

PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, March 2, 2010

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

PLACE: Roosevelt Hospital, 1000 Tenth Avenue (58/59)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

West Clinton Re-Zoning - 11DCP068M CEQR, N110176ZRM, 110177ZMM - New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) and Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) are proposing zoning map and text amendments affecting all or portions of 18 blocks of the West Clinton neighborhood in Community District 4. The proposed actions would provide new opportunities for residential development, including new affordable housing, in the West Clinton neighborhood; encourage new manufacturing-compatible uses between Eleventh Avenue and the West Side Highway (Route 9A); and ensure that the form of new buildings relates to and enhances neighborhood character.

Presented by Erica Sellke

Speaker Christine Quinn interrupted the presentation for a brief thank you to Bob Trentlyon for his years of service in the community as this evening was his last night on the board.

David Novuao is in support of the rezoning. He believes it will encourage sustainability for residents. His group is concerned with anti-harassment and anti-demolition.

Richard Brander is in favor of the proposed rezoning for West Clinton.

Jeffrey Warden is in favor of the proposed but believes that the anti-harassment anti demolition provisions. Also believes that the west side of 11th avenue should be residential.

Murray Kiach wants anti harassment anti demolition clauses put in.

Michael Silverman is a landlord in the area that is in support of the proposed. He believes that the zoning should go to the river.

Dhalia – Wants to see the anti harassment and anti demolition clauses put in. She also believes that the density towards the river is not an environment friendly.

Sarah (Brandon) – believes that the neighborhood is a community.

Cathleen Treat believes that everyone on the CB is on a high moral ground with the rezoning.

Believes that anti-harassment anti-demolition and wants protection against wrongful eviction.

Leeann Cox asked about the west side of Eleventh Avenue contained any outdoor benches or open spaces.

Hearing was closed at 7:15PM

Public Session

Eva LeClaire speaking on behalf of the Parents and Students for Holy Cross. Thanked the board for our support. Spoke of their meeting with the Archdiocese.

Philip Santoro from Road Runners Half Marathon. Held on Monday March 20th same route as last year.

Danya Sherman Friends of the Highline Section 2 is going to open this spring. There will be more food vendors for the Highline.

Jesse Campoamer gave an update on the progress of St. Vincent's. Public Survey is close to being disturbed.

Tosh Anderson Hell's Clinton Resident and a Parent of PS 51 to thank the committee for the update they gave at the school. The parents are asking for the school to be temporarily moved during construction.

Martha Hauze is concerned about the budget cuts especially those that will affect families and seniors.

Richard Brander would like to extend the gallery district of the waterfront.

Deley Gazanelli is in support of the Chelsea Sculpture Park. Would like to see a Park that has exhibit area for sculptures.

Public Session Closed 7:30

Agenda was Adopted

Minutes from last month were adopted.

Sandy Myers from the BP's Office gave an update about the new cb appointments. Thanked the members along with Bob Trentlyon who did not renew their appointment for their service.

Thanked the CB members who were at the state of the borough address. BP is in support of the 34th Street Transit program but has some concerns about the amount of community outreach.

Katie Smith representing Congressman Jerry Nadler talked about the proposal with the Mayor's office about the PCB's that are in the school from the light ballasts. The plan would remove these fixtures however the Congressman thinks it should happen sooner. Congressman is also against the proposal in Congress that bans the use of public funds on abortions.

Council Member Gail Brewer spoke of the budget and how depressing it was. Recommended that cb should show up at the upcoming CB budget meeting. Supported the smoking ban in public spaces. She also has been working with the technology department to make available ballots on line prior to the voting. She gave an update of all of the public programs in her district that are coming up.

Sarah Myer Zindler representing State Senator Tom Duane talked about her office advocating for the public gardens by the bike lanes. She also thanked Bob Trentlyon for his service

Jeffrey LeFrancois representing Assembly Member Dick Gottfreid's office. Stood with Planned Parenthood for Public Funding. Spoke in favor of the rezoning however would like to see the protections to go all the way West.

Representing Assembly member Rosenthal was involved with the rally at City Hall to speak in favor of the replacing of all of the old light ballasts that contain PCB's. Would like the problem solved sooner rather than later. They also attended the rally for Planned Parenthood. The Assembly member is sponsoring a bus to Albany to speak about the educational budget cuts.

Amanda Yunger representing Speaker Christine Quinn. Press Conference tomorrow at City Hall to speak against Congress's proposed budget cuts for housing services. A letter was sent from their office for the proposed BRC shelter and spoke against the size.

Sadie Vassel community organizer for Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio. PA's bill's Heat Act was passed as their first legislation passed the city council.

District Manager's Report Bob Benfatto Next month we will be voting on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget regarding the Statement of District Needs

Chair John Weis gave Chairperson's report. Mentioned the re-combining of the BLP committees. Paul Seres and Lisa Daglian. Burt Lazarin will head up his budget task force. Joe and Sara are switching hats. Joe is moving to the Land use Committee and Sarah is moving back to the Housing Health and Human Resources committee. Sarah Desmond is chairing the nomination committee. Mentioned some of the issues that came up regarding the by-laws at the Exec Committee. Mentioned the annual report that needs to be submitted to the BP's office that states our brightest accomplishments and what our goals are.

Raul asked John why he put the two BLP's committees back together. John answered basing it on a number of reasons, but basically making the CB more consistent.

Walter asked about the letter regarding nominations. John reiterated the process as it is in the by-law.

JOHN WEIS

Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.

District Manager

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LETTERS & RESOLUTIONS

Executive Committee (EXEC)

Item 1: Letter to Archdiocese of NY re merger of Holy Cross and Sacred Heart elementary schools (ratification)

Item 2: Letter to local elected officials re merger of Holy Cross and Sacred Heart elementary schools (ratification)

Brett stated had reservations about supporting any letter regarding any religious entities. Walter mentioned his concerns about supporting this letter as well claiming that the other school is also in our district and that they may come forward.

Larry mentioned his concerns regarding the number of families that go to Holy Cross, that actually live in our community.

Carmen stated that Holy Cross is an integral part of our community.

Joe stated that kids are local. He believes that we have a right to speak in favor of this closing.

Item 3: Letter to LPC re 353 West 20th Street

Waterfront and Parks Committee (WATER)

Item 4: Letter of support for Chelsea Sculpture Park

Brett asked if the sculptures would be sold or that there is private use involved. Carmen stated that the park would not be used for marketing. Damyanti asked about the name of the park. She stated that there should be a monetary value to repair the park after the sculptures are returned to their owners. Jim asked about the review that takes place after 9 months. Carmen clarified that it took place after each 9-month cycle.

Bob (swan song) stated that this is a park for everyone to enjoy himself or herself.

Christine stated that she is in favor of this proposal and thinks that the first sculpture should be of Bob.

Transportation Planning Committee (TRANS)

Item 5: Letter to MMCC re Charter Bus parking initiative

JD stated the MMCC is made up of theatre owners, hotel owners, and midtown business owners. He is offering 4 friendly amendments. 1-Opposed to increase the number of curbside parking spots. 2-Doesn't want the buses going through any neighborhoods of CB4, 3- doesn't want buses going to West 45th to the Intrepid Parking garage for the buses. 4-concerned about parking garages for these tourists' buses.

Lee asked that cheap be changed to inexpensive. He questioned the number of buses that would increase.

Christine commented about JD's suggestion. She also disclosed that she is on the MMCC's Bus Sub Committee, however doesn't know where the buses will go. They are going to be there and how do you deal with them.

Ed reinforced JD's remarks believes the buses can't be in our district.

Joe is concerned that there isn't enough public process regarding the bus parking. Joe believes that it should go back to committee.

Walter stated that the presentation claimed that the buses are already on the residential streets and the need is to get them off those streets.

Item 6: Letter to DOT re revocable consents for underground subway wireless service

Ed asked if this construction was only in the street and sidewalk not the station. Jay confirmed that no construction will be done in the station.

Lee asked that there be clarity about neutral wireless networks.

Item 21: Parking Regulations, South Side West 53rd Street between Eight and Ninth Avenues.

Chelsea Preservation and Planning Committee (CP&P)

Item 7: Letter to PDC re renovation project at 243 W. 20th Street

Ed suggested that a sentence be added that retaining the firehouse would be more inline with the project.

Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Land Use Committee (C/HKLU)

Item 8: Letter to DCP re West Clinton re-zoning letter of support

David asked what our position would be if DCP didn't approve the request with conditions.

Lee was concerned about the condition. This letter will go in front of the city council ultimately, not city planning.

Christine asked about the condition for the sidewalks.

Miguel asked about the retail spaces going in the corridors. He asked if there was language that could be added to block the big box chains and banks and support small businesses getting those affordable rents.

Joe also mentioned that the anti harassment and anti demolition clauses would cover the tenement properties.

Walter Agreed as did Ed

Seth asked if this limitation would be bad in the long run. Joe clarified.

Item 9: Letter to DCP re West Clinton re-zoning EAS comments

Christine stated that there are questions regarding the transportation comments. Jay addressed that some of the changes may have gotten lost in the last version to be presented to the board.

JD reiterated that the change with regard to the

Housing Health and Human Services (HH&HS)

Item 10: Letter to SCA re PS 51 construction

Walter stated that the letter goes beyond the construction authority and should include all appropriate city agencies.

Martha was concerned about the types of materials used to build public schools. Joe addressed her concerns

Item 11: Letter to HPD re transfer of jurisdiction of 136 W. 20th Street from NYC DOS to NYC HPD

Christine made a friendly suggestion that line 65 moved to the front and to repeat it.

Business License and Permits Committee (BLP) - South

Item 12: Letter to SLA re CBN I Corp. d/b/a Ciao Bella Napoli – 257 7th Ave (25)

Item 13: Letter to SLA re Devon Binns or Entity to be formed – 224 12th Ave, Space 4, 28th Street side

Ed asked if this was the same as WichCraft Paul clarified that it wasn't.

Business License and Permits Committee (BLP) - North

Item 14: Letter to SLA re Hakkasan NYC LLC d/b/a Hakkasan – 311 W. 43rd Street

Item 15: Letter to SLA re Patzeria Family & Friends Inc – 311 W. 48th Street

Item 16: Letter to SLA re Siam Talent Inc. d/b/a Talent Thai II – 592 Ninth Avenue (42/43)

Item 17: Letter to SLA re Kalibi 505 LLC. d/b/a International Gourmet Kitchen – 501-507 Eighth Avenue a/k/a 301-309 W. 35th Street

Item 18: Letter to SLA re TM 701 Corp. d/b/a Smith's Bar – 701 Eighth Avenue (44/45)

Item 19: Letter to SLA re Thomas Murphy or Entity to be formed – 813 Eighth Avenue (48/49)

JD asked that there be stronger language regarding storm enclosures being taken down in accordance with the NY City Code.

Christine had a friendly amendment on Item 16 regarding the barriers on Talent Thai.

Paul asked why would we put language in a letter to the SLA that only affects the NYC DOT.

Item 20: Letter to SLA re Latitude/Westside Corp. d/b/a Latitude Bar – 783 Eighth Avenue (47/48)

Carmen asked about the closing the rooftop on time.

Landmarks Committee (LAND), Quality of Life/Education, Libraries, and Cultural Affairs Committee (QoL)

No items to report

New Business