Nicholas D. Viest Chairman

Latha Thompson **District Manager** 



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### The City of New York **Manhattan Community Board 8**

**FULL BOARD MEETING New York Blood Center** 310 East 67<sup>th</sup> Street Auditorium Wednesday, May 21, 2014 6:30PM

Community Board Members Present: Elizabeth Ashby, Albert Barrueco, Lowell Barton, Michele Birnbaum, Matthew Bondy, Lori Ann Bores, Barbara Chocky, Sarah Chu, James Clynes, Jeffrey Escobar, Susan Evans, A. Scott Falk, Edward Hartzog, David Helpern, Lorance Hockert, Sophia James, Lorraine Johnson, Dave Kleckner, Allison Kopf, Craig Lader, David Liston, Jacqueline Ludorf, Laurence Parnes, Jane Parshall, Sharon Pope, Rita Lee Popper, Margaret Price, Hattie Quarnstrom, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder, Abraham Salcedo, William Sanchez, Judith Schneider, M. Barry Schneider, Teri Slater, Cos Spagnoletti, Jared Stone, Marco Tamayo, Debra Teitelbaum, Nicholas Viest, Elaine Walsh, Charles Warren, Hedi White, Timothy Yeo, Gregory Zaffiro

Community Board Members (Excused): Christina Davis, Jonathan Horn, Ellen Polivy, Rebecca Seawright Community Board Members (Unexcused): Domenico Minerva **Total Attendance: 45** 

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

#### 1. Public Session:

- Member of the public, Tyreka McDonald, representing the Department of Consumer Affairs, spoke on the
- Member of the public, Allan Passin, representing 440 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to Safe Harbor. Member of the public, Phyllis Weisberg, representing 440 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to Safe Harbor (435 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street).
- Member of the public, Miles Fischer, spoke in opposition to the outpatient drug treatment center.
- Member of the public, Adam Leitman Bailey, Esq., representing 3 East 78th Street, spoke in opposition to the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Marius Fortelni, representing 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Aldo Bozzi, representing 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Scott Konielso, representing 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Richard Brosark, spoke in opposition to the East 79<sup>th</sup> Street drug treatment center.
- Member of the public, Susan Siskind, representing Sutton Terrace, spoke in favor of restoring parking on East 63<sup>rd</sup> Street between York and First Avenue on the south side.
- Member of the public, Benjamin Gowray, representing East 78<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition to the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Ellen Ehrlich, spoke in favor of senior affordable housing.
- Member of the public, Anita Flannery, representing 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke in opposition of the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Member of the public, Joseph Baglio, representing Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital (MEETH), gave an introduction to MEETH.
- Member of the public, Noel Seller, spoke on 435 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street.

- Member of the public, Michael Ferrars, representing Philippe NYC I, LLC, spoke in favor of the liquor license
- Member of the public, Stratis Morfogen, spoke in opposition to the Philippe I liquor license.
- Member of the public, Lori Blond, spoke on 435 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Member of the public, Margaret Lehman, spoke on 435 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Member of the public, Roxanne Taylor, spoke in opposition to the Croman Project on 72<sup>nd</sup> Street.

# • Informational Presentation-Sam Schwartz/Move-NY's plan for funding the Metropolitan Region's transportation systems/roads/bridges

**WHEREAS**, traffic congestion in the central business district of Manhattan has been increasing on a yearly basis with the result that it is very difficult to carry out business in the area, and

**WHEREAS**, the traffic congestion in the central business district of Manhattan has led to deteriorating air quality with an adverse impact on health and the environment, and

**WHEREAS**, traffic congestion in the central business district of Manhattan has led to traffic congestion on the Upper East Side, and

WHEREAS, the lack of tolls on the Queensboro Bridge has led to traffic congestion on the Upper East Side, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to provide a continuing source of money for mass transit improvements in order to bolster the budget of the MTA, and

**WHEREAS**, the Move NY Fair Tolling & Transportation Reinvestment Plan would both decrease traffic congestion and provide funding for mass transit and roads, and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2008 Community Board 8M passed a resolution in support of congestion pricing by a vote of 27 in favor, 6 opposed, and 3 abstentions;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan supports the core principles of the draft Move NY Fair Tolling & Transportation Reinvestment Plan.

Manhattan Community Board 8 passed the resolution of <u>approval</u> by a vote of 34 in favor, 2 opposed, 7 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause.

- **2.** Adoption of the Agenda Agenda adopted.
- **3.** Adoption of the Minutes February 19, 2014 Full Board meeting minutes adopted.

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

Jesus Perez, a representative from the Manhattan Borough President's Office, reported on her latest initiatives.

#### 5. Elected Official's Reports:

- Assembly Member Dan Quart reported on his latest initiatives.
- Christina Parisi, a representative from Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney's office, reported on her latest initiatives.
- Patrick Madigan, a representative from Senator Liz Krueger, reported on her latest initiatives.
- Jose Ramon Perez-Lopez, a representative for Senator Jose Serrano's office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Brice Peyre, a representative of Assembly Member Micah Kellner's office, reported on his latest initiatives.
- Will Brightbill, representative for Council Member Daniel Garodnick, reported on the Council Member's latest initiatives.

#### 6. Chair's Report - Nick Viest:

Chair Nick Viest gave his report. Nick announced the invitation by Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer to all board members, public members and Community Board staff to attend a "Meet and Mingle" reception in appreciation of their hard work which will be held at the American Museum of Natural History, Dorothy & Lewis B. Cullman Hall of Universe & the Black Hole Theatre, Rose Center on 81st St bet. CPW & Columbus Ave, 6PM-8PM on May 28<sup>th</sup>. As per a request from a board member, Nick is asking Latha for the Board Office to send out an e-mail and ask all the board members if they are interested in receiving e-packets (materials sent out by e-mail prior to Land Use and Full Board meetings) as opposed to paper copies. He also stated that yesterday,

Michele Birnbaum hosted a very good Vendor Task Force Committee Forum which turned out to be very successful. He announced that the Public Safety Committee will be hosting a very interesting Forum focusing on Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero Plan and encouraged the community to attend the meeting which is being held tomorrow, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Lenox Hill Hospital, 130 East 77<sup>th</sup> Street, in the Robert Carmel Conference Room at 6:30pm.

### 7. Committee Reports and Action Items:

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

Re: 45 East 65<sup>th</sup> Street (between Park and Madison)-Upper East Side Historic District -David Bae,

*Architect*-A Neo-Georgian style building designed by Hoppin & Koen, and built in 1909-10. Application for the renovation of a single family townhouse.

**WHEREAS** this building, which was designed as a residence and then converted to institutional use, will be returned to a residence;

WHEREAS all paint will be removed from the brick and limestone on the front facade;

**WHEREAS** all brick masonry and limestone will be repaired on the front facade:

WHEREAS all wood windows on the front facade will be replaced in kind;

WHEREAS the black iron window guards on the front façade, which are not original, will be removed;

WHEREAS the two story mansard with copper trim on the front façade will be restored and repaired;

**WHEREAS** the stair, elevator, and mechanical bulkheads on the roof will be repaired and there will be no increase in the height of the roof top elements;

**WHEREAS** the rear of the building, a portion of which extends to the rear property line, will be demolished to create a 30' rear yard;

WHEREAS the below grade areaway in the rear will be filled in to garden level;

WHEREAS the new rear façade will have tan colored brick with iron spots;

**WHEREAS** wood windows to reflect the front will be installed -- with French doors at the garden level, casements with transoms at the parlor level, double hung at floors three through five, and studio windows with operable awning windows at the sixth floor;

WHEREAS the new rear elevation is contextual and appropriate in the historic district;

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that this application is approved as presented.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: 44 East 74<sup>th</sup> Street (between Park and Madison)-Upper East Side Historic District - *Roxana Escobar*, *Architect*-Beaux Arts style building designed by George F. Pelham and built in 1904-05. Application to make changes at front elevation.

**WHEREAS** 44 East 74th Street is a Beaux Arts style house designed by George F. Pelham and constructed in 1904-1905.

WHEREAS 44 East 74th Street was formerly apartments; it has been returned to single family use.

WHEREAS 44 East 74th Street is a 5 story building with a metal railing at the roof above the parapet

WHEREAS the metal railing has 2' wide openings that present a safety hazard.

**WHEREAS** the applicant proposes to replace the existing metal railing with a wall that will be the same exact height as the railing at 32"

**WHEREAS** the proposed replacement wall will be set back approximately 32" from the roofline and is minimally visible from the public way.

WHEREAS the proposed replacement wall will be finished in stucco

WHEREAS the proposed replacement wall is contextual and appropriate within the historic district.

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that this application is approved as presented.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: 34 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street (between Park and Madison)-Upper East Side Historic District - *Michael Chen, Architect*-A Neo-Grec style building designed by R.W. Buckley and built in 1879. Application to amend the original LPC approval for the renovation of the front façade.

WHEREAS 34 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street received a Certificate of Appropriateness in December, 2012;

**WHEREAS** the restoration of the brownstone front facade was approved with brownstone stucco;

**WHEREAS** it was found at the start of construction that the finish on the original brownstone was an elastomeric paint and not brownstone stucco;

WHEREAS the elastomeric paint is peeling and not an appropriate surface on which to apply stucco;

**WHEREAS** a sounding of the facade found that 90% of the original brownstone had eroded to depths ranging from ½" to 2".

WHEREAS the deteriorated brownstone cannot serve as the base for resurfacing with stucco;

WHEREAS terra cotta has been used to simulate brownstone;

WHEREAS terra cotta is a durable product and is being used on the rear of the house;

WHEREAS terra cottas is an appropriate material for use in the historic district;

WHEREAS terra cotta will replace and replicate the deteriorated brownstone on the front façade;

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that this application is approved as presented.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: 605 Park Avenue (between East 64<sup>th</sup> and East 65<sup>th</sup> Streets)-Upper East Side Historic District - *Barry Rice, Architect*-No-Style Building designed by Sylvan Bien, and built in 1953-54. Application to make exterior renovations.

**WHEREAS** 605 Park Avenue is a white brick apartment building designed by Sylvan Bien and constructed in 1953-54

**WHEREAS** through the years many of the original open terraces both at the corners of the building and at the front of the building have been enclosed, but in an inconsistent manner.

**WHEREAS** the applicant proposes that all the balconies be enclosed including the remaining open ones; a combination of aluminum and bronze will be used on the enclosures.

**WHEREAS** the windows on the now-enclosed balconies will be aluminum; sitting in front of the aluminum a vestige of the original balcony will be represented in bronze to replicate the original profile of both the balcony and the building itself.

**WHEREAS** at the 2-story base of the building, currently clad in black granite, there are recessed (by 5') storefront windows with columns in front.

**WHEREAS** the applicant proposes to reclad the base in limestone and to bring the recessed windows forward to engage the existing columns -- the columns will now read as pilasters.

WHEREAS the new windows at the base and the entry door will be made of bronze.

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to replace the rest of the windows with in-kind aluminum windows.

**WHEREAS** the A/C and heating unit grills for the apartments are irregular in shape and have been added to over the years; to create uniformity and symmetry, the applicant proposes to replace all existing grills with slightly larger bronze grills that will be exactly centered beneath with the windows above.

WHEREAS a new, more distinctive canopy will be added at the entrance

**WHEREAS** the changes proposed by the applicant will give elegance and symmetry to an otherwise undistinguished building.

**THEREFORE** this application is approved as presented.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 36 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

**Re: 1 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street (at Fifth Avenue)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District** -*Scott Marble, Architect* - Louis XV style mansion designed by Horace Trumbauer and built in 1909. Application to install a breezeway and handicap lift.

**3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street (between Fifth and Madison)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District**-*Scott Marble, Architect*-Francois I style townhouse designed by C.P.H. Gilbert and built in 1897-99. Application for interior alterations, replace windows or doors, rooftop or rear yard HVAC and new window or door opening. Since the applications for 1 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street and 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street represent two parts of a single project, the two applications were heard and discussed together and the resolution, therefore, applies to both applications.

**WHEREAS** the applications are to build a breezeway to connect 1 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street and 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street and to install a handicap lift in a 9'-6" wide space between the two buildings on the 1 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street property;

WHEREAS the breezeway will have perforated metal sides and a metal roof;

**WHEREAS** the existing air conditioning unit in the adjacent courtyard on the 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street property will be replaced with a smaller unit;

WHEREAS windows to be replaced on the lower two levels of 3 East 78th Street will be replaced in kind;

WHEREAS these are significant buildings by significant architects;

WHEREAS the presentation information did not fully illustrate the proposed changes;

WHEREAS the breezeway and handicap lift are visible from the public way;

WHEREAS the materials are not appropriate to the existing buildings;

WHEREAS the proposed construction disturbs the original fabric of 1 and 3 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street;

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that these applications are **disapproved** as presented.

Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted this recommendation by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions, and 1 not voting for cause.

#### Parks Committee – Margaret Price and Barbara Rudder

#### Re: Proposal to Rehabilitate Two Central Park Adventure-Style Playgrounds

# 1a. Playground at East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street

**WHEREAS** Central Park's East 72<sup>nd</sup> St. Playground is among the park's 16 playgrounds that have not been comprehensively rebuilt in the last decade; and

**WHEREAS** the Central Park Conservancy is proposing renovations to the E. 72<sup>nd</sup> St. Playground that would maximize access for disabled children, expand users' play experiences and blend the area better into Central Park's overall landscape; and

**WHEREAS** changes to the playground's perimeter--among them, replacing the fence with a low seat wall--would provide for seating, while, broadly, reinforcing the area's angular design and overall connection to the park, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves of the Central Park Conservancy's plans for the rehabilitation of the East 72<sup>nd</sup> St. Playground in Central Park.

# 1b. Playground at West 67th St

**WHEREAS** Central Park's West 67<sup>th</sup> St. Playground is among the park's 16 playgrounds that have not been comprehensively rebuilt in the last decade; and

**WHEREAS** the Central Park Conservancy is proposing a variety of renovations to the West 67<sup>th</sup> St. Playground that would improve the playground's connection to the park's overall landscape and address the needs of disabled users; and

**WHEREAS** various changes, including the reopening of the conical climber, fortress and maze structures, will allow the CPC to recreate or reinforce lost or obscured aspects of the playground; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves of the Central Park Conservancy's plans for the rehabilitation of the West 67<sup>th</sup> St. Playground in Central Park.

Manhattan Community Board 8 approved the resolution by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

# Re: Proposal by the Parks Dept. to display sculptures by Ewerdt Hilgemann along the Park Avenue Malls between 52nd and 67th streets from early August to November, 2014.

WHEREAS artist Ewerdt Hilgemann will be producing sculptures that reflect the architecture of New York City; and

WHEREAS the project has the support of the Parks Dept. and the Fund for Park Avenue; and

WHEREAS the Parks Dept. will ensure that the art works will be safely installed and not interfere with plantings in the Park Avenue Malls; and

**WHEREAS** the CB8M Parks Committee is requesting assurances from the Dept. of Transportation that the sculptures will not block the view of drivers in the area; therefore,

**BE ÎT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8, Manhattan, approves of the Parks Dept.'s plans to install seven Ewerdt Hilgemann sculptures along the Park Avenue Malls from late August to early November, 2014, providing that the Dept. of Transportation determines that the sculptures will not block views of drivers using the involved roadways.

Manhattan Community Board 8 approved the resolution by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

#### • Transportation Committee – A. Scott Falk and Chuck Warren, Co-Chairs

Re: Service on the M31 bus line (including scheduling and accessibility)

**WHEREAS** the M31 bus route serves the Upper East Side, which has an aging population, and in particular serves the hospital corridor known as "Bed Pan Alley," with such institutions as NY-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Hospital for Special Surgery; and

**WHEREAS** the newer low-floor buses with front-door wheelchair access allow for much quicker loading of passengers in wheelchairs; and

WHEREAS the low-floor buses are also easier to board for children, the elderly, and riders with impaired mobility; and

WHEREAS reduced boarding time improves service reliability and decreases headways between buses;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan asks New York City Transit to use predominantly low-floor buses with front-door wheelchair ramps on the M31.

Manhattan Community Board 8 passed the resolution of approval by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause.

## Re: Request for the MetroCard Bus or Van to park at 91st Street and Second Avenue

WHEREAS none of the current MetroCard Bus and Van locations for the Upper East Side and Yorkville are on Second Avenue, and

WHEREAS many seniors live near the intersection of East 91st Street & Second Avenue, and

**WHEREAS** the Carnegie Hill MetroCard Bus location at 90th Street & Lexington Avenue is up a very steep hill that is difficult for some residents to navigate, and

**WHEREAS** no additional equipment would be required to redeploy the MetroCard Bus or Van from other scheduled stops at the Upper East Side, Yorkville, or Carnegie Hill locations,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that New York City Transit add East 91st Street & Second Avenue to the list of locations within CB8 at which the MetroCard Bus and/or Van is regularly scheduled.

Manhattan Community Board 8 passed the resolution of approval by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause.

Re: Update on request to change the parking on East 63rd Street between York & First Avenues from No Standing, 7AM to Midnight, all days to No Standing, 7AM to 7PM, except Sundays. (Requested by Ms. Siskind, resident) presented to the committee February 5, 2014; resolution passed.

**WHEREAS** New York City Department of Transportation has recently changed the parking regulations on both sides of East 63rd Street, between York and First Avenues; and

**WHEREAS** the change in the nighttime traffic pattern on the Queensboro Bridge does not appear to have caused a noticeable increase in traffic on East 63rd Street sufficient to require additional parking restrictions between 7 PM and Midnight; and

WHEREAS the elimination of parking on the southern curb in the evening and allows cars to speed down this block; and

**WHEREAS** the swapping of regulations between the northern and southern curbs would provide more truck loading spaces in the daytime and more parking spaces in the evening;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board 8 Manhattan strongly urges NYC DOT to reverse the parking regulations on the southern and northern curbs of East 63rd Street, between York and First Avenue, as follows:

- Change the southern curb regulations to Truck Loading, 7 AM to 7 PM, Except Sunday; and
- Change the northern curb regulations to No Standing, 7 PM to Midnight, All Days, No Standing, 7AM to 7PM, Except Sunday

Manhattan Community Board 8 passed the resolution of approval by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause.

# 8. Old Business

No old business.

# **9. New Business** No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Nicholas D. Viest, Chair