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THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX  
P.O. BOX 1672  
NEW YORK, NY 10159-1672

**CB6 Parks, Landmarks and Cultural Affairs Committee**  
**5/1/18 7:02pm**  
**NYU School of Dentistry Room 220**

**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Pamela Vassil (Vice Chair), Kathy Thompson, Gary Papush, Martin Barrett, Ronni White, Raj Nayar, Aaron Humphrey, Gene Santoro

Excused: Mark Thompson (Chair), Adam Hartke, Aissata Camara

Guests: Lou Sepersky, CB6; Jesus Perez, CB6 District Manager; Cody Osterman, CB6 Community Associate; Ben Jacobs, Council Member Keith Powers' Community Liaison; Dina Elkan, Solar One Director of Communications & Events; Emily Curtis-Murphy, Park Manager, Parks Manager at Solar One; Jim Morris, Partnerships for Parks; Wesley Hamilton, NYC Parks; Matthew Barhydt and Carla Kramer, Acheson Doyle Partners Architects

**Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda/Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Vice Chair Vassil called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Kathy Thompson made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Gene Santoro and passed.

Gary Papush made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April meeting. The motion was seconded by Aaron Humphrey and passed.

**Committee Business**

Agenda Item #1: Renovation of Epiphany Library façade. Matthew Barhydt and Carla Kramer of Acheson Doyle Partners Architects presented their plans for renovating the library's 1907 Carnegie façade, which has 1993 additions that include a brick stair tower and "greenhouse" entrance. Ms Kramer explained the issues that the renovation seeks to address. Among them: cracked and peeling limestone, leaking windows, a single combined entrance/exit in an uninviting recessed doorway, and poor interior traffic flow. The proposed solutions included: restoring the entrance to its original position, now the westernmost window, and adding an ADA-compliant ramp and restoring the original railing along the façade as well as period light fixtures; matching existing granite,

limestone, and oak features that require replacement or enhancement; repairing the rear masonry and window; replacing the recessed greenhouse with a glass tower whose façade will align with both the original building and stair tower and include an exit doorway that will connect to the stair tower and interior; and other slight revampings of the library interior to improve traffic flow. A lively discussion ensued. When asked about other possible improvements to the Epiphany library, Risa Honig, NYPL Vice President of Capital Planning and Construction, explained that the project budget precluded non-capital expenditures like added electronics. She and the architects noted that they have no official timeline yet for this project but affirmed that Epiphany library will remain open throughout the renovations. Several committee members expressed concern about the tree at the curb in front of the library, which will need to be moved; the architects and Ms Honig confirmed that they are in discussions with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) about exactly how to proceed and will keep the committee advised. Kathy Thompson made a motion for a resolution of support; Gene Santoro seconded. Martin Barrett called the question. The vote in favor was 9-0-0. Ronni White will write the resolution in time for CB6 full board 5/9, since the architects and Ms Honig are meeting with the Public Design Commission on 5/18.

Agenda Item #2 Report from DPR representative/parks manager Wesley Hamilton. Mr Hamilton summarized upcoming budgets for various projects at CD6 parks: \$3.5 million for Bellevue South; \$4.94 million for St Vartan; \$250,000 for O'Connor; \$250,000 for Tudor Grove? He also listed upcoming performances in the district's parks.

Agenda Item #3 Report from Partnership for Parks. Partnership Outreach Coordinator Jim Morris introduced himself to the committee, outlined the process and virtues of It's My Park Days, and sketched various projects in play. He also offered himself as an additional contact for DPR queries, which he can facilitate with his superiors like borough parks commissioner Bill Castro and chief of staff Steve Simon. The committee gratefully acknowledged his offer.

Agenda Item #4 Discussion of Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2020. As he has for years, Gary Papush took the committee through detailed explanations of how the district's budget priorities are organized, selected by each relevant CB6 committee, and then finalized by CB6's Budget and Government Affairs committee for presentation to the City Council. The committee will vote on its budget priorities at its June meeting.

### **Chair's Report**

The Chair's report was waived.

### **Old/New Business**

Under old business: Kathy Thompson, who chaired the subcommittee (herself, Gene Santoro, and Raj Nayar) dealing with the proposed rules changes from the Landmarks and Preservation Commission (LPC), reminded the committee that the subcommittee had been empowered in April to meet with LPC and write a response letter, signed by

CB6 chair Molly Hollister and committee chair Mark Thompson. The letter will be sent to LPC on May 2, since the comment period on the proposed LPC changes closes on May 8, and CB6 full board doesn't meet until 5/9. She introduced Gene Santoro, who briefly outlined the letter's context, tone, and concerns. There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

Gary Papush made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Marty Barrett and passed. Acting Chair Vassil declared the meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Minutes submitted by: Gene Santoro 5/2/18