

Land Use Committee - Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2006

Committee Members Present

Anita Barberis, Asst. Chair
Dora Maria Abreu
James Berlin
Isaiah Obie Bing
Vivian Ducat
Ruddy Santana
Aaron Scott

Committee Members Absent

Wayne Benjamin, Chair (exe)

Guests: Mitch Jacobs, Apple Bank; Shannon Park, Inwood School Project; Ethan Cohen, City College Architecture Center; Samelys Lopez, Office of Manhattan Borough President

At 7:10pm, Assistant Chair Anita Barberis welcomed those attending the Land Use Committee meeting and asked the committee to introduce themselves.

Following the agenda, Mr. Mitch Jacobs of Apple Bank presented two proposed projects and handed out detailed plans for the first site and a one-page view of the second site.

◆ The first is located at 159th Street between Broadway and Ft. Washington Avenue, currently the site of Apple Bank and two retail stores on property the bank owns. They propose to build an 8-story mixed-use building (6.5 FAR) that would have a new Apple Bank on the ground floor and potentially other retail on the second floor. Floors 2, 3 and 4 would be set aside for community use and the balance for commercial. He is having discussions with community groups and retailers with no definitive commitments. It was mentioned that a Barnes & Noble book store is high on the community's list of retailers

◆ The second site is located at 207th Street and Isham Street to be built on top of existing structures. The second and third floors (30,000 sq. ft.) would be set aside for community use with the balance of seven floors for market-rate housing. He stated that NY Sports Clubs has expressed a strong interest, but the current zoning does not allow them. They would have to go for a variance. An Inwood resident, who is a member of Inwood School Project, inquired as to whether space for a Charter School was a consideration, given the need for educational facilities in our community. Both of these projects are as-of-right given the zoning and the tentative time frame is 18-24 months.

Samelys Lopez, our Urban Planning Intern from the Borough President's office, shared some of the goals and objectives she would take on for our community (derived from a meeting with W. Benjamin and M. Collins).

- 1) Work with community based organizations to further the Audubon/Amsterdam survey. She'll meet with Yvonne Stennett, Executive Director of the Community League of the Heights, for historical input.
- 2) Identification of landmarks and historic districts within CB 12. Invitation to event on "Development & Gentrification" at 295 Lafayette (Puck Bldg) on November 8 at 6:30-8pm.

Ethan Cohen, of City College Architecture Center, would like to gather the stake holders in reviewing the Neighborhood Planning and Land Use Study recommendations and priorities of our community. Suggested that we tentatively set aside Wednesday, November 15 and begin in the afternoon and carry through the evening to oblige the working schedules of all involved and maybe hold it at City College. Will confirm with Land Use Chair.

Stuart Beckerman, legal counsel for the owners of 4640-4646 Broadway (which are two five-story buildings with 50 apartments), presented a proposal seeking a commercial overlay on Broadway and Ellwood, so that the street level of both buildings could be commercial entities (present zoning is R7-2). There is a large grocery store already at street level. The first query was how many apartments needed to be vacated and what were the owners planning to offer these tenants. Six apartments are affected and one is already vacant. The other five would be moved to one of the owners other buildings, right behind these two, at the same rent they are presently paying.

Comments were made that this effort could offer that part of the community a safer environment for pedestrian traffic as these buildings are across the street from Ft. Tryon Park, which is dark and desolate in the evening. Another query from the community observed that 5030 Broadway is begging for tenants, what is the incentive for retailers to rent these potentially new spaces?

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm. Minutes taken by Vivian Ducat and reviewed by Anita Barberis

Note: Cleaned out the Land Use file had a lot of duplication. AB

Ricco Cox: We have rules, we have orientations. We need permanent housing.

Joyce Humber: There are supportive housing in Washington Heights.

Julio: The majority of clients are schizophrenic. Schizophrenics cannot be controlled but medicated. Is medication voluntary? 65% of clients there are schizophrenics and are controlled with medication.

Mike: What do you most need?

Etta Graham: Air conditioning.

NYPD Captain Dowling, of the 33rd Precinct releases set of 2006 numbers regarding the Homeless Shelter arrests or encounter:

- ◆ **year to date 85 arrests regarding shelter**
- ◆ 3 Homicides
- ◆ 15 Felonies- mostly misdemeanors
- ◆ 3 F. Assaults
- ◆ 1 Stolen auto
- ◆ 2 Grand Larceny

At the shelter:

- ◆ **365 responses year to date**
- ◆ Warrant team does sweep of shelter
- ◆ 610 Criminal Ct. Warrants year to date

General Community:

- ◆ **Total arrests is 5000**
- ◆ 2892- Patrol Services
- ◆ 1050- Narcotic
- ◆ Shelter arrests equal 1.1% of total 33rd Precinct Arrests and little more than 3% of patrol services arrests.

New Business: A representative of the Highbridge K9 Club Dog-Run informed the Committee that the park that they congregate in has broken lights and a homeless condition. They have reported this problem to the CB in the past at the October General Meeting. The representative said the lack of lighting in this area poses a threat to residents who walk their dogs there daily. The Chair referred the speaker to PO Pabey and Trinidad 34th Precinct, Zead Ramadan, Chair of the Parks Committee and Charles Defino, District Manager. In addition, the Chair will contact Monica Parikh Assistant Commissioner, NYC Department of Homeless Services and the Coalition of the Homeless and alert them to the homeless condition in the park area near the dog run.

The Chair adjourned the Informational Meeting and Public Session and the committee convened into an executive session and discussed the next phase of the data gathering as per the Men's Shelter and the dates and agenda of the November and December Public Safety Committee meeting. Adam Eggers, Assistant Chair, offered two dates for the December meeting. The committee selected 12-04 for the FDNY Fire Prevention during the holiday season, session.

It was recommended by the PS Committee members that we conduct a joint meeting with the HHS Committee and present to Public the results of our fact-finding process as per the Fort Washington Men's Shelter. This meeting will be held in January.

Minutes recorded by; Julissa Gomez

Reviewed by: Pamela Palanque North

**Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2006**

Committee Member

Pamela Palanque North, Chair
Adam Eggers, Assistant Chair
Aidee Camacho
Kotie Cannon
Julissa Gomez

Staff Attending

Charles DeFino, District Manager
Deborah Blow, Community Coordinator

Board Members Present

Wayne Benjamin
Sybil Dodson
Julio Rodriguez
Steve Simon

Guests:

NYPD 33RD Commander, Joseph Dowling, Joselinne Minaya, Office of the Manhattan District Attorney; Rob Jones- Project Renewal, Clifton Hill- PRI/Fort Washington, Dr Mathew McCarthy, Project Renewal, Etta Graham Director, Project Renewal, Diana Olizola, Coalition for the Homeless, Susan Dan, Project Renewal; Bob Bangiola, Resident; *(partial listing of meeting attendees)*

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05pm by Pamela Palanque North, Committee Chair. The Chair introduced the committee and other Board members and discussed the primary purpose for the meeting which was to gather information from expert sources as to the level of risk that residents of the Fort Washington Men's' Shelter poses to the community. Pamela then introduced committee member, Aidee Camacho, who volunteered to moderate the Q&A session with Project Renewal. Ms Etta Graham was asked to provide the committee and audience with an overview of the services, residents and staffing of Project Renewals Men's' Shelter located at 620 W.168th Street. Ms Graham, informed everyone about many aspects of Project Renewal. Some being:

Project Renewal has been around for 40 years and was contracted by the Department of Homeless

- ◆ it is a shelter in Washington Heights with 200 beds
- ◆ Project Renewal runs three (3) programs, which include:
- ◆ Step (75 clients)
- ◆ Pride (55 Clients)
- ◆ Social Service (Balance)
- ◆ Shelter is enriched with a Dental Clinic, 3 meals, recreation service, pre-employment, laundry service and money management
- ◆ The shelter type is MHCA (Mental Health/ Chemical Abuse) which means clients MUST have both requirements; Mental, plus chemical addiction.
- ◆ By contract, the clients can only stay for nine (9) months or less, unless they are unstable in which case they must be stabilized before release.
- ◆ Clients must first go through Bellevue Assessment Shelter where a doctor of psychiatry assesses them for twenty-one days.
- ◆ Clients usually have a serious mental disorder such as:
- ◆ Schizophrenia
- ◆ Bi-polar disorder
- ◆ Severe depression
- ◆ Clients are engaged into treatment with the main goal of stabilizing them so they can move into housing.

At this point in the meeting the Chair suspended the Informational Meeting for twenty-minutes to conduct the Public Session. Mr. Bob Bangiola, a resident of Washington Heights was invited to the meeting by the committee chair and been in communication with her about how he was viciously assaulted on 10-31 on W.158th St and RSD by a group of teens. He reported to the committee that on Halloween night at about 9:45pm he was walking on 161st and Broadway when 25 men of dark complexion surrounded him and a friend. They began to be attacked with eggs and food. He called the precinct and was on the phone for about four (4) minutes with 911 during the attack. 911 told

him someone was dispatched. He and his friend walked home and were then attacked again but no car showed up. He has to hide in a store and then the store was attacked. He called 911 again and like before, no one showed up. 45 minutes later he called again and left the store to go home and was attacked yet again. He never received a response. Captain Dowling responds to the resident at the meeting that many officers were at FDR where someone was struck and died. He also states that sometimes it takes 3-5 minutes for 911 to dispatch a car and 2-3 minutes for the car to get there and since the resident was mobile the cops most likely couldn't find him.

At the conclusion of the Public Session, the Chair resumed the Informational meeting with more questions and answers to and from Project Renewal.

Sybil Dobson: Are clients allowed to roam?

Project Renewal: At 9am, the beds are vacated. Client's work, go to school, detoxifying programs, AA programs, etc. They have a 10pm curfew

Adam: What if any info do you have regarding clients' criminal past? Are there any crimes that preclude clients from being admitted to the program?

Project Renewal: The shelter is not one of last resort. It is a shelter of comprehensive services. The shelter is deemed as a non-screen shelter so they cannot pick and choose clients. The only thing they know about the clients is whatever information the assessment people of DHS gives them or the client chooses to share. However, if the client is on parole they must keep in contact with parole to make sure that the client is complying.

Project Renewal tells everyone that it is classified as an Emergency Shelter because it has a full staff program. There are about 91 total staff, 30 security staff, and 17 caseworkers. They've been looking into getting more cameras. The average age of a client is 45 years old, but they take some as young as 21. Susan Dan tells that the shelter is not a long-term program. Project Renewal goes through the Training of Security:

- ◆ **Not peace officers**
- ◆ Hired from Project Renewal or promoted
- ◆ Work 3 months per diem before they are hired
- ◆ Not licensed because it is not a correction facility
- ◆ Staff understands level of illnesses
- ◆ Do a lot of work in house training

They tell everyone that groups are not mandated but they keep track of attendance because they have feed forms clients need completed by program staff. The Shelter uses incentives by using money management or weekend passes and taking them away. At this point in the meeting, Bob a security guard tells everyone that they patrol subway, stores, McDonalds, Haven Avenue, Audubon, etc. He informs everyone that runs are every ½ hour. They patrol on the outside from 12-1pm.

At this point in the meeting, Ms. Diana Olizola, Coalition for the Homeless, informed everyone that since November 2003, a policy has been intact stating that clients can be thrown out into the street if not complying with programs rules and regulations. There have been 30 cases and no one has ended up in the street. Project Renewal cannot enforce this policy because mental health clients are exempted. She states that since 1981, everyone regardless of criminal past has been entitled to shelter. NO shelters are allowed to lock down clients.

An open forum takes place in which people stated their thoughts and opinions.

Etta Graham: We need more permanent housing.

Director of Psychiatry, Matt McCarthy: We can hospitalize against their will if they are not complying with treatment.

Frank Hess: We need to tell them that we are going to help them do their job; for example, a place to smoke or air conditioning.

Jocelyn Minaya: Concerns about sex offenders. Levels 3 and 2 are lifetime registrants. Levels 1, not lifetime, but get up to twenty years. The murderer who murdered on 169th Street was a level 3-sex offender. The murderer was also on parole.

Lillian Perez: What are the rules and regulations?

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING---November 1, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Simon (Chair)
Isaiah Bing, Asst. Chair
Basilisa Gomez
Beatrice Hall
Helen Morik
Bracha Statman
Matthew Chachere (Public Member)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dora Maria Abreu

GUESTS: Elaine Larson-Columbia Univ. School of Nursing; Joyce Hunter-HIV Center/NYSPI; Maria Gonzalez-School of Nursing; Osi Kaminer-Resident; Sheena Takakrauam-Columbia Journalism School.

1. Steve Simon, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

2. **Update on Impact of HIV/AIDS in New York City** – Joyce Hunter, D.S.W., Co-Director, Community Collaborative Core, HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies, NYS Psychiatric Institute, read from three handouts from the NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene with info about HIV/AIDS rates in NYC in 2004 and 2005:

- The number of HIV/AIDS cases is still growing but at a slower rate. 40 million people worldwide are affected.
- In NYC, a different population is becoming affected – those older than 40. People in the 49-59 age group constitute 36% of cases.
- Older people are now living with HIV/AIDS, both because they get HIV at a later age and because they are living longer.
- Manhattan has 26.7% of NYC cases.
- Latinos and African-Americans predominantly affected (gay men of color and heterosexual women). 49.6% of deaths are African-American.
- Teenagers are generally homeless youths.
- No statistics provided on Community District 12 specifically.

She recommended that the board advocate for more HIV/AIDS education in the schools and mentioned that events are being organized for World AIDS Day on December 1, including an educational event at the Psychiatric Institute. She also invited board members to attend a forum every Thursday at 9:30-11 a.m. in P.I. Room 6602 to hear updates on AIDS research, treatment and prevention efforts.

D.M. Abreu volunteered to compile a list of resources for World AIDS Day.

3. **Stopping Upper Respiratory Infections and Flu in the Family: The Stuffy**

Trial – Elaine Larson, R.N., Ph.D., Professor of Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Research and Associate Dean for Research, Columbia University School of Nursing; Professor of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University.

Dr. Larson previously came before the committee to discuss studies on hygiene in the home (she found that anti-bacterial soap is useless) and the illegal sale of antibiotics in bodegas. In a recent survey of 1,000 local people, she found that 30% of households had at least one member with a cold or flu during every month of the year. Her latest project, "The Stuffy Trial," involves helping 450 families learn to avoid these illnesses.

Everyone in the trial will get educational material explaining the difference between colds and flu, where to get flu vaccines, etc. (Flu shots are now recommended for all children under 5, all adults over 55, people who take care of sick people, and people with chronic diseases.) One-third of the people in the trial will be given alcohol hand sanitizers, and one-third will be given the hand sanitizers as well as a mask to use in case someone in their family has a high fever and/or the flu. Participants will receive \$20/month to call in every day to report any symptoms. They can speak either English or Spanish. The trial will last through two flu seasons and includes home visits once every two months. At least three people should be in the household, including a pre-school child. Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. is helping to recruit participants.

4. Old Business – Con Edison's proposed transmission line project.

S. Simon reported that the board received a letter from the Dept. of Design and Construction, indicating that Con Edison had failed to inform that agency in the past of its potential need to use 10th Avenue for the transmission line and rejecting our recent request that the 10th Avenue reconstruction project be adjusted to include the Con Ed line.

Much discussion ensued concerning Con Edison's proposed transmission line project, including the construction of a substation at Academy & 201st Streets. I. Bing reported that he and M. Collins met the previous Monday night with representatives from Yonkers and The Bronx, who also had problems with the project. He argued that we have a particular issue with the siting of the substation on a brownfield site, which he feels is more important than the route issue. The Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EMCP) reports that a dangerous form of asbestos as well as mercury, arsenic and lead are present at the old Con Ed generating station site.

O. Kaminer reported on research she had done concerning a fight between Con Ed and Community Board 3 over a power plant near East 14th Street. Con Ed agreed to fund a \$456,000 energy-efficiency program called "Greening a Block," in which residents' appliances such as refrigerators were replaced. She urged the board to demand a similar program for the Board 12 area.

H. Morik and I. Bing argued that we should negotiate instead for improvements to the grid and better maintenance of the system to avoid future blackouts.

M. Chachere, reviewing the EMCP, said it appeared that Con Ed would be taking proper precautions to remove hazardous materials from the brownfield site.

S. Simon said the board should request an independent environmental monitor to make sure the work was done properly at the site.

5. New Business – The board received a letter from Council Member David Yassky seeking support for a bill dealing with "unfair" fines for sidewalk littering. In view of the lateness of the hour, consideration of this item was postponed until next month.

A DOHMH Alert concerning people being poisoned as the result of using an illegal pesticide, Tres Pasitas, was distributed.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Simon

MINUTES OF HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

November 17, 2006

Members Present

Julio Rodriguez, Chair

Kotie Cannon

Eduardo Hoepelman,

Jay Mazur

Glenda Swanson Massa

Guests: Melissa Laurie, Anthony Parson, Victor Hernandez, Edwin Lugo, Renee Williams, Ricco Cox, Tatsuo Yasuda

Committee Members Absent

Edith Prentiss

Members Present

George Espinal

Meeting began at 7:03pm.

Chair's Remarks:

501 West 173- The building has many violations. Saruham Dungil is the owner of the building. There is an order to vacate. Jeffrey Laufer is following up with the situation. It seems the site is an illegal conversion,

Same Sex marriage- Received a letter from the Community Board 3, saying they have passed a resolution asking for the equal legal rights for same sex couples. CB3 has asked us to also prepare and pass such a resolution. The board agrees that the matter should be considered. Jay Mazur will prepare a resolution.

HPD TIL Program: Representative from TIL (Tenant Interim Lease) program, Victor Hernandez, and Edwin Lugo, responded to questions and offered background on the TIL program. They were invited because some months back a resident complained about the slow movement of her building and the possibility that if the building does not move out of TIL, UHAB would buy out the building. TIL Director Victor Hernandez said this info is false. UHAB does not take over buildings, if the building does not pass the TIL program, the buildings goes into another program. TIL is looking for space in our community where they can hold their training program. The classes are from 6pm-9pm on Tuesday. They need a space for 60-100 people in February and assistance with outreach. The Chair requested that they speak to the DM, Charles Defino to arrange for space at the CB 12 office and that CB 12 will help with outreach.

Lawyers Alliance of NY Will not be able to attend, but they did leave a calendar with their workshop schedule. The workshops are low cost. They will also assist non-profit organizations with legal advice for a set fee of \$375.

Resolution for Ft. Washington Men's Shelter

The committee needs to discuss how to gather more information and data. Julio Rodriguez recommends that the committee should hold hearings and have experts there to answer questions. For example, what type of mental health treatment is necessary for this population? He suggested inviting other committees of the Board to put discussions of this subject on their agenda's and to participate at the hearings (forums) to be hosted by the H&HR comm. in early February. The Public Safety committee is already involved. Julio Rodriguez feels we should encourage other committees to examine the matter from their committee's perspective. Examples of committees that are directly affected are: the Economic Development, Youth & Education, and Health & Environment committees. After the study, the board will have input from all of the committees in rewriting the resolution. Questions need to be developed in order to guide the hearings:

Motion: Glenda moved that the committee have a public forum / hearing, in regards to the Armory shelter. Kotie Cannon 2nd the motion.

VOTES	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN
COMM. MEMBERS	4	1	
CB 12 MEMBERS	1		
PUBLIC	3		

Teach-in

Idea is to get various housing agencies that can help owners of buildings become aware of help available in maintaining and improving buildings, such that the landlord is not induced to behave negatively regarding tenants and such that the cost of improvement is not passed onto the tenants. The targets of the teach-ins are home-owners, managing companies, and agencies that can help them. Date is tentatively set on January 20, 2007.

Post office in Vermyllia and 204th Street: is no longer open after 4:00pm. Many people can't get their mail in a timely manner. George Espinal says he spoke to the Hon. Charles Rangel, who wants a letter from CB 12 noting the problems and asking for attention to it. George Espinal agreed to provide the H&HR committee with written detail and a draft letter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Notes prepared by Kotie Canon, transcribed and reviewed by Adolpho Cuevas

PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES – November 1, 2006

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Zead Ramadan, Chair
Aaron Scott

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, Assistant Chair
Emilia Cardona
Rafael Osoria

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

George Espinal
Julissa A. Gomez
Julio Rodriguez

STAFF ATTENDING

Charles DeFino
Jeffrey A. Laufer

Guests: Daniel Mercado, Northern Manhattan Parks Manager; John T. Duda, MKW and Assoc.; Douglass Nash, NYCPR; PO Tony Trinnidad, NYPD- 34th Pct. PCT. / Buczek Little League; SGT. John Maynihan, NYPD- 34th PCT./ Buczek Little League; Susan Ryan, Resident; James Kushner, Rotary Club of Inwood; Osi Kannier, Gardens NYC; Olga Zatsepina, RACH-C; Sarah Fabian, Green Apple Corps; Claire Dudley, NYCPR; Ralph Paniagua, RPI / Vazquez Circus; Bob Redmond, Manhattan Parks; Mike Hughes, Inwood Patrol; Shannon Para, Resident

Zead Ramadan welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7:15 pm.

We welcomed all guests to the meeting, and introduced Bob Redmond of NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation to discuss the reconstruction of the Michael Buczek baseball field on 190th St. & Ft. George. John Duda of MKW and Assoc. and Doug Nash of NYCPR presented an illustration of how the field will look. The field will be made of the latest in artificial turf technology, will have cut outs for the bases and the mound (those areas will comprise of clay), will drain easily, is extremely durable, and can be used for other sports when not being used by the little league. New dugouts will be built including water fountains, protective fencing in front of them, and a water mist spraying device near them so children can keep cool because the field can become hot when temperatures are high. Spectator stands will be installed along the first base lines. A fence will be built around the field. Mr.Duda also said that when bid out and if the budget allows, they will try to renovate the adjacent basketball courts. Construction is expected to begin after next little league season, in the summer and should take approximately 3-4 months to complete. Simultaneously, the sidewalk outside the outfield fence is will be reconstructed. Concerns expressed were for lack of seating. There are benches which face opposite the ball field, and the Parks Dept. agreed to try to address those benches when the sidewalk is reconstructed. Mr. Redmond asked for resolution support from the committee.

Claire Dudley of the NYCPR presented a rendering of the plan to construct a "tot lot" in J Hood Wright Park, adjacent to the current playground. The impetus to create a separate playground (in the same area) was that older children who were more mobile and aggressive created a hazardous environment for smaller children. A sand box, a running thin and shallow stream, repositioning of benches, safety surfacing throughout, and European designed stationary children's toys are included in the design. Some people expressed concern over presence of water in the "tot lot" but Ms. Dudley said that it is used elsewhere and it is safe. This was the first time any one in the room had heard of this issue. Mr. Redmond asked for resolution support from the committee.

Circo de Hermanos Vazquez: Mr. Rafael Vazquez and Mr. Ralph Paniagua came to our committee to inform us of their attempt to establish a circus on the north side of the recreation center in Highbridge Park from November 23-December 16, 2006. Mr. Paniagua who is helping sponsor the circus stated: the circus is the oldest and most famous circus in Mexico, and renowned through Latin America. It is currently running at Shea Stadium, where some City officials thought it would be great to bring to another Hispanic community before it returned to Mexico. Last year it was in East Harlem, so it was decided, that this year, is should be held in Washington Heights. Messrs. Vazquez and Paniagua reviewed the site with NYPD, NYFD, NYPR, and other relevant City representatives and now a wait

permitting. The family oriented circus would comprise of many clowns, acrobatic acts, an animal petting zoo, and (non alcoholic) snack and beverage concessions. Tent capacity is 975. They plan to hire approx. 20 people from the community in constructing and dismantling the tent, distribute at least 2000 free tickets to local schools, youth orgs and underprivileged families in our community. Inclement weather does not affect it as all tents are heated (so are animal tents). The committee was asked for a letter of support/no objection.

Committee is awaiting response from several parties re: support for a S. Wash Heights farmer's market. Committee will report when more progress is made. A CB resident asked if it could be advertised that the farmers' market accepts governmental monetary programs, such as WIC.

Discussion re: RFP for FT. Tryon Park: committee input/requests made in the previous RFP was very helpful to requesting that the winner allow for more community usage of the space, better pricing and a more diverse menu. Some expressed that quality of food and service by the current lessee was inconsistent, but all acknowledged that it is better than it was in the past.

Four CB residents came to the committee to inform us of youth (8-14) who are vandalizing Anne Loftus Playground in daylight hours, making it impossible for children to play, threatening parents, ripping up protective flooring, throwing rocks at people. The parents belong to the "InwoodKids" chat room, and they said many other parents have experienced the same, and it was getting progressively worse. Danny Mercado of NYC Parks acknowledged the story and stated that PEP officers stepped patrol at the park. Deputy Inspector Capul of the 34th Pct was made aware of same. Committee chair referred this to the public safety committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 6, 2006

Committee Members Present

Mark Levine, Chair
Beatrice Hall, Asst. Chair
James Berlin
Edith Prentiss

Committee Members Absent

Elizabeth Ritter

Staff Present

Charles DeFino
Jeffrey A. Laufer

Board Members Present

Martin Collins, Chair
George Espinal
Maria Luna

Guests: Phyllis Smizaski Resident; John Kinney, Resident; Mirza Ahmad, W. 158th Street Newsstand; Brian Fenton, Resident; Ryder Pearce, NYC DOT; Theodoros Skroumbelos, Newsstand Owner; Julio Batista, NYPH; Sandra Harris, Columbia University; Anna Colletti, Central Park; John Rudy, Resident; Tatsuo Yasuda, Resident; Lavemue Collins, Director Isabella, Andrew Lenton, Resident; Daryl Edwards, Resident

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by the chair, Mark Levine. The first item on the agenda was the proposed newsstand in front of 3789 Broadway (West 157th Street).

Mr. Theodoros Skroumbelos said that his family had owned the previous newsstand for sixty years; therefore he feels that the site belongs to him.

Maria Luna stated that Mr. Skroumbelos had rented out the newsstand illegally to Mr. Ahmad and someone else before Mr. Ahmad for years his family had not been at that location.

Martin Collins updated the committee on the newsstand issue. He explained that Mr. Ahmad had an application on file at consumer Affairs for over a year and that Consumer Affairs should have told Mr. Skroumbelos that an application was already pending for that location. Martin said that he would reach out to Mr. J. Mintz the head of Consumer Affairs to try and solve the problem.

Mr. Ryder Pearce from DOT said that he was going to speak to someone at DOT also about this problem.

The committee voted to table this item until we could get some clarifications from Consumer Affairs:

Cmte members__3 yes__0-no

Board members__2 yes__0 no

New signage around Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center (by Sandra Harris & Julio Batista): The Hospital & University is in the process of putting up new signage throughout the whole Campus. The following areas will be included: NYS Psychiatric Institute, Children Hospital, DOH Clinic, Columbia University and The NY Presbyterian Hospital Complex.

There will be maps inside the Hospital & University to make it easier for the public to get around the Campus.

Some of these changes should occur before the years end and rest should be in place in early part of the New Year.

The Committee pasted a resolution in support of the Columbia-Presbyterian project.

Committee Members____3 yes__0 no__0 abstain

Board Members____2 yes__0 no__0 abstain

Member of Public____8 yes__0 no__0 abstain

Update on Sherman Creek-Inwood traffic study:

Martin stated that the study is in preliminary scooping and that CB12 will be updated early next year.

Milling & resurfacing schedule for CB12 streets:

Mark mentioned that Martin & Bea. Hall had prioritized the Milling & resurfacing street list and sent it to DOT. He asked Mr. Pearce from DOT if he thought that DOT might do our entire list. Mr. Pearce was not sure.

Car Accidents on Isham Street and Broadway:

Traffic & Transportation Committee

November 6, 2006

Resolution to co-name West 207th St. & Broadway Eileen Sweeney Place

Whereas Eileen Sweeney was a long-time community activist who devoted many years to the betterment of Washington Heights & Inwood; and

Whereas she was a member of Community Board 12 Manhattan, worked for Assemblymembers Edward H. Lehner and Herman D. Farrell, Jr.; and

Whereas she was a tireless tenant activist, worked with the Inwood Patrol and was a founder of Inwood's annual Memorial Day Parade; and

Whereas she was also a Democratic District Leader and a delegate to the Democratic National Convention that nominated Jimmy Carter; and

Whereas it is appropriate and fitting to co-name the northwest corner of West 207th Street & Broadway in her honor.; now, therefore

Be it Resolved that the northwest corner of West 207th Street & Broadway be co-named in her honor.

	<u>In Favor</u>	<u>Opposed</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Traffic Committee	3	0	0	0
CB12 Members	2	0	0	0
Members of the Public	7	0	1	0

A lengthy discussion took place about the danger of crossing the streets in/and around that area. It was reported that there were 14 accidental deaths in the area last year.

Mr. Pearce (DOT) said that if DOT found that it was an unusually amount of accidental in that area then DOT would do a traffic study.

Update on Bus stop: at 4966 Broadway & West 207th Street:

The MTA made a site visit to the area and said that they would look into the problem.

Resolution to Co-name the northwest corner of West 207th Street and Broadway "Eileen Sweeney Place"

Committee Members ___ 3 yes ___ 0 no ___ 0 abstain

Board Member ___ 1 yes ___ 0 no ___ 0 abstain

Member of Public ___ 7 yes ___ 0 no ___ 1 abstain

The impact of film production on parking:

Several community residents said that filming was taking place in their neighborhood to frequently. Some residents wanted the city to allow alternating parking in the affected areas to alleviate some of the parking problems.

Martin said that he would send a letter to the Mayor's office on film production and convey the concerns of the community. He would try to get some areas red lined

New Business:

Ms Laverne Collins, Director of Security at Isabella Nursing Home spoke about a constant problem where NYC policemen, NYS Police and Transit personnel W/ plaques are blocking the nursing home entrance & receiving docks. She is being told when she calls the police that there's nothing that can be done about the problem.

Mr. Pearce (DOT) said that she should write to Margaret Forgione (DOT Boro Commissioner) to get more no parking signs around Isabella.

Flooding on Henry Hudson Parkway:

H. H. Pkwy has a huge problem with flooding whenever there's a heavy rainfall; there are three main areas of concern, flooding coming from over the wall by Carhini and two other locations in Ft Tryon Park. The drains & catch basins are probably clogged which causes flooding and mud to flow over onto the H.H.Pkwy. The parkway has no drainage system. In the winter the water freezes which causes accidents.

Jim said that DOT is responsible for the catch basins and should look into the problem. He also said that the parks Dept may need to do some erosion control.

It was suggested that the CB12 reach out to Mark Lanaghah @ 718-593-3519-DEP about the flooding on H.H.Pkwy.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm Respectfully Submitted by: B. Hall

