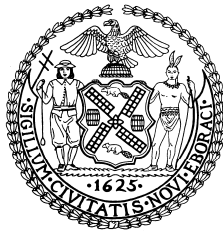


Nicholas Viest  
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**The City of New York  
Manhattan Community Board 8  
ZONING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**October 24th, 2012  
Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood House  
415 East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, NY**

The meeting started at 6:30; ended 8:15pm

**Present:** Michele Birnbaum, Molly Blaney, Lorraine Johnson, Larry Parnes, Marco Tamayo, Teri Slater (Co-Chair), Elaine Walsh (Co-Chair) Danielle Dowler, Community Planning Fellow (CPF)

**Excused:** Barbara Chocky, Kenneth Austin, Elizabeth Ashby

**POPS Discussion of Public Plazas (POPS) research and showing of POPS video produced by Hugh productions in conjunction with Municipal Art Society.**

As a follow up to our previous presentation by Melissa Cerezo, NYCDCP representative (2/29/12), the Municipal Art Society (MAS) staff Raju Mann and Alexis Taylor (6/7/12), Alexis Taylor from MAS presented a documentary on POPS. This documentary looked at the history of POPS and interviewed people from across parts of Manhattan where POPS are located in non- residential areas. (The video was first shown at MAS, 2012 Summit for New York City conference).

During the discussion time, members of the public and CB8 identified some POPS that seem to be out of compliance and expressed issues in reporting to DOB. Residents from buildings with POPS discussed the issues related to making changes to their POPS for public safety needs. In particular the cost of hiring architects and lawyers. Melissa Cerezo welcomed their input and will meet with the representatives to look at their concerns.

Students from the Hunter College graduate program in the Dept. of Urban Affairs and Planning are working on a strategic plan for the POPS in CB8 and are consulting with Melissa Cerezo on the project. The students will be surveying all 97 POPS, interview a range of stakeholders and will provide suggestions based on their findings.

**Illegal Signage**

This continues to be a major issue and there is minimum enforcement by DOB. DOB has a list of illegal signs but does not seem to be able to respond to the complaints by CB8 and other community groups. A top 10 list of the worst signage violations will be prepared based on input from community residents and associations. Danielle Dowler, CPF is working on a study of signage.

As there was no new or old business the meeting was adjourned.