Nicholas D. Viest Chairman

Latha ThompsonDistrict Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

FULL BOARD MEETING Wednesday, January 15, 2014 Hunter College 695 Park Avenue 415 Hunter West Lecture Hall 6:30PM

Community Board Members Present: Elizabeth Ashby, Lowell Barton, John Bartos, Michele Birnbaum, Matthew Bondy, Roy Carlin, Barbara Chocky, Sarah Chu, James Clynes, Christina Davis, Jeffrey Escobar, Cory Evans, Susan Evans, A. Scott Falk, David Helpern, Lorance Hockert, Jonathan Horn, Sophia James, Lorraine Johnson, Dave Kleckner, David Liston, Jacqueline Ludorf, Laurence Parnes, Jane Parshall, Ellen Polivy, Rita Lee Popper, Margaret Price, Hattie Quarnstrom, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder, Abraham Salcedo, William Sanchez, Judith Schneider, M. Barry Schneider, Teri Slater, Cos Spagnoletti, Marco Tamayo, Debra Teitelbaum, Nicholas Viest, Elaine Walsh, Charles Warren, Hedi White, Timothy Yeo

Community Board Members (Excused): Lori Ann Bores, Edward Hartzog, Domenico Minerva, Rebecca Seawright, Helene Simon

Community Board Members (Unexcused): Albert Barrueco

Total Attendance: 43

Chair Nicholas D. Viest called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

1. Public Session:

- Member of the public, Roger Thomas, President of the Central Park Precinct Community Council, spoke on the street fair being held on October 11, 2014, at 60th street between Madison and Fifth Avenue.
- Member of the public, Andrew C. Rose and J. Harden Rose, spoke in opposition to Cognac Restaurant's sidewalk café application.
- Member of the public, Ned Pinger, representing the Dalton School, spoke in favor of the Board of Standards and Appeals variance.
- Member of the public, Walter Zhang and Erka Bugari, spoke on the Shen Yun Presentation.
- Member of the public, Jordan Wouk, spoke in favor of the calendar.
- Member of the public, Judith Berdy, representing the Roosevelt Island Historical Society, spoke in opposition to the Cornell/Tech Central Utilities building.
- Member of the public, Devin Gould, spoke in favor of pedestrian safety at 60th Street and Third Avenue.
- Member of the public, Joy Rose, representing the Museum of Motherhood, spoke in regards to the museum's location.
- Member of the public, Barry Schneider, spoke in favor of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association Street Fair
- Member of the public, Greg Thompson Jr., spoke about the 60th Street and Third Avenue intersection.

2. Adoption of the Agenda – Agenda adopted.

3. Adoption of the Minutes – October 16, 2013 Full Board meeting minutes adopted.

4. Manhattan Borough President's Report:

Gale A. Brewer, the newly elected Manhattan Borough President, introduced herself to the Manhattan Community Board 8 members and constituents and briefly summarized her goals and vision as the new Manhattan Borough President stating that she is looking forward to working with the Community Boards.

5. Elected Official's Reports:

- Jose Ramon Perez-Lopez, a representative for Senator Jose Serrano's office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Brice Peyre, a representative for Assembly Member Micah Kellner's Office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Matthew Walsh, a representative for Assembly Member Dan Quart's office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Patrick Madigan, a representative from Senator Liz Krueger's Office, reported on her latest initiatives.
- Emma Lowe, a representative for Council Member Daniel Garodnick's office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Joseph Strong, a representative from Council Member Ben Kallos' Office, introduced himself as the new Community Liaison.
- Christina Parisi, a representative from Congress Member Carolyn Maloney's office reported on her latest initiatives.
- Ben Kallos, the newly elected Council Member and former Community Board 8 member introduced himself to the community and invited everyone to his Inauguration Ceremony scheduled for January 26th, 12:00 noon at the 92nd Street Y.
- Nina Saxon, a representative from Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office, introduced herself to the community and board members. She can be reached by e-mail at asaxon@comptroller.nyc.org

6. Chair's Report – Nick Viest:

Chair Nick Viest gave his report. He announced the very sad news that Molly Blayney, one of Community Board 8's most beloved board members had passed away very suddenly and unexpectedly. He spoke about her significant contributions to the community and to Community Board 8. He received many touching e-mails from so many board members upon the announcement of her passing. A memorial service will be held in Molly's honor in February. Molly will be missed. He also announced that there is a change in co-chairs for the Landmarks Committee. Current Landmarks co-chair David Liston is very time challenged due to his new position so Jane Parshall will now be co-chair for Landmarks and David Liston is switching to co-chair for the Health, Seniors & Social Services Committee.

7. Committee Reports and Action Items:

• Landmarks Committee - David Helpern and Jane Parshall, Co-Chairs

Re: 45 East 66th Street (between Madison and Park Avenues) – Upper East side Historic District – *Jeffery Cole, Architect* – A neo-French Renaissance with Gothic elements style apartment building designed by Harde & Short and built in 1906-08. Application is for a penthouse rooftop addition.

Whereas 45 East 66th Street is an elegant gothic style building of exceptional design;

Whereas the existing 11th floor is set back and hidden, for the most part, by a high parapet;

Whereas the existing 11th floor is clad in bronze Duranodic panels;

Whereas the proposed 12th floor vertical addition will also be clad in bronze Duranodic panels;

Whereas the 12th floor will be minimally visible from the north along Madison Avenue and very visible from East 66th Street and Park Avenue;

Whereas the bronze Duranodic cladding is out of character with the design of the original building;

Whereas the proposed 12th floor addition was not part of the intent of the Harde & Short design;

Whereas the proposed 12th floor addition is not appropriate to the historic district;

Therefore be it resolved that this application be disapproved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: 680 Madison Avenue (between 61st and 62nd Streets) –Upper East Side Historic District – Sherida E. Paulsen, Architect – A neo-Georgian style apartment building designed by K.B. Norton and built in 1950-51. Application is to replace windows and spandrels at the 2nd floor.

Whereas 680 Madison Avenue is currently being renovated in compliance with the approval of the Landmarks Preservation Commission;

Whereas under the approved application the three floors of the base are being changed to two floors to better accommodate retail;

Whereas under the approved application the proportions of the façade of the base are being retained;

Whereas under the approved application the installation of replicated pressed metal spandrel panels midway between the new second floor and the existing floor above require the support of box beams that protrude into the retail space;

Whereas under the approved application the raising of the second floor places the eye level of customers within the retail at the level of the metal spandrel panels and the box beams;

Whereas under the new application the proposed windows and spandrels within each of the openings will be composed of a curtain wall of insulated clear glass windows and cast glass spandrel panels with gray glass behind the spandrel panels;

Whereas the cast glass spandrel panels will be supported on the interior with stainless steel tubes, will be in line with the insulated glass windows, and will not protrude into the space;

Whereas the cast glass spandrel panels will replace opaque spandrel panels with translucent spandrel panels; Whereas the molds from the original pressed metal spandrel panels will be used in making the new cast glass spandrel panels;

Whereas the decorative forms of the original pressed metal spandrel panels will be replicated in the cast glass spandrel panels;

Whereas the cast glass spandrel panels will have a matt finish;

Whereas the awnings will be changed from red to gray;

Whereas the proposed changes to the windows and spandrel panels will be an unobtrusive solution on the interior and an elegant solution on the exterior;

Therefore be it resolved that this application be approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 25 in favor, 8 opposed, 6 abstentions, and 1 not voting for cause.

• Transportation Committee - A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren, Co-Chairs

Re: Continued discussion of the East 60th Street and Third Avenue intersection

WHEREAS Community Board 8M is concerned about pedestrian safety along the corridor of East 60th Street from the Queensboro Bridge exit ramp at Second Avenue through the intersection of Third Avenue; and

WHEREAS both Third Avenue and East 60th Street are designated as truck routes; and

WHEREAS 16-year-old Renee Thompson died on July 31, 2013, after being struck by a tractor trailer while crossing Third Avenue at East 60th Street; and

WHEREAS a 67-year-old man died on May 24, 2010, after being hit by a taxi cab while crossing 60th Street at Third Avenue; and

WHEREAS in the five-year period from 2007 to 2011 there have been 28 injuries, including 12 pedestrian injuries, resulting from crashes at the intersections of East 60th Street & Third Avenue; and

WHEREAS vehicles exiting the Queensboro Bridge onto East 60th Street often travel at excessive speed as they approach Third Avenue; and

WHEREAS the intersection of East 60th Street & Third Avenue has very high pedestrian traffic, with entrances to a major subway station at all four corners and several tourist and shopping destinations located nearby; and

WHEREAS there is inadequate sidewalk space at several locations on 60th Street east of Third Avenue, due to enclosed and unenclosed sidewalk cafes, tree pits, high pedestrian volumes, and other factors; and

WHEREAS neckdowns reduce crossing distances, increase pedestrian visibility, slow turning vehicles, and decrease sidewalk overcrowding; and

WHEREAS the Department of Transportation is proposing to designate the left lane of Third Avenue as a left-turn only lane approaching East 60th Street; and

WHEREAS the Department of Transportation proposes to install painted neckdowns at the north-west and south-west corners of East 60th Street & Third Avenue; and

WHEREAS the Department of Transportation proposes to extend by 140 feet the right-turn only lane on East 60th Street approaching Third Avenue, to reduce congestion and to prevent right turns from the middle lane; and WHEREAS the Department of Transportation proposes to upgrade the pedestrian crosswalk striping and to clarify lane assignments with additional markings and with "peg-a-track" markings through the intersection; and WHEREAS the Department of Transportation has agreed to continue to look at safety issues along East 60th Street and at its intersections with both Second and Third Avenues, as well as the Queensboro Bridge exit at Second Avenue near 60th Street, and to seek further measures to calm traffic and increase pedestrian safety through this corridor:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves the Department of Transportation proposal for the following pedestrian improvements at East 60th Street & Third Avenue:

- 1. Install two painted neckdowns with flexible delineators at this intersection, to reduce the pedestrian crossing distance and to calm turning vehicles:
 - a. A neckdown at the NW corner that will reduce the distance to cross Third Avenue on the north side of the intersection from 65' to 53' (nearly 20%), and
 - b. A neckdown at the SW corner that will reduce the distance to cross East 60th Street on the west side of the intersection from 35' to 25' (nearly 30%);
- 2. Add a new left-turn only lane on Third Avenue approaching East 60th Street, to clarify vehicular movements and to allow for the neckdown on the NW corner;
- 3. Extend the right-turn only lane on East 60th Street by 140', reducing congestion and "double turning"; and
- 4. Upgrade the pedestrian crosswalk striping and clarify lane assignments with additional markings and "peg-a-track" markings through the intersection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8M requests dedicated traffic enforcement for this intersection for the first six weeks after installation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8M asks the Department of Transportation to return within six months with proposals for additional pedestrian safety improvements and traffic-calming measures for the following locations:

- the Queensboro Bridge exit at Second Avenue near 60th Street;
- the intersection of East 60th Street and Second Avenue;
- the block of East 60th Street between Second & Third Avenues;
- and the intersection of East 60th Street and Third Avenue.

Manhattan Community Board 8 <u>APPROVED</u> the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: A request to review a modification of a Revocable Consent for a snowmelt system at 21 East 70th Street WHEREAS on April 17, 2013, Community Board 8M approved a Revocable Consent to install an electric snowmelt system at 21 East 70th Street, and DOT granted this revocable consent on July 1, 2013; and WHEREAS the petitioner has applied to modify their revocable consent so as to construct, maintain, and use a weatherproof electrical duplex receptacle and conduit at the tree pit in front of 21 East 70th Street; and WHEREAS the electrical receptacle and conduit will be located inside the tree guard surrounding the tree pit and should not present a hazard to pedestrians;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8M approves the modification to the Revocable Consent for the snowmelt system at 21 East 70th Street.

Manhattan Community Board 8 <u>APPROVED</u> the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

• Street Fair Committee – Barbara Chocky and Hedi White, Co-Chairs I. Public Hearing re: Applications for Multi-block Street Fairs for Calendar Year 2014

A. **Gracie Square Art Show** to close East End Avenue from 84th to 89th Streets on Saturday, September 27, 2014 to Sunday, September 28, 2014 from 10AM to 5PM for the annual Art Show

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

- B. Review of the Greenmarket located on the South side of 82nd Street between First/York Avenues from Saturdays, January 4, 2014 to Saturday, December 27, 2014 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM for a Farmers Market Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- C. Review of the Greenmarket located on the East side of First Avenue between 92nd/93rd Streets from Sunday, June 29, 2014 to Sunday, November 23, 2014 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM for a Farmers Market Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- D. **Brick Presbyterian Church** to close Park Avenue between East 90th and East 93rd Street on Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 6:30PM to 7:15PM for the annual Tree lighting **Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed,**

and 1 abstention.

E. **19th Precinct Community Council** -Lexington Avenue/60th – 68th Streets on Saturday, May 3, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause.

F. Lenox Hill Neighborhood House - First Avenue/ 68^{th} – 79^{th} Streets on Saturday, June 7, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 2 not voting for cause.

G. **Manhattan Chamber of Commerce** - Third Avenue/66th-86th Streets on Saturday, May 31,2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

H. **Manhattan Chamber of Commerce**-Third Avenue/66th – 86th Streets on Sunday, September 7, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I. **French Institute/Alliance Francaise** - 60th Street/Fifth and Lexington Avenue on Sunday, July 13, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

J. East Sixties Neighborhood Association-East 60th Street between Fifth and Madison Avenue on Sunday, August 3, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 38 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention and 2 not voting for cause.

K. **92nd Street Y- Lexington Avenue** / 79th-96th Streets on Sunday, September 14, 2014 from 12:00PM to 6:00PM for a Street Festival

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

2. Public Hearing re: Applications for Single-block Street Fairs for Calendar Year 2014

A. **The China Institute** to close East 65th Street between Lexington to Park Avenue on Sunday, February 2, 2014 from 11AM to 12PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

B. China Institute to close East 65th Street between Park and Lexington Avenue on Sunday, September 7, 2014 from 11AM to 4PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to <u>disapprove</u> this application by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

C. **Chabad Lubavitch** of the Upper East Side to close East 77th Street between York and First Avenue on Sunday, March 2, 2014 from 11AM to 1PM for a Religious Ceremony

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

D. **Manhattan New School** to close East 82nd Street between First and Second Avenue on Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 11AM to 5PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

E. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to close East 87th Street between Second and Third Avenue on Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 10AM to 4PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

F. Central Park Precinct Community Council to close East 60th Street between Fifth and Madison Avenue on Sunday, June 22, 2014 from 12PM to 5PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

G. **Central Park Precinct Community Council** to close East 60th Street between Fifth and Madison Avenue on Saturday, October 11, 2014 from 11AM to 5PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to <u>disapprove</u> this application by a vote of 30 in favor, 10 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

H. **Ronald McDonald House** to close East 73rd Street between York and First Avenue on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 11AM to 5PM for a Block Party

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to approve this application by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

• Street Life Committee - Jonathan Horn and Domenico Minerva, Co-Chairs

1a. MXco Café, LLC d/b/a MXco, 1491 Second Avenue (77th/78th Streets) – Renewal application for an unenclosed sidewalk café with 7 tables and 14 chairs, DCA #1384460. Due date: Jan. 11th

WHEREAS there are no changes to the café and no one from the public objected,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the application is Approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the recommendation by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

1b. <u>Brasserie Cognac East Corp. d/b/a Brasserie Cognac, 963 Lexington Avenue (@ 70th Street)</u> – Renewal modification application for an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 22 seats, DCA #1469257. Due date: Jan. 31st

WHEREAS several members from the public addressed ongoing issues related to encroachment beyond approved area, use of unauthorized tables and chairs, and lack of supervision, and

WHEREAS several members of the public also reported ongoing issues with the establishment's garbage disposal, sidewalk cleanliness and the use of orange cones to illegally block street parking, and

WHEREAS the previous establishment had been licensed for only 7 tables and 14 seats, and

WHEREAS, the new owner has consistently placed more tables and chairs outside, using both licensed and unlicensed sidewalk space, and

WHEREAS the owner agreed to decrease the application to 7 tables and 14 seats and submit revised plans to the CB8M office by January 15th but failed to do so,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the application is **Disapproved**.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the recommendation by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

1c. <u>LLB, Inc. d/b/a Pascalou, 1308 Madison Avenue (92nd/93rd Streets)</u> – Renewal application for an unenclosed sidewalk café with 2 tables and 4 chairs, DCA #1197788. Due date: Feb. 1st

WHEREAS there are no changes to the café and no one from the public objected,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the application is Approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the recommendation by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

2a. <u>Tavlin Restaurants, LLC d/b/a Tavlin, 1611 Second Avenue (83rd/84th Streets)</u> – New application for a Wine & Beer Only license Food/Drink: 90/10

WHEREAS no one from the public objected,

WHEREAS the applicant agreed to the following hours of operation:

Monday to Thursday – 10am to 11:00pm

Friday to Saturday- 10am to 11pm

Sunday – 10am to 11:00pm

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the application is Approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the recommendation by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

• Roosevelt Island Committee - Jeffrey Escobar and Laurence Parnes, Co-Chairs

Re: Central Utilities Plant

WHEREAS Cornell/NYC Tech will be asking the city's Public Design Commission for approval of the schematic design of the Central Utilities Plant (CUP); and

WHEREAS concern was expressed that the dark color of the building's façade across the street from the dark façade of the existing Sports Park building would create the feel of a dark corridor; and

WHEREAS the dark façade is in contrast with the other facades on the campus, and

WHEREAS there is concern that service to the CUP be done totally off-street; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 recommends that the following changes be made to the CUP building prior to review for final approval:

- 1. that the façade be modified to provide more interest and lighter color; and
- 2. that all service access to the building is off street.

Community Board 8M voted to approve the resolution by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

2. First Academic Building

WHEREAS Cornell/NYC Tech will be asking the city's Public Design Commission for approval of final design of the First Academic Building; and

WHEREAS the building provides considerable publically accessible space at the ground floor; and

WHEREAS the building's design compliments the design of the opposite Co-Location building; and

WHEREAS concern was expressed about the removal of existing trees along the site's perimeter; and

WHEREAS concern was expressed about the building's compliance with ADA standards, especially for those with hearing disabilities; therefore

BE IT REOLVED that the Roosevelt Island Committee approves the final design of the FAB subject the following conditions:

- 1. That Cornell reexamines its landscaping plan as it relates to the existing trees along the site's perimeter.
- That the FAB be developed with Universal Design, especially with looping for the hearing impaired

Manhattan Community Board 8 motioned to layover this item to the February 12th Land Use meeting by a vote of 35 in favor, 7 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

8. Old Business

No new business.

9. New Business No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Nicholas D. Viest, Chair