

Land Use Committee - Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2006

Committee Members Present

Wayne A. Benjamin, Chair
Anita Barberis, Asst. Chair
Dora Maria Abreu
Aaron Scott
James Berlin

Committee Members Absent

Julio Rodríguez
Joyce Humber-Faison
Ruddy Santana
Julissa Gomez

Board Members Present

Martin Collins

Guests: Ethan Cohen, Rex Curry - City College Architectural Center

- =====
1. At 7:15 PM the Land Use Committee ("LU" or the "Committee") joined the meeting of the Health and Environment Committee to listen to presentations concerning Harlem Hospital's modernization project and Con Edison's proposed route for new feeder-cables to its Sherman Creek facility.
 2. The LU meeting was called to order at 8:25 PM.
 3. The Committee, Ethan Cohen and Rex Curry agreed to July 12th as the date for the Phase 3 presentation to be made by City College Architectural Center ("CCAC") on the Washington Heights and Inwood Neighborhood Planning and Land Use Planning Study. The presentation will be held in CB12's offices, will be structured similar to the March 2006 Community Leader's Workshop and will include discussion of CCAC's draft findings, recommendations and potential next steps.
 4. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Curry reviewed CCAC's overview of draft recommendations with the Committee. The overview encompasses attitudes towards local development, trends and best practices for balanced development, community benefits agreements, the need to better define what is meant by preservation of neighborhood character and quality of life, sites of architectural and historical interest, New York State heritage areas and contextual zoning. CCAC's conceptual approach to new development in CD12, first discussed at the June 3, 2006 Development in Washington Heights and Inwood forum hosted by Senator Schneiderman at Isabella Geriatric Center, was also discussed and it was agreed that a focus group or other workshop dedicated to understanding the details of this proposal is needed and a logical next step in the planning study process (the July 12th presentation may be used to begin this discussion and to invite participation in mid-summer forum). LU will coordinate CCAC to coordinate and schedule this forum.
 5. Discussion of the three proposed modifications to the City Charter aimed at reforming the Board of Standards and Appeals (presented to LU by Council Member Avella at its May 3, 2006 meeting) was postponed until the Committee's next meeting.
 6. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Wayne A. Benjamin

PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES – June 6, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Asst. Chair
Emilia Cardona
Vivian Ducat
Joseph Sanchez
Aaron Scott

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Zead Ramadan, Chair

GUEST

Jenny Sherman,
(Harlem River Boat Club)

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7:10 pm.

1. Upcoming Events in Ft. Tryon Park:
 - ◆ Wine-tasting fundraiser this Thursday for Heather Garden
 - ◆ Pancakes on Linden Terrace on Abby's Lawn, 11-3 June 25.
 - ◆ Concert Series- Ft. Tryon June 11, 18, 25
 2. Events in Highbridge Park:
 - ◆ Highbridge Hikes- June 17: simultaneous hikes from Swindlers Cove and from 145th St. to Tower Terrace @ 174th. The afternoon will conclude with arts and dance programs in the park, to coordinate with the Uptown ArtsStroll.
 - ◆ Highbridge Concerts- 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays in August: Salsa band, Meringue Band , Malafe & Magic Juan (Spanish Hip Hop) & Radio Station DJ's
 - ◆ Dominican/WH Movie Festival on Saturday August 19th.
 3. Moose Hall Shakespeare ("Much Ado About Nothing) in Inwood Hill Park, Wed-Sun starting June 7 for 3 Weeks.
 4. Saturday August 26: Marjorie Elliot Jazz at the Mansion.
 5. The opening reception for the Uptown Arts Stroll on Wednesday May, 31 was a success. While many events have passed, there are more a events still planned. Please refer to guidebooks.
 6. Visitor's query- Jenny Sherman- Peter J. Sharpe regarding the Rowing Club,
 - ◆ Only rowing club in Manhattan
 - ◆ Large group wants to create another boat club on the Harlem River.
 - ◆ Boat Club is open to supporting other waterfront recreation.
 - ◆ Street end parks on West 203, 204 & 205 Street and maybe on West 202 or 206 Street
 - ◆ They are investigating the use of private and public property
 - ◆ Interested in being steward of the River, community cleaning
 - ◆ At New York Restoration Project Boat House, emphasis has been on children and beginners; master rowers need somewhere else to go.
- Suggestions were made, such as working with another boat house or Parks Department (Steve Simon or Jane Schachat). Liz Ritter to follow up with DM to get information on status of Parks Department design of street-end parks at 202nd-206th Streets to see if water access is (or can be) included in those plans.
7. Mail- sorted through received mail; shared various announcements (see above); no pending issues.
 8. **Budget Priorities**
 - ◆ The expense budget was reviewed. The Committee chose to support the same budget rankings as last year.
 - ◆ Under the Capital Budget the Committee re-ranked the items from last year. During the re-ranking there was a lengthy discussion regarding the various playgrounds in Community Board 12. Some, like Javits and Indian Hill are outdated and in need of repair, and community groups have formed to advocate for these projects. Others, i.e. playground at West 165 St. & Edgecombe Ave. are in bad shape, but have no groups to advocate for them. It is the responsibility of the Board to advocate for ALL parks and playgrounds. It was agreed by the committee that they need to conduct a survey of playgrounds. Joseph Sanchez and Emilia Cardona will attempt to carry this out before the end of June. Liz suggested that the Committee explore the possibility of having one capital budget item for playgrounds generally, and to make sure that these funds rotate around the community, rather than trying to single out each playground for repairs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Respectfully submitted by Vivian Ducat & Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – June 7, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon, Chair
Helen Morik, Asst. Chair
Isaiah Bing
Basilia Gomez
Beatrice Hall
Edith Prentiss
Bracha Statman

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

James Berlin
Wayne Benjamin
Martin Collins
Jay Mazur
Ruddy Santana
Aaron Scott

PUBLIC MEMBER ABSENT

Matthew Chachere

GUESTS: Michael Hernandez - Healthy Monday project, Columbia University School of Public Health; Carlos Polanco - Borough President's office; Nicole Beason - Assoc. Director of Public Affairs, Harlem Hospital; Trevor Henry - Project Manager, Harlem Hospital Modernization Project; Mason Almeida - Public Member, CB12 Housing Committee; Wendy Olivo - Assemblyman Farrell's office; Eric Wilson - NYC Economic Development Corp.; David Gmach - Director, Manhattan Public Affairs, Con Edison; Peter Chan - Project Manager, Substation Operations Planning, Con Edison; Ethan Cohen - City College Architectural Center; Carl Wilson, Novelletta Wilson - Dyckman Houses; others.

=====

1. Steve Simon, chair, opened the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

2. **Harlem Hospital Modernization Project** – Nicole Beason, Associate Director of Public Affairs, gave brief overview of \$225 million project (funded entirely by the City). Five buildings will be demolished, three will be updated, “unifying campus” from W. 135th-137th Sts., Lenox – Fifth Aves. Anticipated completion date - Dec. 2009. New garage - 400 car capacity. Hospital has 286 beds now; new number still to be determined.

Trevor Henry, Associate Executive Director/Project Manager, gave additional details:

- new state-of-the-art facility on Lenox Avenue will have an emergency room, diagnostics room, operating rooms, ICU
- Martin Luther King pavilion will be renovated to meet new code requirements; will have private and semi-private rooms (1 or 2 beds)
- One building already demolished: the EMS station at Lenox Ave. & W. 136th St., which housed two battalions (13 & 16), including the one serving the CB12 area; EMS was temporarily relocated in the Kountz Pavilion
- Now demolishing the Outpatient Dept., will also demolish the old & new nurses residences and the Women's Pavilion
- Ronald Brown ambulatory care pavilion remains
- Contractors hired so far: 22% are minority-owned or owned by women; 7% women's business enterprises, 15% minority-owned business enterprises (owned by males)
- Steering committee of community representatives meets monthly, has pushed for higher numbers.
- Goal is for 25% local labor participation. People looking for jobs can come to project office, run by the hospital in conjunction with the State Dormitory Authority, in the Women's Pavilion, W. 137th St.
- Simon asked whether people in CB12 area are included in determining “local labor participation.” Beason & Henry said they would check and get back to us.
- Well-known New Deal-era murals in the Women's Pavilion and nurses residence will be preserved and placed in new building. Effort to create training program for local youths on conservation of artwork; not enough applicants.
- Now finalizing Certificate of Need approval with State Health Dept.
- Construction to start in early 2008

Collins: What additional services will the hospital provide after the modernization?

A: None. We will take advantage of new technology to enhance existing services.

Collins: Will there be additional jobs?

A: Yes, we will increase the nursing staff because of the additional rooms with in-patient beds.

Prentiss noted the need for accessibility and ADA compliance. Henry: the plans address this issue.

Simon asked for statistics on the number of CB12 residents who use the hospital so that the board can have a better sense of how it serves our community. Beason said she'll provide the patient source zip code data.

3. Con Edison's Plan to Install New Transmission Line in Inwood and Construct Switching Station on Academy Street – Simon noted that a full-page ad appeared in today's NY Post, announcing Con Ed's intent to file an application to the state Public Service Commission to approve this plan. He also distributed a map showing the proposed route of the new transmission line in Manhattan.

David Gmach, Director, Manhattan Public Affairs, Con Edison, began by saying he had made an initial presentation to the executive committee 12/05. The new 345,000-volt transmission line is needed to increase capacity to meet NYC demand and improve reliability. The switching station brings current down to 110 volts for household use. The PSC application will be filed in next few weeks; public hearing to be held in early fall.

He explained route of the transmission line, which will be installed under streets via standard trenching work. It would begin in Yonkers, run through the Bronx for approximately three miles, then beneath the Harlem River, pass under properties between the river and Ninth Ave. owned by New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Time Warner, continue south on Ninth Ave., turn west on W. 219th St., south on Broadway to W. 204th St., east to Tenth Ave., south to W. 201st St. and then east to the new substation at Academy St. Con Ed looked at 10 different routes, including cutting through Inwood Hill Park (which CB12 opposed). He said Con Ed checked to see whether it could run the line down Tenth Ave. instead of Broadway, but the current street reconstruction project was too far along. Also problem putting it under an elevated train.

Simon asked whether Con Ed looked at running the line under the MTA subway yard between the two sections of Ninth Ave. (a more direct route) or placing the line in the Harlem River from the tip of the island down to Academy St. Gmach was not sure but said details on the alternative routes are in the application. He said a copy of the application will be provided to CB12 (it will also be in the Inwood Library). Application includes environmental review of plan.

Q: Will new line provide secondary backup to prevent another blackout?

Gmach: It will provide double back-up.

Cohen: Did Con Ed look at using the Bronx side of Harlem River?

Chan: There wasn't enough space.

Q: Where is the power coming from? A: Anywhere in the country.

Collins: There should be a community giveback. The Sherman Creek project is hamstrung because of Con Ed's refusal to give up any property for development or for waterfront access.

Morik: The line passes by the Allen Pavilion. You must work with the hospital to coordinate street work.

Gmach: Yes, we plan to do so. We also will consider impact on nearby school.

Olivo: how big a section will be dug at a time?

A: 400' trenches, approx ½ block. Street excavation would start early 2007, the sub-station in summer 2008. It would take 12-16 months to complete entire route.

Q: What was the next best option to using Broadway? Chin: To go through Inwood Hill Park.

Almeida: Why couldn't it go across the river to Academy St. from Bronx side? Why not use tunnel boring machines? Chan: NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation does not favor using river.

Con Ed's presentation continued as Larry Friedberg, architect, displayed renderings of proposed new substation. Gmach pointed out that it will not be an open-air facility similar to existing substation across the street. Friedberg: transformers will be on 201st St. side of 55'-high building,

air flows through open steel grating on roof, control rooms on south side. CB12 had asked that building mesh with water setting. Design calls for pre-cast concrete panels, glazed ceramic tile on south side reflecting light and water, sculptural elements in shape of sails extending from sides of building, LED lighting that could change colors and highlight building.

Simon: Can you combine two substations, i.e. move existing substation to this site?

A: Too expensive. This building will cost over \$200 million. It would cost over \$100 million to move other one.

Collins: Will you provide access to the Harlem River waterfront as the community desires?

Gmach: There are ongoing discussions with the city. Academy Street would be reopened.

Collins: Will there be jobs for the community?

Gmach: No one works in building. We will look for local contractors and will work with CB12 on procurement.

4. **Healthy Monday Project** – Michael Hernandez, Community Outreach Manager, Columbia Univ. School of Public Health. Because of the lateness of the hour, he agreed to cut his remarks short and return at our next meeting to make a full presentation. B. Gomez invited him to participate in a health fair her church is holding in Highbridge Park this month.

5. **Old Business** – S. Simon reported that CB12 sent letters to federal and state health agencies following up on its resolution opposed to the closing of the ambulatory care practice site at 64 Nagle Ave. and the shuffling of staff to various other sites by New York-Presbyterian Hospital. We asked them "to intervene to make sure that these planned changes will not diminish the availability of health care in this medically underserved area."

6. **New Business** – H. Morik and E. Prentiss announced that the NYPH Community Health Council is sponsoring a presentation on emergency preparedness focusing on the potential bird flu pandemic, 6/19.

S. Simon reported that M. Collins sent a letter to the NY Post objecting to an article that distorted a study by the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health to say that Washington Heights is "not the right place to raise children." The study says that air pollution can occur in urban settings all over the world, not just in Washington Heights.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for a new dental clinic was held at 99 Ft. Washington Ave.

M. Collins: A Manhattan Times reporter said T-Mobile claims it's CB12's responsibility to inform tenants of the landlord's plans to install cell phone towers on their buildings. He will contact her to refute this statement.

7. **Next meeting: Monday, July 10, 2006.** It was agreed that the committee would invite the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health to discuss its study and ask Mike Hernandez to return so he can make a full presentation. We also will discuss the Con Ed plan and questions to be raised at the district-level budget consultations.

Respectfully submitted, S. Simon

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 3, 2006

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Excused	Board Members Present
Pamela P. North, Chair	Julissa Gomez	Dora Maria Abreu
Kotie Cannon, Asst. Chair		Joyce Humber Faison
Aidee Camacho		
Adam Eggers		
Andre Harris		

Guests: Adam Withim, DOVE New York Presbyterian Hospital; Capt. Dowling, NYPD- 33rd Pct; Joselinne Minaya, NY County DA's Office; Mike Fitelson, Manhattan Times

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00PM Introductions were made and the Chair welcomed all guests and members of the public.

Domestic Violence and Domestic Violence with Sexual Assault

New York Presbyterian Hospital works closely with Precinct; however the lack of Police Officers can hinder the process of arresting the perpetrator. A General order usually stops the violence and produces an arrest, allowing a criminal order of protection. The victim has the right to change the locks, change the lease, moving expenses. The biggest challenge for the victim is to live without fear and stopping the cycle of violence

- ◆ Domestic Violence forum is now 2 pages. In the past it was only 1 page.
- ◆ NYPH is zoned for the 34th Precinct. When a report comes in from a different precinct, the report is usually lost. NYPH covers Bronx cases also.
- ◆ Victim has legal right to have an Advocate on their behalf.
- ◆ Domestic Violence shelters: 2 incidents reports are required to go to a shelter. There are no beds for Women with Children. Domestic Violence shelters are smaller then general shelters.
- ◆ Undocumented aliens cannot be helped due to a lack of resources (medical assistance)

Invasive treatment (the kit-created by NYC Dept. of Health) - evidence is taken off the victim's body. This can be only done by Forensic Sex Examiners; regular doctors do not receive this type of training. This kit is a statewide kit and instructions are poorly written. The kit is also used in homicide cases. Hair is not tested by DN, but by a microscope to see if hairs matched. The suspect is not subjected to the pulling of hair/DNA; the State claims that this is illegal. The law is made to protect the victim. DOVE is advocating for DNA & fingerprinting for DV arrests.

- ◆ Dr. Sadler expressed concerns regarding the accuracy of testing- cases can be lost on a technicality i.e. OJ Simpson case.
- ◆ Problem areas are specific to Patrol, Is there a lack of training at the Precinct level?
- ◆ Captain Dowling responds with Precinct's command being reviewed to determine whether training is needed to handle DV cases. Captain Dowling has a zero tolerance for a lack of arrests on these cases.
- ◆ Adam Withim then asked that the 34th Precinct revisit the old Domestic Violence form. The 1 page form has been changed to a 2 page form t

hat now includes a Victim Impact and Victim Statement. Fear of the unknown is a greater danger than fear of returning home. The biggest challenges for the victim are the lack of resources, relocating, changing schools for their children.

Domestic Violence shelters service families only- not a pregnant person but a person with live children, i.e. Covenant House services Pregnant Women under the age 21. Pregnancy is a volatile time (often aiming for the victim's stomach) Patients often go to EAU then 2 days later referred to a shelter. (Note: Victims are prioritized based on family needs.

The process for getting an order of protection is based on the arraignment, i.e. DA interviews, Post Arrest, evidence hearing, prior trails.

Alma stated that the victim is often murdered by a boyfriend/husband in Domestic Violence cases, when the victim does not cooperate with authorities.

Captain Dowling states that Domestic Violence cases are referred to Detectives and handled on a case-by-case basis.

Pam North noted that the following programs can assist in the process

- ◆ Violence Intervention Program- Assists undocumented Aliens and those that require assistance in Spanish.
- ◆ Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation- assists with Job Placement.
- ◆ Violence Against Women Act- specializes with Violent cases. Victim must cooperate fully. i.e. UVISA- process is thorough and serious. This program was started by President Bill Clinton, but has been losing money over the years.
- ◆ Adam Eggers asked about the Mayor's new program-Sexual Assault Teams-serves City Hospital. Only out of Hospital Team, consisting of Sex Violence examiner, rape crisis advocate, Police Officer, District Attorney Rep. These teams roam around bureaucratic issue within/out of network doctors servicing victims.
- ◆ Alma stated that Lincoln and Harlem Hospital serve our area. She also stated that Domestic Violence report is not mandatory for victims of ages 12-15. This population falls under family violence.

Captain Dowling reported on the incident at 105 Bennett Ave, involving an elevator robbery of an 81 year old man. Precinct believes this incident is related to previous robbery patterns at this location

- ◆ Victim is in serious condition. A man hunt is in effect for Male Black, 6 Ft tall. Time Zone 2 pm – 9 pm.
- ◆ P. North asked about a sketch. This is in the works. No arrests as per the Captain
- ◆ P. North asked for flyers to assist 34 Precincts efforts.
- ◆ Captain Dowling reports on stats.
- ◆ Crime down 30%, YTD down 8%. Stolen Cars are up, 12 Cars were recently stolen from the Edgecombe/Amsterdam Area W. 155 St- W. 163 St- not alarming city wide.
- ◆ 17 Rapes this year as opposed to 8 in '05.

Note: Victims have to be at least 17yrs of age 1 consent to sexual abuse. If a perpetrator is under 18, no charges are brought against the person.

Dr. Joyce notes parents need to be held to their roles/responsibilities. Dr. Joyce believes parents should not be excluded from the interview with child. Alma, DOVE, caution undermining the D.V. process when the law is the law and the laws are clear with victims of certain age groups.

Mike Fitelson, Manhattan Times, suggests CB12 P.S. hosting a forum on sex as a way to inform community of the dangers of unconsented sex, crime and abuses. Mike believes the community will come out, and precincts can help sponsor event.

Joselinne Minaya, DA's office supports having a forum – perhaps a forum to address issues of cyberspace crime and sex. The message has to be "in their faces" geared to kids/parents.

33rd Pct. Resumes their report

- ◆ 8 Audubon Avenue – stolen car used to sell drugs
- ◆ Two out-of-state cars (Massachusetts & Maryland)
- ◆ Homicides down (stabbing types) 2 as opposed to 4
- ◆ No service of fireworks yet as we geared to 4th of July. Captain states targeting locations. Assistance from community is needed by contacting precinct commander of community Affairs Officer (212) 927-3891/3892
- ◆ No problems with Immigrant March Rally on Monday, May 1 2006. The auxiliary Police patrol was great, minimal traffic impact. Ms. Camacho commends 34th detail patrol
- ◆ Adam Eggers asked about drag racing as summer nears.
- ◆ Captain vowed to pay careful attention to this concern
- ◆ Ms. Camacho commends 34th Pct. For current beefed up patrol at W. 190th Street. And Amsterdam (behind Isabella) illegal use of dirt bikes on local street along W. 190th St (Audubon Avenue and surrounding area).

Resident (Hamidulian, Al-Amin) complaint - 2184 Amsterdam Ave. (Caridad Restaurant) a problem.- Excessive noise loud music, loitering. Between 11am to 5pm. Captain Dowling vowed to enforce noise complaints, by removing sound devices and generating fines. Resident was referred to Eco. Dev. Committee (does business have a license)? Ms. Minaya, DA's office added will contact landlord of this premise directly. Ms. Minaya also suggested that resident get name, shield # and time one spoke to officers) who responded to this location.

- ◆ Dora Maria Abreu, Assistant Chair-Youth Education Committee reported on Youth Empowerment Leadership meeting Saturday, June 3, 2006 10am – 1:30pm At Highbridge Recreation Center
- ◆ Next Public Safety Meeting Wednesday, June 14, 2006 at 7pm
- ◆ No mail

Meeting adjourned 9:45pm

Minutes & Reviewed submitted by: Aidee Camacho

COMMITTEE FOR THE AGING MINUTES June 13, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sybil R. Dodson-Lucas, Chair
Fern Hertzberg, Asst. Chair
Nelson Rojas
Gloria Vanterpool
Glenda Swanson-Massa
Leslie Foster

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Mark Levine, excused

PUBLIC MEMBER

John Kinney

Guests: Norma DeCandido-Resident; Ethel Linder Stoll, Marilyn Jones Springer, Valerie O'Connor, Jim McNiff, Alexandra Sanchez, PO 33rd Pct., Zamira Setaro-Con Ed Rep.

Meeting convened at 10:15am

Introduction remarks by Sybil Dodson-Lucas, Chair.

Review mail

- June 21st – Isabella Home will sponsor a summer Seminar for Caregivers.
- Linda Whitaker, Assistant Commissioner (DFTA) responded to a letter written by our Chair, Martin Collins re: restoration of ½ fare on City express buses to full hours, Ms. Whitaker commented in the letter this concern will be communicated at the next MTA Advisory meeting.
- EPIC has imposed income reporting. Flyer received today. Video conferencing on changes from June 20-30.
- Long term care insurance conference 6/14/06, 2-4pm Sybil /others to report on this in future
- Seniors week celebration at Allen Pavilion (Health Fair) Monday, Oct 9 – Thurs, Oct 12, 2006. An opportunity for outreach, as per our agenda.

Resolution: Requesting support of increased allowance for food costs

Community Affairs Police Officer Sanchez gave out her phone number and flyers re: NYPD Strict enforcement and Investigation of fireworks in our community. Call 927-3892 for 33rd pct.; 927-0287 for 34th Pct. to report fireworks complaints. PO Sanchez is also available to make presentations at Senior Centers, Senior Housing/Tenants committees.

Guest: Visiting Nurse Service Valerie O'Connor home care (718)519-4780. Expanded services at VNS will be presented at Sept. mtg.

Gloria Vanterpool will update and expand mailing list for 2006-7 year in keeping with broadening Committee outreach

Discussion: The Committee identified (3) priorities for September through June of 2007

- **Community Outreach/Getting the message to the community through increased participation.**
- **Access-A-Ride – What is the mandate? How can it be improved?**
- **Long Term Care/ What is it, who needs it, what plans offer.**

Adjourned meeting 11:45am Next Meeting: September 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted by Sybil Dodson-Lucas/Fern Hertzberg

YOUTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 5, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cleofis C Sarete, Chair
Jackie Rowe Adams
Angelo Ortiz
Jose Lopez

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dora Maria Abreu (excused)
Carole Mulligan
Maria Luna (excused)
Albania Jimenez

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

George Espinal
Martin Collins

GUESTS: Ayokari Hayes-"Reality Check"-Youth Action Project, Jane Bolster, Yvonne Destin, Beth Venn- Hamilton Heights Academy PS 28, Magaly Velez-IS 293, Josh Karan-CEC 6, Fe Florimon-Ft. Tryon, Claribel Tobal-Resident, Antonia Martinez, Floria Corria, Raquel Ventura, Elizabeth Vasquel, Angela Herrera, Altoquin Almonte

=====

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Cleofis Sarete, Chair

Update on potential new schools locations in Region 10/District 6:

The School Construction authority (SCA) will build a new building for Gregorio Luperon High School at the former 33rd Precinct at 2120 Amsterdam Avenue. The school will open in September of 2008. The old Bishop Dubois site will be restored to house the 21st Century Academy which will be opening in September of 2007. We are still expecting to identify other sites to build other schools. The two adjacent Broadway lots between west 204th & Academy Street are potential sites for school location. The Verizon building is still available for a possible school.

Invited Guests

The School Construction Authority, Gale Reeves-Region 10 Superintendent, Local elected Officials-Nicole Phillips, Community Education Council & MBPO were among the invited guests. Only (CEC) sent a representative. We will reschedule a meeting to address issues that remain unanswered, such as:

- The department of Education identifying and providing funds for leased space to further alleviate the overcrowding in District 6 schools
- Reinstate funding for all after-school programs
- Additional training for special education teachers
- Additional counseling for elementary and intermediate schools
- The Department of Youth and Community Development increase funding for after-school programs including services for disabled-youth and children with special needs, vocational training, the summer-youth employment programs (SYEP), youth delinquency and violence prevention programs, domestic violence, immigrant services, and ESL classes.

Libraries

We will also continue to fight for the restoration of six-day service at all three of our branches. In addition, we need to increase funding for books and materials including software, subscriptions, recorded material and new computer terminals.

We discussed Budget Priorities and district Needs Statement and looked at the Expense Budget for the fiscal year 2007 and its ranking.

The Parent Association of the City College Academy of the Arts spoke about the new location for their school, the sub basement. The parents would like to be considered for a new site for their school which is currently housed at M.S. 218. They were concerned about the space and the lack of windows which is a health hazard for the students. They also mentioned that the student population will grow every year and therefore the space to house these students will not be available at the current location.

Guest Speakers: Ayokari Hayes along with a Youth Group, Reality Check

Reality Check is a youth-led adult supported tobacco control movement that not only helps to reduce tobacco initiation among youth, but also empowers youth by giving them the opportunity to be advocates against the deceptive marketing of the tobacco industry in the media, including educating their communities about the negative health effects of tobacco use. Youth advocate for tobacco control in school library periodicals and G, PG and PG-13 movies. This youth group travels locally, domestically and internationally to raise awareness among other teens about these important health issues. Reality check put together a resolution and would like CB12 support on this resolution. The Youth and Education Committee. (YEC) voted to support the resolution.

Voting was unanimous.

	In favor	Not in favor	Abstain
Committee Members	4	0	0
Bd Members	2	0	0
Public Members	32	0	0

Guest Speaker: Grace Reynoso, Kids-Fun Playhouse

Ms. Reynoso heads an after-school program designed to provide arts and crafts sessions to children ages 5 to 8. Her intention is to have a safe place where children ages 5 to 8 can enjoy activities such as: creative techniques like painting with various paints, playing with learning toys and listening to videos describing sounds and animals, identifying what they hear, and making constructive crafts decorations. According to Ms. Reynoso these type of activities is a way for children to express their artistic talents and gets the children to relax from all stressed situations from home and school pressures. Art is also a way of promoting a sense of healing in accordance to the condition of the child. In addition, this program provides parents with the opportunity to leave their children in a nurturing safe environment while they are: working, having lunch, running errands, shopping, meeting friends attending a meeting, wanting a few hours for themselves or time to study. Ms. Reynoso expressed the need for CB12's support in promoting her program.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Cleofis-Sarete Cabral

Minutes of the Traffic & Transportation Committee –June 5, 2006

Committee Members Present

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

Committee Members Absent

Gabriella Rosa

Board Members Present

Martin Collins, Chair
Angelo Ortiz, 2nd Vice Chair

Guests:, Carlos Palanco, Office of the Manhattan Borough President; Christianna Papadakis, Self For Business; Gustavo J. Guzman, Guzman Discount; John Kinney, Citizen's Police Academy; Ethan Kent, Resident; Gerald Gilmurray, Resident; Dermot Culligan, Resident; Harry Whitebread, Resident; Ellen Fine, Newspaper Stand Owner

Chair Mazur opened the meeting at 7:15pm by welcoming members of the community and committee members. He apologized for the agenda not addressing the salient points and rectified the situation with the issuance of a new agenda.

- 1) Review the application for a new newsstand at 165th St on Broadway (in front of Wendy's)
- 2) Review the tours of our subway stations (the #1 and the "A")

With reference to the application for a new newsstand on the southwest corner of 165th Street and Broadway, Chair Mazur related that he and J. Berlin actually measured the area where the new newsstand is anticipated to be built and it conforms to the specifications set by the Dept. of Consumer Affairs. The architectural drawings show that this newsstand will be twelve feet long and six feet wide. Those residents and merchants within that area voiced many concerns with this site: Area is already saturated with newsstands. It's a place to hide drugs. Economic disadvantage to existing store fronts that sell same product and pay high rents. Affects street visibility and consequently public safety. More pedestrian congestion. The applicant, Christiana Papadakis, stated that she lost her business with the destruction of the World Trade Center and economics forced her to find a new venue. She lives in Astoria and goes to the Greek Church in our community. J. Berlin drafted the resolution concerning this newsstand stating that it met the specs, along with the residents/merchants concerns. The resolution passed and will be presented to the full board.

The vote: T&T Members: 3-0-1. Members of the Public: 3-4-0

Chair Mazur read the list of problems with both subway lines the #1 and "A" and further showed pictures of some of the problems associated with the "A" line. We plan to use this information to hopefully persuade MTA to at least do some very heavy duty maintenance, as station overhauls are not in the long term budget. We understand that the Dyckman Station on the #1 line is due for a major overhaul (and thank goodness – it's pathetic). It was suggested that we run a contest as to what subway station needs the most help and maybe publish it in the Manhattan Times. Carlos Palanco, Manhattan Borough President Stringer's representative explained that MTA is making a major investment in upgrading their yards located at 207th Street. It is targeted to take 48 months (four years), so not much money will be available for station overhauls.

Resident of 4966 Broadway voiced strong opinions about the health and safety of the tenants of this building with the articulated busses (Bx12, Bx 7, Bx 20 & M100) parking right outside all day and night. In inclement weather, passengers tend to culminate in the lobby of this building and that is a safety factor. We will work with our District Manager, who has been in touch with a reasonable MTA official to get some resolution to this problem.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

Respectfully submitted by Anita Barberis

