

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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October 20, 2008

Start: 10:00am

Recess: 11:10am

HELD AT: Committee Room
City Hall

B E F O R E:
MELINDA R. KATZ
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Mathieu Eugene
Joel Rivera
Tony Avella
Charles Barron
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Robert Jackson
John C. Liu
Michael E. McMahon
Larry B. Seabrook
Helen Sears
Sara M. Gonzalez
Annabel Palma
Inez E. Dickens

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Daniel R. Garodnick
Jessica S. Lappin
Vincent Ignizio
James S. Oddo
Maria Baez
Simcha Felder
Miguel Martinez
Albert Vann

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: All right, every one. The first item is an HHC Lease. It is in Dr. Eugene's district, Councilman Eugene's district, 20095124HHK. It is Kings County T Building HHC Lease. The second is in Councilwoman Sears' district, construction of intermediate school, a 390-seat school. We don't have the location; 20085366SCQ. LU number 862 is Hopkinson/Park Place, Council Member Mealy's district. It's a motion to file pursuant to withdrawal by the agency. LU number 863 is a ULURP and a UDAAP for section 202 housing for the elderly; Council Member Mealy's district on St. Marks Avenue. LU number 880 and 881 are related. They are the St. George rezoning. It is an amendment to the zoning map to foster the future development of the St. George area. It is in Council Member McMahon's district. It is an amendment to the zoning map and an amendment to the zoning text. LU number 884, West Chelsea Historic District, Council Member Quinn's district; it is the landmarking of this historic area. LU number 892 is Morningside Park Scenic Landmark, Council Member Dickens's office; it is

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2 on 123rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue to
3 Morningside Drive. LU number 904, West 22nd
4 Street Garage in Speaker Quinn's district; it's a
5 special permit for an unattended public parking
6 garage. LU number 905 is TriBeCa North text
7 amendment, is in Council Member Gerson's District
8 and it's an amendment to the TriBeCa North mixed
9 use district. LU number 911 is a sidewalk café in
10 Council Member Avella's district. That will be a
11 motion to deny; so a yes vote is a motion to deny.
12 LU number 912 is in Council Member Vollone's
13 district. It is a sidewalk café called Cherry
14 Café Restaurant. Any discussion from Committee
15 Members first? Council Member Eugene would like
16 to make a comment on his application in his
17 district.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you
19 very much, Madam Chair. I just want to say that
20 as we all know there is a shortage of nurses in
21 the health area. And I think this has a negative
22 impact on the quality of health that people may
23 receive. And I think creating a nursing school is
24 a very important, very, very important step for
25 the community, for Brooklyn and for New York. And

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2 I think that not only this is going to fill the
3 need, the very important need of nurses that we
4 have in the medical field, but that is going to
5 create also job opportunities. And I'm very, very
6 pleased to see that the Office of the Mayor pay
7 for some teaching also. And this is going to give
8 hope and job opportunity and that is going to
9 create also expert nurses that New York needs,
10 that Brooklyn needs. And as a medical doctor, I
11 am strongly supporting this initiative. And I'm
12 asking all my colleagues also to support this
13 initiative and I want to commend and congratulate
14 Long Island University, which is a very, very
15 important institution in New York; and I am so
16 pleased so see this is going to happen in my
17 district. Thank you very much.

18 [Off Mic]

19 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Thank you.

20 [Laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I wouldn't
22 so you know - -

23 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Thank you,
24 Councilman Eugene. Any other comments, questions?
25 Call the roll please.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
3 Committee Clerk. Council Member Katz.

4 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye
7 on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN: Avella.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye on all.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: No on 884
12 and aye on all. Chelsea.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN: Comrie.

14 [No Response]

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
17 all.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN: Liu.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN: McMahon.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MCMAHON: I just
22 want to thank everyone who worked on the St.
23 George rezoning project. I don't know, are my
24 friends from City Planning here? But they did a
25 great job as well as the incredible staff that

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2 works with you guys in the Land Use division of
3 the New York City Council, the unsung heroes under
4 the leadership of Ms. Gail Benjamin and all those
5 wonderful people on her staff.

6 [Applause]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MCMAHON: We want to
8 say thank you, thank you, thank you. And I urge
9 my colleagues to vote aye. It's a good thing for
10 the people of St. George and Staten Island, and I
11 vote aye on all. Thank you.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN: Seabrook.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye on
14 all.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: Sears.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye on all
17 except LU 911.

18 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: No, go ahead,
19 but you need to say it's against what.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: It's the
21 Delano Café.

22 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Yeah. LU number
23 911.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: 911, I said
25 that, right.

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2 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Right, so can
3 you just say aye with the exception of, I vote no.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye with the
5 exception of Delano Café, 911.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN: Gonzalez

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on
8 all.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN: Palma.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all
11 with the exception of LU 884, I vote no.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN: Dickens.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN: Garodnick.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN: Lappin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes. I'd
20 just like to briefly explain my vote. As a
21 general rule I vote against landmarks that are
22 opposed, that the owner is opposed to. However,
23 due to the fact that 884 is an extension to an
24 entire district of which the vast majority are in
25 favor, and it's an extension, not a new district,

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I vote in favor. So I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Baez.

COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Felder.

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Has anybody seen
Councilman Comrie?

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: He's here? So
if the Sergeant-At-Arms could try to find him,
that would be great.

[Pause]

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Okay, we'll
leave it open for ten minutes because we also
have-- oh, Miguel's here. We thought you were
next door. Miguel Martinez.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
Martinez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ: Aye.

[pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all, I think.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member Comrie.

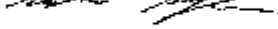
COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote on the Committee on Land Use now stands at 21 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions, with the exception of LU 884, which now stands at a vote of 19 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative and no abstentions, and LU 911 which is now dotted by a vote of 20 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative and no abstentions. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I hereby declare the Land Use meeting of Monday, October 20th closed at 11:10 a.m. Thank you.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Erika Swyler 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.

Signature  _____

Date October 24, 2008 _____