



CB9M

16-18 Old Broadway
New York, New York 10027
(212) 864-6200/Fax # 662-7396

Parks and Landmarks Committee

MINUTES

- I. 12/07/2016
- II. Attendance: Joel Mentor, Anthony Carrion, Michael Wells, Antonio D'souza, Wendy Li, Simon Thoresen, Jonathan Thomas
Excused: Michael Palma, Dan Cohen
- III. Guests: See attendance sheet
- IV. Meeting Called to Attention: 6:45pm (No quorum)
- V. Meeting Called to Order: 7:30pm (Quorum reached)
- VI. Agenda Adopted without amendments
- VII. No minutes to adopt
- VIII. **Presentation:** *NYC Department of Parks and Recreation – Broadway Malls Association*
Broadway Malls renovations at 137th through 139th Street.
Renovations will address general improvements of existing conditions, new paving and low curb for accessibility/ADA compliance, new benches and game tables at 139th. Keep existing trees and introduce new plantings/ornamental shrubs/grasses in key areas, as well as improved irrigation. If approved by the Public Design Commission, this project should begin in the spring of 2018. This renovation will not interfere with MTA tracks and tunnels under Broadway. The Parks Department will adopt an aggressive watering schedule for new plantings, along with regular upkeep and care activities.
Committee voted unanimously in favor of the renovations.
- IX. Committee Reports and Updates/Discussion/Presentation
 - a. Landmarks Preservation hearing on December 6th to designate the Cathedral of St. John the Devine and its close as a landmark. In addition, presentations and testimonies were made for the designation of Morningside Heights Historic District. The committee voted unanimously to issue a resolution in support of the designation. Hon. Thoresen has volunteered to draft the reso.

- b. Issue Request for Evaluation for scenic landmarks for St. Nicholas Park, and extend Riverside Park designation from St. Claire Place to W155th Street. This extension will also include Harlem Piers. Initially Jackie Robinson Park was on CB9's 197-A plan for inclusion, will confirm with CB10 to get clarity on current status, and proceed with RFE to LPC. Morningside Park is also part of the plan, but received designation in 2008.
 - c. Members to update Issues Log for submission to DPR for action
- X. Old Business
 - a. Exploring options to continue discussions with owners/representatives of RKO Theater. Members are making efforts to contact building representatives and explore options to preserve the theater's interior.
- XI. New Business
- XII. Action Item(s)
 - a. (Parks) Letter of support Broadway Malls at 137th – 139^t Streets
 - b. (LPC) Resolution in support of Morningside Heights Historic District designation
- XIII. Adjourn: 8:45pm

Committee Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Joel Mentor