

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD #1
HELD
MAY 16, 2006
MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE
36 BATTERY PLACE, BATTERY PARK CITY

Julie Menin, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Public Session:

Elisabeth Edelstein of the Museum of Jewish Heritage - welcomed everyone to the Museum.

Mary Cooley of Borough President Scott Stringer's office - discussed a letter to Schools Chancellor Joel Klein regarding an extended school day, as well as the Borough President's vote against the Jack Parker ULURP application.

Alyssa Ziegler of Assemblyperson Deborah Glick's office - spoke about a hearing on phony demolition, including tenants' eviction.

Siv Paumgarten - announced that Citibabes is a family lifestyle club in SoHo.

Sharon Wright, of Village Care of New York - discussed health care services for seniors and persons living with HIV / AIDS.

John Ricker of the New York City Comptroller's Office - provided a community update.

Sayar Lonial of Councilman Gerson's office - announced the upcoming hearing regarding Governor's Island, to take place on June 16, 2006, and discussed the issues of diesel fuel storage, opposition to the cell phone ban, the rezoning of northern Tribeca and nightlife security.

Business Session:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on April 18, 2006 were adopted as presented.

Chairperson's Report:

Julie Menin reported on the following issues:

The Section 106 lawsuit by Coalition of 9/11 Victim's Family was dismissed. The Amicus Brief prepared by the CB #1 Board members was very helpful.

The issue regarding the suspension of fundraising efforts by the WTC Memorial Foundation was discussed.

Ms. Menin will testify at Assemblymember Silver's hearing on Lower Manhattan redevelopment.

The New School Task Force was formed, and will be co-chaired by Paul Hovitz and Richard Kennedy.

Ms. Menin and CB #1 Board members met with Amanda Burden and representatives of Borough President Stringer's office to discuss the Jack Parker issue. David Rockwell will design a project on Nassau Street.

Ms. Menin testified at Councilman Gerson's education hearing.

Committee Reports:

NOTE:

ONLY RESOLUTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN REVISED / MODIFIED ARE ATTACHED HERE. PLEASE CONTACT THE CB #1 OFFICE FOR COPIES OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS

Nominating Committee

Linda Belfer verified the candidates running for office. Ms. Belfer announced that a Candidates Forum will be held on Monday June 12th at the Hallmark in Battery Park City. The Nominating Committee will meet on June 5th to discuss the rules and procedures for the Candidates Forum. Nominees must submit their profiles by May 23rd.

At this time, Julie Menin commented that Pearl Scher is very ill. She encouraged Board members to visit Pearl at the Hallmark.

WTC Redevelopment Committee

WTC Memorial and Memorial Museum resolution urging that the costs be capped at \$500 million and that the CB be consulted regarding any modification was approved by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

Catherine McVay Hughes also informed the Board that there were articles written in NY Magazine on the Memorial and in the NY Daily News.

She also updated the Board on a presentation to her committee by Michael Haberman, of the LMDC, regarding 130 Liberty Street and one by Richard Mendelson, Area Director of OSHA regarding practices and procedures for building deconstruction.

The CB approved minor changes to our earlier resolution regarding the relocation of WTC remains from the Fresh Kills Landfill. We still strongly oppose any efforts to reintroduce any debris from the landfill to Lower Manhattan but would not oppose efforts to pursue this project elsewhere. The changes were approved by a vote of 37 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused with minor changes.

The WTC Greenmarket asked for input from the Community Board regarding an alternative site during PATH construction. The committee suggested 1 Liberty Plaza.

Youth and Education Committee

Paul Hovitz reported that the cell phone ban in schools will be taken up at his next committee meeting.

Claremont Preparatory School has requested from the Community Board a support letter for the Commercial Revitalization Program benefits which we agreed to do.

He reminded everyone to attend the Spring Youth Fair on May 17th at Southbridge Towers 3 PM – 6 PM, he expects 30 providers. The committee would like to thank Joel Kopel for providing the fair with raffle items.

The committee adopted a resolution supporting efforts to install artificial turf at the BPC ball fields so that the fields can be better used by local youth and other organizations. They agreed, however, to temporarily table their resolution so that the BPC Committee could also deliberate on this matter.

Battery Park City Committee

The proposed closure on Saturday June 3rd of Vesey Street between West Street and North End Avenue, for a special event sponsored by the Society of Foreign Consuls was approved by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

Linda Belfer informed the Board that BPCA President James Cavanaugh, at a Ball Fields Task Force meeting, was not very receptive to converting the ball fields to artificial turf. He agreed to review hard data to back up this request.

Linda reported on a presentation on Site 2B and plans to create a Museum of Women's History in this space. The Museum has not raised funds and has no solid plans for the site. The committee expressed serious reservations about this proposal and will deliberate on it further at its next meeting.

A request for a traffic light on Murray Street, between West Street and North End Avenue has been made and the committee agreed that this location is used very heavily by pedestrians crossing and will send a letter to DOT requesting that a traffic light be installed.

Tribeca Committee

Rick Landman reported that the Borough President's office had recommended against the Parker Site proposal and now City Planning would have 60 days to review the application.

A resolution urging that affordable housing be a required component of any 421-A tax abatement buildings built throughout our district was approved by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

There is concern that the Jack Parker site is not instituting adequate abatement and demolition procedures. A resolution strongly recommending that The Parker Corporation demolition permits not be approved until the DEP and other relevant agencies review their clean up plan to ensure that all WTC dust and debris are safely removed from the site was approved by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

Resolutions regarding 179 West Broadway for an unenclosed sidewalk café for West Broadway Management, LLC / Landmarc restaurant; 3 Lispenard Street, wine and beer license application for One Japan Inc. and 378½ Greenwich Street, beer and wine license application for GSNY – SUBS, LLC were all approved by a vote 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

The Community Board approved the committee resolution to schedule installation of bluestone sidewalks along Leonard, Harrison and Greenwich Streets by the NYC DOT by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

The proposed street event for Jay Street between Hudson and Greenwich Street by Ethan Cohen Fine Arts on May 24, 2006 resolution was approved by a vote of 33 in favor, 4 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused.

Financial District Committee

Ray O'Keefe provided a progress report on NYC Transit's rehabilitation of the Wall Street Station for the 4/5 lines.

By a hand vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused the following committee resolutions were approved:

- 233 Broadway, The Woolworth Building, application for City Planning certification of open space equivalent within the building
- 170 John Street, liquor license application for JD Yankee Clipper
- 90 Fulton Street, liquor license application for The Firm Business Holdings, Inc., d/b/a Exchange
- Proposed street closure on Friday June 9, 2006, Murray Street between Broadway and Church Street by Independence Plaza Tenants Association for the Independence Fair
- Proposed street closure on Friday August 4, 2006, Murray Street between Broadway and Church Street by the 1st Precinct Community Council

The resolution for a street closure on Friday May 12, 2006, Murray Street between Broadway and Church Street by Chabad of Wall Street, was not voted on since the event took place before the Board meeting date.

Seaport / Civic Center Committee

By a hand vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused the following committee resolutions were approved:

- 72 Nassau Street, restaurant wine and beer license application for Zaitzeff
- 214 Front St., restaurant wine and beer license application for Calabria LLC d/b/a Rustica Pizzeria Corp.
- 24-26 Peck Slip, beer and wine license application for Slammers Inc.
- 90 Baxter Street, application for an unenclosed sidewalk café renewal for Jaya Malaysian Restaurant, Inc.

The following resolutions were approved to deny the applications requested based on the numerous complaints received on the past events sponsored by J & R Music World Inc.

- Proposed street activity on Park Row at City Hall Park between Park Place and Barclay Street by J & R Music on June 15 – June 17, 2006
- Proposed street activity on Park Row at City Hall Park between Park Place and Barclay Street by J & R Music on August 24 - August 26, 2006

Landmarks Committee

By a hand vote of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 0 recused the following committee resolutions were approved to recommend that the LPC approve their applications:

- 90 Hudson Street, application for a window replacement
- 177 Franklin Street, application to change the storefront, re-point bricks, restore the façade, remove and redo the rear of the building and add 1 floor
- 90 Franklin Street, application to replace an existing door and attach 2 signs near the entrance
- 53 Warren Street, application to replace a storefront on the first floor

The Board approved a resolution urging the LPC not to approve the request from 40 Walker Street for a 1 – story addition and to repair the façade until they have made a proper presentation to our Landmarks Committee.

Waterfront Committee

Linda Roche updated the Board on the status of the East River Waterfront project. She also noted that Todd Poole of Bay Area Economics consulting firm will be making a presentation to her committee next week on the East River Waterfront project and Rob Buchanan will be making a presentation regarding the beach beneath the Brooklyn Bridge and a proposal for recreation and open space improvements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.