Jacqueline Ludorf Chairman

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

## FULL BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011 Ramaz School 125 East 85<sup>th</sup> Street, Auditorium 6:30PM

Community Board Members Present: Joie Anderson, Elizabeth Ashby, Michael Auerbach, Kenneth Austin, Michele Birnbaum, Molly Blayney, Matthew Bondy, Lori Ann Bores, Deirdre Breslin, Roy Carlin, Barbara Chocky, Sarah Chu, James Clynes, A. Scott Falk, Ruth Halberg, David Helpern, Lorance Hockert, Jonathan Horn, Lorraine Johnson, Dave Kleckner, Laura Lijewski, Jacqueline Ludorf, Domenico Minerva, Laurence Parnes, Jane Parshall, Mary Boresz Pike, N. Sharon Pope, Rita Lee Popper, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder, William Sanchez, Judith Schneider, M. Barry Schneider, Helene Simon, Teri Slater, Cos Spagnoletti, H. Patrick Stewart, Marco Tamayo, Debra Teitelbaum, Alexander Tisch, Nicholas Viest, Charles Warren Community Board Members Absent (Excused): Christina Davis, Susan Evans, George Fuchs, David Liston, Margaret Price, Elaine Walsh, Hedi White Community Board Members Absent (Unexcused): Ellen Polivy Total Attendance: 42

## Chair Jacqueline Ludorf called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

## 1. Public Session:

- Head of school Pam Clarke, representing Trevor Day School, requested a 4 hour street closing.
- Member of the public, Mjrang Cho, representing the New York City Board of Elections, spoke on poll worker recruitment and left Poll Worker Applications.
- Member of the public, J Wouk, spoke in opposition to an MTA issue.
- Member of the public, Andre W. Sichel, representing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center, spoke in favor of smoking cessation.
- Member of the public, Julia Bradford, representing Goat Hill Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the block closure for 95<sup>th</sup> St. between Park and Lexington Avenues for June 7, 2011.
- Member of the public, Leslie Carroll, representing Goat Hill Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the block closure for 95<sup>th</sup> St. between Park and Lexington Avenues for June 7, 2011.

2. Adoption of the Agenda – Agenda adopted.

3. Adoption of the Minutes – January 2011 Land Use/Full Board Minutes – Minutes adopted.

#### 4. Manhattan Borough President's Report:

Kristen Ellis, a representative from the Manhattan Borough President's office, reported on updates from the Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer's Office (MBPO). She announced that on Monday the (MBPO) hosted the "Banking on the Future" Conference which included break-out sessions on topics focusing on clean energy, high speed rail, transportation, and private investments for public projects. The MBPO is inviting everyone to the Women's History Month event which will take place at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, on Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM-8:30PM. The event will honor Estrellita Brodsky, Arts Philanthropist and Independent Curator, and Evelyn DeJesus, Manhattan Representative, United Federation of Teachers among others. The MBPO is seeking qualified community oriented individuals with an interest and background in education to serve on the Community Education Councils (CEC). Individuals interested should contact Marc Brumer at the MBPO at 212-669-8151 or mbruner@manhattanbp.org

## 5. Elected Official's Reports:

- Brad Usher, a representative for State Senator Liz Krueger, reported on Senator Krueger's upcoming events. He announced State Senator Krueger's events which include the "Real Rent Reform East Side Tenants' Town Hall". The Town Hall meeting will highlight efforts to renew and strengthen New York State's rent regulation laws and is scheduled for Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM-8:30PM, New York Blood Center, 310 East 67<sup>th</sup> Street. Senator Krueger's Senior Roundtable A Program for Boomers & Seniors will focus on the "End-of Life Decisions and Senior Advocacy". This five-part discussion for caregivers and the older people in their lives is scheduled for Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00AM-10:00AM, at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 311 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street. It was announced that both the Senate and Assembly passed the one house budget resolutions. However, Senator Krueger voted against the resolutions because she felt it was significantly out of balance. Finally, Senator Liz Krueger has now replaced Senator Carl Kruger.
- Yvonne Przybyla, a representative from New York State Senator Jose Serrano's office, reported that the Senator was up in Albany fighting for many issues that are important to New York residents which include the new budget, keeping senior centers open and independent re-districting. Senator Serrano will be hosting an Immigration Forum along with Senator Perkins which is scheduled for Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:30AM-3:00PM at 213 West 114<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Jean Fischman, a representative from Assembly Member Micah Kellner's office, reported on Assembly Member Kellner's efforts to save our community's senior centers. She also spoke on the legislation that Assembly Kellner introduced which will dramatically reduce plastic bag usage while saving both the environment and saving everyone money. The bill creates incentives for New Yorkers to use environmentally-friendly reusable tote bags, while imposing a 25-cent tax on every plastic carry-out shopping bag provided by large grocery stores or pharmacies in New York City. Customers who use food stamps will be exempted from the tax. In partnership with Project Renewal, Assembly Member Kellner is coordinating a free mammogram screening program which will be available to any woman over 40 who has not had a mammogram in the past 12 months, regardless of whether or not she has health insurance. The free mammogram screenings will take place on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:30AM-3:00PM in front of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street. Space is limited and is on a first-come first-served basis and appointments are necessary. In order to schedule an appointment call 1-800-564-6868 or the Assembly Member's Office at 212-860-4906.
- Kelly Postlewaite, a representative from Assembly Member Jonathan Bing's office, reported on Assembly Member Bing's efforts to restore funding for senior centers. She announced that the bike bill passed the Senate. Two important pieces of consumer protection legislation authored by Assembly Member Bing passed the Assembly. One bill protects the privacy of customers of electronic fare and toll services including users of EZPass and Metrocard services. The other bill protects Con Ed and other utility customers by requiring utility companies to provide the Public Service Commission with emergency plans for review and approval. She announced that on March 24<sup>th</sup>, the New York Federal Executive Board and the Social Security Administration is hosting the Government Working Together

Forum which will have various organizations such as Social Security, Medicaid, Senior Citizens, Transit, Food Stamps, EPIC among others available to the public.

- David Kimble Stanley, a representative from Council Member Daniel Garodnick's office, announced that Council Member Garodnick wrote an Op-ed in the March 4, 2011 issue of the New York Post regarding the NYC Department of Education Chancellor's order to split school principal's unspent funds with the Department of Education. This order penalizes principals' thrift and prevents them from saving some teacher jobs at no added cost to the city. Council Member Garodnick sent out a letter signed off by 30 other Council Members to revisit this issue. It was followed up by a press conference and now the Mayor will be revisiting this issue with the Chancellor. The Council Member also corresponded with the Commissioner of the New York City Departments of Parks and Recreation regarding the issue of cyclists being ticketed while riding through red lights in Central Park when the park is closed to car traffic. Council Member Garodnick made a formal request to the Parks Commissioner in his letter asking for the feasibility of installing yellow yield lights or some other more permissive traffic signal for use during the hours when cars are not allow in the Park. The Council Member's Office has received a lot of complaints regarding the beeping noises that the Select Bus Service (SBS) M15 buses make. The MTA is making a "Whisper Campaign" to make beeping noises quieter. The Council Member has asked the MTA for a specific time frame when the quieter beepers will be installed in the (SBS) buses. The Council Member is pleased to announce that since his introduction of a Pedi-Cab Bill of Rights the New York City Pedi-Cab Owners Association has endorsed the bill and the bill is expected to pass shortly.
- Jane Swanson, a representative from Council Member Jessica Lappin's office, reported on the major crises that Federal Title XX funding cuts are producing on Senior Centers. Both the Assembly and the Senate have restored the funding to their budgets, however, half of the senior centers face closures including the Lenox Hill Senior Center so this is a major crisis. Council Member Lappin and Senator Krueger are putting pressure on the Governor's Office on this issue. The Council Member's Office was pleased to announce that 2 bills authored by Council Member Lappin have passed. One bill protects women's health by requiring "crises pregnancy centers" to disclose in advertising and in their offices that there is no medical staff present, they do not offer abortions, contraception, or pre-natal services. The centers are also required to inform women that they should consult with a licensed medical provider if they are or believe they may be pregnant, and requires any information a woman gives to these centers to be kept strictly confidential. The other bill, the TrafficStat bill requires the New York Police Department to post information on traffic accidents, injuries and fatalities on the web. This information will allow New Yorkers to search by borough, precinct, and even intersection to see where there are dangerous corners in the communities. She announced the New York City Transit (NYCT) phone number for reporting complaints about the NYCT kiosks is 718-330-1234 or 311. She also announced that pedi-cabs are licensed.
- Brice Peyre, a representative from Congress Member Carolyn Maloney's office, reported on the latest issues that the Congress Member was actively involved in. Representative Maloney along with Representative Maurice Hinchely and Representative Jerrold Nadler wrote to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) asking to review an internal EPA decision to not call for a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in the New York City Watershed. Congress Member Maloney has introduced "The Start Up Visa Act of 2011" to help jump-start job creation in America. She is opposing the Pence Amendment to ban aid to Planned Parenthood and is applauding President Obama's decision to stop defending the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in the federal courts. The Congress Member also joined Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Senator Charles Schumer, Representative Carolyn McCarthy and other House members at a press conference on Capitol Hill in support of the "Fix Gun Checks Act of 2011". The legislation will strengthen background checks for gun buyers.

## 6. Chair's Report – Jacqueline Ludorf:

Chair Jacqueline Ludorf thanked Michael Auerbach and Laura Lijewski for their years of service as Community Board members and announced that the co-chairmanship for the Street Fair Committee will be taken over by Hedi White.

# 7. Committee Reports and Action Items:

• Transportation Committee – Jonathan Horn and Charles Warren, Co-Chairs

# 3. A request for a Revocable Consent at 110 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8M approves the request for a Revocable Consent permitting a fenced-in area at 110 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street.

Community Board 8M adopted the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 Abstentions.

## 4. A request for a "No Horn Honking" sign at 1454 Second Avenue

**WHEREAS** the community and the Stumble Inn located at 1454 Second Avenue have identified an issue with taxicabs excessively honking their horns in an attempt to solicit riders,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8M approves the request for a "No Horn Honking" sign to be installed in front of 1454 Second Avenue.

Community Board 8M adopted the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 Abstentions.

# 5. A request for ambulette parking at 475 East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street

**WHEREAS** the Hospital for Special Surgery will be locating their ambulatory care facility at 475 East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, and

**WHEREAS** there will be a regular need for ambulettes to drop off and pick up patients during the day, and **WHEREAS** providing spaces for ambulettes at this location may help alleviate some of the York Avenue traffic issues,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8M approves the request to install a "NO STANDING EXCEPT PICK UPS & DROP OFFS – AMBULETTE 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday" regulation on the South side of East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street from a point 80 feet West of York area heading East to the restricted fire hydrant zone (a total of approximately 2 car spaces).

Community Board 8M adopted the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 Abstentions.

• Parks Committee – Margaret Price and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs

## **Re: Review of the Parks Dept.'s proposal for a specialty cart in the Cherry Hill section of Central Park**

**WHEREAS** a processing specialty food cart at the Cherry Hill site in Central Park will create a visual blight in parkland intended to be a verdant, natural setting and haven for cleaner air; and

WHEREAS restaurants already exist in Central Park that offer various food choices; and

WHEREAS the City has no design requirements for the cart; and

**WHEREAS** Cherry Hill would be an additional vending location and not just a replacement for a hot dog stand; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8, Manhattan, opposes the Parks Dept.'s proposal to seek bids to operate a specialty cart at the Cherry Hill area of Central Park.

# Manhattan Community Board 8 voted to oppose the resolution by a vote of 23 in favor, 17 opposed and 0 abstentions:

• Street Fair Committee – Barbara Chocky and Laura Lijewski, Co-Chairs

## **Re: Unanimously approved single block street fair applications**

Application 23419-Manhattan New School (PS 290) to close East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street between First and Second Avenue on Saturday, May 14, 2011 from 11:00AM to 5:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23472-Hunter College Elementary School to close East 95<sup>th</sup> Street between Madison and Park Avenue on Sunday, May 22, 2011 from 10:00AM to 4:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23463-St. Ignatius Loyola Grammar School to close East 84<sup>th</sup> Street between Madison and Park Avenue on Friday, June 10, 2011 from 5:00PM to 8:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23672-Ramaz School to close East 78<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Madison on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 from 10:00AM to 12Noon for a Block Party

Application 23787-Convent of the Sacred Heart to close East 91<sup>st</sup> Street between Madison and Fifth Avenue on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 from 3:00PM to 8:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23856-Episcopal School to close East 69<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Madison Avenue on Thursday, May 12, 2011 from 9:00AM to 6:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23878-Lycee Francais to close East 76<sup>th</sup> Street between York and Dead End Avenue on Saturday, May 14, 2011 from 10:00AM to 4:00PM for a Block Party

Application 23903-Cathedral of Our Lady of the Sign to close East 76<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Madison Avenue on Saturday, April 23, 2011 from 10:00PM to 2:00AM for a Religious Ceremony

Application 23939-Ronald McDonald House to close East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street between York and First Avenue on Saturday, May 14, 2011 from 11:30AM to 3:00PM for a Block Party

Application 24240-Goat Hill Neighborhood Association to close East 95<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Lexington Avenue on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM for a Block Party

Therefore Be It Resolved the single block applications are approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced single-block street fair applications by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Re: Application 22867, review of a Greenmarket located on the East side of First Avenue, between 92<sup>nd</sup>/93<sup>rd</sup> Streets on Sundays, June 19, 2011 to Sunday, December 18, 2011 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM

Whereas there is general support by the public and elected officials for the greenmarket, and Whereas the market eccents food stamps

Whereas the market accepts food stamps,

Therefore Be It Resolved to approve the greenmarket application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 38 in favor, 4 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Re: Application 22447, Summer Streets to close Park Avenue from East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street to East 17<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturdays, August 6, 13 and 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00AM to 2:00PM by the Department of Transportation to open to the public streets for people to walk, bike, play and breathe.

Whereas there is a reduction in the number of blocks closed for the event, and

Whereas the event is enjoyed by many residents as well as visitors to the city, and

Whereas, the event brings people to businesses in the area,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Summer Streets event is approved.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 33 in favor, 4 opposed, 5 abstentions.

Re: Application 22415- Trevor Day School to close East 90<sup>th</sup> Street between Madison and Fifth Avenue on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 from 3:30PM to 5:00PM for a High School Commencement Reception Therefore Be it Resolved Community Board 8 approves this application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 25 in favor, 14 opposed, 3 abstentions.

Re: Application 22920- Central Park Precinct Community Council to close East 60<sup>th</sup> Street between Fifth and Madison Avenue on Sunday, July 3, 2011 from 10:00AM to 6:00PM for a Block Party Therefore Be it Resolved Community Board 8 approves this application for the date and site requested. Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 24 in favor, 17 opposed, 1 abstention.

Re: Application 23334- Marymount Manhattan College to close East 71<sup>st</sup> Street between Second and Third Avenue on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 from 12 noon to 4:00PM for a Block Party Therefore Be it Resolved Community Board 8 approves this application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 34 in favor, 4 opposed, 3 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause.

**Re:** Application 23828- Nourishing NYC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Community Yard Sale to close East 96<sup>th</sup> Street between Lexington and Park on Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 6:00AM to 6:00PM for a Block Party **Therefore Be it Resolved** Community Board 8 **disapproves** this application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Re: Application 23856- Episcopal School to close East 69<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Madison Avenue on Thursday, May 12, 2011 from 9:00PM to 6:00PM for a Block Party

Therefore Be it Resolved Community Board 8 approves this application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 37 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Re: Application 24172- Jewish National Fund to close East 69<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Madison Avenue on Sunday June 5, 2011 from 10AM to 4PM for a Block Party

Whereas, the event is in honor of Israel Independence Day, and

Whereas, there will be not live animals,

Therefore Be It Resolved to approve.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions.

**Re:** Application 24240- Goat Hill Neighborhood Association to close East 95<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Lexington Avenue on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM for a Block Party

Whereas, although the applicant for many years informally held there block party without adherence to block event rules,

Whereas, the applicant has agreed to abide by the block event rules and guideline, although they have not done so for many years in the past,

Therefore Be it Resolved to approve the application.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the resolution regarding the referenced multi-block street fair application by a vote of 37 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstention.

• Housing and Public Safety Committee – Matt Bondy and N. Sharon Pope, Co-Chairs

**Re: Rent Regulation Laws** 

WHEREAS, the expiration of the NYS Rent Regulation Laws expire on June 15, 2011, THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 supports the Manhattan Borough Board's Resolution in support of preserving NYS rent regulations law.

Community Board 8M passed the resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions.

• Landmarks Committee – David Liston and Jane Parshall, Co-Chairs

**Re: 224 East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street (between Third and Second Avenues) – Treadwell Farm Historic District WHEREAS** 224 East 64<sup>th</sup> Street is an Italianate style rowhouse designed by James W. Pirrson and constructed in 1868.

**WHEREAS** 224 East 64<sup>th</sup> Street is one of a row of 5 houses on the south side of 62<sup>nd</sup> Street all designed and constructed by the same architect and builder.

WHEREAS there is an existing 14'1" one story rear yard extension.

**WHEREAS** the applicant proposes to replace the existing extension with a new extension which would extend out an additional 4 feet into the rear yard, making the extension 18'3".

**WHEREAS** the rear wall of the extension would be made entirely of glass with a decorative panel of glass blocks on either side of the rear wall of glass.

**WHEREAS** at the 2<sup>nd</sup> story, there would be an open iron railing with 18" high planters hung from the railing system.

**WHEREAS** at the east and west sides of the house at the ground level, there will be masonry walls to separate the house from its neighbors – these walls will be adjacent to the decorative panels of glass blocks on either side of the rear wall of glass.

**WHEREAS** the choice of materials to be used, the uninterrupted glass at the rear and the scale of the concrete blocks to be used in the masonry wall are inappropriate and out-of -context within the historic district.

**WHEREAS** the transition from the concrete blocks (masonry) to the brick at the rear elevation is inelegant and arbitrary.

WHEREAS the use of brick rather than concrete would have been a better solution for the wall.

**WHEREAS** scale of the concrete wall and the choice of materials

**WHEREAS** a building of this stature requires that a higher standard be applied to any alteration of or disruption to the front elevation.

**WHEREAS** the further incursion into the open space in the rear is inappropriate and out of context within the historic district.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this application is **disapproved** as presented.

Community Board 8M passed the resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention.

#### Re: Landmark Preservation Commission's Proposed Rule Amendment - 2/24/11 Meeting

No further action on the 2/24/11 resolution.

Community Board 8M passed the resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions.

## 9. Old Business:

No old business discussed.

#### **10. New Business:**

Cos Spagnoletti announced that Latha Thompson has e-mailed the State Liquor Authority bills to all the board members and urged the board members to read them and comment.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.