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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

HEALTH, SENIORS & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center 415 East 93rd Street (First-FDR Drive) Dining Room A & B Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Minutes

CB8M Members Present: Barbara Chocky, Jim Clynes, Lorraine Johnson, David Liston, Katherine LaGuardia, Jackie Ludorf, Rita Popper, Hattie Quarnstrom-Figueroa, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder.

1 Presentation by nonprofit group, Women in Need, of a planned 17-apartment supportive housing program for at-risk women and children at 316 East 91st Street, under the City's inclusionary-housing program.

Women in Need (WIN), is a non-profit organization that provides supportive housing, social services, and education programs to homeless women and their children with the aim of breaking the cycle of homelessness. Currently, WIN places these families in in shelters, or scatter-sited housing (individual apartments leased in buildings with services in a central location). Representatives from WIN presented their plan to lease a 7-story building at 316 E. 91 Street for temporary congregate housing, where women and their children will live in one building and support services on site. The families are expected to move in by the end of 2018. WIN will pay no rent or taxes, and profits will go into reserves. Their lease is for 50 years with the ability to purchase the building 27.5 yrs.

The building is made up of sixteen two-bedroom, and two one-bedroom apartments for seventeen families and an on-site superintendent. In addition, there is a space for social services and a community room. An independent daycare center will also occupy space at this site, and will be available to the families. WIN and the daycare will share an outdoor space that will be open part of each day. WIN will choose families who currently live in their subpar scatter-site apartments in good standing. Many are young women, with children, who aged out of foster care, and some come from abusive relationships. Most have a job, and will pay rent equal to 30% of their income. Although WIN tries to prepare its clients for independent living, about 90% of the families will still be living at this site in two years, and about 50% will remain indefinitely. A social worker will visit each client on site and at their office at least once a month. Clients who do not comply with the program are brought to housing court.

Many in the community expressed concern that the building is not expected to have full time security. WIN is still considering options, such as video monitoring from their other sites. Full time monitoring will cost about \$150 thousand a year, according to WIN. WIN's representative promised that they understood the concern and will relate the concerns to the decision-makers.

Resolution:

WHEREAS WIN is a non-profit that has successfully supported homeless women and their children; and

WHEREAS WIN has a long history of housing these families in shelters and scatter-site housing; and

WHEREAS is planning to lease a 7-story building to house 17 families at - 316 East 91st Street; and

WHEREAS this temporary congregate housing project will include on-site supportive services; and

WHEREAS Community Board 8M strongly urges WIN to provide 24/7 security at the site for the safety of the women and children who will reside there;

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8, Manhattan approves of the WIN's 17apartment congregate supportive housing program for women and children at 316 East 91st Street.

VOTE: 9-0-0. In favor: Barbara Chocky, Jim Clynes, Lorraine Johnson, Katherine LaGuardia, David Liston, Jackie Ludorf, Rita Popper, Hattie Quarnstrom-Figueroa, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder.

David Liston, Jacqueline Ludorf, and Barbara Rudder Health, Seniors & Social Services Committee Co-Chairs