

THE BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
C. VIRGINIA FIELDS, PRESIDENT
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE MINUTES
DAVID DIAMOND, CHAIR
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2004

Minutes of the regular Community Board #5 meeting held on **Thursday, October 14th, 2004, at the Fashion Institute of Technology, 227 West 27th Street, "A" Building, 8th Floor, 6:00p.m.** David Diamond, Chair, presides. The tapes of the full meeting are available in the Board Office.

Members Present

Scott Alling
Susan Baida
Vikki Barbero
Phil Beer
Nicholas Bergman
Muriel Bernstein
Angela Bledsoe
Aaron Block
Judith Breidbart
Candy Cook
Lorna Duff
Eric Gering
Nancy Goshow
Jason Mendelson
Howard Mendes
Kyle Merker
John Mills
Karen Newman
Michael Presser
David Rabin
Connie Ress
Meile Rockefeller
Doreen Seligson
Joel Sesser
David Siesko

Bonnie Williams

Present Part

Lola Finkelstein
Joyce Matz

Absent

James Collins
William Daly
Robin Hatcher
Brian Landeche
Carmel Reingold
Mickey Schwartz
Rosalie Shields
Sung Ae Song
Maxine Teitler
Craig Wilson
Lawrence Zucker

Public Members

Lee Silver
Jack Taylor

Public Attendees

Indira Orenstein
Richard Lobel

Eric Palatnik
Nathan Whiting
Jay Segal
Jean Shen
Brenda Levin
Stephen M. Evans IV
Emily Csendes
Matthew Frank
Rick Parisi
Martin Andersen
Morgan McLean
Marie Sepanski
Lisa Wager
Robb McDougale
Liz Meyer

Elected Officials

Tom Duane
State Senator

Lori Williams
Borough President C. Virginia Fields

Jordan Isenstadt
State Senator Liz Krueger

Michael Kay
Congressman Jerrold Nadler

Leena Krishnasnamy
Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney

Wendi Paster
Assembly Member Richard Gottfried

Danielle Porcaro
Councilmember Christine Quinn

A. Harte
Councilmember Margarita Lopez

Staff

Kathy Kinsella
District Manager

Cindy Perez
Community Associate

Stephanie Kirschner
Community Assistant

At 7:00 p.m., the Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board Five was called to order, David Diamond presiding.

PUBLIC SESSION

Gail Fox – Union Square Community Coalition – stated that there is a need for more public input into the development of the plan for the north end of Union Square Park.

Tom Duane – State Senator – read a proclamation from himself and Senator Krueger honoring District Manager Kinsella.

Edith Shanker – stated concerns regarding the redesign of Union Square Park and questioned the need for a restaurant concession in the park.

Bill Castro – Manhattan Borough Commissioner for the Parks Department – spoke of the Parks Department's support of the proposed redesign of the north end of Union Square Park and the plans. He outlined the proposal and benefits to the community and reported what funding was in place for the project.

Kenneth Gordon – Times Square Alliance – asked the Board to support the Times Square Alliance's application for a 100th Anniversary celebration.

Andrei Togareo – asked the Board to support his application for a liquor license at 230 West 30th Street.

Eleanor Zweizer – Landlord of 230 West 30th Street – asked the Board to support the liquor license application for JASL, who will be a tenant in her building.

Cliff McKenzie – asked for more public input in the design process for Union Square Park. He also stated his opposition to a restaurant concession in the park.

Karen Shaw – Union Square Partnership – described the public meetings that were held during the development of the design and stated that public input was welcomed and encouraged, and that there would be future public meetings. She also described the public funding and private donations that will contribute to the reconstruction.

Geoffrey Croft – spoke in opposition to the proposed redesign of Union Square Park.

Dan Golub – Representative from Assembly Member Gottfried’s Office – reported on the Assembly Member’s legislation to allow the expansion of the Javits Convention Center which divides it from the construction of a stadium, which he opposes.

BUSINESS SESSION

● CHAIR’S REPORT ~ *David Diamond*

Mr. David Diamond announced that the Committee’s search for a new District Manager was successful and introduced Gary Parker, the new District Manager as of November 1. Mr. Parker thanked the members for giving him the opportunity to work for the Board.

Mr. Diamond then announced that two Board Members have resigned from the board, Anna Vidal-Kaufman and Paul Connolly. He thanked them for their service to the board. He then announced that Susan Baida has agreed to chair the Human Services & Youth Committee.

He then announced the passing of former board member Hildy Parks.

Mr. Diamond also announced that the 14th Street Lighting project which was approved previously by the Board was adding more light fixtures. He also stated that MoMa held a meeting with the community to inform them of the progress of the project as it moved forward and to also discuss any concerns that the community may have.

● DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT ~ *Kathy Kinsella*

Ms. Kathy Kinsella thanked past and present staff members for their help throughout the years.

● VOTE ON MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER, 2004 BOARD MEETING

The minutes passed with a vote of 27 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Finkelstein, Gering, Goshow, Matz, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

● CONSENTS & VARIANCES ~ *MICKEY SCHWARTZ & LAWRENCE ZUCKER*

Mr. Mendes presented the following resolution on behalf of the committee:

The City Bakery

WHEREAS, The City Bakery has filed an application to hold a block party on Sunday, January 30th, 2005, on 18th Street, between Fifth and Sixth Avenues; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has agreed to abide by Community Board Five’s Street Activity Guidelines; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the application by the City Bakery to hold a block party.

The resolution passed with a vote of 25 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Finkelstein, Gering, Goshow, Matz, Mendelson, Mendes, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **OPPOSED:** Duff, Merker. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

Mr. Mendes then presented the following resolution on behalf of the committee:

Time Square Alliance 100th Anniversary Celebration

WHEREAS, The Time Square Alliance has filed an application to hold a “Time Square 100th Anniversary Gala” street activity on Broadway and on the sidewalk in front of the Marriott Hotel located at 1535 Broadway, on November 1st, 2004; and

WHEREAS, this “gala” will not be open to the public and will be contained within a tent to be constructed on the sidewalk and part of Broadway; and

WHEREAS, one lane of Broadway will be closed during this time; and

WHEREAS, the hours requested on the application are from 8:00 AM to 1:00 AM; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the application by The Time Square Alliance to hold the “Time Square 100th Anniversary Gala” on the sidewalk and in the street.

After some questions and comments regarding the size of the event, the tent, its obstruction to pedestrian and vehicular traffic and it not conforming to Community Board Five’s Street Activity Policies, the resolution failed with a vote of 10 in favor, 17 opposed, 2 abstentions, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Bernstein, Block, Duff, Goshow, Mendes, Mills, Newman, Presser, Seligson. **OPPOSED:** Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bergman, Bledsoe, Breidbart, Cook, Gering, Matz, Mendelson, Merker, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Sesser, Siesko, Williams **ABSTENTIONS:** Diamond, Finkelstein.

The following resolution was then presented with a motion to deny by Matz, seconded by Siesko

WHEREAS, The Time Square Alliance has filed an application to hold a “Time Square 100th Anniversary Gala” street activity on Broadway and on the sidewalk in front of the Marriott Hotel located at 1535 Broadway, on November 1st, 2004; and

WHEREAS, this “gala” will not be open to the public and will be contained within a tent to be constructed on the sidewalk and part of Broadway; and

WHEREAS, the applicant would not consider alternative suggestions regarding location (indoor) when offered by Community Board Five’s Consents and Variance Committee; and

WHEREAS, one lane of Broadway will be closed during this time; and

WHEREAS, this is an extremely high vehicular and pedestrian traffic area; and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five is concerned that this event will impede pedestrian and vehicular traffic in one of the busiest areas of the board; and

WHEREAS, the hours requested on the application are from 8:00 AM to 1:00 AM; and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five’s Street Activity Permit Policies clearly state the following:

- Street Activity set-up will commence no earlier that 9AM, and the strike of the event will be completed no later than 8PM.
- Sidewalks and crosswalks will remain unobstructed at all times, with at least 8 feet of sidewalk kept clear for pedestrian traffic.

WHEREAS, this application is contrary to our Street Activity Permit Policies, where time of operation and sidewalk obstruction is a concern: therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Community Board Five **recommends denial** of the application by The Time Square Alliance to hold the “Time Square 100th Anniversary Gala” on the sidewalk and in the street in one of the board’s busiest areas.

The resolution passed with a vote of 16 in favor, 10 opposed, 3 abstentions, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bergman, Breidbart, Cook, Gering, Matz, Mendes, Merker, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **OPPOSED:** Alling, Bernstein, Block, Duff, Goshow, Mendelson, Mills, Newman, Presser, Seligson. **ABSTENTIONS:** Bledsoe, Diamond, Finkelstein.

● PARKS ~ *PHIL BEER*

Mr. Beer presented the following resolution:

Reconstruction of the North end of Union Square Parks

WHEREAS, Union Square Park and the north plaza of Union Square are highly valued public spaces that serve many constituencies, including local residents, businesses, park visitors, playground users, the green market and many others; and

WHEREAS, Union Square has traditionally been a place for free speech and public assembly; and

WHEREAS, any proposal for the redesign of the park and plaza must balance the many uses of the park's constituents; and

WHEREAS, The Union Square Partnership has consulted with New York City Parks and Recreation regarding a potential redesign of the north end of the park, including the playground areas, pavilion and the north plaza; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these consultations, Union Square Partnership has contracted Michael Van Valkenberg Landscape Architects to develop potential design concepts for the north end of the park and the plaza; and

WHEREAS, as part of the design process, USP sponsored numerous meetings with local residents, businesses, park users and interested community organizations to solicit input into the design; and

WHEREAS, a conceptual design was presented to Community Board Five at a public meeting with over 100 attendees on Monday, October 4, 2004; and

WHEREAS, elements of the conceptual (not final) design include the following:

Playground

- Consolidate two existing play spaces into one continuous, enlarged playground (enlarged by a minimum of 50%) with distinct age-specific play areas that encourage creativity through landforms, play equipment and open spaces
- Connect the two "lobes" of play spaces with a garden passage that runs underneath the café bridge
- Address safety and accessibility requirements and install safety surfacing
- Add restrooms including water fountains and changing tables

Northern Gateway Plaza

- Address its history as an urban gathering space by constructing an open and unobstructed plaza utilizing materials that are appropriate to its civic character
- Ensure that improvements will enhance the vitality of the Greenmarket
- Coordinate construction to minimize interference with the Greenmarket
- Mark the north edge of the plaza with a planted perimeter with possible additional shaded public seating locations and improved pedestrian access
- Integrate the plaza perimeter with the park as a continuation of the southwest corner renovation
- Consider any recommendations from the Department of Transportation regarding the implementation of traffic and pedestrian improvements resulting from a study currently underway

Concession (year round café)

- Restoration of the pavilion with the main entrance on the south side, and seasonal outdoor seating in the plaza in the area of the statue of Abraham Lincoln
- Building an elevated entry into the café for improved connections of the playground and integrating overlapping elements

- Hood, waste removal and delivery entrance positioned with little visual impact, minimal space requirements as well as keeping with park's aesthetics

Parks and Recreation Office and Storage

- Utilize unused and new space to the west of the pavilion and underneath the pavilion for offices and storage for maintenance and equipment, and;

WHEREAS, the proposal calls for the use of the Pavilion as a year round concession, and Community Board Five, traditionally, has been concerned with commercial concessions and their accompanying signage in public parks; and

WHEREAS, the Board is also concerned with the possible elimination of tables and chairs for public seating in the concession area; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has agreed to look closely at all prudent options for increasing public seating both portable and fixed; and

WHEREAS, any concession would go through an RFP review process and the board requests an opportunity to opine on the draft RFP prior to its release, as was done in that case of the Madison Square Park Food Kiosk; and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five has long identified the need for expanded play space in Union Square Park and the conceptual design addresses that issue; and

WHEREAS, the design is in its conceptual phase only and NYC Parks and Recreation will be bringing the conceptual design to the Art Commission for preliminary review; and

WHEREAS, the above agencies are interested in Community Board Five's reaction to the conceptual redesign and have solicited its comments; and

WHEREAS specific design elements will be brought back to the Board for comment prior to the final design; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That Community Board Five **supports** the concept of redesigning the north end of Union Square Park and the Plaza as described above; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Community Board Five looks forward to opining on specific elements of the design proposal as they develop.

After some questions and comments, the resolution passed with a vote of 20 in favor, 5 opposed, 2 abstentions, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Duff, Gering, Goshow, Mendelson, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko. **OPPOSED:** Breidbart, Cook, Finkelstein, Matz, Williams. **ABSTENTIONS:** Diamond, Rockefeller.

● **LANDMARKS ~ JOYCE MATZ AND ERIC GERING**

Mr. Gering presented the following resolution:

4 West 21st Street, bet. 5th and 6th Avenues (Ladies' Mile Historic District), application to approve a new building.

WHEREAS, the applicant is seeking to build a 17 story, 113 unit residential building of 91,700 square feet (FAR 10) approximately 185 feet tall with approximately 105 parking spaces in the underground garage; and

WHEREAS, this property is located in the district recently rezoned to allow residential as-of-right development; and

WHEREAS, the adjacent buildings are approximately 13 stories and approximately 150 feet tall, therefore the upper four floors of the subject building will be set back so as to be minimally visible from the street; and

WHEREAS, a significant architectural study has been made regarding building scale and texture, cornices, string lines, fenestrations, bay spacing and infill groupings, and the proposed building expresses characteristics harmonious to the district; and

WHEREAS, alternating two-foot deep bay window arrangements in a checkerboard-like pattern are proposed for the facade such that there is an unorthodox design for the street elevation that some may feel atypical to the area; and

WHEREAS, the mix of modern elements and historical elements have been studied and balanced in such a way that the overall effect of the building's design will fit harmoniously into the district, acting as a good architectural neighbor to the street's other buildings; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the application for a new building in the Ladies Mile Historic District at 4 West 21st Street.

The resolution passed with a vote of 28 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Finkelstein, Gering, Goshow, Matz, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

Mr. Gering then presented the following resolution:

401 Fifth Avenue (Southeast corner of 37th and Fifth) (The Tiffany & Company Building – an Individual Landmark); Application is to request that the Landmarks Preservation Commission issue a report to the City Planning Commission pursuant to Section 74-79 of the Zoning Resolution to permit the transfer of development rights. Zoned C5-3(MID)/C5-2.

WHEREAS, The property is an Italian neo-Renaissance style commercial building designed by Mc Kim, Mead & White and built in 1903-06; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is seeking to transfer approximately 172,000 square feet of development rights from 401 Fifth Avenue to 400 Fifth Avenue across the avenue in exchange for proposed enhancements to 401 Fifth Avenue of roughly 11,500 sf of new Spanish tile roof (which would not be visible from the sidewalk) and roughly 6,000 sf of new concrete sidewalk (although a bluestone sidewalk may be more historically appropriate), with steel faced concrete curb along 37th Street and granite curb along Fifth Avenue; and

WHEREAS, 401 Fifth Avenue has mostly been restored under a previous 74-711 action, the applicant proposes to provide a façade easement on the property in order to ensure maintenance in perpetuity and no future hardship in case of future new ownership; and

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes to sponsor landmark designation for 404 Fifth Avenue (at the Southwest corner of 37th and Fifth Avenue), a historic, yet undesignated, building from otherwise as-of-right demolition while demolishing 392 Fifth Avenue (at the Northwest corner of 36th and Fifth Avenue) another historic, yet undesignated, building; and

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes a slot in the Fifth Avenue street wall between 404 Fifth Avenue and their development (approximately 16 feet wide by 20 feet deep) creating an uncharacteristic street wall appearance for this neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the building proposed at the ground level of the development appears to be two buildings of distinctly different architectural vocabularies, neither harmonious with each other nor with the surrounding neighborhood, nor with the Tiffany Building; and

WHEREAS, one portion of the street wall building proposed is comprised of approximately three stories of sheer glass, which while providing a nice view of the Tiffany Building for the occupants of the development, would be startlingly inappropriate to the area; and

WHEREAS, the bulk of the additional 172,000 square feet transferred to the approximately 600 foot tall residential tower on top of the street wall building would inappropriately upset the balance of harmony to not only the Tiffany Building, but to the Empire State Building two blocks to the south and the neighborhood in general; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board Five **recommends denial** of the application to request that the Landmarks Preservation Commission issue a report to the City Planning Commission pursuant to Section 74-79 of the Zoning Resolution to permit the transfer of development rights.

After a presentation of the elements of the application and an explanation of the 74-79 process, there were questions to the resolution regarding allowance for the transfer of the air rights from across the street about shadow and light impacts on the tower of 400 Fifth Avenue impact on 401 Fifth Avenue, the resolution passed with a vote of 24 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Finkelstein, Gering, Matz, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko. **OPPOSED:** Block, Goshow, Presser. **ABSTENTIONS:** Diamond, Williams.

The following resolution was then introduced on behalf of the Committee:

1-11 East 29th Street - Church of Transfiguration, application for a Certificate of Appropriateness

WHEREAS, The Church of the Transfiguration, also known as the Little Church Around the Corner, an individual landmark, at 1-11 East 29th Street, is applying to modify its areaway, entrance door, fence and two windows; and

WHEREAS, the Church of the Transfiguration is a Gothic Revival-style church building, built in 1849-50 and extremely well known and beloved throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the proposal is to move the leaded glass window and the stained glass window on either side of the entrance door; create new steps for the new entranceway, and extend the historic wrought iron fence – removing the non-historic part of the fence which was built at a much later date in the 1960's; and

WHEREAS, the changes appear to be appropriate to this historic little church and will not detract from its historic significance; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Church of Transfiguration at 1-11 East 29th Street.

The resolution passed with a vote of 25 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Gering, Goshow, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

● **PUBLIC SAFETY & QUALITY OF LIFE ~ VIKKI BARBERO**

The following resolution was presented on behalf of the Committee:

Joon & Her Corp. application for a liquor license on the 5th Floor at 10 West 32nd Street

WHEREAS, Joon & Her Corp. has applied for a liquor license for the 5th Floor premises located at 10 West 32nd Street; and

WHEREAS, the applicant owns and runs a successful Korean restaurant located on the first floor at the same address;

WHEREAS, Community Board Five has had no complaints regarding this applicant and the first-floor restaurant; and

WHEREAS, The applicant will be using the fifth floor for 20-25 patrons of the restaurant for the purpose of after-dinner meeting/drinks throughout the evening; and

WHEREAS, While, ideally, the floor directly above the restaurant would be the best location, it is noted that the second, third and fourth floors are leased by other establishments and only the fifth floor is available; and

WHEREAS, Although Community Board Five has concerns regarding egress to and from the fifth floor i.e., the elevator and stairwell, it is our understanding that egress is a matter that is reviewed by the Fire Dept. and must pass fire code; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has agreed that this space will not be used for anything other than the purpose specified above and will not be requesting a cabaret license; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the liquor license for Joon & Her Corp., located at 10 West 32nd Street - 5th Floor with the above conditions.

After comments regarding the feasibility of a 5th floor establishment, the resolution passed with a vote of 22 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Gering, Goshow, Mendelson, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko.

OPPOSED: Ress, Williams. **ABSTENTIONS:** Diamond, Mendes.

The resolution for 235-236 West 30th Street, Ground Floor – JASL Café, application for a liquor license was withdrawn by Committee:

● **LAND USE & ZONING ~ AARON BLOCK AND MEILE ROCKEFELLER**

The following resolution was presented on behalf of the Committee:

Application # N040260 ZAM, for an authorization pursuant to Section 15-20 of the Zoning Resolution to permit the waiver of the requirement to preserve commercial use on the second and third floors at 40 East 20th Street.

WHEREAS, the 40 East 20 Street is located in the Ladies Mile Historic District, and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five and the Landmarks Preservation Commission have previously approved a Restrictive Declaration detailing a preservation and maintenance plan for the facade; and

WHEREAS, the building is located in an M1-5 zoning district, in which the City Planning Commission may authorize a waiver of the requirement of Section 15-21 of the Zoning Resolution that a portion of the building be preserved for commercial or manufacturing use; and

WHEREAS, the building is seven stories and contains approximately 14,290 square feet, and while the upper four floors had been used as an Interim Multiple Dwelling under the Loft Law, the rights of the tenants of the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh floors have been purchased, and the building is now vacant above the ground floor; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant desires to create five residential units on floors two through seven of the building; and

WHEREAS, a previous Building Permit allowing the conversion of all the floors was issued in error by the Building Departments and, in reliance on that permit, the Applicant had commenced construction, which construction has now been stopped; and

WHEREAS, although the Committee expressed concern over piecemeal zoning conversions to residential use, due to the few number of units proposed and the largely residential character of the block the conversion will have minimal *negative* impact; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Community Board Five **recommends approval** of the Authorization permitting conversion of all floors above the ground floor to residential use.

After some discussion and amendment (see italic), the resolution passed with a vote of 23 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Goshow, Mendelson, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **OPPOSED:** Gering. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

● HUMAN SERVICES & YOUTH ~ *PAUL CONNOLLY*

The following resolution was presented on behalf of the Committee:

Assembly Bill # A08365 (Bing), to amend the education law, in relation to providing for library aid formula stabilization

WHEREAS, libraries provide essential services such as reading materials, internet access, after school programs and a comfortable place to learn and study and libraries serve residents of all ages within the community; and

WHEREAS, New York City, Queens and Brooklyn libraries have been subjected to budget cuts of \$5 million in 2003 and \$3 million in 2004 and the libraries budget represent a small amount of the overall state and city budget; and

WHEREAS, current library funding is based upon the 1990 census, which contains a lower population count than the 2000 census data; and

WHEREAS, legislative bills sponsored by Assemblyman Bing and Senator Farley propose to change the current library funding formula to one tied to the 2000 census data and with the stipulation that no district would have library funding below the 1990 census level, the New York City, Brooklyn and Queens library systems, gaining \$1.5 million; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board Five **supports** the restoration, of funding for libraries to pre 2003 funding levels, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board Five **supports** Assembly Bill # A08365 to change the formula for library funding calculations.

After some discussion, the resolution passed with a vote of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Gering, Goshow, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

● CITY SERVICE & BUDGET ~ *DAVID SIESKO*

The following resolution was presented on behalf of the Committee:

FY 2006 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities.

The Minutes of Community Board #5, Manhattan for October 14, 2004

EXPENSE PRIORITIES

1. **Department of Homeless Services:** Maintain full funding for rental assistance programs.
2. **Department of Homeless Services:** Full Funding for Shelter Assistance Programs.
3. **Police Department (Traffic Control):** Increase funding for additional officers to enforce traffic and parking regulations, prevent gridlock and control traffic that disrupts our district.
4. **Human Resources Administration:** Increase funds for employment services, domestic violence programs, and HASA services
5. **Department of Buildings:** Increase personnel funding to hire additional inspectors to deal with increased numbers of complaints since the implementation of the 311 central complaint system and to hire a staff person to coordinate agency information available on the building information services system.
6. **Libraries:** Increase funding to restore 6-day service.
7. **Fire:** Fund upgrades to communication systems including the repeater system for high-rise communication.
8. **Housing Preservation & Development:** increase funding for code enforcement, Anti Abandonment, Litigation, Loan Programs and narcotics control.
9. **Police:** Increase funding so that civilian positions may be reinstated, thereby putting more uniformed officers out on patrol.
10. **Department of Cultural Affairs:** Provide additional funding for program groups, cultural institutions and agency staffing.
11. **Police:** Increase funding for vehicle replacement of vehicles valued at less than \$35,000.
12. **Department of Transportation:** Increase personnel funds for planning staff, Borough Engineers and pothole repair crews.
13. **Department For The Aging:** increase funding for meal delivery services to eliminate the estimated 500 person per day wait list for meal service
14. **Parks:** Increase staff levels for maintenance and enforcement personnel.
15. **Fire Department:** Increase funding for community fire awareness and safety education programs including 911 simulators, coloring books and equipment.
16. **Fire Department:** Increase funding for smoke detector, carbon monoxide detectors and battery distribution.
17. **Department of Buildings:** Fund increases in anti-corruption and audit staff.
18. **Department of Sanitation:** Maintain funding for sanitation enforcement.
19. **Department of Building:** Fund additional training for inspectors and audit staff.
20. **Administration Children's Services:** Increase funding for foster care programs for adolescents.
21. **Department For the Aging:** Increase funding for the SCRIE program to allow the threshold for program entry to be reduced, thereby allowing greater access to the program.
22. **Department For The Aging:** Increase funding for service provider contracts.
23. **Dept. of Sanitation:** Increase funds for litter and recycling education school programs.
24. **Dept. of Parks:** Increase funding for street tree planting program.

CAPITAL PRIORITIES

1. **Department of Homeless Services:** Increase funding for the construction of additional residential facilities for homeless families and single adults.
2. **Fire Department:** Fund second Hazmat Unit.
3. **Department of Transportation:** Provide funding to construct pedestrian improvements and sidewalk widening in the Times Square, bowtie area.
4. **MTA/NYCT:** provide funding for a full-length Second Avenue subway.
5. **Parks & Recreation:** Provide funding for the reconstruction of the north end of Union Square Park, including expanded playground space.
6. **Parks & Recreation:** Reconstruction of Duffy Square.
7. **Police Department:** Include funding for construction of new 10th Police Precinct building (currently funded in out years) based on location of suitable site, subject to community review.
8. **Parks and Recreation:** Fund pedestrian improvements and permanent sidewalk widening at Herald and Greeley Squares.
9. **Fire Department:** Fund 3 additional mobile command posts.
10. **Libraries:** Fund centralized facility for circulating library and book return operations, branch cleaning operations and maintenance shops, security and shipping.
11. **Police Department (Midtown South):** Provide funds for the modernization of precinct elevator.
12. **Parks & Recreation:** fund improvements to Worth Square
13. **Parks & Recreation:** Provide vehicle and equipment funding.
14. **Libraries (Donnell Library Center):** Provide funds for the full renovation of the first floor of Donnell Library.
15. **Department for the Aging:** Provide capital funding for renovations to agency structures (senior centers) to bring them into ADA compliance
16. **Parks:** provide funds for the construction of public restroom facilities at Madison Square Park
17. **Libraries:** Renovation and expansion of Mid-Manhattan Library.
18. **Police:** Fund upgraded electrical system for Midtown North Precinct
19. **Libraries:** Increase equipment funds so that the second stage of the wide area network project to extend high-speed communications to desktops can be specifically funded.
20. **Libraries:** System wide replacement of Checkpoint Book theft detection System.
21. **Libraries:** Provide funding for the restoration of building-wide domestic water system at 42nd Street main library.
22. **Housing Preservation and Development:** fund capital loan programs for systemic building repairs and gut rehabs
23. **Libraries:** Upgrade system-wide telecommunications center at the Donnell branch.
24. **Libraries:** Funding for the renovation of support space at the Humanities & Social Sciences library.
25. **Libraries:** Fund the renovation of the Berg rare books room.
26. **Libraries:** Fund exhibition lighting and cases for Salomon gallery.
27. **D.E.P.:** Purchase lands around reservoirs for security of water supply.
28. **Fire:** Fund purchase and installation of emergency power backup generators for firehouses.

29. **Police:** Fund improvements to communication system and necessary replacements.

30. **Police:** Provide funds to meet needs of the vehicle replacement program.

CONTINUING SUPPORT: CAPITAL

Dept. of Environmental Protection: Reconstruct and rehabilitate sewers.

Dept. of Design and Construction: Columbus Circle/Eighth Avenue reconstruction project.

Dept of Design and Construction: Repairs and correction of settlement around Madison Avenue, 58th, 59th and Fifth Avenue quadrangle.

Libraries: Fund system-wide replacements of computer terminals with networked PCs, including general branch and research desktop technology replacement and upgrade.

Libraries: Upgrade temperature and humidity control system for main stacks (Central Library).

Human Resources Administration: Upgrade Job Center's office space and data processing equipment

The budget priorities passed with a vote of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, as follows: **IN FAVOR:** Alling, Baida, Barbero, Beer, Bernstein, Bergman, Bledsoe, Block, Breidbart, Cook, Duff, Gering, Goshow, Mendelson, Mendes, Merker, Mills, Newman, Presser, Rabin, Ress, Rockefeller, Seligson, Sesser, Siesko, Williams. **ABSTENTION:** Diamond.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Maxine Teitler
Secretary