

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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January 18, 2011
Start: 10:40am
Recess: 11:00am

HELD AT: Committee Room - 16th Floor
City Hall

B E F O R E:
LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Inez E. Dickens
Daniel R. Garodnick
Vincent Ignizio
Peter Koo
Brad Lander
Jessica S. Lappin
Stephen Levin
Rosie Mendez
Annabel Palma
Diana Reyna
Joe Rivera

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
James Vacca
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams

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2 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Okay,
3 today is January 18th, 2011, this is a full Land
4 Use Committee, we are joined by Council Member
5 Maria Del Carmen Arroyo, Council Member Brad
6 Lander, Council Member Rosie Mendez, Council
7 Member Annabel Palma, Council Member Peter Koo,
8 Council Member Diana Reyna, Council Member Larry
9 Seabrook, the Majority Leader, Joel Rivera, I said
10 Brad Lander, Council Member Jumaane Williams,
11 Council Member Mark Weprin, Council Member Jessica
12 Lappin, Council Member Dan Garodnick, Council
13 Member Vinny Ignizio, and is that Council Member
14 Jimmy Vacca on the phone? Today we have a few
15 items to be voted on the calendar. We have
16 members that are trying to lobby for other
17 Committees that start now. We are going to ... I
18 don't know who's handling the docket or what
19 meetings are next, so we have ... there will be
20 meetings on fourteen, there's another meeting
21 right here, of the Rules Committee. There is Land
22 Use Item #LU267, North Side Town Hall in Brooklyn
23 Community Board #1, item #N110065 HAK, it's
24 approval of a UDAAP designation and project, it's
25 in Council Member Levin's district. He approves

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2 the project. Land Use Items #278 and 279 are
3 related, it's the low-density growth management
4 text amendment and commercial corridor rezoning in
5 Staten Island, Community Boards #1, #2, and #3.
6 Item #C110069 ZMR, the zoning map amendment to
7 regulate appropriate commercial development, and
8 with an amendment to prevent out-of-scale medical
9 facilities and daycare centers. It's within all
10 three Council Members' districts in Staten Island,
11 and they all approve of it. We have some
12 landmarks: Land Use Item #281, N110135 HQK, the
13 Jamaica Chamber of Commerce Building. All three
14 landmarks are in Community Board #12 and in
15 Council Member Gennaro's district. Landmark #282,
16 Jamaica Savings Bank, Item #N110136 HKQ, and #283,
17 Queens General Courthouse, Item N110137 HKQ, and
18 we have historic district in Council Member
19 Reyna's district, Ridgewood South historic
20 district, Community Board #5 in Queens, N110139
21 HKQ, and we have a motion to disapprove of
22 Landmark Item #284, Grace Episcopal Church
23 Memorial Hall in item #N110138 HKQ. We also have
24 the Bell Boulevard rezoning in Council Member
25 Halloran's district, Community Board #11,

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2 amendment to the zoning map to rezone existing
3 Bell Boulevard area, it's been approved by the
4 Community Board and Council Member Halloran, Item
5 #C080293 ZMQ. We have a couple of UDAAP's, or one
6 UDAAP, and I don't have my glasses, so I can't
7 read this here. 20115310 HAX, 2059 Bathgate
8 Avenue in the Bronx, Community Board #6 and
9 Council Member Rivera's district. So we have
10 everything on today's agenda. We would recommend
11 a yes vote on everything on today's agenda, which
12 would include a yes on the motion to disapprove
13 Landmarks Item #284. Does any member ... would any
14 member like to speak to any issue on today's land
15 use agenda? Seeing none, then we can move to a
16 vote. We'll have our counsel, Carol Shine, call
17 the roll.

18 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Chair
19 Comrie.

20 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Aye on
21 all.

22 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
23 Member Rivera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye
25 on all.

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COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: My
chair votes aye, I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member- -

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.:
(Interposing) Let that be all day, James.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Yes.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
3 Member Mendez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: No on LU
5 284 and yes on the rest, thank you.

6 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
7 Member Vacca.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
10 Member Lander.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Permission
12 to explain my vote?

13 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: So moved.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye
15 on all, except for Land Use #267, North Side Town
16 Hall, in which I abstain. That's a project I did
17 some work on in my prior job at the Pratt Center,
18 and I think it's wonderful and I don't have a
19 direct conflict, but I'll just steer clear of it.
20 So it's a great project, but I abstain on that and
21 aye on all the others.

22 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
23 Member Weprin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council

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Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I
apologize Council Member Williams. I vote no on
Land Use 282, due to the homeowner objecting to
the landmark designation.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
Member Barron.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Land use,
this is Land Use.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Anything in
the Speaker's district?

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: No,
nothing in the Speaker's district.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: The
aforementioned items are approved by a vote of- -

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Mr.
Chairman?

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I would
request permission to cast a vote today.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Oh, I'm
sorry.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: That's
quite all right.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: It's my
fault, my fault.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: It's
quite all right, it happens.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: I
apologize. Council Member Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I vote
aye, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Now while
we're waiting for a vote tally, I just want to
acknowledge that we have an esteemed former
colleague in the room, Council Member Herb Berman
from Brooklyn who's here, who's going to be
considered for the Lobbying Commission. And also
I want to remind you that this time of year you're

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2 going to be getting multiple requests for sidewalk
3 café permits. Please look at your emails from the
4 Land Use staff that will be coming to you, there
5 will be a lot of sidewalk permits, because they do
6 not calendar them through the year, they're mostly
7 calendared in February. So your staff is going to
8 have to do a lot and help Peter and the Land Use
9 staff with making sure that if you're interested
10 in a sidewalk café being challenged, you need to
11 respond quickly, or you'll lose your opportunity
12 to challenge. Correct, Pete?

13 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: One more,
14 Council Member- -

15 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.:
16 (Interposing) Oh, I'm sorry.

17 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: Council
18 Member Levin.

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet please.

20 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: Council
21 Member Levin, your vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye
23 on all.

24 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: By a vote
25 of 18 in the affirmative, none in the negative and

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2 no abstentions, the aforementioned items are
3 approved, with the exception of LU 284- -

4 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.:

5 (Interposing) Quiet please, while she's speaking.

6 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: ... which
7 is approved by a vote of 17 in the affirmative,
8 one in the negative and no abstentions; LU 267,
9 which is approved by a vote of 17 in the
10 affirmative, none in the negative and one
11 abstention; and LU 282, which is approved by a
12 vote of 17 in the affirmative, one in the negative
13 and no abstentions.

14 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: We are
15 going to hold this vote open, because Council
16 Member is here and she's upstairs, and I'm not
17 going to have Council Member Dickens kill me. But
18 she's upstairs in Leadership. Will somebody tell
19 Council Member Dickens that I'm trying to hold the
20 vote for her? So Health Committee members, please
21 go to 14, Rules Committee members, please stay
22 right here, we're going to do Rules. We're trying
23 to get Council Member Dickens here. The Rules
24 Committee, we can bring the candidates up for
25 Rules, so we can grill them for their two-hour

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2 grilling that we promised to give them, and ... oh,
3 I thought she was there. Is she in the building?
4 Is Council Member Dickens in the building?
5 Technically I can't hold it, she's got to come
6 now. Council Member Vann. Okay. Does anybody ...
7 well, he's out of town. Council Member Vann is
8 out of town. Has anybody heard from Council
9 Member Gonzalez or Council Member Halloran?
10 Anyone from Halloran or Gonzalez staff here? No.
11 All right.

12 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: No, I'm
13 here. Council Member Dickens.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on
15 all.

16 COMMITTEE COUNSEL SHINE: The
17 aforementioned items are approved by a vote of 19
18 in the affirmative, none in the negative and no
19 abstentions, with the exceptions are, LU267, which
20 is approved by a vote of 18 in the affirmative,
21 none in the negative and one abstention; 282,
22 which is approved by a vote of 18 in the
23 affirmative, one in the negative and no
24 abstentions; and 284, which is approved by a vote
25 of 18 in affirmative, one in the negative and no

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2 abstentions.

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CHAIRPERSON COMRIE, JR.: All

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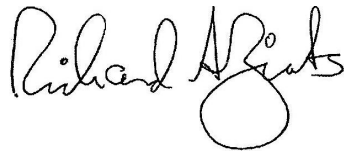
right. The Land Use meeting for January 18th is

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hereby adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Richard A. Ziats, 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 January 20, 2011