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

July 25, 2022

Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Center Street, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10007

RE: 1071 Fifth Avenue - Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum - (Expanded Carnegie Hill Historic District) – Event Network LLC - A Modern-style museum building and interior designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and built in 1956-59, and subsequently enlarged by an addition designed by Gwathmey Siegel and Associates and built in 1988-92. Application is to modify designated interior spaces.

Dear Chair Carroll,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on July 20, 2022, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 37 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstention, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS 1071 Fifth Avenue is home to the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in the Expanded Carnegie Hill Historic District; and

WHEREAS the interior, including the ground floor retail space was designated an Interior Landmark in 1990; and

WHEREAS the retail space was not part of the original proposed design, and was intended to remain an open driveway and was only enclosed in 1975; and

WHEREAS the current retail space was designed by the architectural firm of Gwathmey Siegel in 1988-90; and

WHEREAS the applicants (the current retail operators) seek a Certificate of Appropriateness for major renovations to the retail space; and

WHEREAS the applicants propose to remove virtually all the existing casework and replace it with new retail fixtures, an accessible point-of-sale while retaining the existing floor and ceiling treatments; and

WHEREAS the proposed plan is expected to improve traffic flow through the retail space; and

WHEREAS the location and height of a proposed new display case will eliminate public view of a window to the north located at the junction of Wright's small rotunda and the Gwathmey Siegel gallery addition to the east thus making invisible any visual connection to the exterior

WHEREAS while the proposed new store fixtures for retail space in the Gwathmey Seigal addition — are intended to recall detailing, material and finish of original Wright details in the adjacent Wright designed museum, there is no correlation between the proposed design of the overall retail space and the museum itself;

WHEREAS the applicant’s proposal for the retail space is not contextual with the language of museum’s curvilinear architecture;

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

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

Russell Squire
Chair

David Helpern and Jane Parshall

David Helpern and Jane Parshall
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District