

FULL BOARD MINUTES

DATE: August 24, 2000-**Executive Committee Meeting Only**
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: St. Vincent's Hospital, 170 W. 12th Street
Cronin Auditorium, 10th Floor

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ann Arlen, Glenn Bristow, Keith Crandall, Anthony Dapolito, Doris Diether, Alan Jay Gerson, Aubrey Lees, Michael Mirisola, Marc T. Newell, David B. Reck, Melissa Sklarz, James Smith, Sean Sweeney, Lora Tenebaum, Martin Lesser, Wilbur A. Weder, Jeanne Wilcke.

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Rosemary McGrath, Doris Nash, Arthur Z. Schwartz, Ruth Sherlip, Carol Yankay.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Edward Gold, John W. Short.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Arthur Strickler, District Manager

GUESTS: No Guests Present

MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date –August 24, 2000
Board Members Present –13
Board Members Excused–5
Board Members Absent- 2

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II. PUBLIC SESSION

Non-Agenda Items

Zoning and Housing Items

III. Adoption of Agenda

IV. Elected Officials Present and Reporting

V. Adoption of Minutes

Adoption of May minutes. Distribution of April minutes.

VI. Executive Session

1. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1(a). Report of Nominating Committee Hon. Ed Gold

1(b) Nomination of Officers for the Ensuing Term

2. Zoning & Housing Hon. Lora Tenenbaum

No Resolutions

3. Waterfront Hon. Arthur Schwartz

Holland Tunnel Vent Shaft Lighting

WHEREAS the Holland Tunnel, as a whole, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and

WHEREAS members of the Waterfront Committee observed the lit Lip vent shaft building and agreed that the lighting distracts from the beauty of the City scape , distracts from the beauty of the waterfront, and does not allow observers to focus on the lights shimmering off the harbor,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that CB2 agrees to the lighting of the Holland Tunnel Vent Shaft Building one day per year.

Vote: Passed, with 2 in favor and 6 in opposition.

Rats

WHEREAS the removal of pier decking on various Hudson River piers alongside Greenwich Village has added to the rat population currently plaguing the West Village and

WHEREAS the addition of these rats has pushed the West Village rat population to

WHEREAS, baiting only west of Route 9A has not stemmed the rat population coming from The piers and bulkhead, therefore be it

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB2 asks The Hudson River Park Trust, New York State DOT, New York City DOT, the Mayor's Rat Task Force and the Borough Presidents Rat Task Force to undertake a systematic baiting program from 6" Avenue west to the Hudson river to stop the rat menace; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB#2-Man. urges that the NYC Dept. of Health's office of Pest Control be restored to full staffing so that it may once more be an

effective force in preventing rat propagation through clean-up of problem sites and education of the public in rat prevention and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB#2-Man. calls upon the city, the Department of Health, and The Hudson River Park Trust, New York State DOT, New York City DOT, the Mayor's Rat Task Force and the Borough Presidents Rat Task Force to evaluate and extend rat baiting throughout the CB#2 District in recognition to the dire needs and severe rat problem throughout our District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HRPT is requested to prevent future release of rat populations into the community by massively baiting piers prior to commencement of demolition work.

Vote: Unanimous, with 45 Board members in favor.

4. Traffic and Transportation **Hon. Charle Cafiero**

No Resolutions

5. Landmarks and Public Aesthetics **Hon. Sean Sweeney**

PUBLIC HEARING: LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

501 Broadway/ 72 Mercer - An empty lot
Application is to construct a 5-story building on Broadway and 7-story building on Mercer.

Whereas the bulk of the proposed building is within the scale of the surrounding buildings; and

Whereas the geometry of the main outer plane and the inner window plane, and the bold verticality of the facade and the deep mullions with the windows set back, as well as the ground floor infill are all attractive and appropriate; and

Whereas the ground floor design is consistent with other neighborhood buildings; however we wish that the concept were carried to the upper floors; and

Whereas the floor lines were out of synch with the two adjacent buildings; and

Whereas historically in SoHo floor heights and window size decrease on the upper floors of a building, which is not the case here; and

Whereas we do not believe that the huge top floor windows with the multi-paned mullions were appropriate; and

Whereas the applicant referenced the upper-floor windows of the Little Singer Building as precedent for a multi-paned transom above a large window; in fact the Little Singer Building windows had a much broader band separating the transoms and windows; and

Whereas the applicant also referred to the Little Singer Building as a precedent for having canopies above the Broadway store entrance; in fact no photos were presented to support that assertion or the additional assertion that canopies were at one time commonplace above Broadway entrances; and

Whereas canopies were common above the loading docks of factories and commercial establishments on service streets like Crosby and Mercer; their proposed addition above the artists' residence entrance on Mercer Street is without precedent; and

Whereas there is too much glass, for example: its appearance on the non-load bearing mullions and the inappropriate use of sidewalk vault glass on the copper grid-work of the façade; and

Whereas the insertion of over a half dozen holes in the cornice, ten inches deep, is a overused post-modern detail that we would not like to see introduced into the historic district;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2 feels that this is an ambitious first attempt and the applicant should go back to tone down the excess of inappropriate decorative elements; and further,

Be it resolved that approval of portions of this application by the community board should not be construed by the applicant to infer community board approval of any future zoning variances.

Vote: Unanimous, with 16 Board members in favor.

6. Sidewalks, Public Facilities and Access

Hon. Aubrey Lees

No Resolutions

7. Business & Institutions

Hon. Martin Tessler

7A-BUSINESS

Transfer of liquor license, Rabaco, Inc., d/b/a Soho Steak 90 Thompson St.

This restaurant is just north of Spring St., with 30 tables seating 60 people and a bar seating 3.. The restaurant has a front that opens, and is in a 6 story residential building. It is across from a playground. At the time of my visit, there were three tables straddling the entranceway, with one chair inside and one outside the premises. The place currently has a liquor license, and this is a transfer to a new corporate name. There is recorded music.

Whereas the area was posted and no one appeared at the hearing to complain, and CB#2 office had no record of complaints, and

Whereas this restaurant seats 60 people at the 30 tables and 3 more at the bar, and

Whereas the owner has agreed to keep all the tables and chairs within the boundaries of the restaurant

Therefore be it resolved CB#2-Man, has no objection to the transfer of the liquor license for these premises, but request the 500' hearing since there are three other premises selling liquor within the 500' radius.

Vote: Unanimous, with 16 Board members in favor.

Application for second cabaret license for "SPA," 76 East 13 St. (formerly "Key Club.") just west of 4th Avenue

Whereas this premises has been operating as "Spa" for some time now, with a minimum of recent complaints, and

Whereas the second cabaret license is required since the space has been divided in part by a new wall, creating two dance floors, and

Whereas the area was posted and only a few people showed up for the hearing, with either minor complaints or praise for the place, and

Whereas the current manager, Peggy Millard, has been meeting with the community advisory board monthly, per the Memorandum of Understanding,

Therefore be it resolved CB #2,Man. does not object to the grant of a second cabaret license to "SPA" provided the license is not transferable to other management, but only so long as the current management practices as practiced by the current manager continues and any change in such practices will require a new license for both spaces.

Vote: Passed, with 15 Board members in favor.

425 Lafayette St., New York Shakespeare Festival, Joe's Pub-- Extending liquor license to sidewalk cafe. -(substitute)

Whereas Joe's Pub initially operated as an adjacent to the Public Theatre theatrical operations and has become a separate cost/profit center, and

Whereas Joe's Pub already has a liquor license which was supported by CB#2, Man. on the basis that operations would be limited to earlier closing hours and definitely not to a 4 AM closing and;

Whereas extending the service of liquor to the sidewalk would make it appear that CB#2, Man. supports a 7 day -4 AM operation which was not the original intent of the Public Theatre as presented to CB#2, Man;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. opposed the granting by the SLA of an alteration to the license of Joe's Pub, 425 Lafayette, NYC 10003

Vote: Passed, with 6 in favor and 4 in opposition.

425 Lafayette St., New York Shakespeare Festival, Joe's Pub-- Extending liquor license to sidewalk cafe.

Whereas Joe's Pub already has a liquor license and this new application is to permit the to sell liquor in the newly approved sidewalk cafe, and

Whereas the area was posted and no one appeared to oppose the application, and

Whereas there is music inside the Pub, but no music will be played outdoors,

Therefore be it resolved CB#2, Man. does not object to the additional liquor license for Joe's Pub at 425 Lafayette St.

Vote: Passed, with 5 Board members in favor and 5 in opposition.

497 Broome St. - Cafe Marie - New liquor license (former license expired)

Whereas Cafe Marie was granted a liquor license in 1996 for these premises, but due to construction problems, it never opened, and

Whereas the restaurant, bar, and lounge will have a total capacity of 74 people, and

Whereas the area was posted and no one appeared at the hearing to oppose, and there were no calls to the CB office protesting this opening,

Therefore be it resolved that CB#2 does not object to a liquor license for Cafe Marie at 497 Broome St. but requests that the application form be corrected to indicate 74 patrons, not 150 patrons.

Vote: Unanimous, with 16 Board members in favor.

289 Bleecker St. - Ecco L'Italia Restaurant, 76-78 Carmine St. - El Patio Caribeno, 575 Hudson St. - Papillion - near West 11 St. Formerly American Tapas Bar

Whereas the applicant was visited, was sent the application forms with information on the hearing, and the area was posted, and

Whereas the applicant neither called nor contacted the community Board in any way to request a postponement of the hearing,

Therefore be it resolved Community Board #2 opposes the granting of a liquor license to (289 Bleecker St., Ecco L'Italia Restaurant)(76-78 Carmine St., El Patio Caribeno)(575 Hudson St., Papillion) lacking this important step in the approval process.

Vote: Unanimous, with 16 Board members in favor

7B - INSTITUTIONS

No Resolutions