

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND
CONCESSIONS

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June 4, 2015
Start: 11:02 a.m.
Recess: 11:06 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E:
INEZ E. DICKENS
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Darlene Mealy
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Andrew Cohen
Mark Treyger

1 SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND
2 CONCESSIONS

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2 [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Good morning. I am
4 Council Member Inez E. Dickens, Chair of the
5 Subcommittee on Planning, Dispositions and
6 Concessions; I would like to welcome everyone to
7 today's hearing.

8 I want to thank and acknowledge my
9 Sergeant at Arms, John Biondo [sp?], my Land Use
10 Director, Raju Mann, Deputy Director Amy Levitan and
11 my attorneys, Ann McCoy and Dylan Casey.

12 I want to acknowledge my esteemed
13 colleagues who are members of the Planning Committee,
14 Council Member Any Cohen, Council Member Mark Treyger
15 and we've been joined by Council Members Vinny
16 Ignizio and Daneek Miller.

17 We are here to follow up on two items
18 that were heard in our last Subcommittee hearing on
19 Planning on Tuesday, June 2nd; these items were held
20 up in order to allow HPD and interested parties time
21 to research many of the unanswered questions directed
22 by my colleagues. I would like to note for the
23 record the sentiment of my colleagues that HPD needs
24 to work on communication with the council members.
25 HPD needs to be able to closely work with this

2 institution in providing a significant amount of
3 notification on all projects. In order to avoid
4 delays in the process, HPD and the sponsor need to
5 contact local council members well in advance, long
6 before a hearing has been scheduled. Working
7 together will serve in the best interests of our
8 communities and developers in protecting the
9 interests and needs of the residents of this great
10 city.

11 With that being said, the first item is
12 Land Use Item 233, small homes rehab, NYCHA program,
13 single-family homes, Phase 1, seeking a UDAAP and tax
14 exemption for properties located in Council Member
15 Miller's district.

16 Council Member Miller; do you have a
17 statement that you would like to say at this time?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Yeah. You know,
19 I think -- first of all, thank you, Madame Chair and
20 quite frankly, you so eloquently articulated some of
21 the problems that have been addressed that existed
22 that kind of convoluted the project, but you --
23 certainly have been addressed; I wanna thank you and
24 your staff for all your support; I wanna thank HPD
25 for really expeditiously stepping in and resolving

2 this issue so that we can get to the business of
3 really providing much needed housing to the residents
4 of Southeast Queens, so I wanna thank everybody
5 involved for that and I am prepared to vote.

6 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Thank you so much,
7 Council Member Miller.

8 The second is Land Use Item No. 236, the
9 Grand and Rogers Cluster, seeking a UDAP and tax
10 exemption for properties located in Speaker Melissa
11 Mark-Viverito and Council Members Gibson and Arroyo's
12 districts in the Bronx.

13 Ultimately, the projects that are before
14 us today have been examined by the members and
15 determined by their merit, because these projects are
16 of a sound proposal; the items we are voting on today
17 and we heard on June 2nd have the support of The
18 Speaker and the local council members, and I will be
19 in support as well. I am now putting these items up
20 for vote; I will now call on counsel to call the roll
21 on a vote to approve.

22 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Chair Dickens.

23 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: I vote aye.

24 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member Cohen.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

1 SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND
CONCESSIONS

5

2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member
3 Treyger.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Land Use Items 233
6 and 236 are approved by a vote of 3 in the
7 affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0 abstentions and
8 they are referred to the Full Land Use Committee.

9 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: I would like to
10 thank the members of the public, my colleagues,
11 counsel and Land Use staff for attending today's
12 hearing. This hearing is hereby adjourned.

13 [gavel]

14 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member Mealy.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Can I explain my
16 vote?

17 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Who's the hear...
19 Are you chair... she's... [background comments]

20 [pause]

21 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Council Member
22 Mealy; go ahead. Council Member Mealy, permission to
23 explain your vote.

24 [laughter]

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1 SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND
2 CONCESSIONS

6

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you very
4 much.

5 I still have issues with some of these
6 Habitat for Humanity, but I'm glad some of my
7 colleagues have changed their mind, so I will vote
8 aye on all. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Vote now stands on
10 Land Use Items 233 and 236 -- 4 in the affirmative, 0
11 abstentions, 0 negatives and they are referred to the
12 Full Land Use Committee.

13 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: The hearing is now
14 closed.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date June 9, 2015