

Community Board 9

Strategic Planning Committee

January 24, 2023

Meeting Attendees: Carolyn Thompson, Pat W. Johnson, Maritta Dunn, Walter Alexander, Heather Jason, Jonathan Sinagub, Signe Mortonson, **GUEST:** Grace Kaste- Columbia Spectator, Isabelle Soifer – PHD student, Yuien Chin – Community Advocate Committee Chair – Victor Edwards

- Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.
- A brief history of the 197a plan provided to attendees - V. Edwards

- **197a Housing Goals**
 - Maintain/protect current affordable housing and increase “affordable” unit within newly constructed developments:
 - Expand the current historic
 - Reexamine area zoning (up zoning, zoning against big box stores)
 - Closely monitor the NYCHA conversion to private management companies
 - Increase awareness of free Housing Legal advice through Palante Harlem and Manhattan Legal Services
 - Negotiate “Give Backs” to the community from Developers, i.e. Construction Agrees

- **197a Community Business Goals**
 - Support local small businesses
 - Connect businesses with Columbia’s small business programs
 - Zoning against large box stores
 - Utilize Columbia’s MBA students for mentoring as described in the CBA

- **Educational Goals**
 - Monitor district school’s performance and graduation rates
 - Advocate for Skilled Trade programming within area schools
 - Promote availability of Tech Jobs curriculum within CUNY

- **Transportation**
 - Continue to advocate for an elevator at the 125th #1 line station
 - Explore the feasibility of an Amtrak stop at 125th ST and 12th Ave
 - Explore possible ferry service at Harlem Piers park

New Business: Marine Transfer Station (MTS) – Economic Development Co Chairs to update us on the Developer that was previously interested in developing the MTS

Elevator for 125th St subway station – Pat W. Johnson to update us on the progress of the elevator when information becomes available.

Harlem Piers funding to NYC Parks from Columbia – V. Edwards to follow-up with Steve Simon to obtain expenditure report