation Project** – Mayra Linares, Community Liaison, was unable to attend. Bing once again raised his concern about the potential impact on the infrastructure, especially the "150-year-old gas lines," of the blasting being done for the tunnel under the Harlem River. He questioned whether Con Ed is properly measuring the vibrations caused by the blasting since the equipment is not being calibrated every month as it should be, but was last done six months or one year ago, he

said. Committee members said they were unaware of any problems within a three-block radius of the blasting at the public schools or at the Allen Pavilion. Bing also stated that 14-15 test pits were checked prior to the blasting for gas, water and phone lines and that Con Ed committed to do follow-up tests in those pits in the summer to ensure that there were no negative impacts.

Following up on the discussion at last month's meeting concerning whether Con Ed had fulfilled prior commitments made to CB 12, Collins stated that we are getting the monthly environmental and construction reports that had been promised. The committee members and Wendy Garcia agreed that the project has been going more smoothly than anticipated. Collins also reported that DOT will repave Broadway from W. 196<sup>th</sup> St. to W. 220<sup>th</sup> St. "curb-to-curb" once it has Con Ed's assurance that it won't have any more excavation work.

3. **New York-Presbyterian Hospital Report** -- Helen Morik, VP for Government and Community Affairs, who is also a member of this committee, began by reporting on her response to a complaint by an Inwood resident about a "rather large liquid discharge" from the Allen Pavilion into the Harlem River on March 22. The complaint was forwarded to her by Simon and Collins. She reported that she immediately contacted Michael Fosina, the VP for the Allen Pavilion, who investigated the matter and reported back to her that it was a normal discharge from the building's storm drainage system, which collects rainwater on the roof. The system was approved in the late 1900s by EPA, and Fosina says he was told by his engineers that it is working as planned. They will ask EPA or DEC to do follow-up testing to make sure this is the case.

Morik was asked by Simon to report on the impact of the just-approved state budget on the hospital. She said it contains very serious cuts to hospitals and praised Assembly Member Espaillat for voting against the budget because of the potential loss of jobs. The vote in the Assembly was unusually close, 83-64. 25% of NYPH's employees come from the community. NYPH suffered a \$32M cut, the largest for any private hospital in the state. There was a larger cut to HHC, the public hospitals. Harlem Hospital lost \$15M. The total cut to hospitals statewide was \$420M -- \$300M to facilities in the metro NYC area. She hasn't been able to figure out the basis for determining the size of the cuts for individual hospitals. There were a series of cuts -- the first one involved a .35% gross receipts tax on hospital revenue, another one eliminated cost-of-living increases. Governor's original budget proposal would have cut NYPH by \$78M. NYPH regained \$10M as a "crown jewel" for graduate medical education, may have more \$ for indigent care. Some cuts don't kick in until December. NYPH had a surplus last year -- \$20M. Didn't get stimulus \$. State is now getting more Medicaid \$, seeking some of it. NYPH President Pardes said he doesn't want to cut jobs or programs. NYPH expects to get more uninsured patients, with increased unemployment and people losing health coverage.

4. **Old Business** -- It was agreed that the review of the Scorecard street cleanliness ratings and discussion about enforcement of the 3-foot rule for local stores would be tabled until the next meeting, pending the receipt of additional information that has been requested.
5. **New Business**
  - Simon distributed forms for residential buildings to enroll in the Wearable Collections program, which recycles clothing and other textiles like sheets and towels.
  - Collins reported rat infestation at 500 W. 213<sup>th</sup> St.
  - Collins reported that planning has begun for the next Taxi Drivers' Health fair conducted by NYPH.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Simon

# Economic Development Committee – Minutes

April 7, 2009

*The restaurant is located on the southeast corner of West 206<sup>th</sup> Street. It is presently closed. A restaurant previously operated there. The owner, Roberto Ferrera attended and discussed the method of operation. It's a seafood restaurant that will open seven days; has 14 tables and 28 seats; a bar with 7 stools; 8 employees. After further discussion the owner agreed to close from 3:00-6:00am given the concerns from community residents and the 34<sup>th</sup> precinct about 24-hour operation.*

**EDC voted 3 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstained to recommend the new restaurant wine license. The members of the public also voted 9 in favor; 1 opposed to recommend.**

2. **Galicia 1506 Restaurant Corp.** – 1506 St. Nicholas Avenue, (bet. W. 185<sup>th</sup> & W. 186<sup>th</sup> Street.)  
*The location is between West 185-186<sup>th</sup> Street. Check of the SLA webpage showed it is not a new license but rather a renewal that expired February 28, 2009. The board office will contact the SLA for further information. Committee took no action.*

## **RENEWAL SLA APPLICATIONS:**

### **On-Premises Liquor License:**

1. **Chavettez Inc. dba No Parking** – 4168 Broadway, (at corner of W. 177<sup>th</sup> Street)

*The owners attended the meeting and neither the precinct nor residents expressed concerns. There were no objections to its liquor license renewal.*

**EDC 4-1-0, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

2. **Don Pancholo Restaurant dba El Presidente** – 3938 Broadway, (at corner of W. 165<sup>th</sup> Street)

*There were no objections to its liquor license renewal.*

**EDC 3-0-2, BRD 0-0-1, PUB 0-0-0**

3. **1218 M&M Bar & Grill Inc.** – 4028-4030 Broadway, (at corner of W. 171<sup>st</sup> Street)

*No adverse history on file and neither the precinct or residents expressed concerns.*

**EDC 3-0-2, BRD 0-0-1, PUB 0-0-0**

4. **Tipico Dominicano** – 4172 Broadway, (at corner of W. 177<sup>th</sup> Street)

*There were no objections to its restaurant license renewal. Ownership previously committed to make the premises handicapped-accessible has not done so. District Manager will be asked to contact the owners and find out why.*

**EDC 4-0-1, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

5. **Los Soneros Restaurant** – 2284 Amsterdam Avenue, (at corner of W. 174<sup>th</sup> Street)

*33rd precinct had no history of the establishment. The committee voted not to recommend the renewal of the On-Premises Liquor License.*

**EDC 4-0-0, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

# Economic Development Committee – Minutes

April 7, 2009

## Restaurant Wine License:

6. **AKM Restaurant Inc. dba Parkview Café Restaurant** – 219 Dyckman Street, (near Broadway)

*No adverse history on file and neither the precinct or residents expressed concerns.*

**EDC 4-0-0, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

7. **La Estufa Restaurant Inc.** – 5025 Broadway, (at W. 215<sup>th</sup> Street)

*No adverse history on file and neither the precinct or residents expressed concerns.*

**EDC 3-0-2, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

8. **La Rueda Restaurant dba Tu Sabor Latino Restaurant** – 3862-3864 Broadway, (bet. W.162nd & W. 163rd Street)

*No adverse history on file and neither the precinct or residents expressed concerns.*

**EDC 3-0-2, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

9. **La Caridad Restaurant #2** – 2092 Amsterdam Avenue, (bet. W. 163<sup>rd</sup> & W. 164<sup>th</sup> Street)

*The owner, Altagracia Marrero said past disorder outside her establishment resulted from unruly patrons of the adjacent bodega and Club Dominicana – not her place. Ms. Marrero contacted the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct and requested CB12's assistance to mitigate the problem. The restaurant received three notices of violations last year because patrons from these two adjacent establishments misbehaved at her restaurant. Ms. Marrero has owned and operated La Caridad #2 for 20 years and she is almost always there. She noted the adjacent residential building also has delinquents. The EDC promised Ms. Marrero the CB12 DM will contact the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct community affairs about this and Ms. Marrero also received the 33<sup>rd</sup> precinct CAU telephone 212-927-3891.*

**EDC 5-0-0, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

10. **La Oaxaquena Restaurant** – 1969 Amsterdam Avenue, (bet. W. 157<sup>th</sup> & W. 158<sup>th</sup> Street)

*33<sup>rd</sup> precinct expressed concern about the past history and questioned the operation. The Committee did not recommend the renewal of its restaurant wine license*

**EDC 4-0-1, BRD 1-0-0, PUB 0-0-0**

# Economic Development Committee – Minutes

April 7, 2009

## Old / New Business Items:

*The committee unanimously voted with five (5) in favor that all recommendations from this point forward will include an additional be it resolved that states the recommendation is exclusively for the method of operation presented at the EDC meeting and that the principals must submit a new method of operation form to CB12 and the SLA before changing its method of operation.*

*Melodia's owner, Manny Garcia discussed his premises, which is the only currently licensed cabaret in the neighborhood. Noted that a premise may flip at anytime to boost profits from late night sales. He is committed to working with CB12, NYPD, and the Empire State Restaurant Tavern Association (ESRTA) and recommended we work with ESRTA and SLA to plan a training seminar for licenses like other communities are doing. CB12 is in the process of scheduling such a seminar.*

*Community resident, Elizabeth Porter asked what is Fume and what license does it have? She said the SLA told her it's only a smoke shop and that the 34<sup>th</sup> said it's a social club; also, that the SLA said it had no license. Ms. Porter is concerned about many things in particular loud and rowdy patrons, valet and double parking until 4:00am at Fume. The CB12 DM will be asked to obtain additional information.*

*We discussed Spanish translation for the SLA's required 30-day advance notice form for new and renewal applicants and will follow-through with a course of action at the May 5<sup>th</sup> committee meeting.*

*Due to concerns received from community residents and board members the committee agreed to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm regarding the method of operation for Don Ricardo Steakhouse, Washington Heights Billiard, and Arka Lounge.*

*The meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm.*

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Martin Collins and formatted by Paola Garcia*

**Economic Development Committee (EDC)  
Special Meeting  
April 22, 2009 Minutes**

Committee Members Present: Tony Lopez; Martin Collins; Edith Prentiss; Julissa Gomez  
Committee Members Absent: Rolando Cespedes  
CB12 Member Present: George Espinal  
CB12 Staff Member Present: Paola Garica, Community Service Aide

Members of Public Attending: Tamara Slisou, 89 Fairview Avenue; Bella Khaimov, 89 Fairview Avenue; Khaimova Galina, 89 Fairview Avenue; Alicia Wojtaszewski, 89 Fairview Avenue; Saori Findlay, 225 Bennett Avenue; David Cole, 225 Bennett Avenue; Tina Penzel, 708 West 192<sup>nd</sup> Street; Elizabeth Porter; Raul Galoppe, 295 Bennett Avenue; Michael Berra, 295 Bennett Avenue; Katie Evans PhD, 4500 Broadway; Steven Reisenweber, 4500 Broadway; Tiffany Braby, 4489 Broadway; Bazil Findlay, 225 Bennett Avenue; Yadira Harrigan, 4489 Broadway; Bruce Feldman, 711 West 190<sup>th</sup> Street; P.O. Tony Trinidad, 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Yolani Rodriguez, 4489 Broadway; Elizabeth Porter.

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The chair, Tony Lopez opened the meeting at 7:05pm with introductions and explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the method of operation and to hear from the community regarding the agenda topics. Mr. Lopez moved to amend the agenda, which was seconded without objection, to add Arka Lounge.

**Arka Lounge at 4488 Broadway near West 192<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Twelve (12) community residents, David Cole, Bazil Findlay, Saori Findlay, Tina Penzel, a resident from West 192<sup>nd</sup> Street & Broadway, Tiffany Braby, Yolanda from Broadway Terrace, Mr. & Ms. Evans, Steven Reisenweber, Bruce Feldman, Elizabeth Porter complained about Arka Lounge. The complaints evolved around these issues and concerns:

- Music blasting from 10:00pm-5:00am, excruciating noise from 4:00-5:00am
- Patrons screaming in front of Arka Lounge at all hours, especially at 4:00am
- March 28, 2009 riot of some kind with 50-60 people screaming on the street
- Music so loud the NYPD sound checked Bazil Findlay's apartment – it was too loud
- Surrounding strip of bars makes 4:00am close a sea of noise on Broadway
- Customers banging on metal gates at 4:00am
- Double and triple parking on Broadway (34<sup>th</sup> Precinct will inform NYPD Traffic Enforcement)
- Continuous din of honking horns, vehicular congestion
- Crowd control a problem at Arka, more security and bouncers needed
- Domestic abuse goes on; two guys recently beat up a lady
- Where is the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct after 11:00pm?
- Sunday night into Monday morning a problem
- People ringing Broadway apartment building buzzers at 4:00 and 5:00am
- Ms. Evans said Arka's noise has significantly increased in the past 18 months
- Is Arka soundproofed?
- Last Friday (4/17) traffic was so backed up the NYPD had to go the wrong way down Bennett Ave.
- Illegal valet parking

P.O. Tony Trinidad said the precinct has quite a lot of these clubs and similar establishments. Late night the least number of officers work. Arka has not been a problem for the precinct. The 34<sup>th</sup> will address the concerns of community residents with respect to Arka.

Residents asked P.O. Trinidad for more police patrols at night, especially the overnight shift. Recent muggings and robberies on Bennett Avenue were discussed. Residents asked why the NYPD is not taking more preventative measures.

Universally the people said Arka must have better bouncers; do a better job for crowd control, especially at 4:00am; reduce its music levels; purge the illegal valet parking; and be a more responsible business.

The chair, Mr. Lopez said these concerns will be discussed at a meeting with Arka's owner that will be attended by the District Manager, possibly the EDC Chair and the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct. The guide Best Practices for Nightlife Establishments will be discussed at the meeting and the owner will be asked to adhere to its recommendations in Arka's method of operation.

Edith Prentiss reminded everyone to call 311 every time there are excessive noise and quality of life complaints.

Julissa Gomez who lives on the side of the park near Serie 56 said it's a problem. The park is a problem, domestic abuse, and speeding. Traffic is also a problem – we need a speed bump on Fairview Avenue. Sometimes there is an entire bus stop full of cars. P.O. Trinidad will alert NYPD Traffic Enforcement who works 24/7 and ask for enforcement there too.

**Washington Heights Billiard at 500 West 207<sup>th</sup> Street between Post & 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

The premises is operating as Euro Latino Lounge. Ownership's presentation to the EDC in December 2008 and January 2009 was for operation of a restaurant, billiard/pool hall, and bar. Washington Heights Billiard is both the premises name and the doing business as name on the SLA webpage. At no time did ownership discuss operation for Euro Latino Lounge with the EDC. P.O. Trinidad said the 34<sup>th</sup> has no complaints yet and reminded us the precinct said this was going to be a lounge. P.O. Trinidad also held up a huge poster that advertised an event at Euro Latino Lounge. Martin Collins shared a palm card with the committee members that advertised an April 20, 2009 Pajama Party with exotic female and male dancers and a \$300 first prize for best pajamas with the doors opening at 10:00pm.

The owner sent a letter saying they could not attend tonight. The committee discussed the establishment at length. Mr. Lopez said it is possible they may have completed a method of operation change form. The fact the December and January discussion with the EDC and the resolution passed at the CB12 January 27, 2009 general meeting was for a restaurant, billiard/pool hall and bar resonated. The reality is this method of operation is not what CB12 endorsed in its resolution. Mr. Collins made a motion for a resolution to revoke the liquor license on the grounds the applicant filed a false and unsupportable application to obtain an on-premises license under the guise of a restaurant, billiard and bar when in fact it is not.

**When Mr. Lopez asked if there was anybody from the public present that lived near the location or had any comments about the location no one raised their hands. When the chair asked the 34<sup>th</sup> precinct if there were any noise complaints or problems with the location they stated they had none. The 34<sup>th</sup> precinct even added that they were impressed with their security on the premises.**

The EDC members voted two in favor; one opposed; one abstained while the members of the public voted 15 in favor with none opposed to revoke the liquor license. The resolution did not pass since a majority of EDC members did not vote in favor.

Later in the meeting, the EDC revisited this agenda topic and the committee voted four in favor, none opposed while the members of the public voted 15 in favor; none opposed to recommend the State Liquor Authority obtain a new method of operation form from Washington Heights Billiard.



**Don Ricardo Steakhouse at 4460 Broadway at Fairview Avenue**

This was originally a restaurant and is now a lounge. Community residents had many complaints. Residents of 89 Fairview Avenue said it is a nightclub and the noise is deafening. Approximately 80% of the residents of 89 Fairview Avenue are senior citizens said one resident of the building. People cannot sleep at night because of the loud music and noise. One resident wrote a letter to CB12 and to the 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct; they also wrote to the DEP who responded January 30, 2009 for dates for a sound check that remains pending.

Broadway Terrace resident said the steakhouse was good but now everything has changed. She also cannot sleep. She said it's Galicea Lounge, there was a placard in its Fairview Avenue window. Another resident said Don Ricardo's kitchen was auctioned off six to eight weeks ago. P.O. Trinidad said the 34<sup>th</sup> has received many noise complaints for Don Ricardo's new method of operation. The precinct knows the deal and is trying to shut it down. Paperwork was submitted to the legal bureau.

A resident of 89 Fairview Avenue invited the 34<sup>th</sup> to come to their apartment because the place has turned over; they also cannot sleep at night. The 34<sup>th</sup> Precinct received 30 complaints in the past two months for this problematic location.

The EDC voted four in favor; none opposed while the members of the public voted 13 in favor; none opposed to recommend the State Liquor Authority obtain a new method of operation form from Don Ricardo Steakhouse.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59pm. Respectfully submitted by Martin Collins.