

# The Park West Tenant

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The Newsletter of the Park West Village Tenants' Association [info@pwvta.org](mailto:info@pwvta.org)

May 2010

## RGB: DECISIVE HEARINGS AND VOTE

The New York State Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) will hear testimony from tenants and landlords on Thursday, June 17, from 10 am to 6 pm at Cooper Union, 7 East 7th Street.

The final vote to determine lease renewal increases on rent stabilized apartments for the upcoming year (starting October 1, 2010) takes place on June 24 at 5:30 pm, also at Cooper Union.

The RGB consists of two owner members, two tenant members, and five public members—all appointed by the mayor without requiring approval by the City Council.

It is crucial that tenants speak and have a strong presence at the June 17 hearing and the June 24 final vote. The RGB needs to know how the increases will affect the lives of rent-stabilized tenants.

For more information and tips on preparing for the hearings, contact Tenants and Neighbors at 212-608-4320/[www.tandn.org](http://www.tandn.org), or the Metropolitan Council on Housing at 212-979-6238/[www.metcouncil.net](http://www.metcouncil.net).

**PLEASE ATTEND** the RGB hearing on June 17 and consider testifying. You don't need to be a professional; you only need to say how a large increase would hurt you, your family and your neighbors. **To speak at the public hearing, you must call the RGB at 212-385-2934.**

**PLEASE attend the final vote on June 24 too. Numbers count!**

## PWVTA Committee Chairs Appointed

President Maggi Peyton has appointed standing committee chairpersons for the 2010-11 year per our Bylaws, as follows:

**ACTION AND OUTREACH:** Clare Dockery

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Chuck Tice

**LEGAL:** to be named

**QUALITY OF LIFE:** Albina De Meio

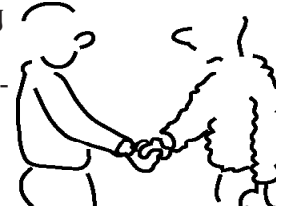
**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:** to be named

The appointments and reappointments will be presented to the Executive Board for ratification.

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Susan Santaniello reports that TimeBanksNYC is a citywide network of neighbors helping neighbors. The TimeBanking model relies on the strengths and assets of individuals to bolster the overall community.

It is an easy way for people to share their skills, spread their passions, meet neighbors, and support each other.



TimeBanksNYC is a free resource for connecting individuals who recognize that each person has talents to share, and that the overall community is strengthened when neighbors help one another with a wide range of services.

For every hour that a TimeBanksNYC member provides a service or shares a skill with another member, s/he earns a time credit for the exchange. This time credit can then be redeemed for a service from someone else, and so on.

Exchanging time and talents with fellow New Yorkers is easy. See [www.timebanksnyc.org](http://www.timebanksnyc.org).

## BEDBUGS & PARK WEST VILLAGE

Yes, the citywide infestation has reached Park West Village. We are gathering information on some frightening early reports and intend to see what is being done to alleviate the problem and eliminate it, if possible, right now.



If you suspect a local problem, please let us know. Write: [bedbugs@PWVTA.org](mailto:bedbugs@PWVTA.org), which redirects to our Quality of Life Committee for investigation and appropriate action.

You should also immediately report any evidence or suspicion of a problem directly to the management office at 792 Columbus Avenue, or call 212-222-5121.

See the PWVTA website [PWVTA.org](http://PWVTA.org) for a new bill by Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal to help, or see <http://manhattan.about.com/od/citylife1/a/bedbugsbites.htm> for a report that helps explain the problem and what we can do now.

## 788 Col Ave Elects Reps

The 788 Columbus Avenue building meeting on May 17 comprised some thirty residents who made the effort to meet in the lobby for the annual election of Building Reps and Alternates as follows:

New Building Representatives: Lois Hoffmann, Mike Johnson, Roy Rachamimov; new Building Alternates: Vivian Dee, Jean Mulligan.

A building captain has yet to be identified; additional floor captains can volunteer by writing 788ColAve@PWVTA.org.

## 792 Col Ave Elects Reps

792 Columbus Avenue held a building meeting on May 12, with about twenty people attending.

The destined use of the parking lot, the proposed dog run, and the upcoming RGB hearings were discussed. Clare Dockery, Lucille Donte and Jerilyn O'Neill are Building Reps, with Bernice Gordon and Cheryl Strong serving as Alternates.

## 372 CPW BUILDING MEETING

The meeting of 372 Central Park West residents for the annual election of three new Building Representatives and three Alternate Reps will be June 9, 7:30pm at the Brewers apt. 10P. Officers will also attend to discuss current building and neighborhood issues.

## LEGAL ACTIVITY ON LOBBY MCI

PWVTA attorneys had filed a PAR to dismiss the 25% of the Lobby MCI that was awarded to the owners (essentially for the entrance work).

The owners response on April 21 to the PAR led to our counter-response on May 19. Our papers claim that the owners misled the DHCR by not disclosing that there had been a prior lobby restoration denied by the agency, and therefore the owners should not get the benefit of any of the MCI claimed. Stay tuned!

**The PWVTA Executive Board** regularly meets on the third Tuesday of the month, except July and August (see PWVTA.org for info).

The next Executive Board meeting will be held Tuesday, June 15, 7:30pm, at the Ryan Health Center downstairs. Doors open at 7:00pm for cookies and community. PWVTA members and associate members are welcome to attend.

Produced by the PWVTA Communications Committee. Contributors: Albina De Meio, Clare Dockery, Lucille Michelle Donte, Dean Heitner, Emily Margolis, Maggi Peyton, Eileen S, Susan Santaniello, Chuck Tice, and Palmer Tome. To help report, edit, compose, design, or distribute, call the PWVTA Hotline: 212-662-2610, or write Commo@pwvta.org. Submit content articles to: Editor@pwvta.org

## WELCOME, NEW TENANTS!

The 784, 788 and 792 Columbus Avenue buildings — a part of Park West Village — are RENT STABILIZED. There may be a legal rent for your apartment that may be less than you are paying now! Even if you signed an agreement not to challenge your rent, that agreement is not valid.

For more, visit PWVTA.org, or call the PWVTA Hotline: 212-662-2610. You're welcome!

## JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS — RENEW NOW!

**PLEASE RETURN THIS MEMBERSHIP / ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP COUPON TO YOUR BUILDING REPRESENTATIVE OR MAIL TO:**

Park West Village Tenants' Association  
P.O. Box 20339, Park West Finance Station, New York, NY 10025-0339

Name: ..... Building: ..... Apt: ..... Phone: .....

Rent-stabilized tenant  Market-rate tenant  Renting from private owner  Owner Email: .....

Check for **2010 membership dues** enclosed, payable to PWVTA  \$40  Other\*: \$ .....

[Condo owner] Check for **2010 associate membership dues** enclosed, payable to PWVTA  \$35 .....

Check includes additional contribution to Legal fund. Amount: .....  Check for MCI Legal Fund only: .....

☆ If you cannot make full \$40 payment of your annual dues, please pay what you can.

Your membership card will be delivered to you.