

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AUGUST, 1999

The Executive Committee of Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB#2, Man.) held its regular monthly meeting in St. Vincent's Hospital's Cronin Auditorium on August 19, 1999 at 7:00 P.M., Chair Jim Smith presiding.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Smith (Chair), Anthony Dapolito, Doris Diether, Alan Jay Gerson, Ed Gold, Aubrey Lees, Michael Mirisola, Doris Nash, John Short, Sean Sweeney, Lora Tenenbaum, Jeanne Wilcke, Carol Yankay,
COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ann Arlen, Enid Braun, Charle Cafiero, Rosemary McGrath, Arthur Schwartz, Ruth Sherlip, Martin Tessler
COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Bristow, David Reck, Ann Hearn, Brad Hoylman, Noam Dworman, T. Marc Newell, Suzanne Williamson

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Arthur Strickler, District Manager

GUESTS: Thomas A. Duffy, Joan Engel, Steve Hegenlip, B. Weinstein, Terrance Singleton, Debby Corper, Joe Ruggiero, James Shau, D. Rekaert, Saha Greene, Edmund Shaffzin, M. Yanakouchi, Mary K. Doris, Burt Abelson, John Bellas, Lillian Tozzi, Tom Castele, J. Young, Y.Kim, Richard Glaser, Jean Krampner

Note: The Executive Committee hosted the August meetings of CB #2's Sidewalks, Public Facilities and Public Access Committee and its Business & Institutions Committee. The Executive Committee also entertained the report of the Landmarks Committee, which had held its August meeting separately on August 16, 1999. (The reports of these committees are included in member's packets for the September full board meeting). The Executive Committee considered the time-sensitive resolutions put forward by these committees immediately on an emergency basis. The Executive Committee resolutions are attached.

Other emergency resolutions were submitted by members Alan Jay Gerson and Suzanne Williamson and voted upon by the Executive Committee. These resolutions are also attached to this report.

1. Calendar.

After amendment, the September calendar was unanimously approved.

2. Member Reports.

Archives Committee Chair **Ed Gold** reported that the Empire State Development Trust would remit in the following week a check in payment to the providers of the board office's new computers. He also noted, however, that neither the Bowery Residents Committee (BRC) nor Visiting Neighbors, both of which had been approved for Archives grants, had yet to receive remittances from the state.

Ed and **Doris Diether**, in their capacities as board representatives before the State Liquor Authority and the City Planning Commission, respectively, reported on the meetings they had attended and the disposition by these government entities of various matters of interest to the board.

Ed and Board Chair **Jim Smith** and former Board Chair **Alan Jay Gerson** discussed the appropriation of an additional \$600 for the board's computer adviser over and above the originally contracted fee. While both the former and the present Board Chairs recollected that the additional amount had been discussed and approved at a previous Executive Committee meeting, it was observed that it was entirely possible that the matter had not been documented. Accordingly, the allotment was raised for re-affirmation and was re-affirmed by the committee unanimously. The additional funds are a fee to the adviser for making training recommendations, making sure that the Citinet hook-up is completed and usable by board staff, and for performing a half-day question-and-answer session about the new system for the board staff's benefit.

Alan Jay Gerson reported that Borough President C. Virginia Fields will help subsidize our local defibrillator program from her discretionary funds. During Alan's report Jim Smith noted that Alan is slated to chair and **Lora Tenenbaum** to vice-chair a new Budget Committee. The new committee would manage the board's annual efforts in developing Capital and Expense Budget requests to the city. The committee would also seek to find other sources of funding (outside the city's budget). Alan and Lora will meet with the board chair to develop a mission statement and discuss recruitment of members for the new committee.

Alan also advised that Violet Mitchell, Acting Commissioner of the Department of Youth and Community Development, has reported to him that two new scatter-site shelters for teenagers will be opened in the near future and that they will be serviced by a 24-hour hotline.

Alan also presented and received approval for a resolution dealing with our concern for the preservation of the printing industry in our area. Please see the resolution attached.

Board Treasurer **Jeanne Wilcke** reported on problems in getting readouts from the city. On another matter, Jeanne noted that she will consult with the board chair regarding the management of incoming defibrillator funds. Jeanne also distributed financial reports for the "Friends of CB#2" account, the Board Special Account and Youth Activities Services.

3. Adjournment. Without objection, the chair adjourned the committee at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris B. Nash, Assistant Secretary
Community Board #2 (Manhattan)

**Executive Committee Resolutions
August 19, 1999 Meeting**

I. SIDEWALKS RESOLUTIONS

1. Application to NYCDOT for revocable consent to construct, install and restore an entrance stoop, a fence and planted area at 138 W. 13th St.

WHEREAS the area was posted, the applicant appeared before the Committee; and

WHEREAS the applicant worked on the design of the stoop in conjunction with the Landmarks Preservation Commission and has received tentative Landmark approval; and

WHEREAS the proposal is consistent with and conforms to the character of the block;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the application to NYCDOT for revocable consent to construct, install and restore an entrance stoop, a fence and planted area at 138 W. 13th St., is granted.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

2. New application for revocable consent by S.M. Restaurant on Greenwich, Inc., 15 Greenwich Ave., to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 10 seats.

WHEREAS the area was posted, the applicant appeared before the Committee; and

WHEREAS the enclosed sidewalk café has existed at this location for many years and this application is before the committee because of a change in ownership; and

WHEREAS there is sufficient passage for pedestrian safety and access;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends approval of a one (1) year revocable consent to S.M. Restaurant on Greenwich, Inc., 15 Greenwich Ave., to operate an enclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 10 seats.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

3. Renewal of application for revocable consent by Slaughtered Lamb, Inc. d/b/a Slaughtered Lamb Pub, 182 W. 4th St., to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 15 seats.

WHEREAS the area was posted and the applicant appeared before the Committee; and

WHEREAS there is sufficient passage for pedestrian safety and access; and

WHEREAS since the applicant only maintains 5 tables and 10 seats, the committee approves only this amount of tables and seats; and

WHEREAS there appears to be outstanding violations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends approval of a three (3) year revocable consent to Slaughtered Lamb, Inc. d/b/a Slaughtered Lamb Pub, 182 W. 4th St., to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 10 seats conditioned on correcting any and all outstanding violations.

Vote: Passed unanimously, except 1 abstention.

II. LANDMARKS RESOLUTIONS

PUBLIC HEARING: LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION August 24, 1999

1. LPC Item: 5 - 489 Broome Street (Wooster and West Broadway)

WHEREAS the signage has been reduced, extending over the commercial portion of the building and not the residential portion; and

WHEREAS the exterior lighting is supplied by incandescents in a fixed position pointing downward and inward; and

WHEREAS there will be only one banner which, at 3 ft. by 6 ft., will be in scale with the building; and

WHEREAS the applicant has agreed to remove the existing neon light which is currently turned off;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends approval of this application.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

2. LPC Item: 6 - 125 Grand Street (Broadway/Crosby)

WHEREAS this Federal style dwelling was built in 1825-26 and predates the industrial era of SoHo; and

WHEREAS the proposed lighting is modern and does not look appropriate on a building of this style; and

WHEREAS the proposed scope of work will change what may be the original and historical configuration, i.e. the entry onto the street at the West End of the storefront; and

WHEREAS this restoration, which proposes removing the existing stainless steel storefront, presents an opportunity to do a correct restoration using historical materials and not a trendy alternative;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends denial of this application.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

3. LPC Item: 7 - 146 Spring Street (Wooster St.)

WHEREAS this Federal-style building built in 1819 is among the oldest buildings in the Historic District; and

WHEREAS no one on the Community Board could recollect ever having seen such a large advertising sign painted on the side of a residential Federal-style building in any historic district in New York City or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS this sign is far out of scale;

WHEREAS WINS Radio, the *New York Times* and the *Villager newspapers* have reported on downtown activists who are “bombing” or defacing billboards with paint canisters at heights in excess of 50 feet (see enclosed article); and

WHEREAS this proposed advertising sign which, at a mere 25 feet above the sidewalk and adjacent to an open parking lot, provides an enticing and accessible target for the “bombers” assault upon this billboard blight within our community; and

WHEREAS this fine old building does not deserve such a fate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends denial of this application.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

4. LPC Item: 11 - 24 Horatio Street

WHEREAS the limestone coping and paint does not match the color of the building that the proposed rooftop addition is on, but rather a building nearby; and

WHEREAS the rooftop addition can be seen from several vantage points;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends denial of this application.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

5. LPC Item: 12 - 349 Sixth Avenue (W. 4th St./Washington Pl.)

WHEREAS because this project is going forward as a residential conversion, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to configure the windows in the historical residential style, namely three sets of 6 over 6, and at the same time removing the existing steel and iron framework; and

WHEREAS if this done, the fenestration will be in rhythm with the two similar residential buildings to the south;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends denial of this application.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

6. LPC Item: 13 - 60 West 8th Street (Sixth Ave./MacDougal St.)

WHEREAS the proposed storefront in wood and glass utilizes historical materials, design and palette; but

WHEREAS the pilasters have a decidedly post-modern appearance within this traditional design;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends approval of this application; but

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the applicant to refine the design further by narrowing the entablature at the entrance door to the width of the outer sides of the shaft of the pilaster.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

7. .LPC Item: 14 - 134 W. 13th Street

WHEREAS the Landmarks Preservation Commission's publication *The Certificate of Appropriateness Public Hearing: Information for Applicants* states that "applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Community Board to arrange for review of the proposal before the public hearing"; and

WHEREAS the applicant did not contact the Community Board or appear before the Landmarks Committee to present this application; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends denial of this application in the absence of this important step in the review process.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

III. BUSINESS & INSTITUTIONS RESOLUTIONS

Applications to the State Liquor Authority (SLA) for new license to sell liquor on-premises

1. Happy Walking Boys Corporation, 184 W. 10th Street, NYC

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new 76-person capacity restaurant in the premises formerly occupied by Joe's Again; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to operate from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., seven days a week; and

WHEREAS the applicant received no community opposition; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to the applicant's request to the SLA for an on-premises liquor license to Happy Walking Boys Corporation, 184 W. 10th Street, NYC, and calls upon the SLA to hold a 500-foot rule hearing to ascertain community concerns, if any.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

2. Gattopardo, Inc. d/b/a Biblioteca, 337B West Broadway, NYC

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new 40-person capacity restaurant/bar in the premises formerly occupied by Box Bar; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to operate from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., seven days a week; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing; and

WHEREAS the applicant pledges that there would not be a sidewalk café and the French doors at the front of the establishment shall be closed by 10:00 p.m. daily; and

WHEREAS the applicant agreed to submit a letter to the SLA which places the previously mentioned as a stipulation to the applicant's liquor license;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. calls upon the SLA to place a stipulation on the applicant's license requiring the French doors to the establishment be closed by 10:00 p.m. daily and forbidding operation of a sidewalk café, and to hold a 500-foot rule hearing to ascertain other community concerns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. would not have an objection to the applicant's request to the SLA for an on-premises liquor license to Gattopardo, Inc. d/b/a Biblioteca, 337B West Broadway, NYC, if the above stipulation is placed on its liquor license.

Vote: Passed unanimously, except for 1 abstention.

3. NJB Enterprises, Ltd. d/b/a Mushroom Bay Restaurant, 535 Hudson Street, NYC 10014 (Charles St.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new 98-person capacity restaurant in a landmarked district of Greenwich Village; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to operate from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., seven days a week; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing; and

WHEREAS the applicant received no community opposition;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to the applicant's request to the SLA for an on-premises liquor license to NJB Enterprises, Ltd. d/b/a Mushroom Bay Restaurant, 535 Hudson Street, NYC 10014 and calls upon the SLA to hold a 500-foot rule hearing to ascertain community concerns.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

4. Faylow Corp. d/b/a 14th Street Restaurant, 240 W. 14th Street, NYC 10011 (7th Ave.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new 116-person capacity restaurant; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to operate from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., seven days a week; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing; and

WHEREAS the applicant pledges to meet with residents to address community concerns regarding smoke from the kitchen and the exhaust equipment on the roof;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to the applicant's request to the SLA for an on-premises liquor license to Faylow Corp. d/b/a 14th Street Restaurant, 240 W. 14th Street, NYC 10011, and calls upon the SLA to hold a 500-foot rule hearing to ascertain community concerns.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

5. GBND Corp., 130 W. 3rd Street, NYC 10012 (6th Ave.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new 200-person capacity bar/nightclub with live music; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to operate from 9:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., seven days a week; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing; and

WHEREAS the applicant currently operates Café Wha? without any adverse impact on the community; and

WHEREAS the applicant received no community opposition and received support from local residents and a local merchant and resident association;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to the applicant's request to the SLA for an on-premises liquor license to GBND Corp., 130 W. 3rd Street, NYC 10012, and calls upon the SLA to hold a 500-foot rule hearing to ascertain community concerns.

Vote: Passed unanimously, except for 1 recusal.

6. Red Clam LLC, 170 Thompson Street, NYC 10012 (Bleecker St.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to open a new Italian restaurant with a capacity of 70 persons; and

WHEREAS the applicant currently operates a restaurant, Babbo, which operates in a residential area in CB#2, Man. without a NYC Board of Standards & Appeals zoning variance for the use of a restaurant; and

WHEREAS there are three or more on-premises liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's premises, thus necessitating a 500-foot rule hearing; and

WHEREAS there was no community opposition except for the non-confirming use issue with Babbo;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. recommends that the SLA postpone any action on this matter until such as a variance for Babbo has been obtained.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Applications to the State Liquor Authority (SLA) for new license to sell liquor on-premises

7. Kurosu Corp., 38-40 Carmine Street, NYC 10012 (Bedford St.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to change the service bar to a combination of service and sushi bar from which all drinks will be served, along with the daily appetizers of raw fish, and

WHEREAS the applicant has operated the restaurant without any adverse impact to the community; and

WHEREAS the applicant received no community opposition;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to this alteration of an on-premises liquor license for Kurosu Corp., 38-40 Carmine Street, NYC 10012.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

8. Riomar Corp. d/b/a Kana, 324 Spring Street, NYC 10013 (Greenwich St.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to serve alcohol beverages in its sidewalk café; and

WHEREAS the applicant has operated the restaurant without any adverse impact to the community; and

WHEREAS the applicant received no community opposition;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to this alteration of an on-premises liquor license for Riomar Corp. d/b/a Kana, 324 Spring Street, NYC 10013.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

9. Village R&B Ltd. d/b/a Groove, 125 Macdougall Street, NYC 10012

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to serve alcohol beverages in its sidewalk café; and

WHEREAS the applicant operates another on-premises liquor license establishment, 101 Club, which has received noise complaints; and

WHEREAS the applicant pledges that the sidewalk café would close by 10:30 p.m. daily and the French doors/windows would remain closed at all times during business hours in order to minimize noise complaints by local residents; and

WHEREAS the applicant agreed to submit a letter to the SLA which places the previously mentioned as a stipulation to the applicant's liquor license;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. calls upon the SLA to place a stipulation on the applicant's license requiring the closing of the sidewalk café by 10:30 p.m. daily, and the French doors/windows remained closed at all times during business hours; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. would not have an objection to the applicant's request for an alteration to its on-premises liquor license to Village R&B Ltd. d/b/a Groove, 125 Macdougall Street, NYC 10012, if the above stipulation is placed on its liquor license.

Vote: Passed unanimously, except for 1 abstention.

10. Katalat Restaurant Corp. d/b/a Tiffany's Restaurant, 222-224 W. 4th Street, NYC 10014 (7th Ave.)

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to alter the premises by eliminating 38 seats, a bar and salad bar and partition this area from the dining room; and

WHEREAS the applicant's alteration has no effect on the Certificate of Occupancy; and

WHEREAS there is no material effect;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. has no objection to this alteration of an on-premises liquor license for Katalat Restaurant Corp. d/b/a Tiffany's Restaurant, 222-224 W. 4th Street, NYC 10014.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

IV. Trees on Mulberry Street (Little Italy)

WHEREAS residents of Little Italy have initiated a beautification and tree-planting program for all of Little Italy with broad community support from not only residents, but building owners and small businesses, too, and

WHEREAS local property owners, including owners on Mulberry Street, have made proper signed applications to the Community Board and to the New York City Parks Department for a Fall planting of trees by the city, and

WHEREAS the Mayor's Street Activities and Permits Office (SAPO), headed by Mildred Duran, contacted the Parks Department seeking to block planting trees on Mulberry Street because they would interfere with street fairs and challenged the existence of already-planted trees on Mulberry Street, incorrectly claiming there was a "no tree" zoning policy for Mulberry Street in Little Italy and

WHEREAS the lack of community opposition to trees being planted on Mulberry Street is underscored by the head of the Little Italy Chamber of Commerce's own statement at the Chamber's May, 1999 meeting (attended by residents, business and building owners) that the Chamber had no objections to the planting of trees on Mulberry Street and saying that such planting would not interfere with street fairs,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. calls upon the NYC Parks Department and the Mayor's Street Activities and Permits Office to recognize the legality of, and a community consensus for, tree-planting on Mulberry Street and strongly urges the Parks Department to ensure that the number of trees already approved by them for planting on Mulberry Street this Fall (along with the already approved number of trees for other streets in Little Italy) are, indeed, planted so that the beautification program for all of Little Italy will continue on schedule and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB#2, Man. affirms and supports the right of the community in Little Italy, in general, and on Mulberry Street in particular, to continue their beautification and tree-planting program.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

V. Protecting the Printing Industry

WHEREAS the printing industry and craft on the Lower West Side of Manhattan, including the Varick and Hudson corridors of Community Board #2 (Manhattan)'s district, continues to make a significant, irreplaceable, long-term contribution to our district's (and our city's) economy, culture, and well-being; and

WHEREAS the industry's and craft's continued location in its historic area within our district, wherein many buildings are uniquely suitable for the industry's heavy equipment, remains critical in order to provide proximity and access to the area's art, literary and new media communities and industries, as well as to the myriad other printing industry customers; and

WHEREAS the printing industry and craft at its present location has long co-existed with the rest of our district's residential and commercial communities; and

WHEREAS recently convened an emergency community meeting on the future here of the printing industry, bringing together and establishing an unprecedented coalition and collaboration among businesses, unions and community residents dedicated to preserving the printing district in the CB#2 area; and

WHEREAS the said meeting made clear that our community and this board share the concerns and sentiments reflected in a statement presented by the Central Labor Council and;

WHEREAS the meeting also made clear that the proposed Chelsea re-zoning plan as presently drafted will undermine the printing industry within the CB#2 district;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board #2 (Manhattan) endorses and adopts the attached statement, which is based upon the CLC's statement noted above, as the policy of the board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board #2 (Manhattan) reiterates its position that the City Council eliminate the 14th Street South blocks within the CB #2 district from the proposed Chelsea Re-Zoning Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board #2 (Manhattan) calls upon the city government to work with the community and the board to develop a plan involving both zoning and non-zoning strategies to perpetuate the printing industry and craft here at its historic location consistent with the needs of area residents.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Approval by the board of Resolution #5 herein (entitled "Protecting the Printing Industry") will accomplish adoption by the board, as policy, of the following statement:

Community Board #2 Statement of Policy in Support Protecting New York City's Printing Industry

For over a century, New York City has been our nation's center of the printing industry. Printing is a \$4 billion New York City industry which directly employs thousands of working men and women in good paying jobs with decent benefits and which provides essential support services for other important sectors of our economy, including advertising, financial services, graphic design, publishing and, most recently, the new Internet media.

Printing is a highly skilled artisan craft, truly an art, which offers very good wages. The median salary of a pressman is between \$20 and \$30 an hour. A color separator in a bindery can earn between \$10 and \$17 per hour. These, like most positions in the industry, are high paying jobs that do not require a college degree.

In addition, the work force is relatively diverse. The New York Industrial Retention Network estimates that 65% of people employed in printing are minorities and women. The industry has job placement alliances with a number of New York City-based community organizations, as well as strong job training initiatives through vocational schools such as the High School for Graphic Arts and Bushwick High School.

Manhattan's printers must remain in Manhattan in order to survive. They fill a market niche that demands close proximity to Manhattan's advertising agencies, design studios, new media enterprises and related businesses. They fill a cultural niche that demands close proximity to Manhattan's Art Center. Forcing these printers to leave Manhattan will force them out of business and result in the loss of thousands of these well-paying jobs with ripple effects throughout the economy. A printing exodus would also undermine our city's, and especially lower Manhattan's position as a world art and literary center. Additionally, the reduction in the diversity of jobs caused by the loss of the printing industry segment will also seriously weaken New York City's ability to endure and bounce back from economic downturns, as well as erode the many benefits to our city's social fabric that derive from a diverse economy. Therefore it would be a tragedy if New York City failed to take the measures necessary to preserve and encourage the survival and growth of this crucial industry,

But far from encouraging the survival of this industry, it sometimes seems that New York is assisting in its destruction. In the Chelsea area, the City Planning Commission has reported out to the City Council a Section 197(a) Plan which calls in part for certain blocks to be "upzoned" from manufacturing to residential.

In lower Manhattan, the city has stood by while landlords like the Trinity Church Real Estate Corporation raise rents and pursue a policy of refusing to renew printing leases in favor of commercial uses more lucrative in the short term, uses allowed as of right in manufacturing areas, such as Varick and Hudson Streets. This policy of planned, or allowed, destruction of the printing industry must end. We must all preserve the thousands of jobs relying upon the printing industry and craft and the economic, social and cultural benefits resulting from the existence of these jobs.

Community Board #2 (Manhattan) and the community we represent look forward to working with the City Council and the Mayor to further develop and implement policies and programs to facilitate the retention of the printing industry and craft in its historic neighborhood in our district.