



COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

CITY OF NEW YORK

Anne Compocchia
Chairperson

Paul Goldstein
District Manager

MINUTES
OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
COMMUNITY BOARD #1
HELD
APRIL 9, 1991
MARRIOTT FINANCIAL CENTER HOTEL
85 WEST STREET

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Anne Compocchia.

Public Session:

Humbert Derveniadis - NYC Human Rights Commission - Introduced himself as liaison to the Community Board and offered his assistance.

Executive Session:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held March 12, 1991 were adopted as presented.

Reports of Elected Officials:

Miriam Friedlander, City Councilmember - Reported on the following issues:

- Drop-in centers - She's Fighting hard to keep them in place.
- Commodity Exchanges - The Exchanges are planning to get commitments of member firms to move into the proposed tower. She expressed opposition to offering subsidies to these firms as incentives.
- Canal Street Task Force - The problems on Canal Street have been recently receiving more attention. A meeting was held with the police, and a tow-away procedure has been set up.
- Pedestrian Bridge - Under no uncertain terms can the bridge be operated exclusively for Stuyvesant High School. It will only cost \$54,000 to keep the bridge open on weekends.
- Redistricting - The Districting Commission is preparing to unveil its plan after considering suggested plans; five have been proposed for Lower Manhattan.

Tom Duane, Representative for Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman - A "Small Business Forum" will be held Thursday, April 11th, to discuss how to secure funds to finance small businesses. The Comptroller's Office is also working on pension funds and discrimination by corporations.

Denise Woodin, Representative for Congressman Ted Weiss - Reported the Congressman will be holding his annual conference on April 28th. The topic will be "New York City and National Economics". He is concerned that funds for drop-in centers will be cut by HRA. Everyone should write letters.

Meg Reed, Representative for State Senator Manfred Ohrenstein - Reported the Senator is supporting the Board's position on the Stuyvesant High School pedestrian bridge, i.e. that the public have access after school hours, on weekends and holidays.

Representatives of the Fire Department and the Police Department reported on the impact of budget cuts on their departments and the services they provide. Seventeen police cadets graduating today from the Police Academy will be assigned to the 1st precinct; most will be assigned to CPOP.

Borough President's Report:

Lillie Carino - Representative of Borough President Ruth Messinger - Reported the Borough President has appointed a 31 member Youth Advisory Leadership Council. A packet containing recommendations for reallocation of funds to the budget is available upon request. The Safe Streets/Safe City Program will include funds for youth programs. A hearing is scheduled on the MCTV franchise to assure the contract will provide the best service. New appointments to the Board have not yet been made. The Borough President is negotiating with the Battery Park City Authority to pick up the costs of the safe, at-grade crossing of West Street.

District Manager's Report:

Paul Goldstein - Reported on the following issues.

- Earth Day - A street fair will be held along Water St. The River Project will receive a contribution from the proceeds of the event.
- Marginal St. - Plans for open space and a proposal for Marginal St. are being discussed with the Battery Park City Authority.
- Stuyvesant High School - Plans for community access to the school facilities for recreational purposes are to be developed in keeping with the original Board of Estimate resolution.
- Sites 15 and 24 - The Battery Park City Authority is discussing plans for the use of these sites as an interim recreational facility.
- Canal St. - A crack-down on illegal parking and double parking is in effect. Over 3,000 summonses have been issued and 152 vehicles impounded.
- Federal buildings - Developers have been chosen to construct two buildings which are scheduled to be completed in 1994. The buildings do not fall under ULURP. The City plans to upgrade parks in the Foley Square area.

Chairperson's Report:

Anne Compocchia - After thanking Linda Belfer for arranging to hold the meeting at the Marriott Hotel, the Chairperson discussed the following issues:

- Lobbying by applicants - The lobbying of Board members for their support during Board meetings is unsavory and distracting. The practice shall cease.
- Attendance - Board members should try not to leave meetings early. Should it be necessary, members should depart quietly.
- John Heuss House - This matter will be discussed by the Borough Board in light of the proposed closing of all 8 of the City's drop-in centers.
- Milstein Development (250 Water St.) - A letter has been written questioning the ethics of LPC Chair, Laurie Beckelman voting on this matter in view of her past dealings with the Milstein Organization.
- Stuyvesant H.S. pedestrian bridge - The Chairperson testified at a CPC hearing and met with the Borough President. The Board holds that the bridge should be open from sunrise to sunset, year round. The current proposal is for it to be closed on weekends and other times when the school is not in session. Anne thanked the elected officials for supporting the Board on this issue.
- Youth - The Borough Board passed a resolution opposing budget cuts to programs.
- Site 5B/5C - The design of the building was presented at a recent meeting. A letter from CB #1 to Carl Weisbrod stating that the tower height is unacceptable was distributed. It has been reported in the press that the Mercantile Exchange is threatening to pull out of the project. Lloyd Merrill tabled a proposed committee resolution in light of this information. Jim Stratton is working on a plan which will address the needs of the community. The Executive Committee will continue discussions.
- Advised that Maureen Flatley was not in attendance due to the death of her mother. The board office has sent Maureen Flatley an expression of the Board's sympathy.

Committee Reports:

NOTE: SEE RESOLUTIONS AT END OF MINUTES.

Civic Center

B. Marks for L. Merrill

Public Session:

Joe Bajamonte - Seaport Community Coalition - Urged residents to get involved in defeating the current proposal for development of 250 Water St. by joining a letter writing campaign.

Committee Report:

The board approved a committee resolution recommending that the LPC deny the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed structure at 250 Water St. The vote was 21 in favor, 0 opposed with 5 abstentions.

Youth

R. Townley

The committee has organized a letter writing campaign to oppose budget cuts in youth programs. Five resolutions recommending support of applications for the funding of youth programs by the following

YDDP Community Share Funds
Educational Alliance West
Puppet Loft
Under One Roof
Marleen Pennison Dance Company

were presented to the Board for approval, even though budget cuts may subsequently be made. The board approved the recommendations by a single vote: 27 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Social Services

H. Harrington for M. Flatley

Public Session:

Rev. Win Peacock - John Heuss House - Discussed the crisis created by HRA's decision to cease funding of the entire drop-in center network. The network services 10,000 individuals throughout the City. Heuss House services 1,301 and provides in-depth services to 791 clients annually. HRA provides 81% of the cost of operating Heuss House. Trinity Church provides \$80,000; \$100,000 is contributed by other sources. The Port Authority's commitment was for the renovation of the building. Rev. Peacock requested support of the Committee's resolution.

Elyn Rosenthal - Chair of Advisory Board of John Heuss House - Discussed the wonderful work being done at the drop-in center. Clients cannot access these services anywhere else in the City.

Committee Report:

Madelyn Wils and Howard Harrington urged the Board's support of the resolution. The resolution, imploring the Mayor to dismiss HRA's proposal and to assure the continued funding of the drop-in centers, was approved. The vote was 29 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Battery Park City

L. Belfer

Reported on a Committee meeting with representatives of the U.S. Postal Service to discuss problems with pick-up and delivery of mail at Battery Park City, Delivery for Battery Park City is now being handled by the Bowling Green Station; however, processing is handled by the Church St. Station. The Committee requested a meeting with the Processing Operations manager.

Arts & Cultural Affairs

J. Dixon

Public Session:

Glancarlo Neri - Artist - presented his project to be temporarily installed at Canal St. and the Ave. of the Americas. The project, a light show, will be illuminated from 8:00 PM until midnight.

Committee Report:

The Board approved a committee resolution in support of Glancarlo Neri's temporary installation by a vote of 32 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

The Board approved a Committee resolution by a vote of 31 in favor, 0 opposed and 2 abstaining again calling upon the Department of Transportation to remove Linda Cunningham's installations from Bogardus Triangle and Finn Square.

Budget cuts are drastically effecting artists. State funds have been reduced by 56%; City funds by 30%. Many groups have folded. Help in this dire situation was requested; telephone calls and letters to elected officials opposing these cuts should be made.

Transportation & Uniformed Services

S. Coron

Due to noise complaints and violence in clubs specifically, "Club Shelter", 157 Hudson St. and "Club Sinta", 88 Reade St., they are being investigated to see if they are operating within the law.

New Business:

Rocco D'Amato requested that members volunteer to serve on the new committee he is chairing which will deal with issues and concerns of small businesses.

The meeting was adjourned.