



COMMUNITY BOARD 9 MANHATTAN
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION AND PARKS COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 2, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Hon. Alexander Abraham Ximenes called the meeting of the CB9M Landmarks Preservation and Parks Committee at 6:44pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Co-Chair Hon. Alexander Abraham Ximenes, Co-Chair Hon. Kristina Maria Lopez, Hon. Andrea Brecker, Hon. Patricia Caldwell (late)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Excused: Hon. Marquis Bell

QUORUM

A quorum was established at 6:51PM with the arrival of Hon. Patricia Caldwell

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

Motion to adopt agenda with amendments to include update on St. Nicholas Park at 7:25pm.

Minutes not adopted due to abstentions. Tabled for next time upon further time for review.

SUMMARY

The Landmark Preservation and Parks Committee meeting focused on reviewing a wayfinding project proposal for City College of New York's campus. Michael Weitzner from Michelle and Weitzner Architects presented plans for new signage including pylons and wall-mounted signs to improve campus navigation, with the committee discussing concerns about materials, aesthetics, and community impact. The committee also addressed ongoing construction violations in the district and reviewed updates on park renovations, including the long-awaited 133rd Street playground renovation project which received funding but faces a multi-year design and approval process. The discussion included clarifying committee membership and aligning on procedures, particularly around the City College proposal vote and the management of agenda items.

PRESENTATIONS

CCNY Wayfinding Project

Michael Wyetzner of Michielli + Wyetzner Architects presented plans for a new wayfinding system at City College of New York designed to help orient students and visitors while complementing the campus's historic architecture. The proposed system includes directional pylons, building identification signs, and wall-mounted signage. Committee members discussed the materials, color, placement, and potential visual impact of the signage on surrounding residential buildings. It was clarified that the signs would not be illuminated and would remain within campus property. The committee also discussed the proposed gray finish, which was selected to be complementary to the existing architecture without competing with the historic structures. As part of the LPC approval process, the committee was asked to provide a letter of support for the project in advance of the September 29 public hearing. The committee voted to recommend that a letter of support for the proposal be forwarded to the Executive Committee and General Board for consideration and vote. The motion carried, with three members voting in favor (Hon. Abraham, Hon. Brecker, Hon. Lopez) and one member abstaining (Hon. Caldwell).

[Public hearing](#) scheduled for September 29

Building Name	Site Address	BIN #	LPC docket number
Administration Building	201 Convent Ave	1085670	LPC-27-02202
Baskerville Hall	240 Convent Ave	1084085	LPC-27-01769
Goethals & Compton Hall	1603 Amsterdam Ave	1084083	LPC-27-01767
Shepard Hall	229 Convent Ave	1084077	LPC-27-01770
Townsend Harris Hall	1581 Amsterdam Ave	1084082	LPC-27-01771
Wingate Hall	238 Convent Ave	1084084	LPC-27-01762

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

NYC Parks / St. Nicholas Park Capital Project

Tapashi Narine and Matt Genrich provided an update on the St. Nicholas Park playground capital project. The project is currently in the first stage of the capital process, which generally includes three phases: **design, procurement, and construction**. Tapashi shared information regarding the Mayor's capital investment plan and the NYC Parks capital project process. Community input meetings will be held as the project progresses, with construction anticipated in approximately two to three

CB9M Landmarks Preservation and Parks Committee Meeting Notes

Minutes respectfully organized and submitted with AI assistance by Hon. Kristina Maria Lopez

years. It was noted that the playground renovation presents unique challenges due to the subway infrastructure located beneath the park. The project follows community advocacy efforts to secure funding for the renovation.

<https://www.nyc.gov/mayors-office/news/2026/03/mayor-mamdani-announces--50-million-capital-investment-to-recons>

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-projects>

NYC Parks Updates

Matt Genrich provided updates regarding activities outside the district and noted upcoming movie screenings at Frederick Douglass Playground and Sol Bloom Playground.

Bloomingdale Playground / Recreation Programs

An update was provided on programming at Bloomingdale Playground, including programs for children offered Tuesday through Saturday.

Annunciation Playground

An update was provided on basketball programming and the Renew Crew's work painting playground equipment.

Jackie Robinson Park

Stephen Cunningham reported no new updates and noted the continuation of the **Movies Under the Stars** program.

Denny Farrell Riverbank State Park

Leslie Wright, NYC Regional Director, shared information about upcoming programming at Denny Farrell Riverbank State Park, including Gospel Fest, the Labor Day Concert, and Live on the Hudson. She also noted that the Fall Program Guide is available and encouraged community members to review the park's website for additional events and registration information. Wright also shared information about the monthly Friends meeting on the second Saturday of the month.

West Harlem Community Preservation Organization / Calvary Church

Karen Asner provided an update regarding the former Calvary Church property at St. Nicholas Avenue and West 139th Street and Edgecombe Avenue. She reported that the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) approved the conversion of the church to a coworking space without significant alterations to or removal of architectural elements from the interior or exterior. The project was discussed as an example of adaptive reuse. A reminder was offered to consider preservation projects within their broader neighborhood and historical context.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Flyer from Dog Run 142 shared regarding free vaccines on September 9th in collaboration with the ASPCA and the office of Assemblymember Jordan Wright.

OLD BUSINESS UPDATES

- Landmarks Preservation & Parks Committee event planning with a potential plogging activity supporting Harlem Historic Parks alongside local run clubs and trash pickup clubs.

NEW BUSINESS

- **June and July 2026 LPC Violations:** Hon. Caldwell volunteered to visit 302 Convent Avenue to document the awning and follow up regarding the reported LPC violations.
- **Gatehouse on Amsterdam Avenue:** Hon. Andrea Brecker raised the matter of the Gatehouse on Amsterdam Avenue and discussed opportunities for future use of the site. Council Member Shaun Abreu expressed support. Advocacy efforts include the Friends of Morningside Park and the Morningside Heights Community Coalition. The matter will be added to the next agenda for further discussion.
https://www.nycgovparks.org/pagefiles/132/Croton-Preservation-Interpretation__5bbe77fbd78ee.pdf
- **Reminder** to review FY28 District Needs Statement shared

ANNOUNCEMENTS The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 6:30PM EST.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM EST.