

Community Board 7 Manhattan
Full Board Meeting
Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson
St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center
December 4, 2007

Ms. Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.
Minutes from previous full board meeting were approved: 27-0-0.

Chairperson's Report: Helen Rosenthal

- Ms. Rosenthal announced the birth of Charles Simon's daughter, Charlotte Bird Simon.
- Melanie Wymore and Elizabeth Starkey, co-chairpersons of CB7's new Green Committee, reported on the scope of the committee's work in developing green initiatives for the UWS and the City at large.
- Madge Rosenberg, co-chairperson of Health & Human Services Committee, reported on the Lantern Group's project at 314 West 94th Street and the Community Advisory Board's outreach to the community and various stakeholders.
- Sheldon Fine reported on Jewish Home & Hospital Community Advisory Board's efforts, including the Stern Building residents and the size of the new residential tower on 106th Street.
- Ethel Sheffer gave an update on the Riverside South Task Force and the upcoming ULURP application. The RSS Planning Corporation has brought a lawsuit against Extell Development Company for violating community agreements. Luis Reyes asked about locating a school within the RSS project and adding money to the City's capital budget. Ms. Rosenthal suggested attending the upcoming Youth, Education & Libraries Committee meeting on this issue.

Ms. Rosenthal announced the draft list of Board members' committee assignments and the City's requirement, in anticipation of budget problems, that each Community Board submit a plan for a 2.5 % budget cut in FY08 and a 5% cut in FY09.

· **Manhattan Borough President's Report**

Jessica Silver – Community Board appointments will be made in the next few months; she has been appointed deputy director of community affairs and constituent services and expects a new CB7 liaison will be appointed soon; working with the developer of 150 Amsterdam Avenue to encourage space for a school/kindergarten.

Public Session

- **William Kent** – Concerned about disruptions around Brandeis HS, large groups of students gathering, drug dealing, and problems with students exiting on W.85th Street. Wants to create communication channels with the school.
- **Lynn Opinante**, Riverside Branch Library - Asked for support of 6-day service; branches that increased hours had, on average, 13% more usage.
- **Maggie McLean** – Stern Building resident - Works at JHH; concerned that JHH may not find places for the residents in the community, especially older residents.
- **Calvin Solomon, Manhattan District Attorney's Office** – Announced immigrant clinic.

Reports by Legislators

- **Council Member Gale Brewer** – Held a hearing on illegal hotels, seeking to raise fines; announced 12/12 hearing on Broadband and 12/13 meeting on Medicare rights; looking forward to making the community more green; School Construction Authority will be renovating the Martin Luther King Jr. High School library; working on 79th Street and RSD; 150 Amsterdam Avenue may not be able to do 80/20; Alan Sackman has bought a lot of brownstones and is trying to buy air rights and create large development sites, and she is working to stop the destruction of the brownstones.
- **NYS Senator Bill Perkins** – Congratulated new Board leadership; State Senate will be going back into session from 12/10-17 to address judicial pay raises, capital projects, senior citizens' exemptions; noted the JHH development and its possible effect on the community.
- **NYS Senator Eric Schneiderman** – Urged the public to recommend ideas for the new Democratic majority; opposes the MTA fair hike and supports increased funding for mass transit.
- **Assemblymember Richard Gottfried** – Opposed to the BSA variances for Congregation Shearith Israel (CSI), due to negative impact on the community; holding a press conference on universal health care coverage for New York.

Legislative Representatives' Reports

- **Matt Bitz – Councilmember Inez Dickens' office** - Introduced a bill to require smokers to stay out of hospital zones.
- **David Chang, NYS State Senator Tom Duane's office** – Held joint community meeting on 150 Amsterdam Avenue; encouraging schools and community facilities in developments; opposed to variances for CSI; favors increased fines for illegal hotels.
- **Shane Seger, Assemblymember Daniel O'Donnell's office** – 12/20 legal seminar for tenants; winter coat driver for NY Cares; working with the Stern residents to find suitable housing.
- **Elsie Encarnacion – Council Member Melissa Mark Viverito's office** - Working with Stern residents to find appropriate housing, and will send a representative to CB7's Housing Committee meeting on this issue; announced several upcoming community events.
- **David Weinberg, Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal's office** – Working on senior pedestrian safety and on protecting the brownstones on West End Avenue.
- **Micah Lasher, Congressman Jerrold Nadler's office** – Working on Moynihan station, illegal hotels, Fordham development, increased fuel efficiency standards. House made progress on anti-torture and intelligence oversight acts; supports smart planning for the ARC tunnel station and the development of a 10th Avenue and 41st Street station on the new 7 line.

Business Session

Land Use Committee

Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons

Resolution Re:

1. **Congregation Shearith Israel, 6-10 West 70th Street (Central Park West.)**

Richard Asche introduced the CSI discussion and Hope Cohen reviewed committee votes on the 6 variances.

- **Jan Levy** – Opposed to CSI requests for variances; does not understand the CSI efforts to disfigure the neighborhood mid-block zoning and the historic district, and is distressed about the need to seek finances at the community's expense.
- **Batya Lewton** - Seconded Jan Levy's comments.

- **Jay Greer** – Opposed the CSI variances; CSI has omitted the use of the banquet hall in the facility, which could do a significant amount of damage to the neighborhood. This issue should weigh heavily against approving the variances.
- **Anne Farley**, 101 CPW - Opposed variances, including horizontal variance requests. Plans do not adequately address the banquet hall, traffic issues due to the growth of the school, or the finances that drive this project.
- **Jon Prince and Jeff Retman**, 18 W. 70th Street - Concerned about the “substantial impairment” from the 7 lot-line windows that would be blocked if the variances were granted; zoning regulations prohibit the granting of variances that injure the community in this way.
- **Kate Wood**, Landmark West! - Applicant has not met the burden of proof for the findings necessary to grant the requested variances; concerned about mid-block contextual zoning and preserving the sense of place of the historic district.
- **Ellen Flysher**, 91 CPW - Opposed to variances, including the horizontal variances; there is opportunity to do what CSI wants to do without the horizontal variances.
- **Bruce Simon** – Opposed to variances; no flexibility should be given to allow CSI to finance its religious mission or residential profit.
- **Alan Sugarman** – Opposed to variances; does not agree with CSI’s alleged needs; they don’t meet the standards of the law.
- **Madeleine Polayes**, Coalition for a Livable West Side - Opposed to variances.
- **Kent Wallgren**, board member and treasurer at 18 West 70th Street - Concerned about air and light, and loss of apartment values; CSI would be making money at the expense of the neighbors; urged disapproval.
- **Shelly Friedman, attorney representing CSI** - Offered to answer Board members’ questions.
- **Roberta Vatske**, 17 West 70th Street, - In favor of variances; spoke of the history and the important benefit CSI provides to the community.
- **Debbie Fink**, resident at 18 West 70th Street - Concerned about the diminution in value of her apartment and the loss of light and air.

The four resolutions to **disapprove** were adopted:

Vote to **DISAPPROVE** the Vertical variances

Building height – increase from 60 to 105 ft

Base height – increase first setback from 65 to 95 feet

38-0-1-0

Vote to **DISAPPROVE** the Vertical variances

Front Setback – reduce the width of the first setback from 15 to 12 feet

37-1-1-0

Vote to **DISAPPROVE** the Vertical variances

Rear Setback

38-0-1-0

Vote to **DISAPPROVE** the Horizontal Variances

Rear Yard Incursion in R8B

Rear Yard Incursion in R10A

Lot Coverage

21-13-2-0.

Parks & Preservation Committee

Klari Neuwelt and Lenore Norman, Co-Chairpersons

2. **325 West End Avenue** (West 76th – 77th Streets.) The resolution to **approve** the application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a roof-top addition was adopted 16-14-1-2 by roll call vote.

Kate Wood, Landmark West! - Opposed to the application for a rooftop terrace.

3. **101 West 77th Street** (Columbus Avenue.) The resolution to **approve** the application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a roof-top addition failed: 14-11-7-0. Resolution to **disapprove** was adopted: 15-6-4-0.

4. **44 West 87th Street** (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) The resolution to **approve** the application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for installation of windows and a lift at the front of the building was adopted: 28-0-2-0.

Transportation Committee

Andrew Albert and Dan Zweig, Co-Chairpersons

5. **207 West 96th Street** (Amsterdam Avenue.) The resolution to **approve** the request by the Franciscan Friars at Holy Name Church to the Department of Transportation for two “No Parking” spaces in front of their building was adopted: 23-4-1-0.

6. **100 West 106th Street** (Columbus Avenue.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application #B01397 to NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission by U.C. Columbus Radio Dispatch, Inc. at 100 West 106th Street for a For-Hire base station license was adopted: 26-0-1-0.

7. **969 Columbus Avenue** (West 108th–107th Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application #B02228 to NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission by Special Radio Dispatcher at 969 Columbus Avenue for a For-Hire base station license was adopted: 26-0-1-0.

8. **2537 Broadway** (West 95th Street), Symphony Space. The resolution to **approve** the request to the Department of Transportation for two no parking spaces on the south side of West 95th Street immediately west of Broadway was adopted: 26-0-1-0.

9. **2418 Broadway** (West 89th Street.) The resolution to **approve** the application was not adopted. A resolution to **disapprove** the petition to Modify Consent DCA#1172236 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Three Friends, LLC, d/b/a Georgia’s Bake Shop, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 11 tables and 26 seats was adopted: 16-4-3-2.

· **Jem**, resident of the building - Against the sidewalk café because the café extends too far into the sidewalk.

10. **427 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80th-81st Street) The resolution to **approve** the new application DCA# 1265442 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by J of K Corp., d/b/a Momoya Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 17 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

11. **949 Columbus Avenue** (West 106th-107th Streets.) The resolution to **approve** the new application DCA# 1268384 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 949 Columbus Avenue Corp., d/b/a Voza, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

12. **1900 Broadway** (West 63rd Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 0895613 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Coastal at Lincoln, Inc., d/b/a Josephina, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 17 tables and 35 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

13. **1900 Broadway** (West 63rd Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 1134053 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Sushi A Go-Go, Inc., d/b/a Sushi A Go-Go Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 24 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

14. **1018 Amsterdam Avenue** (Cathedral Parkway.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 1133929 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Skipwell

Corp., d/b/a Bistro Ten Eighteen, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 26 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

15. **302 Columbus Avenue** (West 74th Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 1184619 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 302 Columbus Avenue Inc., d/b/a Lenny's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables and 20 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

16. **513 Columbus Avenue** (West 85th Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 1167803 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by RLS Inc. of NY, d/b/a Señor Swanky's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 28 tables and 57 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

17. **2724 Broadway** (West 104th Street.) The resolution to **approve** the renewal application DCA# 1132659 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Hot Bread of 104th Street Inc., d/b/a Hot & Crusty, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 30 seats was adopted: 23-1-1-1.

18. **333 West 86th Street, the Atria** (West End Avenue-Riverside Drive.) The resolution to approve the reduced length of Atria's drop-off and pick-up zone was adopted: 14-2-0-0.

· **Marvin Cohen** – Atria has no problem with a reduction to 30 feet in length.

· **Marcia Tepler** – The no standing sign removes three parking spots; Atria does not have a license to be an assisted living facility; Atria abuses the privileges given to them and has pushed rent-stabilized tenants out.

Business & Consumer Issues Committee

George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Chairpersons

New on-premises two-year liquor license applications to the NY State Liquor Authority:

19. **768 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 97th Street.) The resolution to **disapprove** Tucumana Corp, d/b/a not established, was adopted: 15-0-0-1.

20. **903 Columbus Avenue** (West 104th Street.) The resolution to **disapprove** Columbus Valley Restaurant Corp based upon lack of information about the "method of operation" was adopted: 14-0-0-0.

21. **982-984 Amsterdam Avenue** (108th – 109th Streets.)

William Porto – Urged the Board to disapprove the application because there are too many bars in the area, violating the 500 foot rule, damaging the quality of life for the neighborhood. The buildings above them and adjacent to the applicant have had problems. His offer to be part of the community advisory group was accepted.

The resolution to **disapprove** Amsterdam Avenue Restaurant, LLC was adopted: 15-0-0-1.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 PM.

Present: Helen Rosenthal, Barbara Adler, Andrew Albert, Linda Alexander, Richard Asche, Jeffrey Bank, Hope Cohen, Page Cowley, Sheldon J. Fine, Sonia Garcia, Rosa Gonzalez, Victor Gonzalez, Phyllis E. Gunther, David Harris, Robert Herrmann, Lawrence Horowitz, Benjamin Howard-Cooper, Ulma Jones, Bobbie Katzander, Barbara Keleman, Blanche E. Lawton, Eric Nelson, Klari Neuwelt, Lenore Norman, Gabrielle Palitz, Michele Parker, Miki Fiegel, Melanie Radley, Anne Raphael, Luis O. Reyes, Oscar Rios, Madge Rosenberg, Ethel Sheffer, Jeffrey Siegel, Charles Simon, Elizabeth Starkey, Barbara Van Buren, Thomas Vitullo-Martin, Melanie Wymore, George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Dan Zweig. **On-Leave:** Chaumtoli Huq, Johnette Murray, Liz Samurovich **Absent:** Alberto Cruz, Islande Dupoux, Daniel Meltzer, Sharon Parker-Frazier, and D. Maria Watson.

Steering Committee
Helen Rosenthal, Chairperson

Minutes will be uploaded as they become available.

The Committee heard a renewal application to operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe with 8 table/24 seats. There were no changes in the cafe.

Action: Committee approved the renewal 6-1-0-0.

Presentation of West Side Senior Pedestrian Safety Plan

Kay True Ting and Carla Quintana presented the safety plan jointly developed by Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal & Transportation Alternatives. Safe Routes for Seniors Campaign was also represented. The methodology, parameters, and objectives of the study were explained. The study area was West 61st to 75th Street, west of Columbus Avenue. Consideration is being given to expanding the study area. Through numerous workshops, interviews, and testimony, specific problems were identified that include lack of enforcement of existing laws and regulations, abuses by cyclists, poor signage, potholes and uneven streets, and insufficient crossing times at many intersections. Recommendations of the report are short-term, and do not require policy changes.

There was also acknowledgement of the many traffic studies taking place, including the west side study by the NYC Department of Transportation. Committee members were asked to review the report, and visit some intersections cited in the report. The Committee will re-visit the report.

MTA Fare Hike

Co-Chair Albert temporarily stepped down during the fare hike discussion, due to his position as an MTA Board Member. He was asked about the various ramifications of the fare hike, and what a good resolution would be for the Community Board to vote on. Many related issues were discussed, including the lack of Capital Program support by the State, the continuing lack of student Metrocard support by the City, the high cost of the large capital projects currently underway, the possible Congestion Pricing solution, etc.

Additionally, due to pressure from the City, the MTA put the service enhancements "on hold" until first quarter tax receipts are examined.

The Committee adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the State and City of New York continue to underfund the MTA in both capital and operating support, and Whereas the continuing health of the City and in large part, the State of New York depend on a strong and vibrant economy from the New York City region, and Whereas New York City's economic activity depends in large part on a fast, frequent, reliable, affordable mass transit system, and Whereas many members of the state legislature have requested that the MTA put off any vote on a fare hike to give them a chance to allocate more monies to the MTA, and Whereas the MTA, by law must have a balanced budget, with a vote always taking place in December of the year preceding the budget, and Whereas the operation of the MTA is a partnership between the riders, the State, and the City, and at this point the riders have met their obligations, while the State and City have not,

Therefore Be it Resolved that CB#7 Manhattan urges the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to not penalize the riders for the inaction of the State and City, and calls upon our elected officials to make sure that proper and sufficient funds are made available to the MTA for current operations and the service enhancements that have been planned, and Be it further resolved that CB#7 calls upon the MTA to hold the fare hike in abeyance, awaiting

action of the State Legislature on proper and sufficient funding for the MTA, at least until April, 2008.

Vote: Comm: 8-0-0-1. Public 4-0-1-0.

Sidewalk Cafe Guidelines

The Board's Sidewalk Cafe Guidelines were last reviewed approximately 3 years ago, and need to be updated to meet changes. A request was made to distribute the guidelines to committee members. Changes could include total no-smoking unenclosed cafes, as well as more seats based on non-smoking only.

CB#7 Parking Policy

This was tabled for a future discussion.

Old Business

Marcia Tepler, public member, again presented evidence that abuses in Atria's use of the no-standing except buses loading/unloading zone continue. Ms. Tepler said that the 24th Precinct refuses to issue tickets for the double-parked cars and buses. It was agreed that questions about Atria will be discussed at the Committee in February, and will include a representative of the 24th Precinct. The question of whether Atria is or is not a certified Senior Care Facility will come before CB7's Health Committee.

New Business

· David Zelman, public member, asked the Committee to consider recommending to DOT that 5 presently restricted areas be opened up to public parking. They are: 3 curbs cuts on West 73rd Street between Broadway and West End Avenue, 1 no standing spot on Riverside Drive at 75th or 76th Street, and adjacent to the crosswalk at Riverside Drive & 74th Street. The Committee agreed to discuss this with our DOT representative, who was not present at the meeting.

· Alan Flacks, public member, discussed the need for additional bus service, particularly on the M104.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Present: Andrew Albert, Dan Zweig, Ulma Jones, Barbara Keleman, Blanche Lawton, Michele Parker, Ann Raphael and Oscar Rios. **Board Member:** Helen Rosenthal, Board Chair.

Absent: Bobbie Katzander.

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Business and Consumer Issues Committee

George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairpersons

Applications for 2008 multi-block street fairs were all approved. Missing materials were noted and will be sent to the Board office by the applicants before the January 2, 2008 full Board meeting. The following resolution was adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the following applications for 2008 multi-block street fairs.

Date	Sponsor Name	Vote	
		Committee	Non-Committee
4/27/08	Veritas, Inc.	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 96th Street – West 104th Street</i>		
4/27/08	Duke Ellington Blvd. Neighborhood Association	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 104th Street – West 108th Street</i>		
4/27/08	24 th Precinct Community Council	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 108th Street – West 110th Street</i>		
5/04/08	Strycker's Bay Neighborhood Council	4-0-0-1	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 93rd Street – West 96th Street</i>		
5/04/08	Broadway Malls Center	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 86th Street – West 93rd Street</i>		
5/11/08	Committee for Environmentally Sound Development	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 60th Street – West 65th Street</i>		
5/11/08	Valley Restoration, LDC	5-0-0-0	1-0-0-0
	<i>Amsterdam Avenue bet. West 97th Street – West 106th Street</i>		
5/18/08	West Manhattan Chamber of Commerce	5-0-0-0	1-0-0-1
	<i>Amsterdam Avenue bet. West 77th Street – West 90th Street</i>		
5/25/08	Coalition for a Livable West Side	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Westside) bet. West 72nd Street – West 82nd Street</i>		
5/25/08	Safe Haven West Side Basketball League	4-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Westside) bet. West 82nd Street – West 86th Street</i>		
6/01/08	Project Open at Lincoln Center Towers	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Westside) bet. West 66th Street – West 72nd Street</i>		
6/15/08	West Side Federation of Neighborhood & Block Association	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 73rd Street – West 82nd Street</i>		
6/15/08	The Broadway Malls Association	5-0-0-0	2-0-0-0
	<i>Broadway (Eastside) bet. West 82nd Street – West 86th Street</i>		

(Fair organizers and committee members feel that reorganization of this process is necessary. If all papers are in order, why is a vote necessary? Board Office can follow the paper work. We should look more at the organizations to see what they do and whether they benefit community. Committee members should attend a meeting of less well-known organizations. One of our committee should attend each fair.)

Liquor licenses

In the future, the DBA should be listed on all questionnaires for our review. Regarding 953 Amsterdam Avenue, d/b/a Sensacion Tropical, NLE Restaurant Corp., before next full board meeting, the CB7 office should check with the appropriate CB where their other restaurant, Caridad, is located on Broadway and 145th Street to see if there is any history of problems. For 200 West 84th St. Cobal Ital Corp., DBA Spiga, the Method of Operation section is missing and must be faxed to CB7 Office.

Re: 2479 Broadway (West 92nd Street), Katouna, Inc., DBA Elia Restaurant, Ioannis Berreis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the application to the NY State Liquor Authority by Katouna, Inc, d/b/a Elia Restaurant (2479 Broadway), unless the following stipulation is added to their method of operation in their SLA application: That they will close their windows and doors by 11:00 pm and an effort will be made to keep sidewalk clear of smokers and noise.

Committee: 4-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.

Re: 441 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81st Street) DBA St. James Gate, JPS Ventures, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the application to the NY State Liquor Authority by 441 Amsterdam Avenue, d/b/a St. James Gate, unless the following stipulation is added to their method of operation in their SLA application: That they will close their windows and doors by 11:00 pm and an effort will be made to keep sidewalk clear of smokers and noise.

Committee: 3-0-1-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.

Re: 953 Amsterdam Avenue (West 106th Street) DBA Sensacion Tropical, NLE Restaurant Corp.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the application to the NY State Liquor Authority by 953 Amsterdam Avenue, d/b/a Sensacion Tropical, unless the following stipulation is added to their method of operation in their SLA application: That they close their windows and doors by 11 pm and an effort will be made to keep sidewalks clear of smokers and noise.

Committee: 5-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.

Re: 200 West 84th Street (Amsterdam Ave & Broadway) Cobal Ital Corp., DBA Spiga

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the application to the NY State Liquor Authority by 200 West 84th Street, Cobal Ital Corp., d/b/a Spiga, unless the following stipulation is added to their method of operation in their SLA application: That they close their windows and doors by 11 pm and an effort will be made to keep sidewalks clear of smokers and noise.

Committee: 4-0-0-0. Public Member: 1-0-0-0.

Present: George Zeppenfeldt-Cestero, Ulma Jones, Anne Raphael and Madge Rosenberg.
Board Members: Helen Rosenthal, Sheldon Fine and Andrew Albert. **Absent:** Rosa Gonzalez.

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Parks and Preservation Committee
Lenore Norman and Klari Neuwelt, Co-Chairpersons
December 13, 7:00 PM

1. 661 West End Avenue (West 92nd Street).

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusion:

The materials for the proposed enlarged structure will match those of the existing rooftop addition.

The proposed enlargement will not be visible from any public way.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, believes that the proposed enlarged dormer is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building, and of the Historic District.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the proposed enlargement of an existing dormer at 661 West End Avenue.

Committee members: 6-0-0-0.

2. 182-188 Columbus Avenue (West 68th-69th Streets).

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusion:

The existing brownstone façade is severely deteriorated across the facade.

The applicant proposes to replace not only the façade itself of the building, but also all original decorative elements on the facade, with a cast stone material that closely replicates the appearance of the original and is likely to be more durable.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, believes that the proposed façade restoration in this material is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building, and of the Historic District.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the proposed façade restoration at 182-188 Columbus Avenue.

Committee members: 7-0-0-0.

3. 108 West 69th Street (Columbus Avenue.)

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusion:

The proposed rooftop addition will be only minimally visible from any public way.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, believes that the proposed rooftop addition is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building, and of the Historic District.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the proposed rooftop addition at 108 West 69th Street.

Committee Members: 7-0-0-0.

4. 43 West 69th Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.)

Because the applicant did not appear as scheduled at the December, 2007 meeting of the Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, nor submit or present any materials, the Committee **disapproves** the application for the expansion of the entry stairs and installation of a privacy fence at 43 West 69th Street.

Committee Members: 7-0-0-0.

5. 316 West 75th Street (West End Avenue).

At the request of the Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, the applicant agreed to request an adjournment of its scheduled January 9, 2008 hearing at the Landmarks Preservation Commission in order to have time to return to the Committee's January, 2008 meeting to present new material samples and other modifications of its proposed design for the Committee's consideration. **NO ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE.**

6. 52 West 76th Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West).

Because the applicant did not appear as scheduled at the December, 2007 meeting of the Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, nor submit or present any materials, the Committee **disapproves** the application for the restoration of the front façade at 52 West 76th Street.

Committee Members: 7-0-0-0.

7. 101 West 81st Street, Apt. 707 (Columbus Avenue.)

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusion:

The proposed rooftop addition will be substantially visible from Theodore Roosevelt Park and West 81st Street.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan, believes that the proposed rooftop addition is inappropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District because of its pale blue/white color and its white windows.

This building (the Endicott) has a proliferation of penthouses on the roof, in various colors and materials.

In the past, Community Board 7/Manhattan, has urged the building to adopt a master plan for penthouse additions, but none has been adopted

The Committee requested that the representative of the applicant who presented the design to the Committee confer with the owner about the owner's willingness to change the façade color of the proposed penthouse addition, and of the contiguous commonly-owned penthouse, to a brownish red (to blend in with the color of the building) and to change the color of the window frames for both the new and existing penthouse structures to black. The representative of the owner has since advised the Committee that the owner has declined to agree to that request.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** the proposed rooftop addition at 108 West 69th Street.

Committee Members: 7-0-0-0.

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Housing Committee

Victor Gonzalez and Charles Simon, Co-Chairpersons

December 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. Victor Gonzalez and Helen Rosenthal, CB7 Chairperson, who co-chaired the meeting. Committee members introduced themselves.

Jewish Home & Hospital and Stern Building residents.

Sheldon Fine, CB7 Chairman Emeritus and co-chair of the JHH Community Advisory Board, gave a briefing. Bruce Nathanson, JHH Senior Vice President, and Thomas Gilmartin, Chief Administrative Officer, addressed protections for Stern residents in place during the next twelve months. Tony Savarese, President of Sav Enterprises, who working in partnership with TUC Management, discussed re-location services being provided to the Stern residents.

Many topics were discussed, but one that stood out was the financial difficulties that re-location presents for the tenants and what fair package of subsidies JHH will provide. According to JHH, they will pay for moving expenses, reimburse housing application fees, pay for required credit checks, security deposits and utility changeover, pay for transportation costs up to \$150 for housing visits, and for those tenants not covered by third party housing vouchers, provide a financial package that can consist of either rent subsidy or lump sum payments, determined on a case by case basis to assist in facilitating the transaction. There are 31 households at Stern: 20 are JHH employees and 11 are retirees. Of these, 5 residents are on priority status, with wait list #'s of #1, #2 or #3.

Another topic was the Kaufman Building, which at one time was slated for housing, and is now JHH office space. The Committee asked JHH to provide original documentation regarding the Kaufman Building and how they arrived at this point.

City Council Members Melissa Mark Viverito and Gale A. Brewer and State Senator Bill Perkins were present. Council Member Viverito stated that as long as everyone was working in good faith, problems could be resolved. Senator Perkins was apprehensive about the one-on-one meetings between JHH and the Stern residents. He hoped a third-party could be present on behalf of the resident. This would alleviate the concern about the terms of the proposed legal document and would help the resident understand exactly what was being offered.

A dialogue ensued. Helen Rosenthal suggested that by January 14, 2008, JHH present the Committee with the Mitchell-Lama application submitted to DHCR regarding Stern, copies of the lease sent to the tenants, the Kaufman deed and how it went from senior housing to office space. By the March 14, 2008 Committee meeting, JHH was asked to give an update on the fall back plan for the 31 residents and the status of monthly meetings between the residents and JHH. The Committee will invite DHCR to this meeting in order to have all interested parties present.

Laura Jervis, Director, West Side Federation of Senior and Supportive Housing, on "Affordable Housing on the Brink, a risk assessment of privately-held subsidized rental housing in Manhattan Valley, Morningside Heights and the Upper West Side," a report prepared by WSFSSH for the West Side Non-Profit Affordable Housing Group.

Ms. Jervis gave numbers on affordable units that have been lost. A recent study determined that approximately a quarter (28,422) of the City's 121,000 subsidized dwelling units were released from long-term affordability restrictions between 1990 and 2005, and an additional 16,000 units citywide were likely to be at immediate risk of being lost from the affordable housing stock due to pending subsidy terminations or owner mismanagement. Current preservation strategies have not been able to stem the loss.

Ms. Jervis explained what puts a property at risk. One factor is many owners of subsidized buildings are enticed to actively or passively drop out of the city, state, and federal programs that restricted their rent levels in order to raise rents or convert to market-rate condominiums. There are 1500 units at risk, some of which are Stern, Independence House and Trinity House.

The recommendations of the WSFSSH report are: educate the community, conversion restrictions, landlord incentives, tenant empowerment, stronger rent stabilization laws, protection of special populations and information access.

100 West 92nd Street, Trinity House.

The following resolution in support of maintaining affordable housing at Trinity House was adopted:

Trinity House, located at 100 West 92nd Street, NY, NY 10025 is one of the only three remaining

Mitchell-Lama rental buildings located in Community District 7; and

Community Board 7 supports the Mitchell-Lama goal to enable moderate- and middle-income

households to remain in our community; and

Trinity House residents have been long-term stable members of the community; and

Trinity House has been in the Mitchell-Lama program since 1968 (prior to 1973) with 199 units, 39 of which house faculty members of the adjacent Trinity School; and

CB7 strives to maintain the long-term economic diversity and sustainability of the community; and

Trinity School, a school that has a history in New York City dating back to 66 years prior to the founding of our Country, is worthy of support because it provides an excellent educational program for children of Manhattan's West Side and the City of New York; and

Trinity School, in order to raise income for the school, is considering selling Trinity House to a developer who would eventually sell the remaining 160 (non-faculty) units at market-rate levels; and

CB7 believes that an alternative plan to maintain Trinity House as affordable housing for moderate- and middle-income households could economically benefit Trinity School as well as the community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges constructive conversation between Trinity School and the Residents of Trinity House to develop an alternative solution that would achieve the long-term goals of the tenants and the school while contributing to the long-term economic residential diversity of our community.

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Board Member: 1-0-0-0. Public Members: 4-0-0-0.

Meet was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Present: Victor Antonio Gonzalez, Sonia Garcia, Sharon Parker-Frazier, Melanie Radley and Barbara Van Buren. Helen Rosenthal, CB7 Chairperson and Sheldon Fine, CB7 Chairman Emeritus. **On-Leave:** Chaumtoli Huq, Johnette Murray. **Absent:** Rosa Gonzalez, Charles Simon and D. Maria Watson.

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Health and Human Services Committee
Barbara Van Buren and Madge Rosenberg, Co-Chairs
December 18, 2007

Isolated Elderly

According to Wendy Golub, Director of Social Work, Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center NORC, and a study she passed around, "Social Isolation Kills," isolation increases mortality

and morbidity. Physical and mental problems, especially depression, and nutrition are worse in the isolated elderly. They require more hospitalization. Ms. Golub emphasizes the need to respect privacy and the choice of lifestyle by the elderly that knowingly chose isolation.

Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center is providing the following to break the feeling and fact of isolation:

- Doctors, therapists and nurses visit clients in home or in the Community Center.
- Visiting nurse will access isolated client. This is usually crisis driven.
- Friendly visitor program brings volunteers to the home.

DOROT has organized intergenerational visits, especially in Riverside Studios.

Ms. Golub's suggestions for finding the isolated elderly: Foundation for Senior Citizens; "Gatekeepers Initiative" at St. Vincent's Hospital, funded by State Office for Aging, for their model; jury duty – lack of response to notice might be a clue.

Miki Fiegel is working on relationship with 32BJ, the building superintendents' union. Victims of crimes that are isolated and elderly can be identified by police.

Agencies in our community that reach out to isolated elderly:

- Goddard Riverside
- Meals on Wheels (funded by DFTA)
- City Meals on Wheels & Friendly Visiting – contact Vivien O'Neil
- DOROT
- Project Pilot (W. 91 St) funded by DFTA
- Jewish Home & Hospital has students teaching the elderly to use computers
- Visiting Nurse Service – Mia Oberlink
- Tenants associations & block associations. Help us help your neighbor.

Committee would like to explore the need for more services and funding that might be needed.

Some suggestions for other contacts were:

- Telehealth Monitoring calls by a nurse to homebound elderly or a PERS (personal response system)
- Invite community agencies including police, Ryan, JHH, Goddard, DOROT, Supers Union, Geriatric Mental Health Alliance, United Hospital Fund (Freda Vladek) to discuss problem and offer suggestions
- Ask for corporation such as Time- Warner or Commerce Bank to fund recycling cell phones to the isolated elderly.
- Encourage shops to be mark themselves as "Senior Friendly", by offering discounts, and placing sign in their window.

It was agreed that at our next meeting, we would plan in detail a meeting to which people with an interest in this population would be invited. The purpose of the meeting would be to identify needed services, the people who might be able to provide them, and an ongoing group that could follow through on the issue.

LANTERN GROUP

The first meeting of the Community Advisory Group was held in November. Many issues that will be addressed in future meetings were raised.

Due to the hour, the question of immigrant services was not discussed.

Meeting adjourned

Present: Madge Rosenberg, Barbara Van Buren, Miki Fiegel, Lenore Norman. CB7 Chairperson Helen Rosenthal. Fern Fleckman (public member), Ryan Center; Sonia Stetkiewych, Community Liaison Jewish Home & Hospital; Wendy Golub, Director of Social Work, Lincoln Square NORC; Anne Cunningham, Council Member Gale Brewer's Liaison to Sr. Citizens. **Absent:** Islande Dupoux, Sonia Garcia, Barbara Keleman, Dan Meltzer.

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Land Use Committee
Richard Asche and Page Cowley, Co-Chairpersons
December 19th, 2007

1. 531-539 West End Avenue (Joint with Transportation Committee)

Pre-certification presentation (i.e. so far informational only) on applications #C080153ZSM and #N080154ZAM by the Extell Development Company to the Department of City Planning for a 20-space accessory parking garage and authorization of a curb cut on a "wide street" (i.e. West 86th Street).

Paul Selver of Kramer Levin, attorney for Extell, made the presentation. Gary Barnett and Donna Gargano of Extell were also present.

The building is as-of-right (using development rights acquired from adjacent 302 West 86th Street). It will be red brick and limestone, 20 stories (210 feet + 12 mechanicals), with 27 apartments. Very large apartments, luxury building with pool, gym, game room. As of right parking is 9 spaces. Application is to use an auto elevator and stackers in the cellar and subcellar to provide a total of 20 spaces (+ required 4 reservoir). Purely accessory. Operational plan not decided, but looking at training building employees for parking duty. Curb cut would be on West 86th Street, which requires a special permit from City Planning. Applicant claims that wealthy residents will have cars ("reality") and that local public garages are already at capacity for overnight parking.

Members of the public were concerned about curb cut, warning bells, and signage. Applicant hopes to return to the Committee(s) in January for ULURP.

2. 473, 474-475 & 476 Central Park West (West 107th Street)

Attorney Mitchell Ross presented the application to renew long-standing variances from the Board of Standards & Appeals (BSA) to the multiple-dwelling law, allowing apartments existing since 1961 to continue to exist.

Outcome/Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application #57-95-A to the Board of Standards & Appeals by Upwest Company LLC, for an extension of the term of the existing variances, which permit Class "A" occupancy in the cellars in the referenced addresses.

Committee: 5-0-0-0

Board: 4-0-0-0

3. City-Wide Text Amendments, proposed by the AIA

Margery Perlmutter, volunteer attorney, presented the application by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) – New York Chapter for six city-wide text amendments to the Zoning Resolution. The intent of these amendments is to unleash existing floor area for development of (ideally, affordable) housing and to provide architects with flexibility to permit better design. The Committee found it difficult, if not impossible, in some cases to connect the proposed text amendment with achieving one or both of those goals.

Technically, text amendments are not ruled by ULURP, but City Planning generally follows the ULURP timetable to collect comments from interested public entities, such as Community Boards. The Committee was dismayed by the complete lack of information on these substantive proposals before the official ULURP-like timetable began on Halloween.

Outcome/Resolution:

The American Institute of Architects has proposed, and the Department of City Planning has certified, a series of amendments to the Zoning Resolution. City Planning has allotted 60 days for Community Board Comment. Although AIA asserts that it has been working on the proposed amendments for three years, and although Community Board 7 (Manhattan) has just completed an extensive and time-consuming rezoning of a substantial portion of Community District 7, and although the AIA proposed changes might well have had an impact on the rezoning of the 97th-110th Street area just completed, neither the AIA nor City Planning publicly disclosed or publicized the existence of the AIA project, much less the nature of its proposal until late October, 2007.

Unlike amendments generated by public entities (such as Community Boards), the AIA proposal proceeded to certification without any community input whatsoever. It is therefore not surprising that, in some respects, the AIA proposal fails to consider realities “on the ground” in Community Board 7.

To compound the problem created by lack of any advance notice of the proposed changes, AIA and City Planning have failed to provide the Community Board with either sufficient time or necessary information to permit a fully informed review of the proposals.

For the foregoing reasons, and because, as set forth below, two or more of the proposed amendments appear ill-advised in their present form, Community Board 7 urges the City Planning Commission to delay its vote and to extend the comment period so that appropriate changes can be made in the AIA proposals.

Notwithstanding these objections, Community Board 7 has examined the AIA proposals as best it could given the limited time and resources available, and makes the following comments:

(Text amendment #)1. The AIA proposal to allow 100% lot-line coverage for small corner lots appears appropriate in principle, but could have the unintended consequence of blocking windows in adjacent buildings which are at or near the lot lines, and which would not be blocked under existing zoning and text. Accordingly, Community Board 7 **approves** this proposal **if, but only if**, it is amended to disallow lot coverage over 80% to the extent that lot-line windows or windows within a code-compliant distance of a lot line will be affected by 100% lot coverage.

(Land Use Committee vote, 5-1-0-0; Board Members, 1-1-0-0).

(Text amendment #)2. Community Board 7 has been advised that the AIA proposal to allow multi-family buildings on small lots will not affect any sites in its area of jurisdiction. Accordingly, Community Board 7 **takes no position** on this proposal and defers to the view of Community Boards containing affected sites.

(Land Use Committee vote, 6-0-0-0; Board Members, 2-0-0-0).

(Text amendment #)3. The AIA proposal to allow rear dormers on R6-10 quality housing buildings appears appropriate in principle, but could have the unintended consequence of blocking lot-line windows in adjacent buildings. Accordingly, Community

Board 7 **approves** this proposal **if, but only if**, saving language is included which would not permit rear dormers which abut lot-line windows in adjacent buildings.
(Land Use Committee vote, 5-1-0-0; Board Members, 1-1-0-0).

(Text amendment #)4. Community Board 7 **disapproves** the proposal to allow an increase in maximum base heights in R6-R10 quality housing buildings to match the height of an adjacent building. This proposed amendment could have a domino effect, allowing successive developers to increase their base heights to match the tallest building on a block. The proposal ignores the irregular nature of many blocks on the Upper West Side, and the necessity of a new building to relate not only to its tallest neighbor, but also to shorter buildings on the block. Community Board 7 has recently studied buildings on West 70th Street, a block comprised primarily of brownstones; by happenstance there is a 105' grandfathered building adjacent to a building site. It would be inappropriate to permit an increase by 25% in the base height of buildings on either side of the anomalous building.

Broadway, in particular, contains an irregular, almost saw-tooth, skyline. New buildings should not automatically be allowed to increase their base height to conform to the building height of the tallest buildings in a row, while ignoring the relationship with smaller buildings.

Community Board 7 recognizes that there are times when slavish adherence to setback requirements produces an undesirable result. It is conceivable that with additional study, focused primarily on conditions on the varied avenues and streets of Community District 7, a more nuanced amendment to the Quality Housing requirements can be drafted. The AIA proposal, however, applies a lawn mower where a manicure scissors is required.

If, despite our objections, CPC is determined to pass a version of this ill-advised proposed amendment, at the very minimum, an increase in building base height should not be as-of-right, but should be subject to a certification process, which includes an opportunity for Community Board comment, and which provides criteria designed to bring about a harmonious blending of the building heights of adjacent buildings and the base height of new buildings.

(Land Use Committee vote, 6-0-0-0; Board Members, 2-0-0-0).

(Text amendment #)5. With respect to the proposal for a doubling of the surface area of bulkheads housing building mechanical apparatus, Community Board 7 is dismayed by the complete absence of any descriptive or technical information explaining the problem the proposed amendment seeks to address. The claim is made that larger bulkheads will enable buildings to be more efficient, but the AIA representative who presented the proposal at our Land Use Committee meeting could not explain why an increase is necessary. Her knowledge was limited to the need for taller (not necessarily bulkier) bulkheads to accommodate higher speed elevators, and she had no idea whether this issue had any applicability to buildings of the type likely to be built in Community District 7. It may well be that this proposal has merit, in whole or in part. The case for it simply has not been made. We do not know whether the issue is one of efficiency, cost, a desire to save space within the building or a combination of these and other factors. Nor can we quantify what benefits will accrue (and to whom) as a result of a trade-off in which the negative feature (a larger bulkhead) is evident. We urge CPC not to accept on faith conclusions unsupported by data and a detailed explanation of why the increase in the bulkhead size is necessary, who benefits from it and how.

If, despite our objections, CPC is determined to pass a version of this proposed amendment, we urge that the enlarged bulkhead not be allowed as-of-right, but only via a certification process, with input from the Community Board, in which the applicant will be required to explain why the enlargement is necessary, and in which the impact of the larger bulkhead on surrounding buildings can be assessed.

(Land Use Committee vote, 6-0-0-0; Board Members, 2-0-0-0).

(Text amendment #)6. We are advised that the AIA proposal with respect to waiver of side-yard requirements by special permit in R3-1, R3-2, R4, and R5 districts, will have no application in Community District 7 (Manhattan). Accordingly, Community Board 7 (Manhattan) **takes no position** on this proposed amendment and defers to the views of Community Boards which are so affected.
(Land Use Committee vote, 6-0-0-0; Board Members, 2-0-0-0).

4. City-Wide Text Amendment re: stairway width

Adam Meagher of the Department of City Planning presented the application to amend the Zoning Resolution to exclude from the definition of floor area the additional eight inches in width required by the new building code for staircases in residential buildings taller than 125 feet.

Outcome/Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application #N080149ZRY to the City Planning exclude from the definition of floor area the additional eight inches in width required by the new building code for staircases in residential buildings taller than 125 feet.

Committee: 6-0-0-0

Board: 2-0-0-0

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Richard Asche, Page Cowley, Hope Cohen, Victor Gonzalez, Melanie Radley, Jeff Siegel and Tom Vitullo-Martin. **Land Use Committee Members Absent:** Lawrence Horowitz, Dan Meltzer, Liz Samurovich, Ethel Sheffer and Maria Watson. **Transportation Committee Members Present:** Ulma Jones, Bobbie Katzander, Blanche Lawton and Dan Zweig.
Board Members Present: Miki Fiegel and Helen Rosenthal.

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Green Committee

**Elizabeth Starkey and Melanie Wymore, Co-Chairpersons
December 11, 2007**

The committee discussed ways to publicize the plaNYC public meeting to be held at the New-York Historical Society on Monday, January 7, 2008. The committee, working with the Board office, will:

1. Distribute flyers at all committee meetings in December;
2. Email flyer to CB7 email list, first in December and then again in early January;
3. Have flyers at the full board meeting;
4. Work with Linda Alexander to get publicity in local newspapers;
5. Get flyers to the three BIDs in the district;
6. Ask the following organizations to publicize event: Riverside Park Fund; Landmark West!, Coalition for a Liveable West Side; Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Westside Block Assns., Coalition for Environmental Development, Green Restaurant Assn. (Mike O'Neal) and others.

The committee will meet on December 27 at 4:30 with the PLANYC presenters at the Board office to discuss the event.

1. The committee discussed two environmental "tips" for presentation at the January full board: Switching from incandescent bulbs to fluorescent bulbs, with a chart showing the savings, in money, effort and energy and the [www.catalogue choice.org](http://www.cataloguechoice.org) website information.
2. The committee discussed ways of interacting with city agencies by inviting relevant agency representatives to discuss the green initiatives of that agency. It was decided to have someone from Dept. of Buildings at a meeting early in 2008, followed by representatives from DOT, NYC Water Board, DSNY and others over the coming year.
3. Name of committee: the Green Committee.

Submitted by Elizabeth Starkey

Present: Elizabeth Starkey, Melanie Wymore and Hope Cohen. **Absent:** Phyllis Gunther, Bobbi Katzander and Charles Simon.

Board Development Committee
Barbara Adler & Bob Herrmann, Co-Chairpersons
December 21, 2007

The following new business was discussed:

- We will look into possibility of forming a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit with idea of closing funding gap at CB7 district office. Would give us money for events, seminars, etc.
- We will invite other board members to attend this committee to understand its true function and see the committee in action, as there seems to be some misunderstanding among some board members.
- Jeff suggested looking into Google tools to track website hits on cb7 site for free. We will suggest this to office staff.
- The committee discussed having a Question of the Day/Survey on CB7 website. Helen will come up with suitable questions having to do with neighborhood issues.
- In an effort to dress up vacant storefronts, Jeff suggested having landlords use local school student artwork in the windows. The committee applauded this idea.

Assessment of last full board meeting:

- It was determined that we need a better red flag to indicate end of 2 minute talk time.
- Discussion re use of straw polls on hot topics that seem to have total board support as way to shorten talk time by community and board members.

CB4 meeting was attended by Barbara and Linda to see how other boards conduct their business:

- Meeting started 30 minutes late.
- There was no microphone and they couldn't hear from their seats.
- Meeting was not attended by nearly as many politicians and their reps as ours.

Absentee rate report:

- Indicated that attendance in last several months has been fairly good.

Business & Consumer Issue committee needs a new co-chair, as the last three have resigned.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30AM.

The next meeting will be on Friday, January 25th at 8:15AM at the board office.

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District Service Cabinet

Penny Ryan, District Manager
Wednesday, December 12, 2007
9:30-11:00 AM

1. CAU Report on SCOUT – Three teams cover the City of New York, each comprised of six City agency representatives: DOB, DOT, DEP, Parks, HPD, and DSNY. Agents carry GPS handheld devices that report complaints directly to 311. The report given by CAU was for the entire City and not by district. The DM requested a copy of the report by district when it becomes available.

2. Traffic conditions and high-accident intersections in the 20 Precinct:

- 70th/WEA – 20 accidents v. 26 last year
- 72nd/WEA – TA study, NYPD observed 3 afternoons and saw no problems
- 79th/RSD – 26 accidents YTD v. 27 last year – Very big traffic problem due to 72nd Street ramp closure. Patrol car is there every day during rush hour to help reduce illegal left turns. DOT submitted locations where traffic agents would be most effective if deployed; DOT will come to conclusions and will present recommendations to CB7.
- 66th/WEA-Columbus – request to make a two way.

3. Traffic conditions in the 24 Precinct:

- 97th/Columbus (request crossing guard)
- 96th/Broadway: 96th St corridor – down in accidents but still the major problem in 24th Pct. – DOT restudying traffic pattern, possibly staggered left turn signal.
- PWV – request was made that the crossing guard be moved to 97th Street.
- There was a request for DSNY to reschedule garbage pick up time at 97th between RSD – Amsterdam Avenue during morning rush hour because trucks create congestion.

4. Updates:

Transportation studies:

- DOT's West Side Transportation Study needs more input from City agencies.
- The DM suggested the Cabinet study and comment on Linda Rosenthal's Upper West Side Senior Pedestrian Safety Plan which is available at www.cb7.org and can be e-mailed.

Homeless Outreach

DoITT - Clarification of response to 311 homeless complaints: Which agencies are receiving the complaints and how are they responding.

- NYPD is sent any call where there is a threatening condition or where the person may harm himself or others.
- Chronic homelessness, non-emergency are sent to the Dept of Homeless Services where a 24/7 unit assists people by offering services.
- DM requested that 311 share what the operator's options are in the drop down menu (created by DHS) while he/she is receiving a call.

Precinct and Parks responses to conditions and coordination with Goddard.

- Precincts have been working with Goddard, sending information about known homeless individuals.
- Parks – Goddard gave a list of known homeless to RS Park officials which confirmed Parks information.

Other:

- Congestion at Fredrick Douglass Circle – FDNY reported major backup there since new construction, causing a significant increase in response time. Response: DOT study shows no further signal light changes at the Circle, but traffic patterns will be studied further.
- NYPL – Bloomingdale Branch - Disorderly kids continue to disrupt the library. Requested assistance from the 24 Precinct.

– Situation is better, getting very good response from the 24th Pct.

- Parks – No real difference in amount of homeless in RS Park. Park officials do not know what to do with chronic homeless who refuse help.
- There are less homeless in Verdi Square, they seem to have dispersed throughout the neighborhood.
- NYPD – 20th Pct. Homeless stats: YTD 91 arrests, 322 referrals, and multiple summonses issued. DM will verify religious institution letters of trespass.

5. Agency reports, including 311 complaints, personnel changes, and requests for inter-agency services.

DEP – noise complaints continue to be the primary complaint. From Oct – Dec there were 210 construction noise complaints of which 123 were inspected, 58 were duplicates, 1 NOV issued.

DOB – Illegal Use complaints were up.

DSNY – Preparing for snowstorms.

FDNY – no significant changes in fire stats. Live trees in lobbies and live wreaths on apartment doors are fire hazards.

DA's Office – How new drug law ruling will effect prior convictions.

- All drug arrest cases will be looked at on an individual basis. There will be no mass release of offenders.
- On Homeless arrests – DA liaison will create a data base which will flag any homeless arrests to determine if they are in the Goddard program.

NYPD PSA6 –

- YTD the crime rate has been reduced 22.5%.
- Drive to donate used sneakers to help build a platform in New Orleans.
- Homeless outreach – need Goddard outreach to PSA6 personnel.

Present: Penny Ryan, District Manger, John Martinez, Asst. District Manager, CB7; Lt. Ray Camacho, 24th Precinct; Capt. Spadaro, 20th Pct; Mike Burke, Roger Montesano, FDNY; Frank Scagluiso, NYPD Homeless Unit; Lolita Jackson, CAU; Leah Donaldson, DOB; Josh Orzeck, DOT; Crista Carmody, Sal Trento, Parks; Susan Singer, NYPD PBMN; J. Smyth, DSNY; Joselinne Minaya, DA's Office; Nicholas Sharbone, Tom DiGuilio, DoITT; David Lipsky, DEP; PO John Ramos, NYPD PSA6; Margaret Willis, NYPL; Pat Richardi, ConEd; Marjorie Cohen, WCPP; Peter Arndtsen, Columbus-Amsterdam BID; Richard

Juliano, LS BID; Peter Goldnisser, CM Gale Brewer's office; Alan Flacks, NYC County Democratic Committee.