Jacqueline Ludorf Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

May 13, 2010

Hon. Robert B. Tierney, Chair NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission Municipal Building One Centre Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10007

Re: 12 East 78th Street (between Fifth and Madison)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the Land Use/Full Board meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, the board adopted the following resolution regarding 12 East 78th Street (between Fifth and Madison)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District-*Ms. Sarah Lopergolo, Architect* – Application is for restoration of the front façade including replacement of all windows and for a new rear facade.

Part 1: The front elevation

WHEREAS 12 East 78th Street is one of a row of six brownstones constructed by Charles Graham in 1886-87 **WHEREAS** the applicant proposes to keep the front elevation exactly as it is

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to restore the stoop and to replace all existing windows with in-kind wooden windows

WHEREAS the existing stucco finish and existing color of the stucco finish will be maintained

(The Landmarks Preservation Commission is not open to changing the paint color and usually prefers the paint color that was in place when the district was designated)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Part 1 of this application is approved as presented

This resolution was approved by a vote of 41 in favor, 1 opposed and 0 abstention

Part 2: The rear elevation

WHEREAS at the rear, the height is 60' [at the front the height is 50']

WHEREAS the proposed new rear elevation presents as an overglazed modern façade that uses sliding windows

WHEREAS there is no reference at the back to the building to the front of the building

WHEREAS there are precedents to contemporary facades in the rear; the Landmarks Preservation Commission is open to contemporary facades that are sympathetic to the environment.

WHEREAS in this case, however, the applicant is proposing too much glass and too little masonry **WHEREAS** the proposed new rear elevation does not make any reference to the front elevation. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Part 2 of this application is approved as presented.

This resolution was approved by a vote of 30 in favor, 9 opposed and 3 abstentions

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ludorf Chair Jane Parshall and David Liston Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

 cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senate Member Hon. Jonathan Bing, NYS Assembly Member Hon. Micah Kellner, NYS Assembly Member Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member Hon. Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Member Sarah Lopergolo, Architect