

esnaEXTRA

The Bulletin of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association

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www.esna-nyc.com

[Fall - Part A - 2022]

esna 2022 VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING

For the third consecutive year, the presence of the coronavirus uncertainty caused ESNA to hold its annual meeting virtually; but with the hope that next year we'll meet again in person! If you missed the meeting, watch it at <https://www.facebook.com/esnanyc/> where you will see and hear President Barry Schneider's annual update on projects in the neighborhood, which was preceded by the warm welcome he gave to

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and tributes from elected officials. Ms. Maloney over the years has attended almost every one of ESNA's 31st annual meetings. While she will no longer officially be representing our congressional district, she said she would only be a phone call away and will continue to be of service to the community in whatever way she can. In presenting her with the ESNA Community Spirit Award, Barry recounted her years of achievement in Washington making



life on the Upper East Side that much more livable by championing such things as the Second Avenue Subway and East Side Access. In thanking Barry for the award, Ms. Maloney recalled her first ESNA annual meeting and said it has been a wonderful journey working with ESNA in getting things done for the neighborhood. Government is for the people and the people of ESNA thank Carolyn for her years of dedicated service to the community.

As Barry introduced other elected officials, each one echoed Barry's comments and paid tribute to Carolyn. State Senator Liz Krueger said it had been a wonderful twenty-year partnership with Carolyn and with ESNA, the eyes and ears of the community. Assemblymember Dan Quart picked up on the partnership theme, praising Carolyn's four decades of public service. Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright included Dan Quart

and Barry and Judy Schneider in recognizing leadership through partnership. CB #8 Chair Russell Squire added kudos to Carolyn. Representatives of other elected officials, Tiffany Brown for Mayor Eric Adams and Tricia Shimamura for Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine remarked on the work done and continues to be done by such dedicated public servants.

Recognizing that public services come in many forms, Barry Schneider presented the ESNA Community Spirit Award to **Inspector Melissa Eger**, Commanding Officer of the 19th Precinct, for her tireless efforts on behalf of the men and women of the 19th as well as her great friendship with the ESNA community in dealing with the many issues that affect the lives and livelihoods of the Upper East Siders. Barry reminded members that attending 19th Precinct NCO Sector meetings or the 19th Precinct Community Council monthly meetings were excellent ways to participate in addressing issues affecting the neighborhood. Barry then presented the ESNA Community Spirit Award to **Assemblymember Dan Quart**, expressing sadness that Dan



would not be running for re-election but thankfully would be headed in the direction of the judiciary. As a champion for the less fortunate, Dan's compassion and his dedication to the community, as Barry said, has never wavered.

New York City Council members Julie Memin and Keith Powers were invited to give the membership updates on legislative issues and future council action plans. Julie, who represents District 5, was excited to report on the passage of successful bills including universal child care, the first in the nation, which would allow women to get back to work after the disastrous effects of the pandemic; the creation of a portal for small businesses which would consolidate access to all

Continued on Back Page

agencies on one website; sanitation initiatives including emptying litter baskets four times a day and increased funding for street sweeping and rat mitigation. In the area of security, Menin worked with Inspector Eger to secure 31 new security cameras to be placed in the neighborhood including the Esplanade. Going forward, she said that she would continue to focus on the needs of small businesses in trying to reduce fines and penalties and giving assistance in creating websites for them.

Council member Keith Powers, Council District 4 has focused on housing discrimination and public transportation followed by an update on the city council redistricting issue. He was pleased to report that a chunk of the upper East Side which was threatened to be combined into a Queens district will not occur. And Barry thanked the very many ESNA members who wrote letters in support of keeping the District in tact. Keith went on to say that noise continues to be a quality-of-life issue and as such a package of bills to address construction, helicopter, and vehicular noise has been introduced; in response to a question from the audience, he said that a pilot camera program and increased fines were being implemented to address honking noise, but enforcement for vehicular noise would remain an issue. In the area of sanitation, he would be leading an effort for “zero waste” including trash composting, and would be addressing the issue of trash and outdoor cafes. To assist small businesses, he stated that he would be working on the repeal or reduction of the commercial rent tax on small businesses below 96th Street. He promised to keep ESNA advised of progress on the myriad issues concerning ESNA.

After the business segment of the annual meeting, approval of minutes, the election of directors, and the Treasurer’s Report, Barry Schneider gave the President’s Report: **Parks and Greenspace:** Honey Locust Park on the north side of 59th Street between First and Second Avenues has been refurbished and is now open to the public. Forty new trees will be planted in the ESNA community during the fall and spring plantings. The East Midtown Greenway is on the way to closing the ring of the pedestrian esplanade and bikeway that will fully encircle Manhattan. And, yes, Andrew Haswell Green Park, with its large, grassy lawn at the waterfront at 60th Street, will open to the public in December 2023! (See images on separate page, attached) **Transportation:** East Side Access will bring the LIRR into Grand Central at the end of the year. The M15 on First Avenue will have a new “offset” bus lane next to the curb lane and buses

will continue to pull over to the curb lane at the stops. Upgrades to the Queensboro Bridge are expected to be completed in December 2023, at which time the south outer roadway will be converted to a pedestrian-only walkway and the north outer roadway will be for bicycles only. The ADA-compliant MTA elevator at 68th Street and Lexington Avenue is scheduled for completion by the end of 2024. ESNA will continue to follow up and keep the neighborhood informed about proposed Congestion Pricing. **Construction:** The York Avenue Sewer and Water Main Project completion has been extended to 2024. To address the visual blight, PS 183 fifth-grade students will create artwork on panels that will be mounted on the green construction fences. Construction at the Schwartzman Animal Medical Center at 510 East 62nd Street will add 11,000 square feet to the existing 26,000-square-foot facility. The new Memorial Sloan Kettering Center 200-bed building at the corner of York and 66th Street will have a connecting sky-bridge to the main hospital with completion around 2030. Construction has topped out at the 347-foot-tall condominium on the northwest corner of 62nd and Second Avenue. **Sustainability:** To combat the effects of the pandemic on ESNA’s small businesses and to aid members to shop and dine locally, ESNA has produced two guides – the ESNA Extra Directories of the Best of the East 60s has to offer, both of which can be found under the heading Newsletters on ESNA’s website www.esna-nyc.com.

Before closing, Barry wanted to give thanks to Con Ed for taking a giant step to clean up and enhance the appearance of the sidewalks, the tree beds, and exterior walls around the substation on 63rd and 64th. And he went on to thank all the ESNA volunteers for whom we hope to have an in person Appreciation Celebration in the Spring. In parting, he said that ESNA strives to make the East 60s the best community it can be – a better place to live, to work and to pursue an education. And it is with the support of all of its members that together, we can make that happen. He urged everyone to get the flu vaccine and the latest Covid-19 Booster with the hope that next year we will be able to enjoy each other’s company, live and in person, at the 2023 Annual Meeting,

- Joan Fabio



For the list of new ESNA Merchant Members and a small photo gallery illustrating the President’s report, please see the ESNA Extra Fall - Part B -2022 accompanying this Newsletter.

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Gallery



Honey Locust Park



Entrance to
Andrew Haswell Green Park



Andrew Haswell Green Park
December 2023

New ESNA Merchant Members

Hendricksons

1122 First Avenue (61/62)
212-401-2441

Welcome to Hendricksons. An Irish American sports bar and a friendly new addition to the UES. We have seven large-screen TVs and a bar-friendly menu. Featuring every University of Michigan game for college game day and every major sporting event. Stop in for great wings, great staff, and an even better time. Open daily. Mon.-Fri. 10 - midnight; Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 2 am. Web address:

www.hendricksonsnyc.com

UME Sushi Asian Cuisine

1154 First Avenue (63/64)
917-261-7648

UME offers delectable, flavorsome Sushi and Asian Fusion cuisine. Our convenient location and wide-ranging menu at affordable prices make UME your choice for eat-in or take-out meals. Our menu offers a wide selection of Asian food. We use only the freshest, high-quality ingredients. Come and experience our friendly atmosphere and excellent service. Open daily: Sun.-Thurs. 12 noon - 10 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12 noon - 11 pm.

Sushi Yugen

1144 First Avenue (62/63)
646 449-9718

Recently opened in the East 60s, Sushi Yugen specializes in serving Omakase with most of the seasonal fish imported from Japan. (Omakase means a series of small servings or courses offered at a fixed price and whose selection is left to the chef's discretion.) Led by Executive Chef Tony San, Sushi Yugen has been regarded by Restaurantclick Magazine as "one of the 20 Best sushi places in New York" Web address: www.sushiyugen.com
Open: Tues.-Sun. 5 pm - 11 pm. Closed Mondays.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please Print)

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. No. _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Day: _____ Evening: _____

Email _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

• Co-op/Condo Owner	\$25.00
• Senior Co-op/Condo Owner (65+)	\$20.00
• Renter	\$15.00
• Senior Renter (65+)	\$12.00
• Townhouse Owner	\$50.00
• Commercial/Business/Professional	\$50.00

Membership Dues Enclosed \$ _____

Contribution Enclosed \$ _____