CITY COUNCIL CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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December 10, 2009 Start: 10:15 am Recess: 10:50 am

HELD AT:

BEFORE:

HELEN D. FOSTER Chairperson

Council Chambers

City Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Gale A. Brewer Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr. Council Member Elizabeth Crowley Council Member Darlene Mealy Council Member Helen Sears

1

## A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Theresa Scavo Chairperson Community Board 15

Vivian Singer Daughter Rabbi Joseph I. Singer

James Knight Eldest Brother Janice Knight

Eileen Lumis Swerdlich Aunt Janice Knight

Great-niece of Janice Knight

Darlene Mealy Speaking on Janice Marie Knight New York City Council Member

Sean Crowley Board Member Power Memorial Alumni Association

Andrew Pisani President Power Memorial Alumni Association

Jay Hays Chairman of the Board Manhattan Beach Jewish Center

Gale A. Brewer Speaking on Power Memorial New York City Council Member

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 3
2	[START 1001.MP3]
3	MR. JERRY STAFFIERI: December 10 <sup>th</sup> ,
4	year 2009, the Committee on Parks and Recreation.
5	Recorded by Jerry Staffieri.
6	[END 1001.MP3]
7	[START 1002.MP3]
8	SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.
9	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Good morning.
10	This is theouch, this is the Committee on Parks
11	and Recreation. We will be hearing Intro 1103
12	which is the Street Co-naming. We have quite a
13	few hearings going on so other members of the
14	Committee will be coming in. Our first panel will
15	consist of Theresa Scavo and Vivian Singer. If
16	you can please just go to the chair and before you
17	start your testimony, make sure you say your name
18	and title for the record, thank you.
19	[Pause]
20	MS. THERESA SCAVO: Good morning
21	members of the New York City Council. I am
22	Theresa Scavo, Chairperson of Community Board 15
23	in Brooklyn. It is an honor to be here today to
24	speak on behalf of a woman who devoted her life to
25	making our community a better place to live, taken

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 4
2	too early on December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2008, one year ago
3	today, Sheila Nelson, a wife, a mother, a sister,
4	an educator, a community activist, an animal
5	lover, and a friend to all.
6	Sheila was a special education
7	teacher, a Dean at Boody [phonetic] Junior High
8	School, a teacher trainer, the Director of the
9	Gifted Program in District 21, and Coordinator of
10	the Sigma Program and the Director of the Family
11	College at Kingsboro. She devoted over 34 years,
12	educating the youth in our community while helping
13	secure our future generations. Sheila was also
14	involved in many organizations such as Hadassah
15	and the National Council of Jewish Women.
16	Sheila received many awards. She
17	was named Woman of the Year in 2002 by the Highway
18	Democratic Club and in 2003 by the Brighton
19	Neighborhood Association. Sheila was a dynamo.
20	She fought for what she believed. She fought for
21	seniors and the infirmed. She also fought a long
22	battle with cancer, beating the odds for six
23	years. As a member of Community Board 15, she was
24	an advocate at all times for the underdog. She
25	was outspoken and worked diligently even when she

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 5
2	was fighting to stay alive.
3	She was headstrong and determined
4	in all of her efforts. She could move mountains
5	and would always go the extra mile. In October of
6	2009, Community Board 15 voted unanimously in
7	support of a street rename for this unsung hero of
8	our community. Sheila Nelson, a woman of beauty,
9	warmth and sensitivity. Thank you.
10	MS. VIVIAN SINGER: Hi. I'm Vivian
11	Singer. I'm the daughter of the late Rabbi Doctor
12	Joseph I. Singer who was the Rabbi in Manhattan
13	Beach Jewish Center from 1947 until his death on
14	March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2'04. I am most honored and humbled to
15	be here at the same time because it is a great
16	honor that even though my father was very humble
17	and modest, would probably be veryfeel very
18	worthy to accept, since he loved his community in
19	Manhattan Beach.
20	When he came to Manhattan Beach in
21	1947, the community is a 17-block community on a
22	peninsula. There was a small synagogue, Manhattan
23	Beach Jewish Center, which I believe now is
24	celebrating its $85^{th}$ or $87^{th}$ year. After a fire
25	that destroyed the original building in the 50s,

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 6
2	my father spearheaded a drive that resulted in the
3	magnificent center which you're all, I invite you
4	to see and tour as well as our community, a 3-
5	building edifice which houses the most beautiful
6	sanctuary probably in the City as well as the
7	catering hall which services the Tri-State area.
8	In addition to the synagogue there
9	is a 7-center which houses a Sunday School, a
10	Yeshiva, all the way to a Senior Center, funded by
11	the City, which continues up until today and a day
12	camp and many activities. While my father
13	believed that the Rabbi was a calling, he had
14	given up most of his salary during the building,
15	having been raised in California during the
16	Depression he was sent at the bar mitzvah age, 13,
17	to New York, to Yeshiva Y'ts Coch El Hanon
18	[phonetic] which later became YAU where he
19	obtained his high school, college, his ordination,
20	schema [p] and later he received a Doctor of
21	Divinity from Dropsy College.
22	Not only was he a Rabbi from
23	Manhattan Beach but he was interested in the
24	community. There were friendships of three and
25	four generations that continued through up until

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 7
2	his death and continue with me. Although
3	Manhattan Beach was an affluent area he also was
4	concerned about Brighton Beach where in those
5	years there were not very wealthy or there were
6	marginal financial indigent people living.
7	Often, and I learned this from
8	early on, the acts of Hassic [p] kindness, he
9	would arrange services for people not taking
10	money, and when someone died and couldn't afford
11	burial he would take his own money as well as
12	raise money. I recently found an IOU from a
13	teacher that borrowed money from him that was not
14	repaid. His acts of kindness which he did quietly
15	go on even now. I was told that a janitor of the
16	synagogue, when he came from Creole speaking, did
17	not know English, and I heard this story last year
18	at his Yertsai [p], my father gave him money and
19	said go enroll in English classes at Kingsboro.
20	He never took any credit for that.
21	He was involved in Kingsboro
22	College where he taught philosophy. He was on the
23	Board of Menorah Home. He retired at age 79 to
24	devote the editing of the monumental works of my
25	maternal grandfather which was a scholarly

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 8
2	biblical work. My father also was an author,
3	wonderful orator, which even until today I still
4	miss the way he could get up and just with dignity
5	which he personified deliver a speech.
6	My father was also concerned about
7	Manhattan Beach because during the 80s, I believe,
8	early, it must have been 70s, late 70s or
9	whatever, early 70s, 'cause when you get older you
10	forget dates, Mayor Beam came to the house because
11	my father behind the scenes was concerned about
12	something going on with the actual beach part of
13	Manhattan Beach and the area was resolved.
14	He also reached out to help
15	Russians. I was present one night when Bella
16	Olman came crying with the Oceanfront Council that
17	they need her son to get out of Russia. My father
18	placed a call to someone who had been raised in
19	Manhattan Beach who was legal counsel for Ted
20	Kennedy, next day, Ted Kennedy's office called my
21	father and the man was released several months
22	later. My father never looked for thank yous or
23	any honors.
24	When he retired at age 79
25	unfortunately he ended up going on dialysis and he

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 9
2	lived about 7 years. He continued to show the
3	same grace and even when I had to wheel him, he
4	loved Manhattan Beach. And when the community
5	Board honored him, when he retired, I remember his
6	words, I don't have to go anywhere to Florida
7	because I have everything. He continued to go to
8	the beach in summer at Kingsboro when he could not
9	he stopped. And I continued to wheel him to
10	synagogue and I continued to wheel him on the bay.
11	He loved everybody in the
12	community. And I, having only been raised in the
13	shore used to ask him who are these people and
14	he'd tell me who they are. It didn't matter
15	whether they were from his shul, whether they were
16	religious, whatever. If someone called on him for
17	a favor, he complied. His workday started at 5:00
18	o'clock to go to the first minyan [p] the service
19	and ended at 10:00 o'clock.
20	His work ethic of honesty, not
21	looking for praise, working hard, has carried over
22	to me because I've been at Brookdale since I got
23	my Master's and several years ago the hospital
24	appointed me a senior social worker. He is
25	continued to be missed in the community and I

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 10
2	think to name the street in the beginning of
3	Manhattan Beach where his beloved synagogue stands
4	is a tribute and an honor and I thank you.
5	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you
6	very much. Our next panel will be Eileen Limus
7	Swerlich. Thank you. And James Knight.
8	[Pause]
9	MR. JAMES KNIGHT: Good morning
10	Councilmen. Good morning and hello. My name is
11	James Knight. I'm the eldest brother of Janice
12	Knight. Janice passed away in December 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2007
13	due to breast cancer. Janice focused her energy
14	on making sure that the children of Public 235
15	received quality education. Janice knew firsthand
16	what a quality education means because she,
17	herself, was a student at Public School 235 when
18	our family moved into the community in the mid-
19	1960s.
20	In New York City, Janice began her
21	career in 1979 as an early childhood educate or
22	Starette City Learning Center. And in 1982 to
23	1988 she was a teacher for gifted prekindergarten
24	children at PS 235. At the District Office she
25	worked as an early childhood screening coordinator

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 11
2	for Community School Board District 18. She
3	became an Assistant Principal in 1995 and later a
4	Principal of Public School 235 in May, 1999.
5	My sister was an active member of
6	the Columbia University Writing Project where she
7	served as a facilitator and liaison for her
8	school. She actively pursued opportunities at the
9	district and community level to assure that the
10	young people become well grounded in literacy.
11	In 2004 she was nominated and
12	received a prestigious Kahn Fellowship for
13	Distinguished New York City Principals. Janice
14	was, excuse me, I feel that the legacy that was
15	defined by my sister for her tenacity, for her
16	excellence to provide opportunities for the
17	students at 235 is an example for the community.
18	And I would like to express my appreciate for
19	those who have supported the renaming of the
20	street sign in front of 235, an honor, and I would
21	like to say it will be a well remembered memory in
22	regards to my sister. Thank you.
23	MS. EILEEN LIMUS SWERDLICH: Good
24	morning Council Members, audience. My name is
25	Eileen Limus Swerdlich [p]. I am a product of New

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 12
2	York City school systems. I currently reside in
3	Stamford, Connecticut and I have just retired as
4	the Assistant Superintendent of the Stamford
5	Public Schools. I'm here in support of our entire
6	community.
7	My deceased niece, my nephew who
8	I'm so proud of and my niece who hasmy great-
9	niece who has joined us today to make an appeal, a
10	reasonable appeal, to honor the work and the
11	legacy of my niece, Janice Marie Knight. She
12	unremittingly worked for what we all seek in this
13	nation now, equity for all of our children,
14	resiliency for all of our children, so that this
15	nation may remain strong and heal through
16	education in some of the says we have recently
17	been hurt and in some ways bleeding.
18	Janice Knight as I know her was my
19	mentee. And so it is a very personal thing for me
20	to come today to share some of the inner workings
21	of this very diligent focused individual. My
22	nephew, others in the community, can go on and on
23	and I think you have on record the awards she's
24	received, the recognition she has received.
25	And I guess the best that I can do

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 13
2	today is fill in some of the flesh of that work.
3	And to share a little bit about the work of her
4	living and the courage of her dying.
5	Janice Knight died on December $30^{th}$ ,
6	2007. Her last day at work was just before the
7	normal Thanksgiving break. Her dedication and
8	stamina and vision carried her through until the
9	very end. She was there, present, through all of
10	her chemotherapy, through every day, she did not
11	miss school.
12	She went for her health session and
13	the next day was back in school. Why? The family
14	asked why. Because the children must succeed, was
15	always her answer. Her way of being, I guess, can
16	best be expressed by a poem that I have always
17	kept close to my heart and my work by Guillermo
18	Appolinaire [p]. And it simply says go to the
19	edge, he said. They said, we are afraid. Go to
20	the edge. They said but we are afraid. Go to the
21	edge. They went to the edge. He pushed them and
22	they flew.
23	The poem embodies the way she made
24	children and parents go to the edge to become a
25	unified community of learning. And the product of

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 14
2	that urging and pushing is now in doctors,
3	lawyers, journalists, family people who are
4	productive, health care workers who Janice, in
5	creating a community of learning, has enabled
6	people to stand and be productive citizens.
7	I can honestly say it's humbling
8	for me to be here today to be a part of the
9	democratic process. I feel so proud. And I want
10	to say that whatever your decision, whether you
11	decide to name this street or rename it, Janice M.
12	Knight, or whether you decide to rename it
13	something else, may I suggest that in honor of her
14	and her work, if it's not her name, let it be
15	Literacy Way, Literacy Way, as way of remembering
16	the fight that we still have in this country to
17	pay down the debt of equity and to hold up people
18	who gave all of themselves to increase opportunity
19	for young people, for families, for our nation,
20	when we think globally. I thank you for the
21	opportunity to speak and I also thank you for the
22	service that you give to the City.
23	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you
24	very much. We've been joined by Council Member
25	Comrie and Council Member Mealy from Brooklyn.

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 15
2	Would you like to say something?
3	COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I want to
4	thank you Chair and good morning everyone. And I
5	want toI would love to say thank you for being
6	here, the family. I asked them to come 'cause
7	this is important. Our youth in that community
8	need to see that literacy is something that Ms.
9	Knight was I mean adamant about. I read so many
10	things about her and I said wow.
11	That's what we need in our
12	community. We need people who care. People
13	through it all, she was sick and she still did.
14	And that's where you say it takes a village to
15	raise a child, she did that. And she exemplifies
16	what it's about to be an educator.
17	And I just want to thank the family
18	for being here and I hope this Committee will
19	honor her and our community to rename this street,
20	Janice Marie Knight. I would love way, but, it's
21	street. So I hope that this Committee can do that
22	at their convenience on this day or another day.
23	And I want to thank the family for coming. You
24	didn't have to. We could have voted on it and
25	went on.

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 16
2	But you knew it was important to be
3	here to let people know who she was and what she
4	stood for and what she lived for. That's the main
5	thing. She lived for youth, to educate, to help,
6	to mold a community.
7	And she did that as a principal and
8	I know Marty Markowitz our Borough President he
9	made sure that I say that, to let you know, that
10	he wants this name, this street renamed just as
11	well. And his office is doing everything they
12	could to hope that this can be a reality, that the
13	family would know that we appreciate her. And
14	thank you Chair.
15	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you.
16	Just the process, we're not voting it out today so
17	it's only testimony. But thank you very much for
18	showing up.
19	MS. SWERDLICH: All right. Thank
20	you Ms. Foster.
21	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Our next
22	panel is Andrew Pisani, did I say that closely
23	right? And Sean Crowley.
24	[Pause]
25	MR. SEAN CROWLEY: Thank you Madam

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 17
2	Chair. I just wanted to first start off by
3	thanking Gale Brewer and her staff and all the
4	work that they've done in supporting our proposal
5	to have West 61 <sup>st</sup> Street
6	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: (Interposing)
7	I'm sorry, I know who you are Sean but we need you
8	to introduce yourself
9	MR. CROWLEY: (Interposing) Oh I'm
10	sorry.
11	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER:for the
12	record.
13	MR. CROWLEY: Sean Crowley, Forrest
14	Hills, New York. And I'm with Chick Pisani, we're
15	on theChick is the President, I'll let him
16	introduce himself.
17	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Yep.
18	MR. CROWLEY: But we're on the
19	Board of the Power Memorial Alumni Association,
20	having been graduates of that fine institution
21	that was closed for some time now and like I said,
22	Gale, Councilwoman Brewer and her staff did a
23	tremendous job in supporting us as did the
24	Community Board in realizing that the legacy of
25	Power Memorial is something that needs to be

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 18
2	recognized by theis worthy of recognition by the
3	City of New York in this street naming change.
4	With that I'll give it over to Chick.
5	MR. ANDREW PISANI: Good morning.
6	My name is Andrew Pisani, and I live in Union
7	City, correction, I'm a Police Sergeant in Union
8	City, New Jersey. And I commuted to New York City
9	every day for high school and into college and
10	attended Power Memorial. And the history of our
11	school is very well engrained in the history of
12	Hell's Kitchen on 61 <sup>st</sup> Street.
13	The school started in 1931, moved
14	to the location on 61 <sup>st</sup> Street in 1938.
15	Unfortunately the school closed in 1985. And
16	throughout those years the school produced a
17	tremendous amount of viable, contributing citizens
18	throughout the City of New York and now throughout
19	the country. We have alumni who live as far as
20	London at this point. We're all over the world
21	basically.
22	Many famous celebrities have gone
23	to Power Memorial such as Kareem Abdul Jabbar,
24	Lenny Elmore, the actor Bruno Kirby. And we would
25	like our legacy to really live on because our

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 19
philosophy was that we've taken something
wonderful from Power, from that education, and our
philosophy is to give back.
And what we have now instituted are
two scholarship programs to the Irish Christian
Brothers Schools, one is at Rice and one is at
Wall Hollows. We are also in the process of
starting a third scholarship program and we want
to continue into a fourth and fifth, as many as we
can to show our appreciation to pay back to the
City of New York and, you know, to the Irish
Christian Brothers community.
And the philosophy was that you
entered Power as a 14-year old boy, a freshman.
You graduated a responsible 17 or 18-year old man.
And went on to do things and to always look
forward to giving back and to helping others. And
basically that's still our philosophy today. And
our alumni association now is about 2,000 strong.
And we meet three times a year in
the City at various events that we have all
throughout the year. And we feel that naming $61^{ m st}$
Street and Amsterdam Avenue, that little dead-end
street where we walked hundreds and hundreds of

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 20
2	times would be a wonderful tribute to our school,
3	to our alma mater, and not only that but we found
4	that a lot of our alumni when they come into the
5	City, it's like a magnet.
б	We always go up that street. I
7	know every time I come into the City I always show
8	someone, this is where I went to school, right
9	here on this corner. And if we were to see that
10	name on the street, I'm sure it would be more of
11	an incentive for our alumni to contribute more
12	into our scholarship fund which would then, you
13	know, help the worthy kids of New York. Thank
14	you.
15	MR. BREWER: So in spite of the
16	fact that we've been closed since 1985 we maintain
17	a very active alumni association, giving back, as
18	Chicky said, to students at Rice High School and
19	All Hallows High School and others. We plan to.
20	We have been very involved in the St. Patrick's
21	Day Parade representing about close to 200 folks,
22	wining awards as one of the top marchers in the
23	parade.
24	We take pride in that because we
25	take pride in our power, what Power stood for.

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 21
2	It's very important I think that the Power story
3	be told because it was a place where you came from
4	anywhere in the City and where diversity was
5	nourished and appreciated and the spirit of
6	brotherhood is something that unfortunately was
7	lost with that. But we keep it going in the
8	alumni association.
9	And we have a great group of fine
10	men. And one of them, notably, other than my
11	brother who did go there, Congressman Joe Crowley,
12	is the former speaker of the City Council, Peter
13	Vallone went to Power. So we like to know that
14	our men were active in the religious life and the
15	political life and the athletic life and the
16	entertainment field.
17	And they are the backbone of many
18	of our institutions, predominantly the Police
19	Department, Fire Department. Those names of
20	people who go on and maintain and keep our City as
21	strong as it is. So I thank you for having us and
22	appreciate it. We support this legislation and.
23	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you
24	very much. Thank you for taking the time out to
25	come testify. Our last panelist is Jay Hays; I

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 22
2	think that is supposed to be. Is it?
3	MR. JAY HAYS: That's correct.
4	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Okay. Please
5	just come to the mic, introduce yourself for the
6	record and then you can start your testimony.
7	MR. HAYS: My name is Jay Hays; I'm
8	the Chairman of the Board of the Manhattan Beach
9	Jewish Center. It's a synagogue where Rabbi
10	Doctor Joseph I. Singer was the Rabbi for a
11	period of 50 years. First of all I want to thank
12	the Community Board number 15, especially Theresa
13	Scavo for supporting this application and also the
14	community group of Manhattan Beach, led by Iris
15	Salterman [p] and of course City Councilman
16	Michael Nelson.
17	Rabbi Singer was a member of the
18	facility of Yeshiva University and Stern College,
19	earned both his ordination as a Rabbi and a PhD in
20	Philosophy and History. He not only was a
21	theoretical scholar but he was a man who possessed
22	a genuine understanding of the social climate and
23	religious needs of his contemporary generation.
24	However he sacrificed his academic career to
25	devote his full time to nurturing his community of

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 23
2	Manhattan Beach in the southernmost part of
3	Brooklyn.
4	He knew each member of his
5	congregation and he knew their capabilities and
6	what they could contribute to the synagogue. Some
7	were more religious than others however he would
8	nurture all facets of his members' personality and
9	see how he could make a positive contribution to
10	the synagogue. Of course one of Rabbi Singer's
11	significant achievements was leading the
12	congregation in the campaign to build a beautiful
13	sanctuary and not only that but a contiguous
14	community center building. Because Rabbi Singer
15	felt that a synagogue is not only a place for
16	prayer but also should be the center of social,
17	education and cultural life of the community
18	itself.
19	Amongst the things that Rabbi
20	Singer had achieved, quickly, was that the
21	Manhattan Beach Jewish Center had a summer camp of
22	over 700 children, had a young couples club. It
23	was an active and broad-based sisterhood. It had
24	a health club in conjunction with a gymnasium for
25	the community; had a fund-raising bazaar, had a

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 24
2	school for disabled children as well as a Yeshiva.
3	Just to give you an idea of his
4	dedication during the last few years of his life,
5	he was on dialysis for three times a week;
6	nevertheless Friday night he would give his
7	special lesson. And I would come home on a Friday
8	night after a full week of work and I was
9	exhausted. I'd say I don't know, I don't think I
10	can make it tonight. And then I would picture
11	Rabbi Singer, 85 years old, again on dialysis 3
12	times a week, I said if he can do it, I can do it.
13	And up until the last weeks of his life he gave
14	that Friday night lecture.
15	He was a people's Rabbi and
16	Manhattan Beach community itself was greatly
17	enriched by his career. And although as a
18	religious corporation we didn't get involved in
19	politics, the Mayors at that time, including
20	Abraham Beam would make his, would you say, a
21	customary stop at the Manhattan Beach Jewish
22	Center to see Rabbi Singer. And I just want to
23	mention that his wife, rather hiswell his wife,
24	Rebecca, who was his lifetime partner,
25	unfortunately prematurely died in the early 1980s.

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 25
2	She was his lifetime partner. And the slack was
3	taken up by his daughter Vivian who until the end
4	was an extremely devoted daughter and would wheel
5	Rabbi Singer to his class on those Friday nights
6	that I mentioned. Thank you very much.
7	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you.
8	We've been joined by Council Member Brewer. Yeah.
9	But you have time to say something. Of course.
10	COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Anyway I'm
11	just here. I'm Gale Brewer, representing the West
12	Side of Manhattan. And one of the ways that is
13	being considered today thanks to the Chair and
14	others is Power Memorial. I'm sure you've heard
15	from some of their wonderful graduates. It's a
16	place that has many, many memories for people.
17	And the fact of the matter is it is a place where
18	athletics and academics was always in tandem. And
19	I am really excited to know that the many, many
20	graduates who arehave fond memories of their
21	school.
22	We've gotten hundreds of emails
23	from as far away as Hong Kong this morning,
24	graduates who feel sad they can't be here but to
25	say that they will go back to this location and

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 26 1 remember the great academic and athletic education 2 they had at Power Memorial. So I'm delighted it 3 4 went through the Community Board 7. Nobody could 5 believe that it actually happened. And now we're delighted to have it go through the City Council. б 7 Thank you very much. 8 CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you. 9 And when Sean Crowley spoke, they thanked--he 10 thanked you for your efforts. And I want to thank 11 everyone for coming out today and sharing with 12 this Committee and eventually the City the legacy of a sister and a niece and a father and a Rabbi 13 14 and a community activist and a wife and of course 15 an institution. 16 Once it is voted out of Committee, 17 it is the type of thing that once we vote on it, 18 others that, you know, didn't even know Power 19 Memorial was once there or didn't know the Rabbi 20 or Mrs. Nelson or Ms. Knight, will be able to look 21 up at a sign. So thank you very much for taking 22 the time out. And it will be voted out of 23 Committee not at this meeting. So thank you. 24 There being no more testimony this meeting is 25 adjourned.

1	COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION 27
2	[Gavel banging]
3	[END 1002.MP3]
4	[START 1003.MP3]
5	[Background noise]
6	COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Helen Sears,
7	present.
8	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Do I have to
9	say reopen the meeting? You don't have to say
10	[Pause]
11	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: You don't
12	hear it. Okay. Sorry. Better.
13	COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Oh okay.
14	Fine. Okay. Okay.
15	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Oh wait
16	COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS:
17	(Interposing) Are we reopening it or just
18	Okay Helen Sears, here.
19	COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Elizabeth
20	Crowley, here.
21	CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Now I'll
22	close the meeting on Parks and Recreation.
23	[Gavel banging]
24	[END 1003.MP3]
25	

## CERTIFICATE

I, Laura L. Springate 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.

Lama L. Springate

Signature \_\_\_\_Laura L. Springate\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_December 16, 2009\_

28