

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES

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June 30, 2009
Start: 10:50 am
Recess: 10:55 am

HELD AT: Committee Room
City Hall

B E F O R E: TONY AVELLA
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Joel Rivera
Simcha Felder
Eric N. Gioia
Robert Jackson
Melinda R. Katz
Helen Sears
Maria del Carmen Arroyo

CHAIRPERSON AVELLA: That does mean everybody, including Council Members. I'd like to call this meeting of the Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises to order. First, let me introduce the members of the committee. Council Members Joel Rivera, Simcha Felder, Melinda Katz, Eric Gioia, myself and we also are joined by members of the Land Use Committee, which I know everybody is anxiously awaiting as well. We have one item on the agenda. That is the Lower Concourse rezoning. We had laid over the vote after the public hearing. Again, that means Council Members when I bang the gavel. Melinda, just so we can get through this. It would be appreciated and then you can talk afterwards. We had laid this item over because the application lies within Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo's district. She had some last-minute negotiations that she was working out. What I'd like to do is call upon her at this point in time to give us the status of her negotiations.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Actually, it's more defined as gaining a better understanding of what the rezoning of the

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2 Lower Concourse in my district would provide. It
3 is very clear to me after much discussion. I want
4 to thank you for your guidance and support. The
5 City Planning Commission, in particular Carol
6 Simol, who is a saint as far as I'm concerned, has
7 got so much patience and the staff at City
8 Planning, spent much time with me to help me
9 understand what the big picture is with regards to
10 this rezoning. One of the major issues was the
11 access to the waterfront that we now don't have as
12 a community and it would not happen unless this
13 rezoning occurs. It is the spirit of the big
14 picture and the potential for us to create an
15 incredible environment in my community that would
16 provide access to the waterfront that we now don't
17 have and some work with the Parks Department to
18 ensure that we get a beautiful park just outside
19 of the rezoning area and maybe some oysters
20 planted at the waterfront to help abate some of
21 the environmental issues that we're dealing with
22 in the community. So with that, I say I'm very
23 comfortable with the application and would urge my
24 colleagues to support.

25 CHAIRPERSON AVELLA: Thank you.

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2 Thank you for all your work on this item. Chair
3 recommends approval and asks counsel to call the
4 vote.

5 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Christian
6 Hylton, counsel to the commission. Chair Avella?

7 CHAIRPERSON AVELLA: Aye.

8 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
9 Rivera?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

11 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
12 Felder?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

14 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
15 Gioia?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Yes.

17 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
18 Katz?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: I vote aye on
20 all, with congratulations to the Council Members I
21 know spent many hours working on this project. I
22 vote aye.

23 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
24 Sears?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

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2 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: By a vote of six
3 in the affirmative, none in the negative, and no
4 abstentions, LU 1116, 1117, 1127 are approved and
5 referred to the full Land Use Committee.

6 CHAIRPERSON AVELLA: We have one
7 more Council Member coming up the stairs, so we
8 will hold the vote open for a few minutes.

9 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: Council Member
10 Jackson?

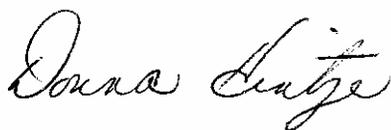
11 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote
12 aye.

13 CHRISTIAN HYLTON: By a vote of
14 seven in the affirmative, none in the negative and
15 no abstentions, LU 1116, 1117 and 1127 are
16 approved and referred to the full Land Use
17 Committee.

18 CHAIRPERSON AVELLA: Thank you
19 everyone, and this closes this meeting of the
20 Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Donna Hintze certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Hintze".

Signature

Date July 25, 2009