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**The City of New York**  
**Manhattan Community Board 8**

Parks Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, March 1, 2012 6:30 PM  
New York Blood Center, 310 East 67<sup>th</sup> St.  
Auditorium

CB8 members present: Scott Falk, Rita Popper, Peggy Price, Barbara Rudder, Teri Slater.

Excused: Molly Blayney, Susan Evans, Judy Schneider, Barry Schneider, Helene Simon

Proposals for two art exhibitions along the Park Avenue Mall:

**1. Exhibition of sculptures by Albert Paley, June-November, 2013.**

Jennifer Lantzes, Parks Department's public arts coordinator, introduced American artist, Albert Paley, who presented a proposal for 13 of his sculptures to be shown along Park Avenue Mall from East 51st to East. 67th streets. This exhibition would run from June to November, 2013. Six of these art works would be displayed in the Community Board 8 district: on 59th, 60th, 61st (North and South), 66th and 67th streets.

The artist is personally subsidizing the project, and has to date sold half of the sculptures.

Mr. Paley's works will be specifically designed for this exhibition. Most of the large steel works will be vertical, ranging in height from 15 feet to 18 feet, and will vary in design. As an example, because E. 59 Street has more vegetation, the sculpture at that site will be light and delicate.

Mr. Paley stated that he is working on designing base lighting that will not intrude on local residences.

To avoid having the sculptures harm the Mall's flower beds, flower bulbs will be placed in boxes and buried below ground during the exhibition. These flower boxes will be covered with steel plates, which will anchor the sculptures. The Parks Committee was assured that officials of the Parks Dept., MTA, Metro North, and Dept. of Transportation will be ensuring that the sculptures will be safely installed.

**RESOLUTION:**

WHEREAS artist Albert Paley will be producing sculptures specifically for exhibition in the Park Avenue Mall; and

WHEREAS the project has the support of the Parks Department and the Fund for Park Avenue, and approval of the Dept. of Transportation; and

WHEREAS the Parks Dept. will ensure that the art works will not interfere with plantings in the Park Avenue Mall; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8, Manhattan, approves of the Parks Dept.'s plans to install 13 Albert Paley sculptures, 6 of which will be in the Community Board 8M district, along the Park Avenue Mall from June to November, 2013.

**VOTE: 5-0-0.** In favor: Scott Falk, Rita Popper, Peggy Price, Barbara Rudder, Teri Slater.

## **2. Exhibition of Sculptures by Niki de Saint Phalle, July-November, 2012**

As described by the Parks Dept.'s Jennifer Lantzas, the Nohra Haime Gallery, which represents the Niki Charitable Art Foundation, is proposing an exhibition of 11 sculptures by the late artist Niki de Saint Phalle. The works would be displayed along the Park Avenue Mall from July to November, 2012.

That exhibition would commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the artist's death.

The colorful, fanciful works would extend from East 52<sup>nd</sup> to East 60<sup>th</sup> streets, with two works to be shown in the CB8M district. Through the use of various tiles and stones, the art works will have a mosaic appearance and will depict a variety of people and creatures.

Works will range in height from about 6 feet to about 10 feet and, according to Ms. Lantzas, will be lighter than many other displays that have been shown on the Mall. They will be planted in the Mall's flower beds and in the middle areas of the Mall. Sculptures will be bolted to a plate that is anchored in the ground, with flowers planted on top.

The exhibition is being funded by the Niki Charitable Art Foundation, and the sculptures will not be for sale.

This program would replace a planned exhibition by artist Anthony Caro, originally scheduled to begin in April. That exhibition has been postponed and not yet rescheduled.

### **RESOLUTION:**

WHEREAS the NYC Parks Dept. and the Fund for Park Avenue are proposing a retrospective of the colorful, fanciful works of artist Niki de Saint Phalle to be shown along the Park Avenue Mall this summer from East 52<sup>nd</sup> St. to East 60<sup>th</sup> Street; and

WHEREAS this exhibition would coincide with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the artist's death; and

WHEREAS the Parks Dept. maintains that the exhibition would not be harmful to plantings along the Park Avenue Mall; therefore,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves of the plan to install 11 Niki de Saint Phalle sculptures, two of which will be in the CB8M district, along the Park Avenue Mall from East 52<sup>nd</sup> to East 60<sup>th</sup> streets, from July to November, 2012.

**VOTE: 5-0-0.** In favor: Scott Falk, Rita Popper, Peggy Price, Barbara Rudder, Teri Slater.

### **3. Discussion of Plans for a Forum on Finding Additional Public Open Space in CB8M**

Parks Committee members are targeting Sept. 27 as the desired date for the planned forum on the need for additional public open space in CB8M. The Committee is considering various locations for the event. Meeting attendees agreed that the format should include a prominent person to serve as keynote speaker as well as four panelists—among them at least one elected official and at least one developer, especially one with expertise creating vest pocket parks.

**Margaret Price and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs for the Parks Committee**