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COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Public Safety and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Board Office

1664 Park Avenue (bet. 117th / 118th Streets)

New York, NY 10035

Present: Diane Collier, Derrick Taitt, Judith Febbraro, Danny Perez,
Aime Kyros-Pettrucci, Israel Miranda, Cora Shelton, Theresa Richardson
and Norma Ojeda

Absent: Martin Garcia

Excused: Diane Green and Frances Mastrota

Guest: Linda Rainey, Edward Franco, Larry Miller, Dena Toussaint, Richard
Toussaint, Yolanda Sanchez, Minerva Urrutia, Nina De Martini Day and
Elaine Brown-Diemand

The Chair Diane Collier called the Meeting to order at 6:05PM.

Presentation:

Elaine Brown- Diemand / Nancy Taylor – Raised concerns regarding the bus stop shelter and sign. They have been removed but they left the NO STANDING sign. The sign is in front of their residence entrance at 1240 Park Avenue. The tenants are subjected to ticketing when they load or unload their cars in front of their residence. Ms. Brown-Diemand and Taylor requested that the NO STANDING sign be changed to NO PARKING sign if the traffic department wishes to keep the corner space empty. This solution would accommodate everyone's needs.

ACTION ITEM

Ms. Cora Shelton made the motion to change the sign to NO PARKING in front of the entrance 1240 Park Avenue seconded by Israel Miranda. Motion passed unanimously.

Yolanda Sanchez - Street renaming to Raquel Villegas on 121st Street and Lexington Avenue. The committee raised concerns as to missing signatures from the homeowners, Church, Court House on the street. Ms. Sanchez indicated in her written presentation that Congressman Rangel and State Senator was in support but their support letters had not arrived in time for this meeting.

Ms Sanchez said while they had reached out to the street residential homeowners who were fully supportive, they would additionally reach out to the Ellendorf Church or the Courthouse. Ms. Sanchez will get the rest of the committee requested support letters and signatures.

The Chair, Ms. Collier said we are going to table this until September.

Nina De Martini Day- representing the stores and property owners requested to change 125th signage for delivery zones between 5th and Madison Avenue. Currently, there is a mixture of alternative side parking and multiple hydrants on that block. Ms. Day said there is also a mixture of residential on that block. A Fresh Food and Produce Grocery Store will be coming to that block with frequent deliveries. Ms. Day said every time this store gets deliveries they have to double park, which congests 125th Street. They request a signage change in the middle of the block so that they can have some space for trucks deliveries during the day so that they don't have to double park. The Salvation Army truck is another business that has frequent deliveries, and they also double park.

The committee raised concerns regarding the area given plans of the expansion of the 2nd Avenue Rapid Bus Transit, bike lanes and Special District rezoning. The Chair asked the committee if there were any delivery zones on 125th Street corridor upon which the response was current 125th loading/unloading are on 124th and /or 126th Street. The Chair raised concerns about establishing a precedent on 125th street on this matter.

Ms. Day insisted DOT would be receptive to the signage change since the city is seeking citywide congestion solutions in helping small businesses. The Chair asked Ms. Day if she wrote a letter to DOT with this request to which Ms. Day responded no to the question. Ms. Day said she wanted to approach the board first with her inquiry.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Derrick Taitt made a motion to send a letter to DOT inquiring about the plans for 125th Street East Harlem from 5th to the River and include a request for study of Ms. Day's signage change. Seconded by Israel Miranda. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint (AMAC)

Pictures of the area in question were taken and showed by the Chair to the committee. All committee members in attendance agreed that the April decision to reject "No Parking" request stood.

Ms. Toussaint inquired about the reason for the rejection. The initial April "No Parking" request was primarily for drop off and pick- up, and due to conflicting residents' statements, the request was rejected. The committee agreed to review again this issue last month upon a site picture review.

There are two areas (church and hydrant) before and after the house where drop off and pick and up can happen. Ms. Toussaint said they spoke to the church who will allow them to drop off and pick up. However, the neighboring residence with the hydrant has added a garage. Ms. Toussaint stated that there was overriding need for the request was to have private parking for their nurse and a medical emergency. They would not be allowed to park in neighboring spaces.

The Chair, Ms. Collier said that the committee stands by their April decision and this meeting's discussion review of pictures of the site.

Discussion:

P.O. Omar Edwards

The Chair, Ms. Collier initiated discussion among committee members regarding CB11 Public Safety committee response (if any) to the Omar Epps/25th precinct/PSA 5 incident.

While the committee raised a lot of concerns overall about the incident and particularly why a representative from 25th Precinct was absent from this meeting, the committee consensus was to wait upon NYPD's investigation results prior to issuing a statement.

The Chair noted that while there has always been a standing open invitation to district police representatives, she would extend an invitation to them for next meeting.

Adjournment:

A motion was made to adjourn by Israel Miranda, Seconded by Derrick Taitt and passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared and submitted by Norma Ojeda