

**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007: Approximately 7:55 PM**

Community Board 7 full board meeting  
Place: the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York.

**Re: The CB7 Parks & Preservation Committee Resolution:  
Full Board Vote regarding proposed modifications/plans, by the New York  
Historical Society, to its existing building at 170 Central Park West.**

(Borough President Scott Stringer has been mistakenly introduced as Assemblyman Stringer, his previous title)

**Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer:**

Thank you.  
Please don't send me back to Albany.  
You don't know...it's ok, it's ok. (Jokingly)  
just a thought... no, I...

...but seriously, I wanted to come by tonight ...I didn't just want to come by when everything is calm and collected and mellow...but that really happens at this board.  
(*audience laughter*)

I wanted to come by and not make a long presentation because I really think that the community has to have the say here but I just want to make two points about the New York Historical Society

Point one is ...that back in the 90's...when I was in the assembly, the HS had great financial hardship and struggle.  
The Historical Society, in part, was bailed out by the Senate, the governor at that time, Mario Cuomo, and the state assembly and put together a package to keep the Historical Society opening...open.

That was not that long ago, and so there is a sense of taxpayers really stepping up in times of trouble. But at that time there were...there was a community on the west side that went to the aid of the Historical Society and worked as a community.  
Whether it was people on 77th Street..to the 60's...to the 90's...that this community fought very hard to save the Society.

And I just ask...actually I would say..that it's not about phase one tonight. It's not about the facade. It's about what comes next...  
and I would urge you...  
(*applause*)

I would urge you, based on history, based on when the chips were down, who sided with you...that this community has always had a belief and a special relationship with the Society, and the exhibits, and all the society means, not just to the west side, but the city.

So I am gonna urge you, and, eventually I will have a say in this process, insist that you take the opinions, and what people here tonight have to say because they, not only reflect their own opinions, but they reflect the opinions of people who have been strong, strong advocates for the future viability of the historical society, including myself.

And that's really what I wanted to come here to say.  
I will come back at a later date to talk about other issues that impact the west side of Manhattan and I just hope you enjoy the presentation of our fellow who, uh, had an exam and couldn't stay on the landmarking and that is community board empowerment, and with these young people every time they make a presentation, and they do something, it just gets me going.  
I think it's just great.

So on that note, Historical Society, this is the message and, uh, I know everyone else will have somewhat of an opinion as well,  
so thank you for letting me interrupt.  
And I will see you all real soon (?)  
(*applause*)

--end of Scott Stringer statement--

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Transcribed by **Joseph Bolanos**, President; Landmark 76-the West 76th Street Park Block Association.  
[Josephb@Landmark76.org](mailto:Josephb@Landmark76.org) TEL: 917 549 5111