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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

Street Fair Committee
Tuesday, June 14, 2011
Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center

Minutes

Members Present: Barbara Chocky, Hedi White, Co-Chairs; Helene Simon; Michele Birnbaum

Excused: Lorraine Johnson; Barry Schneider; Judy Schneider

1. Council on the Environment, Inc. to close the sidewalk in front of (Sotheby's) 1334 York Avenue between East 71st Street and East 72nd Street on Tuesdays, September 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Sotheby's Youth Farmers Market.

This organization is now known as GrowNYC. The applicant stated that it supports regional agriculture and family farms from which it buys and then sets up green markets in neighborhoods that might otherwise not have one. Local youths are employed to man the markets. The goal is to provide meaningful experience for the youth and to expose neighborhoods to fresh fruits and produce.

Sotheby's has invited GrowNYC to set up such a temporary market in conjunction with their second annual Tri-State Heirloom Vegetable Auction entitled "The Art of Farming".

Discussion followed with comments including both support and concerns about green markets, and the appropriateness of the chosen site for this temporary market.

Following discussion a resolution to disapprove was offered but not seconded; a resolution to approve failed to carry as follows: 2 Approve (Chocky, White) 1 Disapprove (Birnbaum) 1 Abstention (Simon).

2. Marymount Manhattan College to close East 71st Street between Second and Third Avenue on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for a block party.

The applicant stated that this one-block party will be held in conjunction with another college event, the Club and Activities Fair and is intended to help introduce new students both the college and New York City. Food, prepared inside the college will be served; activities will include inflatable equipment. The public is welcome to attend. Garages on the block will remain accessible with traffic monitors from the college to supervise.

Recommendation to approve: 4-0-0 (Chocky, White, Birnbaum, Simon)

Barbara Chocky and Hedi White, Co-Chairs