

*Women's City Club
of New York*

*Annual Report
FY 2009*

Shaping Public Policy ~

~ Improving Lives

WCC MISSION:

The Women's City Club, established in 1915, is a nonprofit, non-partisan, multi-issue activist organization dedicated to improving the lives of all New Yorkers. The WCC shapes public policy to promote responsive government through issue analysis, education, advocacy and civic participation.

WCC VISION:

While looking forward to the WCC's 100th anniversary in 2015, members continue to provide an experienced public policy voice in response to contemporary issues. Assisted by professional staff, these volunteers identify and remain informed about the critical concerns of the day, often seeing problems before they emerge and creating solutions that work for all New Yorkers. The WCC's members maintain working relationships with City and State legislators and are a sought after resource for policy makers. This model of informed activism has earned the organization the respect of the civic community and the attention of public officials who have called members "reasoned citizen-advocates who know the way to City Hall."

Unique among civic groups, the WCC is a member-driven / staff partnership organization. WCC brings together women of all ages who wish to learn about and advocate for public policies that impact their lives, their families, their communities and New York City. WCC members choose how and when they participate within a flexible and supportive structure.

For more information, please visit our website:
www.wccny.org

WOMEN'S CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK
307 SEVENTH AVENUE • SUITE 1403 • NEW YORK, NY 10001
TEL: 212.353.8070 • FAX: 212.228.4665 • EMAIL: INFO@WCCNY.ORG



WOMEN'S CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT
MAY 1, 2008 - APRIL 30, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WCC Mission and Vision Statements	i
President's Report	1
Executive Director's Report	3
WCC ACTS	4
Public Programs & Tours	13
<u>CIVIC COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	
Public Policy	18
Budget Task Force	20
Poverty Task Force	21
Health Issues	23
Housing & Planning	25
Infrastructure	26
Landmarks Preservation and the Arts	28
Women's Issues	29
<u>STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	
Archives / Oral History	32
Communications	33
Development	34
Finance / Financial Highlights	34
Membership	35
In Memoriam	36
Donors	37
<u>Board of Directors</u>	40

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a remarkable year this has been! Our nation and the rest of the world entered the deepest economic downturn of my lifetime. NYC's unemployment rate rose from 4.6% a year ago to 8.1% in March 2009.

The impact of the "Great Recession" was keenly felt by the Women's City Club. Member dues cover a fraction of our costs so we depend on fundraising for the balance. Contributions to the WCC declined noticeably during the second half of our fiscal year, while our assets took a large hit from a falling stock market.

At the same time, I firmly believe that our constituents need our advocacy more urgently than ever. As I wrote in the current issue of our newsletter *Agenda*, the WCC serves as a voice for those who have a hard enough time trying to survive and are too busy to "lobby" City Hall or Albany. In our Civic Fund appeal dated September 2008, I noted that the WCC counters the special interests that would benefit the few and speaks on behalf of "we the people."

Public Policy Impact: In response to New York's hard times, the WCC formed a task force which has just completed examining the New York City budget. At its April meeting, the Board of Directors approved a series of policy positions. Our next step is to vigorously advocate for their implementation. Taken together, they would attempt to minimize cuts in services to children, the aged and our most vulnerable citizens, temporarily raise revenue from those most able to pay more, and spread the financial burden as fairly and broadly as possible.

Our advocacy produced considerable results over the past year. These are documented fully in the section "WCC Acts". Among other outcomes, we won increased accountability from the NYC Board of Elections, reduced the harassment of women and achieved passage of the federal Fair Pay Act as part of a broad coalition. We continue to address reducing poverty. According to the Fiscal Policy Institute, 2,662,199 people in New York State live in poverty (defined as less than \$17,600 for an adult and two children). In New York City, the number is 1,547,152, or 19% of the City's total population.

You will see in the pages that follow the extent to which the WCC continues to tackle the tough issues that matter. I am very proud to lead a volunteer organization that throws its heart, soul, intelligence, and thousands of hours of time into addressing these issues in ways big and small to improve the lives of all New Yorkers.

Stellar Programs: As always, 2008-2009 featured extraordinary WCC public programs. I initially joined the WCC because my mother, who was already a member, had learned so much about NYC issues. She and

countless other members expanded and deepened their understanding as a result of attending our public programs and tours. Beginning the program year with Alair Townsend's Economic Outlook and concluding with "Living Longer, Living Better" featuring Dr. Robert Butler, renown CEO of the International Longevity Center, and Carol Raphael, President/CEO of Visiting Nurse Services of New York, our programs addressed the sub-prime mortgage crisis, gender equity topics, naturally occurring retirement communities, the new "Age-Friendly New York City Initiative," political news coverage, arts and education, infrastructure (who knew water and sewer rates could be so important to keeping housing affordable?), the greening of NYC, and more. The tours were equally superb sources of information about NYC, bolstering our knowledge about the hidden harbor, art installations in subway stations, the municipal archives, who uses the new marriage bureau (wow!), and more.

Other Accomplishments:

- The WCC launched a recycling project under the auspices of the Infrastructure Committee with generous support of HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- The Better Business Bureau's New York Philanthropic Advisory Service recertified us as an "Accredited Charity" in conformance with 20 standards related to financial accountability, governance, oversight, fundraising, and effectiveness. Our website proudly features the BBB seal.
- The Board met at length to address the WCC's deficit. Some changes have already been implemented. Others are forthcoming that will put us on a sustainable path to greet the year 2015: our 100th Anniversary.

Fundraising is a major portion of the president's duties. The annual Civic Fund appeal asked "Who needs the WCC?" It concluded that New York City does. The politically-themed *Farragut North* theater benefit coincided with the presidential election.

Our 20th Civic Spirit Awards Dinner at The Players Club honored three outstanding individuals: Annabelle F. Prager (Founder of InterSchool Orchestras), WCC Member Regina S. Peruggi (President, Kingsborough Community College), and Dr. Philip J. Landrigan (Professor and Chair of Mount Sinai School of Medicine Department of Community and Preventive Medicine and Director of Mount Sinai Children's Environmental Health Center). Presenting the awards were Kent Barwick, Fred Papert and Pete Grannis. Fourteen musicians from the InterSchool Orchestras entertained us following the reception and silent auction. WCC members turned donated food into centerpieces and contributed them to the West Side Campaign Against Hunger food pantry following the event. Many thanks to Benefit Chair Madelaine Piel, Honorary Chair Marian Seldes, and Co-Hosts G. Angela Henry and Marcy Syms for a memorable evening.

My best wishes for a better year to come.
Ruth E. Acker

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Each year, in my role as Executive Director, I prepare and write our Annual Report - a task that allows me to step back and reflect on our achievements. And each year, I am amazed at the volume and quality of work produced by our dedicated staff, in partnership with our membership. I recognize, with great appreciation, the fine work, resourcefulness, problem-solving skills and collective sense of humor of:

* MALAIKAH ABDULE-RAHMAAN, Office Assistant

* RAOLAT ABIOLA, Program Coordinator

ALEXANDRA FAIRWEATHER, Columbia University Intern

TERESA LAMB, Special Projects Administrator (part-time)

MORGAN PFAELZER, Webmaster (consultant)

KURT RICHWERGER, Bookkeeper (part-time)

JORGE RUIZ, Membership and Development Coordinator

DINA SCHWEITZER, Administrative Assistant (part-time)

* RACHELLE SUISSA, Program Coordinator

THEODORA ZIONGAS, Special Projects Administrator (part-time)

** Former Staff*

This year also brought to mind the late Gilda Radner, of Saturday Night Live fame, who summed up in a few eloquent words what it takes most of us a lifetime to learn: "Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next." She called this depiction of life, "Delicious Ambiguity." Perhaps Ms. Radner had a crystal ball in which she foresaw this past year - a year of uncertainties, challenges, hope and change. And while parts of the year were delicious, other parts were difficult.

As we journey on the path towards our unwritten future, I look forward to us taking the moment, making the best of it, centering our efforts to foster positive change and guiding what happens next. And while we must be mindful of the continuing economic crisis, we also must be mindful of those for whom our advocacy provides strength and hope. I look forward to using the opportunity afforded us to work with and within the current political landscape to achieve that in which we believe: a responsive and responsible government both home and abroad, the right to affordable housing, gender equity, health care reform, sustainable jobs with sustainable pay in sustainable industries, education to lift and keep people out of poverty, quality childcare and eldercare, reliable public transportation, clean air, water and energy, and programs and services to provide stability for the most vulnerable of our population.

Can we do this? Yes, without a doubt. For nearly 100 years, we have had the spirit, passion and courage to speak with one voice and more importantly, to give voice to those unable to do so. Let us continue to do so.

Paulette Geanacopoulos, LMSW

WCC ACTS: FY 2009

Advocacy is at the core of the WCC's mission. It identifies current and emerging public policy issues, analyzes them and acts promptly to recommend ways to improve the lives of New Yorkers. Its leaders and members also advocate throughout the year at meetings with public officials and others who influence the decision-making process both directly and indirectly. Summarized herein are policy positions, testimonies, and advocacy letters initiated between May 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009.

PRIORITIES FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA:

February 2009: Informed President Obama of WCC federal priorities for stimulus funds including mass transit, third water tunnel, schools, affordable housing, healthcare reform with universal accessibility, Medicaid and COBRA subsidies to those who lose jobs, reproductive health and protection of choice, and education investment in skills training.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PLAN:

February 2009: With Coalition on Human Needs, asked members to urge U.S. Senators to support American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as it includes improvements in food stamps and unemployment insurance, helps unemployed people afford health insurance, provides aid to states to prevent cuts in Medicaid, gives credits to low-income taxpayers, creates jobs in energy and health care, and invests in public housing and low-income communities.

SUCCESS: Economic stimulus passed with some bipartisan support.

HOUSING:

January 2009: Urged NY Congressional delegation to endorse letter from Rep. Gwen Moore, Women's Issues Caucus Vice Chair, asking Appropriations Chair David Obey to include in economic recovery package \$10 billion for National Housing Trust Fund, additional Section 8 vouchers to ensure tenants' housing and \$2 billion in emergency shelter grants to relieve homelessness.

April 2009: Submitted comments on Public Private Investment Fund and Legacy Loan Program, the Administration's latest proposals to deal with "toxic assets" - overleveraged mortgages and pools of mortgage backed securities - currently held by banks, urging FDIC to create separate program to protect renters, preserve affordable multi-family rental housing.

CITY & STATE BUDGET:

April 2009: Affirmed previously approved positions that would increase revenues in NYC: more progressive NYC personal income tax rates; reinstate commuter tax; toll East and Harlem River Bridges; restructure real

property tax system; eliminate property tax exemption for Madison Square Garden; extend mortgage recording tax to cooperative apartments; expand bottle bill to include glass/ other drink containers, return unclaimed deposits to municipalities.

April 2009: In response to current budget crises, WCC researched and analyzed additional options to propose ways to reduce expenses and increase revenues, taking into consideration equity and fairness to all New Yorkers. WCC approved the following positions, many of which would require state legislative action or constitutional change and/or negotiations with one or more unions:

1. Institute a temporary personal income tax surcharge for single taxpayers with incomes above \$300K, and married couples filing jointly with incomes above \$500K.
2. Restore the 25 cent one-way fare for pedestrian ferry riders on the Staten Island Ferry.
3. Active New York City employees should contribute 10% of the cost of their health insurance premium, subject to earnings "floor" in order to eliminate the burden for low-wage employees.
4. Eliminate overtime as factor in determining pension benefits.
5. Where not already in effect, expand the number of years taken into account in determining the final average salary for city employees' pensions to five, three years for uniformed personnel.
6. Establish 62 as the minimum retirement age for new civilian hires.
7. Eliminate reimbursing retirees for the cost of Medicare Part B, subject to an earnings "floor."

POVERTY / ECONOMIC SECURITY:

June 2008: Wrote NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Council Members David Weprin and Bill de Blasio, with copy to Deputy Mayor Linda Gibbs, urging them to restore the Human Services budget cuts.

September 2008: Endorsed letter from some 400 organizations to U. S. Senate majority and minority leaders, Speaker of the House and House minority leader urging a second stimulus measure with temporary increase in federal Medicaid funds.

November 2008: Sent letter to New York Times responding to editorial "Lame Ducks and Recession Politics;" recommended training for jobs immune to economic downturns.

November 2008: Joined One New York Coalition comprising over 200 nonprofit organizations that urge NYC and NYS to protect funding for safety net services and to address immediate need for more revenues.

November 2008: Submitted testimony to NYS Assembly Social Services Committee on welfare-to-work programs for recipients of TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families); recommended that TANF fund a range of educational programs, that its support reflects the needs of today's workforce, and that regional poverty guidelines be developed to address the real cost of living in urban centers.

February 2009: Signed-on to multi-organization ad placed in upstate newspapers urging elected officials to retain state share of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), the program that assists the most vulnerable of New Yorkers - aged, blind and disabled children and adults.

March 2009: Wrote Governor Paterson regarding budget proposals to increase Public Assistance grant, reduce state share of SSI and eliminate funding of Displaced Homemaker Centers. Thanked Governor for increasing the public assistance grant for the first time since 1990 but urged him to implement the raise at the beginning of FY10 (April 2009) rather than January 2010; urged him to restore State share of SSI and reinstate funding for the effective Displaced Homemaker Centers that enable women to enter and re-enter the workforce. Noted that the poverty rate among women is higher than that of men, and with many stimulus jobs focusing on infrastructure and construction that traditionally go to men, effective women's employment programs should be maintained.

SUCCESS: SSI State Supplement was restored to the budget.

SUCCESS: Increase in Public Assistance Grant will begin July 2009

SUCCESS: Funding restored for Displaced Homemaker Centers.

April 2009: Urged City Council Speaker Christine Quinn to support legislation for a "Help Desk" pilot project in a New York City government entitlement office to enable trained representatives of nonprofit organizations to provide information to and assist individuals and families with the application and recertification process.

April 2009: Wrote City Council Speaker Christine Quinn expressing concern about the Mayor's decision to remove 3,300 five-year-olds from ACS (Administration for Children Services) community day care centers and transition them to public schools.

POVERTY / HUNGER:

March 2009: Wrote Mayor urging him to reverse his decision refusing \$155 million in federal monies that would enable New York City to extend food stamp benefits to able-bodied adults without dependents.

March 2009: Supported State Senator Liz Krueger's bill to mandate acceptance of federal monies to extend food stamp benefits to adults.

IMMIGRANT SUPPORT:

September 2008: Approved position to support city and state funding of programs that help integrate immigrants into American society, including timely funding for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages).

WOMEN'S ISSUES:

PAID FAMILY LEAVE / PAY EQUITY

June 2008: In honor of Father's Day, emailed WCC members urging them to contact their state legislators in support of Paid Family Leave.

June 2008: WCC and other organizations urged NYC Council to approve resolutions calling for passage of New York Fair Pay Act and comparable federal Pay Equity legislation.

SUCCESS: Overwhelmingly approved.

June 2008: As a member of Equal Pay Coalition, signed June 12th statement thanking the New York City Council for endorsing the NYS Fair Pay Act and federal Pay Equity legislation.

July 2008: Endorsed Coalition letter to Congressional Representatives urging their support of the Paycheck Fairness Act (HR 1338).

June 2008: Asked WCC members to contact their state legislators urging passage of NYS paid Family Leave. (Currently, three states provide paid family leave: California, New Jersey and Washington State.)

January 2009: Joined MomsRising.org and the National Women's Law Center urging 111th Congress to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to reverse a Supreme Court decision that acutely limited women workers' capacity to sue for wage discrimination.

SUCCESS: Congress passed the Fair Pay Act. First legislation signed by newly inaugurated president.

February 2009: Thanked President for signing Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

HARASSMENT OF WOMEN

June 2008: Met with President/CEO and VP/General Manager of Meadowlands Sports Complex at their invitation in follow-up to our letters expressing concern about the disrespect of women at Jets home games. Were introduced to new policies and procedures that were created in response to our advocacy. At WCC's request, the policies were modified to state that each fan will be treated with respect by other fans.

SUCCESS: The policies and procedures were implemented throughout the Complex.

April 2009: Supported and witnessed overwhelming vote by City Council members that passed the Safe Clinic Access Bill that prohibits harassment and intimidation activities that block access to reproductive health care facilities.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

July 2008: Co-signed letter to U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Michael Leavitt from Alliance for Women's Health in NYS opposing proposed regulations that would undermine NYS laws ensuring women's access to reproductive healthcare information and services.

September 2008: Sent WCC letter to HHS Secretary Leavitt strongly opposing proposed regulations that allow federally funded programs to deny services and information to patients about birth control, emergency contraception and abortion.

April 2009: Strongly urged Obama Administration to rescind HHS regulations noted above.

March 2009: Affirmed support of NYS Reproductive Health Act that would continue NYS' commitment to choice, remove abortion from the criminal code and guarantee women the right to use or refuse contraception.

SAFE HARBOR FOR CHILDREN:

July 2008: Urged Governor Paterson to sign *Safe Harbor for Exploited Children Act* to ensure that juvenile prostitutes, many of whom are victims of sex trafficking, are treated as victims of assault and rape rather than criminals, and that rehabilitative and protective services will be provided to them.

SUCCESS: Governor signed the bill. *The legislation will take affect in April 2010 to allow NYS time to develop the required services.*

DROP THE ROCK DRUG LAWS - REFORMED:

April 2009: WCC's long history of advocating for the repeal of the 35 year old Rockefeller Drug Laws, in partnership with the Drop the Rock Coalition, succeeded partially when a reform agreement was reached by the State Legislature that ensures that future felony drug offenders will have the right to individualized justice, judges will be able to sentence people to treatment and other alternatives to incarceration, and additional funding for treatment programs will be available. WCC will continue to advocate and educate for the need for full repeal of the laws.

EDUCATION:

March 2009: Wrote City and State elected officials opposing Mayor's plan to convert four Roman Catholic parochial schools into Charter Schools. Cited issues of separation of church and state; plan for parochial school

student acceptance into said charter schools; violation of state laws that ban conversion of private schools and seeking an exception for parochial schools that could result in charges of religious favoritism and that could open the door to other religions seeking the same exception.

April 2009: Approved position that supports the inclusion of provisions for greater checks and balances, transparency and public participation in the state legislative re-authorization of Mayoral Control of New York City Public Schools, scheduled for June 2009.

PRESERVATION / LANDMARKS:

May 2008: Urged the Mayor to renew previous year's \$300,000 increase to the budget of the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

February 2009: Approved position opposing a City Council bill to legalize sale of advertising space on sidewalk construction sheds in commercial and manufacturing districts. Wrote City Council opposing legislation.

March 2009: Although commended the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB) for creating a rule that would formalize a challenge process for building permits and making approved building plans available to the public online, strongly criticized the rule's lack of clarity both for developers and the public and the Department's plan to hold a single public hearing on Friday concerning a rule scheduled to be implemented on Monday, the next business day.

SUCCESS: DOB delayed implementation of the rule.

April 2009: Endorsed 2009 Citywide Preservation Platform for increased funding of Landmarks Preservation Commission, and supporting preservation themes of sustainability, neighborhood character, economic stability, and historic / cultural landmarking.

April 2009: Endorsed Center for Arts Education campaign for dedicated funding of arts education in NYC public schools.

MASS TRANSIT / TRANSPORTATION:

May 2008: With coalition of nine organizations, supported "congestion busting" legislation including bus-mounted enforcement cameras to monitor block-the-box and residential parking permits.

September 2008: Commended Governor Paterson for establishing a commission to study ways to deal with the MTA's budget shortfalls. In a September 26th letter WCC reaffirmed its support of a pilot congestion pricing program and tolling of East River bridges, and recommended that the Commission develop ways to ensure that the MTA's operating and

capital finances are more transparent and accountable. WCC noted that public support for additional financing will be very hard to come by without safeguards and oversight.

February 2009: Wrote Governor, Mayor and City and State legislative leaders about MTA budget deficit; endorsed December recommendations of Governor's Commission headed by Richard Ravitch: tolling East River and Harlem River bridges, using revenues for maintenance and mass transit improvements; enacting a mobility tax to spread burden of maintaining regional system to all beneficiaries including businesses; and mandating segregation and disclosure of tax revenues and capital expenditures. However, questioned need for a proposed new MTA Capital Finance Authority and, seeking productivity gains, expressed concern on automatic biannual fare increases.

March 2009: Wrote City and State elected officials again urging immediate legislative action to approve payroll tax and tolling of the East and Harlem River Bridges in order to maintain fares and public transit service.

ENVIRONMENT/RECYCLING:

November 2008: Wrote City Council Speaker Quinn commending her initiative to provide recycling receptacles in public spaces.

December 2008: Wrote Governor Paterson asking that NYC be exempt from NYS plastic bag recycling bill because NYC has stronger protections.

SUCCESS: Legislature amended and Governor signed State bill to preserve NYC's stronger protections.

April 2009: Informed Campaign for New York that WCC opposes proposed legislation that would require a 5-cent plastic carryout bag fee. While WCC agrees that in the long term it could encourage sustainable choices, raise consumer awareness and encourage the use of reusable alternatives, WCC believes that in the near term, it is a regressive "tax" that would create another burden on already overburdened New Yorkers who are trying to deal with the current economic conditions.

March 2009: Wrote Governor and State legislative leaders to support updating NYS bottle deposit law by enlarging list of cans and bottles that could be redeemed for a nickel to include bottled water and sports drinks.

PARTIAL SUCCESS: Water bottles element passed in April 2009.

January 2009: Began a ten week Recycling Project developed by an intern from Columbia University's Communities-in-Action Program to improve understanding of and compliance by a select group of New York City residents of residential recycling laws and regulations. Surveyed

WCC members, conducted building meetings, and by the beginning of FY 2010 will add a "Recycling" page to WCC's website that provides examples, videos, PSAs, and information and referrals.

ELECTIONS REFORMS:

June 2008: Wrote NYC Board of Elections commending it for publishing the 2006 annual report, but requesting that future documents include more statistics, both baseline and comparative.

June 2008: Signed on to letter with 13 organizations urging State Board of Elections to develop auditing regulations to provide NYS voters with confidence that their votes have been accurately counted, ensure adequate mechanism for conducting audits which confirm election results with an acceptable degree of confidence, and allow candidates to request that specific machines or polling places be included in the audit.

June 2008: Testified before City Council Committee on Governmental Operations with recommendations for September trial of ballot marking devices required by federal court order for HAVA implementation.

December 2008: Wrote NYS Secretary of State urging better recruitment, training and testing of poll workers, inclusion of minority parties, and annual report on local election boards. Testified before City Council Committee on Government Operations and NYC Voter Assistance Commission. Signed letters on election reforms from NYC Voter Assistance Commission and NYS Citizens Coalition for Voter Participation.

February 2009: SUCCESS: Elections reforms advocacy won increased accountability as Mayor's Management Report included Board of Elections for first time. With coalition, sent thank you letter to Mayor's Office.

June 2008: Testified before the City Council's Governmental Operations recommending actions to ensure that votes cast by ballot-marking devices be accurately counted and recorded, including extra training of personnel, availability of manuals at polling places for the September 9th Primary, evaluation of these procedures prior to November 4th election, and hand counting by both Democrat and Republican representatives of votes made through ballot-marking devices.

July 2008: Signed on to letter to NYS Board of Elections from the NY Civil Liberties Union and NYPIRG urging it to direct local election boards to take immediate action to address current practices for processing registrants flagged as "unverified" by the statewide interactive database because of inconsistencies between the registration information input by the local boards and state and federal records; and to clarify and improve

the procedures that are applied when the database has identified voters as possibly having registered from more than one address.

September 2008: Urged WCC members to confirm they remain registered voters as some names were erroneously deleted from the database when NYS combined all local voter registration information into statewide database. Members were advised to immediately submit a new voter registration form, if necessary. Note: Several WCC members contacted our office to inform us that upon checking, they learned that their names had, in fact, been erroneously deleted from the voter registration database.

October 2008: By email and postcard notification, all WCC members were asked to contact the office if they needed help getting to the polls. With thanks to WCC members who volunteered to provide such help: Edith Anthoine, Dottie Brier, Elsie Diamond, Joan Freilich, Eileen Grigg.

February 2009: Supported studying experiences of other jurisdictions to determine whether Early Voting / Same Day Registration result in increased voter registrations and voter participation; supported easing restrictions on absentee ballot applications as a form of Early Voting.

TERM LIMITS:

October 2008: Affirmed opposition to term limits; although WCC agreed that City Council legislation could legally overturn voter referendum, its testimony before the Council's Governmental Operations Committee opposed all proposed bills as they were self-serving, problematic in terms of timing and further restrictive of home rule.

HEALTH:

April 2009: Asked members to support the New York State Family Health Care Decisions Act that would enable family members, domestic partners, and close friends of a person found to lack decision-making capacity to act on his/her behalf in making medical decisions.

April 2009: Supported state legislation proposed by Senator Duane and Assembly Member Gottfried that would require Medicaid to pay for translation and interpretation services in hospitals, clinics and community health centers. This legislation would eliminate language disparities that result in delay of care, misdiagnoses, unnecessary tests, increased debt, lack of insurance coverage, and poor quality of care overall.

WCC PUBLIC PROGRAMS

WCC's Public Programs fulfill the education portion of its mission. They highlight and examine current and emerging public policy issues, frequently informing WCC's work for future advocacy actions. Since the WCC is non-partisan, its programs regularly include information about all relevant aspects of an issue, and oftentimes initiate working dialogues between representatives of both sides. Speakers represent a broad array of government officials, experts from the nonprofit and corporate sectors as well as academics, journalists and authors.

This year's public programs were developed with the assistance of board member **Mary Ellen Rudolph** who convened a meeting of committee chairs and members interested in taking the lead in organizing WCC programs. Working collaboratively with WCC staff, they worked out a month-by-month schedule and presented the events and forums shown below.

FY2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

WCC's programs were attended by over 1200 people including members and guests, representatives from the nonprofit, corporate and academic sectors, elected and public officials, and individuals concerned with the many issues that affect the lives of New Yorkers.

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Age-Friendly Cities: A Global Initiative Comes to New York City

Speakers: Alexandre Kalache, M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., Sr. Advisor to President on Global Aging, New York Academy of Medicine; and Ruth Finkelstein, Sc.D., Vice President for Health Policy, New York Academy of Medicine.
Moderated by Barbara Chocky.

Thursday, June 19, 2008

"The World in a City" - Meet the Author: Joseph Berger *Lead Organizer Mary Ellen Rudolph.*

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Meet the Public Advocate: Honorable Betsy Gotbaum *Moderated by Dorothy Wilner.*

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

Lights! Camera! Action! Filming in New York City

Speaker: Hon. Katherine Oliver, Commissioner, Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting. *Moderated by Virginia Kassel.*

Thursday, September 11, 2008

Meet Jeremy Travis, President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY) *Lead Organizer Mary Ellen Rudolph.*

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Economic Outlook for NYC

Speaker: Alair Townsend, Crain's NY Business Columnist, Former Publisher. *Lead Organizer Elaine Osterman.*

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Teen Dating Abuse in this Era of Technology

Organized by National Council of Jewish Women, Day One, Walk To End Domestic Violence and WCC Women's Issues Committee.

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

What if Roe v Wade Fell? Implications for New York State

Keynote Speaker: Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator and WCC member; Donna Lieberman, Executive Director, New York Civil Liberties Union; and Katherine Grainger, VP for Public Policy at NARAL-Pro Choice NY. *Lead Organizer / Moderator Marjorie Ives.*

Thursday, October 30, 2008

Covering City Hall

Panelists: Sewell Chan, *New York Times*; Courtney Gross, Gotham Gazette; Grace Rauh, NY1; Kate Lucadamo, New York Daily News. *Lead Organizer / Moderator Carol Leimas.*

Monday, November 10, 2008

Meet the Member: Helen D. Reavis, Esq. *Organized by Membership Committee.*

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mission Impossible? Reducing Energy Usage 30% by 2017

Speaker: Martha Hirst, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services. *Lead Organizer / Moderator Joan Freilich.*

Thursday, December 18, 2008

The Foreclosure Crisis: Impact on NYC Neighborhoods

Moderator: Sarah Gerecke, CEO, Neighborhood Housing Services of NYC.
Panelists: Vicki Been, Elihu Root Professor of Law and Professor of Public Policy, New York University, and Director, Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy; Michael Hickey, Executive Director, Center for New York City Neighborhoods; and Sarah Ludwig, Co-Director, Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project. *Organized by WCC Housing & Planning Committee.*

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Is There A NORC/SSP* In Your Future?

**Naturally Occurring Retirement Community / Supportive Services Program*

Speakers: Anita Altman, Deputy Managing Director of Government Relations & External Affairs, UJA - Federation; Fredda Vladeck, LMSW, Director, Aging-In-Place Initiative, United Hospital Fund. Moderator: Barbara Chocky, MPA, WCC board member and Executive Director, Spring Creek Senior Partners NORC/SSP. *Lead Organizer Elaine Osterman.*

Thursday, January 29, 2009

Our Water Comes From Upstate - But How Do We Pay For It?

Panelists: Deputy Commissioner Anne Canty and Deputy Commissioner Angela Licata, NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection; Lisa Deller, NY Regional Director of The National Equity Fund; Harold Shultz, Senior Fellow, Citizens Housing and Planning Council. *Organized by WCC Housing & Planning Committee; Moderator Ann R. Loeb.*

Friday, February 6, 2009

Women and Work: Is the Glass Half-Full or Half-Empty?

Moderator: Ronnie Eldridge, Host, Eldridge & Co., CUNY TV; City Council Member 1989-2001. Panelists: Christine Birnbaum, Human Resources and Diversity, NY Life Insurance's Asset Management Subsidiary; Roslyn Chernesky, DSW, Professor, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services; Mary Murphree, Ph.D., Sr. Advisor, Center For Women & Work, Rutgers University and Former Regional Administrator, Women's Bureau U.S. Dep't of Labor, Region II. *Co-sponsored by Fordham University's Institute for Women and Girls and The Transition Network.*

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Police Brutality: In the Ten Years Since . . .

Speaker: Dr. Delores Jones-Brown, Dep't of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration, Dir., Center On Race, Crime and Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY. *Moderator Sharon Yakata.*

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Women's History Month Program: Women In The Military

Speakers: Noonie Fortin, 1st Sergeant, U.S. Army Reserves (Retired); and Helen Benedict, Author of The Lonely Soldier: The Private War of Women Serving in Iraq and Journalism Professor, Columbia University. *Organized and moderated by Marjorie Ives, Chair, Women's Issues Committee.*

Monday, March 30, 2009

Restoring Quality Arts Education to New York City Schools

Speakers: Richard Kessler, Executive Director, The Center for Arts Education; and Kira Streets, Director of Public Engagement, The Center for Arts Education. *Organized by Arts & Landmarks Committee; Moderator Laura Ludwig.*

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Living Longer, Living Better: News You Can Use

Speakers: Pulitzer Prize Winner Robert N. Butler, M.D., author of *The Longevity Revolution*; founder, International Longevity Center; founding Director, National Institute on Aging of National Institutes of Health; Carol Raphael, M.P.A., President / CEO, Visiting Nurse Services of NY; Deborah Viola, Ph.D., Asst. Professor of Economics and Director, MPH Program in Health Policy & Management, NY Medical College School of Public Health. *Lead Organizer Laurie Norris; Moderator Annette Choolfaian, RN, MPA.*

Thursday, May 7, 2009

MEET THE HON. SCOTT STRINGER, Manhattan Borough President

Organized and moderated by WCC past president, Blanche E. Lawton.

Monday, May 11, 2009

WCC ANNUAL MEETING

Speaker: Hon. Charles Schumer, United States Senator (D-NY).

WCC Honoree: Marilyn Wellemeyer.

Monday, May 18, 2009

Report of WCC's Recycling Project

Speaker: Alexandra Fairweather, Columbia College Student, Columbia University Communities-in-Action Program; WCC Recycling Project Intern. *Moderator Joan Freilich.*

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Quiet Revolution in Our Public Schools: New York City's Small Schools Initiative

Speakers: Richard Stopol, President, NYC Outward Bound; Joshua Thomases, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of School Support, Department of Education; Moderator: Benjamin Shuldiner, Founder and Principal, H.S. for Public Service; Instructor at Baruch. Co-Sponsored by Baruch College School of Public Affairs. *Lead Organizer Pam Bayless.*

ORGANIZED IN FY 2009 FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN FY 2010

Thursday, July 16, 2009

The Woman Behind the New Deal: Frances Perkins

Speaker: Kirstin Downey, Author, *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life of Frances Perkins, FDR's Secretary of Labor and His Moral Conscience.* *Moderator Mary Murphree.*

On Dates TBA:

Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand, United States Senator (D-NY)

Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Member, House of Representatives (NY-8th District)

WCC TOURS

Organized by **Helen Aronstein** and **Carol Leimas**, WCC's tours provide members and guests a special insider's view to many of the extraordinary institutions, places and structures that make up the fabric of New York City. Their historic and cultural significance is explained by docents who lead the tours and engage the attendees in lively interactive discussions. When appropriate, an optional lunch is added to the tour.

During this reporting period, 235 members and guests attended the tours shown below:

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Pre-Tour Film: City of Water, a documentary produced by The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance and the Municipal Art Society about the future of New York City's waterfront

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

New York's Hidden Harbor

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mums & Moore - New York Botanical Garden

Thursday, October 23, 2008

MTA Arts for Transit: Times Square to Grand Central Station
Tour of Commissioned Underground Artwork

Friday, November 14, 2008

The Museum of American Finance

Friday, February 20, 2009

Worshiping Women: Ritual and Reality in Classical Athens.
The Onassis Cultural Center; Reception hosted by The Onassis Center

Friday, March 27, 2009

Three Stop Tour: New York City Municipal Archives, City Hall Library and The Manhattan Marriage Bureau

Thursday, May 28, 2009

The Galleries of Chelsea - A Walking Tour of Eight Art Galleries

ORGANIZED IN FY 2009 TO BE CONDUCTED IN FY 2010

Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Fresh Kills Park (previously the Fresh Kills Landfill), Staten Island, NY

Friday, September 25, 2009

Museum of Chinese in America and Walking-Tour of Madison Square Park.

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Public Policy Committee coordinates the policy and advocacy activities of the WCC and its Civic Committees, develops policy initiatives in areas not covered by the committees and helps fine-tune and facilitate the presentation of public policy motions to the Board of Directors.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FEDERAL PRIORITIES:

With input from its civic committees, WCC wrote the newly elected President outlining WCC's federal priorities: 1) recommended 'shovel-ready' infrastructure projects worthy of stimulus funds including mass transit, increase water supply through construction of third water tunnel, building much-needed schools; 2) address effects of subprime mortgage defaults and need for federal funds for affordable housing; capitalization of a national housing trust fund; operating costs for public housing; increase number of Section 8 housing vouchers; 3) universal access and elimination of financial barriers to quality health care; applauded recently approved S-CHIP legislation and president's efforts to provide Medicaid and COBRA subsidies to those who have lost their jobs; 4) thanked president for signing Lilly Ledbetter legislation; noted need for continued support of federal reproductive health issues and protection of choice; 5) investing heavily in all forms and levels of education/ skills training to help large number of unemployed New Yorkers without labor skills appropriate to infrastructure projects.

TERM LIMITS:

One of the more difficult issues this year concerned the Mayor's initiative to extend term limits by City Council legislation. WCC opposes term limits because they deprive citizens of experienced elected officials, and they tend to focus office holders on short term results at the expense of deliberative long-term planning. Nevertheless, the WCC's testimony opposed all of the proposed bills due to their self-serving nature as they would benefit those currently holding office.

Action: City Council legislatively extended the two-term limit to three terms, effective the 2009 election.

ELECTION REFORMS:

In a year that included a presidential primary and general election, and the introduction of new ballot marking devices, WCC continued to advocate for reform of election administration at state and city levels. The PPC Elections Specialist monitored weekly meetings of the NYC Board of Elections (BoE), testified before City Council Government Operations Committee and Voter Assistance Commission urging better trained inspectors and coordinators; wrote NYS Secretary of State, Mayor and NYC Board of Elections outlining reforms designed to improve voters' experiences at the poll. Advocated for changes designed to encourage

greater voter participation, increase supply of qualified poll workers, and greater accountability and transparency.

SUCCESS: For the first time, the NYC BoE was included in the Mayor's Management Report.

ECONOMIC AND BUDGETARY ISSUES:

•Ronnie Lowenstein, Executive Director, Independent Budget Office ((IBO) spoke before PPC presenting views of city's economic situation.

•NYC & NYS BUDGET TASK FORCE: PPC formed a Budget Task Force to examine City and State budgets and to propose recommendations to increase revenues and decrease expenses. (See Task Force report below).

•POVERTY / ECONOMIC SECURITY TASK FORCE: Since 2001, PPC's Poverty Task Force has monitored city, state and federal issues relating to low-income and working poor individuals and families. (See Task Force report below).

EDUCATION- MAYORAL CONTROL OF NYC SCHOOLS:

AD HOC WORK GROUP: Following a presentation by the City Council Education Committee's Legislative Analyst, PPC formed a work group to analyze the issues related to Mayoral control of the NYC public schools and to make recommendations regarding the state legislative authorization scheduled to "sunset" in June 2009. The work group recommended that reauthorization include provisions for greater transparency, checks and balances and public participation in educational matters.

GOVERNORS ISLAND:

WCC, a member of the Governors Island Alliance Advisory Committee, wrote letters and testimony supporting consistent and reliable funding for the island and an innovative and feasible park master plan.

Barbara Zucker, Chair
Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton, Vice Chair

Ruth E. Acker, Ex-Officio
Susan Alt, Advisor
Gloria Browne-Marshall
Joan Freilich
Marjorie Ives
Carol Leimas
Fran Levenson
Phyllis Lusskin
Mary Murphree, Advisor
Barbara Rochman
Mary Ellen Rudolph
Ann Sand

Marjorie Kelleher Shea (Elections Specialist)
Paulette Geanacopoulos, Executive Director

BUDGET TASK FORCE

WCC's NYC and NYS Budget Task Force began meeting weekly in February. It analyzed revenue and expense components in order to generate options for WCC to propose to the City and State for their consideration. Its work recognized the need for equity in balancing service cuts, productivity improvements and tax increases. WCC researched recommendations of other organizations, e.g. NYC Independent Budget Office, and reviewed previously adopted WCC positions.

In time for the April 2009 meeting of the Board of Directors, the Budget Task Force completed its work on the NYC budget and subsequently began analyzing elements of the NYS budget. WCC anticipates a lengthy period of advocacy beyond this fiscal year.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- WCC affirmed previously adopted positions including more progressive personal income tax rates, restoring the commuter tax, tolling of the East and Harlem River Bridges, eliminating the property tax exemption for Madison Square Garden, restructuring the real property tax system, extending the mortgage recording tax to cooperative apartments. Developed new proposals, several of which will require state legislative action or constitutional change and/or union negotiation.

- WCC approved positions noted herein regarding the NYC budget, some of which will require state legislative action and/or union negotiation:

PROPOSALS TO INCREASE REVENUES:

1. Institute temporary Personal Income Tax Surcharge for single filers with incomes above \$300K and married couples filing jointly with incomes above \$500K.
2. Restore 25 cent fare for pedestrian riders on Staten Island Ferry.

PROPOSALS TO REDUCE CITY PERSONNEL COSTS:

1. Active NYC employees should contribute 10% of cost of their health insurance premium subject to earnings "floor."
2. Eliminate overtime as factor in determining pension benefits.
3. Where not already in effect, expand number of years taken into account in determining final average salary for city employees' pensions to five, and three years for uniformed personnel.
4. Establish 62 as the minimum retirement age for new civilian hires.
5. Eliminate the reimbursement to retirees for the cost of Medicare Part B, subject to an earnings "floor."

Arden Down, Chair

WCC President Ruth Acker	Fran Levenson
Joan Freilich	Shannon McCue
Jo-Ann Graham	Barbara Zucker,
Doris Hirsch	Public Policy Committee Chair

POVERTY TASK FORCE

Established in 2001, WCC's Poverty Task Force addresses issues on behalf of low-income New Yorkers - the population most affected by fluctuations in the economy and the present financial crisis.

The task force **monitors and advocates** for policies and programs to help lift and keep low income and working poor people out of poverty, and **against** regulations, legislation and practices that would decrease or eliminate necessary benefits and/or services.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: ECONOMIC SECURITY

State Advocacy:

•November 2008: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Submitted testimony to NYS Assembly Social Services Committee for its public hearing on the success and impact of NYS' welfare-to-work programs on the TANF Population. WCC testimony was framed within the context of four principles: 1) that TANF is the means to lift low-income individuals and families out of poverty; 2) that education is the single most important factor to successfully keep people out of poverty; 3) that welfare-to-work programs provide real job training and work experiences in sustainable industries that offer livable wages; and 4) that government provide a full range of support services that reflect the realities of TANF recipients and the needs of today's workforce. WCC recommended that TANF support a range of flexible educational and training programs including vocational and technical institutions, community colleges, four year colleges and universities; that its support reflect the work/family balance needs of today's workforce including adequate childcare and elder-care services; and that regional poverty guidelines be developed to address the real cost of living in urban centers.

•February 2009: Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Signed-on to an ad placed in upstate newspapers, along with social service organizations throughout the state, urging state elected officials not to cut the state's share of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), the program that assists the most vulnerable of New Yorkers including children and adults who are aged, blind or disabled.

•March 2009: Public Assistance / SSI / Displaced Homemaker Centers

Wrote Governor Paterson regarding budget proposals to increase Public Assistance grant, reduce state share of SSI and eliminate funding of Displaced Homemaker Centers. Thanked Governor for increasing the public assistance grant for the first time since 1990 but urged him to implement the raise at the beginning of FY10 (April 2009) rather than January 2010; urged him to restore state share of SSI and reinstate funding for the effective Displaced Homemaker Centers that enable women to enter and re-enter the workforce. Noted that the poverty rate among

women is higher than that of men, and with many stimulus jobs focusing on infrastructure and construction that traditionally go to men, effective women's employment programs should be maintained.

SUCCESS: NYS supplement to SSI restored to budget.

SUCCESS: Increase in Public Assistance Grant to begin July 2009

SUCCESS: \$5.6 million restored for Displaced Homemaker Centers

City Advocacy:

•June 2008: Wrote NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Council Members David Weprin and Bill de Blasio, with copy to Deputy Mayor Linda Gibbs, urging them to restore the Human Services budget cuts.

•April 2009: Opposed Mayor's decision to remove 3,300 five year olds from under the supervision of Administration for Children's Services Community Day Care centers, and transition them to public schools.

•April 2009: Urged Speaker Quinn to endorse implementation of a "Help Desk" Pilot Project in NYC government entitlement office, staffed by representatives of nonprofits, to document their need and effectiveness in facilitating applications process for persons requiring assistance.

Federal Advocacy:

WCC continues to review actions and proposals at the federal level with the goal of monitoring how they will impact this population.

HUNGER / FOOD STAMPS:

•Urged the Mayor to reverse his decision to decline \$155 million in new federal monies that would enable NYC to extend food stamp benefits to able-bodied adults with no dependents.

•Supported State Senator Liz Krueger's bill that would mandate acceptance of the federal monies to provide food stamps to this population.

Result: No movement has occurred as yet

SPRING 2008 PROGRAM: POVERTY: THE FORGOTTEN CAUSE

•75 people heard State Senator Liz Krueger; Policy, Advocacy & Research Director Bich Ha Pham of Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies; Professor Sheila Kamerman of Columbia University School of Social Work; and Senior Economist Trudi Renwick of the Fiscal Policy Institute develop an agenda to alleviate poverty and hunger in NY. Co-sponsor: Dr. Mimi Abramovitz and Hunter College School of Social Work.

•WCC continues to monitor and respond to city, state and federal policies that impact poverty among New Yorkers.

Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton, Chair

Barbara Chocky

Marjorie Ives

Ann R. Loeb

Mary Murphree

Ann Sand

Lisa Starzyk

Barbara Zucker

Paulette Geanacopoulos

HEALTH ISSUES COMMITTEE

The Health Issues Committee (HIC) promotes public policies to improve the quality of and access to health care with special emphasis on overcoming barriers for NY's low-income and immigrant populations; eliminating financial barriers to health care; retaining / expanding coverage for all New Yorkers; promoting universal health coverage. It annually reviews and determines priorities and identifies and responds to emerging issues. To expand its impact, WCC works with other organizations and coalitions.

Through education, advocacy and publications, it informs and empowers members, representatives of other organizations, the general public and elected officials about public health issues and the need to support legislation. Composed of practicing and retired health professionals, professionals in related fields and interested WCC members, committee members accept specific assignments to work on priority health issues. As needed, graduate students conduct research for background and studies.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

- WCC is represented on local, statewide and national coalitions that promote policies to achieve universal health care coverage including Citizens' Committee for Children, Family Decisions Coalition, Long Term Care Community Coalition, Physicians for a National Health Program, PHANYC: Public Health Association of NYC's Coalition for the Agenda for a Healthy New York, Medicaid Matters New York, Rekindling Reform.

FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO ACCESSING QUALITY HEALTH CARE

- Published report of presentations from 2008 series, ***Changing Health Care: Information Leading to Action*** promoting need for universal health care and ways to achieve this goal. Report is available on WCC's website and was distributed to City, State and Federal legislators to inform their thinking on universal health care coverage.

- Monitors and speaks out about proposals to reduce federal and state Medicaid and Medicare budgets.

- Supported language access bill to require Medicaid to pay for translation / interpretation services in hospital clinics, community health centers.

- Wrote Governor and state legislators in support of Family Health Care Decisions Act to enable family members, domestic partners and close friends of a person found to lack decision-making capacity to act on his/her behalf in making medical decisions; email alert sent to members asking their support of this Act; information posted on website.

TARGET POPULATIONS

ADOLESCENTS - SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS (SBHCs)

•WCC believes that School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) are the most effective providers of barrier free access to health care for adolescents, one of the least served populations. WCC joined the NY Statewide Coalition for School Based Health Centers and advocated for adequate state funding to maintain existing SBHCs and establish new ones.

• Two members of HIC were appointed to the NYS SBHC Coalition Advisory Board and participated in its retreat focusing on developing and expanding the statewide organization.

• Dr. Roger Platt, Director of School Health, NYC Department of Education, addressed a committee meeting on the status of SBHCs in New York City. WCC will continue to work with Dr. Platt in identifying a common agenda to support SBHCs.

OLDER ADULTS

•WCC is a member of the Long Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC).

• Committee members reviewed and commented on the New York State Department of Health regulations for assisted living facilities.

• Organized public program "*Living Longer, Living Better: News You Can Use*" that featured Pulitzer Prize winner Dr. Robert Butler of the International Longevity Center, Carol Raphael of Visiting Nurse Services of NY, and economist Dr. Deborah Viola of NY Medical College. Attendees received a list of websites that address issues of aging.

• Committee members reviewed NYS' proposal to establish a nursing home quality incentive pool. Although it developed a proposed motion to present to the board of directors, the committee decided to first do a demonstration project to test the concept prior to full implementation. WCC will continue to monitor this program as it develops.

Annette Choolfaian, Chair

Phyllis Lusskin, Vice Chair

Susan Alt	Sharon Kroeger
Carolyn Benbow-Ross	Katherine Lobach
Virginia Brown	Laurie Norris
Marilyn DeLuca	Ethel Paley
Eileen Grigg	Nancy Rucker
Marjorie Ives	Marjorie Schab
Amber Jamil	Amy Schwartz
Rowena Kemp	Amy Selwyn
Mary Jane Koren	Sandra Shohen

Martha Wolfgang

HOUSING & PLANNING COMMITTEE

The need to preserve and create affordable housing, the nationwide foreclosure and eviction crisis, increased homelessness, building owners who are having trouble maintaining their buildings as arrearages increase and costs escalate - all are issues that could not be more important during this period of economic crisis, especially for those with limited income and working families who are losing their jobs. In collaboration with organizations such as Housing First! Neighborhood Housing Services of NYC, Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project, NYU's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, Center for NYC Neighborhoods and Citizens Housing and Planning Council, WCC sought to analyze these very complex issues at the federal, state and local levels in order to educate WCC members, recommend policies, and develop solutions that resonate for New Yorkers. It will continue to do so during the next year.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

MAYOR'S HOUSING PLAN - In 2003, Mayor Bloomberg announced a plan to create and preserve 165,000 over 10 years. At a 2008 WCC program at which then HPD Commissioner and now US Secretary for Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan spoke, experts affirmed that preserving units are easier and less costly than building new ones. The plan remains behind schedule, and until the financial sector returns to action, there is no predicting when the affordable housing market will recover sufficiently enough to proceed as planned.

FORECLOSURES / EVICTIONS

WCC brought together experts from the public, private, nonprofit and academic sectors to understand the dimensions and extent and impact of the subprime mortgage and foreclosure crisis in New York City neighborhoods, and to examine actions being taken to ameliorate and resolve the problem. It became clear that in New York City, evictions were not only affecting owners of single- and two-family homes (the "norm" in other parts of the country), but renters in multi-family buildings.

WATER AND SEWER RATE STRUCTURES

Because of the impact of the city's annual double-digit water and sewer rate increases on the sustainability of NYC's stock of affordable housing WCC sponsored a program that initiated a working dialogue between the housing community and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection that demystified the Water and Sewer Board's rate structure and the effect of escalating water and sewer taxes on low-income housing and water conservation.

Co-Chairs:

Barbara Chocky
Frances Levenson
Ann R. Loeb

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

WCC works to ensure a sustainable long-term future for NYC in light of a growing population, an aging infrastructure, and an environment that is increasingly at risk. It advocates for transportation and environmental initiatives including mass transit, measures to reduce traffic congestion, green buildings, recycling and energy efficiency.

The activities of the Infrastructure Committee are funded in part through a generous grant from HSBC Bank, USA, N.A.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVOCACY

- Supported tolling East and Harlem River bridges; Supported imposing Mobility Tax on regional payrolls to maintain MTA services and limit fare increases.

Result: NYS legislature approved the Mobility Tax as well as a number of organizational and reporting recommendations that had been endorsed by the Women's City Club.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

- Continued to serve as a member of the Campaign for NY's Future to respond to PlaNYC.

- Urged that NYC be exempt from a new statewide plastic bag reduction bill as it was weaker than existing NYC laws.

Result: Stronger NYC laws were allowed to remain in force.

- Informed Campaign for NY's Future that WCC opposes requiring a 5-cent plastic carryout bag fee. While in the long term it could encourage sustainable choices, raise consumer awareness and encourage the use of reusable alternatives, WCC believes that it is a regressive "tax" that would create another burden on already overburdened New Yorkers who are trying to deal with the current economic crisis.

- Supported Bigger Better Bottle Bill to increase the scope of plastic bottle recycling in NYS and provide funding for environmental initiatives.

Result: Passed by the State Legislature and signed by Governor; however, many bottled drinks, such as sports drinks, remain exempt and New York City receives no money from unclaimed deposits.

INTERN RECYCLING PROJECT

- Alexandra Fairweather, a Columbia College intern from Columbia University's Communities-In-Action Program, developed a ten week project to study and improve understanding of and compliance with New York City's residential recycling laws by New York City residents. The Committee Chair provided project oversight, while direct supervision was provided by WCC Executive Director, Paulette Geanacopoulos.

Result:

- 1.To gain baseline information about their understanding of and com-

pliance with recycling, WCC members were surveyed. Although it showed that the majority of participants knew what and how to recycle, the results suggested that recycling could be confusing at times. Participants also provided recommendations on how recycling could be improved, many of which were incorporated into WCC's materials.

2. Meetings were held with residents of several buildings interested in participating in the project. A unique feature practiced in one building was the publication of a monthly newsletter that highlights various issues including eco-friendly initiatives and recycling reminders. In addition, the building is in the process of forming a Green Committee to spread greater awareness of recycling and eco-friendly initiatives in the building.

3. A building-wide meeting was held with the help of Andrea Schaffer, Principal of CityMatters LLC, at which WCC educational pamphlets prepared by the intern were distributed, a recycling game was played, and discussions were held regarding recycling practices and misconceptions.

4. Recommendations to improve recycling were developed and organized into a brochure for future use.

5. The intern presented a report of the project to WCC members and guests, including HSBC representatives and other supporters.

6. By early FY2010, a page will be added to WCC's website with short videos introducing the project, offering information to promote recycling, providing examples of recycling projects in other parts of the country and world, and listing information and referrals to local resources to enhance the recycling efforts of New York City residents.

INFORMATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Josh Nachowitz, Policy Director, NYS League of Conservation Voters
- Nancy Anderson, Executive Director of the Sallen Foundation
- Betsy Ukeritis, Regional Environmental Educator of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- Emily Dinan, Lower East Side Ecology Center
- The Story of Stuff*, a video made by Tides Foundation, Funders Workgroup for Sustainable Production and Consumption and Free Range Studios, that presents the journey of items from raw materials to trash.

COMMITTEE SITE VISITS

- Solar One, a green energy, arts and education center
- High School for Environmental Studies

Chair: Joan Freilich

Vice Chair: Marjorie Kelleher Shea

Ruth Acker
Barbara Allen
Edith Anthoine
Sheila Darnborough
Tara DePorte

Cynthia Doty
Arden Down
Marisa Hagan
Christine Knoblock
Jean Moscow

Joan Rothschild
Mary Ellen Rudolph
Margery Schab
Velia Torres
Gopi Varma

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION AND THE ARTS

"Your group's concern and support is invaluable to us."

Vera Conant, President, West 54th - 55th Street Block Association

WCC advocates for full integration of the arts in public schools, art in public spaces, preserving NYC's architectural and cultural heritage, protecting sites of historical importance unlikely to be landmarked and ensuring development which recognizes the need to maintain the elements that contribute to the landscape and atmosphere of the city. It collaborates with single-issue preservation groups, monitors the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) and advocates for a full compliment of Commissioners and an adequate budget. Its co-chairs serve on Borough President Scott Stringer's Preservation Task Force.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Challenged Department of Buildings' process to formalize building permits challenge process and make approved plans available on-line as they lacked clarity and impose burden on those challenging developer's plans.
Result: DOB delayed implementation; undertook further study.
- Opposed hospital development in Greenwich Village Historic District.
Result: LPC approved St. Vincent's hardship application, but with modified plans. Final resolution is pending zoning variances and action/approval of City Planning and the City Council.
- Opposed City Council proposed legislation allowing building owners to sell advertising space on sidewalk construction sheds.
Result: Given Council Member support, it is likely to pass.
- Testified before the City Planning Commission opposing development of a Hotel/Condominium and exhibition space proposed by Museum of Modern Art and Hines Corporation because of its size and situation.
Result: Plans for the development are being reconsidered.
- Urged LPC to hold a public hearing regarding designation of West-Park Presbyterian Church as a NYC individual landmark.
Result: Placed on calendar but no hearing date has been set as yet.
- Endorsed 2009 Citywide Preservation Platform for increased funding of LPC and supporting preservation themes of sustainability, neighborhood character, economic stability, and historic / cultural landmarking.
- Endorsed Center for Arts Education's campaign to ensure dedicated funding for arts education in New York City public schools.

Committee Co-Chairs: Laura Ludwig & Annette Rosen

Nancy Buckley, Estelle Coopersmith, Cecille Davis, Marjorie Drabkin,
Elizabeth Norton, Mignon Sauber,
Nada Westerman

WOMEN'S ISSUES COMMITTEE

"The WCC has been a tireless ally of the campaign to repeal the Rockefeller Drug Laws. From organizing educational forums, to participating in petition drives and monthly planning meetings, WCC has proven invaluable to our efforts to end the harsh, racially biased laws."
Caitlin Dunklee, Drop the Rock Coordinator

The Women's Issues Committee examines the role and status of women and girls in New York City and advocates for gender equity and work / family balance policies and practices at the city, state and federal levels.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WORK / FAMILY BALANCE ISSUES:

•**Supported Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** - The first bill signed into law by President Barack Obama was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act which corrects the Supreme Court ruling that the statute of limitations had expired on Ms. Ledbetter's suit for pay discrimination.

SUCCESS: WCC had supported passage of the bill and thanked President Obama for signing it into law and for his continued support.

•**Supports Paycheck Fairness Act** - Passed by the House but not voted on in the Senate, it would toughen penalties associated with violating the Equal Pay Act and prohibit employers from punishing employees who share their salary information with co-workers.

•**Supports NYS Fair Pay Act** which would create an evaluation system to equalize wage disparities between jobs that are segregated on the basis of sex, race or national origin, but that require equivalent skills, effort, responsibility, and working conditions.

•**Member of Equal Pay Coalition/NYC** - WCC helped organize conferences to publicize Equal Pay Day, the day in April when women's earnings catch up with what men made by December 31 of the previous year.

•**FMLA: Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA)**

Opposed regulations instituted by Bush administration that weaken the intent of FMLA by changing notification requirements and allowing employers to obtain confidential information from medical providers.

Future Action: WCC continues to work to rescind these regulations.

•**Supports NYS Paid Family and Medical Leave**

Although 12 million Americans have benefited from the FMLA, there are millions more who cannot afford to take leave without pay to care for a new baby, a newly adopted child, or a seriously ill family member. Currently, only three states offer such paid leave (California, Washington

State and New Jersey). NYS proposals would link paid family and medical leave to Temporary Disability Insurance, with the extension of benefits to be paid by an employee contribution of under \$1.00 per week.

Future Action: WCC continues to work with the Paid Family Leave Coalition to offer this benefit to working New Yorkers.

•Supported paid sick days as a basic labor standard

Most low-income working New Yorkers, many in restaurant and service industries, have no paid sick days. Only San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and Milwaukee have local ordinances requiring employers to provide this benefit. NYC's proposals would follow their examples by providing paid sick time based on number of hours worked. For example, San Francisco workers accrue one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked (approximately 9 days per year for a worker who works a 40 hour week.) In light of the recent swine flu outbreak during which New Yorkers were advised to stay home if they had flu-like symptoms, it is important to note that according to MomsRising.org, nearly half of private sector workers in the US do not have a single paid sick day. For them, staying home means losing pay. In this economy, that's a terrible choice to have to make.

Future Action: WCC continues advocacy to pass this law.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS:

•Supported City Council Clinic Access Bill

Advocated for passage of the New York City Council Clinic Access Bill that greatly improves women's ability to access health services at reproductive health clinics without being harassed or intimidated, allows police to arrest anyone blocking the entrance to a reproductive health clinic, and allows staff from the facility to make a complaint when protestors knowingly interfere with a clinic's operations.

SUCCESS: Passed by the City Council.

•Supported NYS Reproductive Health Act

The WCC supported and continues to monitor the progress of a bill that would update NYS' 1970 Abortion Law and keep New York State in the forefront of ensuring reproductive justice for women.

Future Action: WCC continues efforts to pass this law.

•Federal Regulations Limiting Contraceptive Information

Opposed federal regulations implemented in the final hours of the Bush Administration that limit access to contraception and increase the number of healthcare providers allowed to refuse women reproductive health information and services.

•Urged U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), under Obama Administration to rescind these regulations

Future Action: WCC continues efforts rescind the regulations.

•**Supported rescission of global gag-rule**

Opposed global-gag rule instituted by previous administration that denied monies to third-world countries that dispensed reproductive information and contraceptives to their population.

SUCCESS: President Obama rescinded this rule; WCC wrote and thanked him for this action.

PRISON/DRUG ISSUES:

Repeal of the Rockefeller Drug Laws

After many years of supporting the repeal of the Rockefeller Drug Laws in existence for more than 35 years, Governor Paterson and the legislature reached an agreement to dismantle much of the strict drug laws that have proved to be overly punitive and disproportionately harmful to minorities. The agreement will give discretion to judges to sentence first-time non-violent, as well as some repeat, offenders to drug treatment and other alternatives to prison.

Future Action: WCC continues to work for full repeal of these laws.

DRUG TESTING:

As a member of the Drug Policy Alliance, WCC urged Congress to eliminate funding for random drug testing of middle and high school students until more research is conducted to determine the efficacy and implications of this practice.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING / EXPLOITED CHILDREN:

WCC urged the Governor to sign the **Safe Harbor for Exploited Children Act**, which he did. The act will assure that juvenile prostitutes, many of whom are victims of human trafficking, are treated as victims of assault and statutory rape rather than criminals. The act also will establish the rehabilitative and protective services needed for this population.

Action: WCC thanked Governor Paterson for signing the bill into law.

NEW YORK JETS HOME GAMES:

As reported last year, WCC had written the Jets, the NFL, Giants Stadium and the New Jersey Attorney General's office protesting the harassment of women during half-time of the Jets' games. We were contacted by and met with the Meadowlands Sports Authority to discuss their proposals to stop this behavior.

SUCCESS: At WCC's suggestion, the Meadowlands Sports Authority expanded the proposed "Code of Ethics" to include fan-to-fan behavior.

Marjorie Ives, Chair

Helen Aronstein, Vice-Chair

Marisa Hagan

Carol Leimas

Jan Vinokour

Susan Heitner

Theresa Reilly

Beatrice Zimney

Beatrice Klier

Barbara Rochman

ARCHIVES / ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

WCC records the lives of leading members of WCC and documents, in their own words, how they have addressed the important issues of the City through their WCC work. WCC members conducting the interviews receive training in oral history interviewing techniques. This Committee also collects and manages WCC's archives that document the work and achievements of the WCC since its founding in 1915.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During this period, WCC recorded the oral histories of three WCC past presidents, the transcripts of which will be available by mid-year. Each records the story of a member who rose to become president of the WCC and includes her leadership roles before and after her presidency. The time frame is the 1990's. One was an expert in arts education and strategic planning, both of which she applied to her WCC work, and she instituted an overall focus to the work of the many disparate committees of that time. The second, a lawyer who is a born and bred New Yorker, had always involved herself in improving life for other New Yorkers. At WCC, working on many issues, she applied herself to fund-raising and established our endowment. The third is an Ethical Culture graduate who became a government worker and led work on rationalizing and improving the School Lunch program. Always politically active, she joined the civil rights protests in the South. As president, she coped with major concerns: finances, finding new quarters for WCC, overhauling the by-laws, as well as her real bent for framing policy to advocate with the City.

The presidents whose oral histories were recorded are Margot Howard, interviewed by Anne-Sophie Martz; Nora Lavori, interviewed by Blanche E. Lawton; and Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton, interviewed by Madelaine Piel.

The ARCHIVES of the Women's City Club of New York are housed at the **Hunter College Archives and Rare Books Library** located in the East Building of Hunter College / CUNY, East 68th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City. The Archives comprise documents, reports, letters, minutes of meetings, and photographs, all of which are processed and maintained by Hunter College Archivist and Librarian, **Professor Julio Hernandez-Delgado**. The collection is available to members, students and the general public. To locate specific documents, or to review what is available, members are invited to consult the Finding Guide at the WCC office or at the Library.

Anne-Sophie Martz, Chair
Blanche E. Lawton
Jean Moscow
Madelaine Piel

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee, with WCC staff, informs members and the public about WCC programs, member activities and advocacy actions.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CALENDAR: The monthly CALENDAR of WCC events is coordinated by WCC staff and mailed to 1000 public officials, other organizations, corporate partners and WCC members.

BULLETIN: About and for members, BULLETIN reports committee news, signals upcoming events and is mailed monthly with CALENDAR to members only. With the February 2009 issue, Dorothy Wilner succeeded Marilyn Wellemeyer as BULLETIN editor.

AGENDA: Edited by Marilyn Wellemeyer, WCC's quarterly magazine is sent to 1000 members, public officials, selected organizations, individuals and is posted on WCC's website. It includes articles written by members that report on public programs and special events and an opening "WCC ACTS" section that lists policy positions approved by the board, testimony delivered before legislative bodies and advocacy letters to support or oppose legislative and/or regulatory initiatives. Contributing reporters this year were Ruth Acker, Sheila Darnborough, Joan Freilich, Doris Hirsch, Marjorie Ives, Virginia Kassel, Joan McAllister, Jane McCarthy, Elaine Osterman, Madelaine Piel, Day Piercy, Joan Rothschild, Amy Selwyn, Marilyn Wellemeyer, Nada Westerman, Dorothy Wilner, Blaikie Worth.

ACTION ALERTS emailed by staff inform and ask members to participate in WCC approved advocacy actions.

WEBSITE (www.wccny.org), produced and maintained by Executive Director Paulette Geanacopoulos and Webmaster Morgan Pfaelzer, provides information about WCC's activities, current issues of CALENDAR and AGENDA and an account of our distinguished 94-year history. On average, the website receives over 36,000 hits per month, and an increasing number of new members find us through the website.

MEDIA RELATIONS and OUTREACH: Press releases on upcoming programs are distributed electronically to 1200 media outlets, public officials and organizations via readMedia, a statewide wire service to which WCC subscribes. Program announcements are emailed via Constant Contact.

STAFF: WCC Executive Director Paulette Geanacopoulos and Membership/Development Coordinator Jorge Ruiz have made invaluable contributions to the content and production of all publication endeavors.

VOLUNTEERS: The Committee welcomes volunteers. Please contact the WCC office for information.

Marilyn Wellemeyer, Chair

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members of the Development Committee worked hard throughout the year in a difficult fundraising climate. We are grateful to all who supported our activities by attending events, sending contributions, participating in the Civic Spirit Awards Dinner's silent auction, and taking ads in the program. A complete list of donors is included in this document.

Ruth Acker, Chair

Helen Aronstein, Katie Hut, Anne Impellizzeri

Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton, Madelaine Piel, Eva-Maria Tausig

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee assists the Board of Directors in exercising its fiduciary responsibilities to WCC's membership. Chaired by the Treasurer, it is responsible for preparing the annual operating budget for board approval and tracking and reporting actual income and expense items against the budget at each board meeting. To carry out its oversight duties, the committee reviews monthly financial statements prepared by an accounting staff person, monitors expenses, reviews individual program and development budgets and where appropriate suggests alternative courses of action. It also reviews and monitors the financial implications of WCC contracts.

For external reporting purposes, the committee conducts research and makes a recommendation to the board about the selection of the accounting firm to prepare required annual financial statements for Federal and State filings. As an organization qualified to do business under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, WCC is required to have annual financial statements audited by an accounting firm. The committee is then responsible for reviewing the audited financial statements and WCC's annual tax filings to insure accurate and timely reporting in compliance with various government agency requirements. The committee also oversees the submission of regular reports to the Better Business Bureau to maintain its Accredited Charity Status.

Regarding WCC's invested funds, the selection of individual equities or fixed income investments is managed by a professional investment advisory firm. The committee recommends investment policies and guidelines to the board taking into account the existing funding needs of WCC. The approved policies and guidelines are communicated to the investment advisor, following which the committee monitors the performance on a monthly basis to insure compliance with current guidelines. The committee then reports investment results to the board and to the membership at its annual meeting. While the ongoing focus of the committee

is current financial management, it also assists the Board of Directors in implementing WCC's long range strategic plans by developing and recommending sound long-term financial plans.

Joan Fabio, Treasurer
Ruth E. Acker, Ex-Officio, Johanna DiGiovanni, Elaine Osterman

WCC FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The fiscal year ended April 30, 2009, was a difficult one for the Women's City Club. Our invested funds suffered from the sharp decline in the financial markets and the economic recession took a toll on our donor base and our fundraising efforts. While we reduced our expenses as best we could without negatively impacting our advocacy and program activities, WCC unfortunately experienced a cash deficit for the year. As we enter the new fiscal year of 2010, there are several initiatives underway aimed at closing the gap and returning to a balanced budget.

THE WOMEN'S CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.

For the Fiscal Year Ended April 30, 2009

Summary of Revenue, Expense and Net Asset Values

REVENUE

Special Events	\$54,987
Programs	26,446
Members	113,481
Investment Income	<u>51,608</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$246,523

EXPENSE

Programs	\$287,906
Administration	43,154
Membership and Development	<u>21,866</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$352,926

NET DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	<u><u>(\$106,402)</u></u>
---------------------------------	----------------------------------

NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u><u>\$1,210,729</u></u>
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------

Current Year Revenue less Expense	(106,402)
Fund Transfers to General Operating	(68,835)
Assets Value (Losses)	<u>(294,943)</u>

NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$740,549</u></u>
-------------------------------	--------------------------------

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

WCC works to recruit and retain members to support and / or participate in our advocacy, public programs and special events.

FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RECRUITMENT - Members introduce and invite friends and acquaintances to WCC activities. Non-members who attend programs are contacted and invited to join the organization. To enhance networking and communications, a social half-hour precedes each public program.

ENGAGING NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

- RECEPTIONS: Thanks to the generosity of Claudia Oberwerger and Lu Scheier who opened their homes for this purpose, WCC organized two receptions for new and prospective members this year.
- COMMITTEE LINKAGES: Chairs are informed of the interests of new members so that they can reach out and invite them to committee meetings.
- MENTORING: Longer-term members are "assigned" a new member to introduce them to other members and encourage participation in events.
- NEW PUBLIC PROGRAM PROCEDURE: Members are invited to bring one guest, who s/he believes may join WCC, to one public program at no charge.

NEW MEMBERSHIP POLICY FOR THOSE 35 & UNDER:

To expand the base of younger members, a new procedure was approved effective May 2009 for a two year trial period: those 35 and under can join WCC at no charge. This group will have all the benefits of WCC membership, but will receive all communications via email or online.

Elsie Diamond & Blaikie Worth, Co-Chairs
Jane Creel, Laverne Patterson Dagrass, Angela Williams-Dunford,
Karen Johnson, Virginia Kassel, Bea Klier, Nannette Shaw,
Gopi Varma, Marilyn Wellemeyer, Sharon Yakata

IN MEMORIAM

Each year, we mourn the loss of members who passed away. In FY2009, we remember with fondness and great respect the following WCC supporters:

Seymour Edwards	August 2008
Helmut Friedlaender	December 2008
Margot Gayle	September 2008
Elinor Guggenheimer	September 2008
Gwendolyn Colbert Kushner	February 2009
Shirley Boberg Munyan	January 2009
Shirl M. Oppenheimer	August 2008
Marjorie M. Roth	February 2009
Joy Lattman Wouk	September 2008

Institutional Donors

Advantage Marketing
Ark Restaurant
The Bay and Paul
Foundations, Inc.
Bice Ristorante
The Block Grausman Fund
The Blue Ridge Foundation
Canaletto Restaurant
Carnegie Hall
Chelsea Piers
Consolidated Edison
of New York, Inc.
Cuddy & Feder, LLP
Ernst & Elfriede
Frank Foundation
Eugen Friedlaender
Foundation, Inc.
Fairway Market
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
InterSchool Orchestras
of New York
Kingsborough Community
College Auxiliary Enterprises, Inc.
Lavori Sterling Foundation Inc.
The Estee Lauder Companies
Luna Bar
League of American Orchestras
Lia Schorr Skin Care
Little MissMatched
Metropolitan Opera
Mount Sinai Children's
Environmental Health Center
Museum of Modern Art
Nails by Bessie
National Park Service
New York City Ballet
New York Knicks
RBC Capital Markets
Reavis Parent Lehrer, LLP
Robert N. & Nancy A.
Downey Foundation
Roy R. & Marie S.
Neuberger Foundation Inc.
Shula's American
Steak House
Starbucks
Syms Corporation
Tasters Guild NY
Thalassa Restaurant
Walnut Printing
WCC Board of Directors
WCC Membership Committee
WNBA New York Liberty
Wilf Foundation

Individual Donors

Anonymous
Sigmund Abeles
Helen H. Acker
Ruth E. Acker & Paul Heller
Miriam R. Adelman
Susan Alt
Linda Alvers
Joan Amron
Edith Anthoine
Charlotte P. Armstrong
Helen Aronstein
Hope W. Asrelsky
Margaret Ayres
Peter Baker
Priscilla K. Balch
Barbara G. Barrett
Rena Bartos
Sandra Barz
Jean Baumann
Pamela Bayless
Doris Beausoleil
Carolyn Benbow-Ross
Helen Benedict
Roberta Berger
Brenda Berkman
Barbara J. Cohn Berman
Ellyn S. Berman
Helen Birenbaum
Linda J. Blatz
Judi Rappoport Blitzer
Bernice Block
Agnes Bogart
Deanne Bosnak
Patricia F. Bowers
Ruth Clay Bowman
Edward Bradfield
Caroline Brady
Elizabeth Bramwell
Shirley Prager Branner
Beatrice H. Brennan
Gale A. Brewer
Dottie Brier
Jo Frances Brown
Virginia Brown
Patricia Brownell
Gloria J. Browne-Marshall
Chickie Bucco
Nancy M. Buckley
Stuart U. Buice
Roberta Burkan
Felice Burns
Ann Buttrick
Kathryn F. Calhoon
Nancy G. Carr

Margaret Cash
Gail Chesler
Chris S. Cho
Barbara Chocky
Annette Choolfaian
Isabel Collins
Alice B. Colona
Elaine Wingate Conway
Estelle Coppersmith
Ruth B. Cowan
Jane Creel
Florence S. Daniels
Sheila M. Darnborough
Cecille Davis
Elsie Diamond
Johanna M. DiGiovanni
Rose W. Dobrof
Clarice Donaldson
Mary E. Donnelly
Cynthia Doty
Arden Down
Kirsten Downey
Marjorie Harwich Drabkin
Muriel Dreiling
Goldie Brangman-Dumpson
Claire G. Edersheim
Marjorie Edwards
Gail Edwin
Pam Elam
Vicki Ellner
Gail Erickson
Eden Force Eskin
Sybil Evans
Joan Fabio
Toni G. Fay
Ruth M. Feder
Clarice Feinman
Edythe W. First
Myrna L. Fischman
Mary Louise K. Flood
Diane A. Fogg
Joan S. Freilich
Betty Friedman
Florence Frucher
Alana Frumkes
Ana Cristina Garcia
Paulette Geanacopoulos
Charlotte Gershowitz
Abby Gilmore &
Arthur P. Freierman
Gloria T. Glaser
Kristin Glen
Sarah & Seth Glickenhau
Ruth Gold
Rita Gordon
Ellen Gorman

Marianne C. Gourary
F. Cecil Grace
Jo-Ann Graham
Ann H. Greenberg
Grace L. Griffenberg
Eileen Grigg
Tosia Gringer
Ann Brownhill Gubernick
Nicole C. Guijarro
Marisa M. Hagan
Jane L. Havemeyer
Susan Heitner
Olga Henkel
G. Angela Henry
Frances A. Hess
Sally Hewitson
Mildred Hird
Doris Hirsch
Dorothy Hoberman
Madelyn Hochstein
Susan Shampaine Hopper
Dean Frances Degen
Horowitz
Cheryl Horowitz-Levy
Jenny A. Horst-Martz
Dorothy Hourihan
Margaret B. Howard
Anne H. Howat
Carolyn Hubbard-
Kamunanwire
Katherine Lisa Hut
Elaine K. Hyman
Claire B. Ianno
Anne E. Impellizzeri
Marjorie Ives
Zella C. Jackson
Amber Jamil
Jane Uetz Johnson
Karen L. Johnson
Betty Cheyne Jones
Linda C. Jones
Erica Jong
Ellen R. June
Julia Kagan
Brigitte Kahn
Sheila B. Kameron
Judge Deborah A. Kaplan
Lore W. Kaplan
Augusta Souza Kappner
Sheila Karstadt
Virginia W. Kassel
Cynthia S. Kayan
Eva Kelen
Rowena Jessica Kemp
Miriam Kerpen
Marilyn Klein

Beatrice A. Klier
Christine Knoblock
Karl Koff
Marianna Koval
Elizabeth M. Kramer
Sharon L. Daniel Kroeger
Esther Joy Krotinger
Hon. Liz Krueger
Ashley Lahoud
Nora Lavori
Hulda G. Lawrence
Blanche E. Lawton
Julia R. Lee
Mildred Robbins Leet
Carol A. Leimas
Betty L. Lev
Fran Levenson & Bernard
Warshavsky
Patricia S. Levinson
Barbara V. Levy
Marguerite F. Levy
Barbara Lewin
Lisa and Greg Lewin
Ricki Lieberman
Susan E. Linder
Hortense B. Lippman
Katherine S. Lobach
Janine Lockshin
Ann R. Loeb
Agnes Anthony Louard
Rita Jean Louard
Adlin H. Loud
Gena Lovett
Frances Low
Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton
Ruth Watson Lubic
Laura Ludwig
Elizabeth Lusskin
Phyllis and Ralph Lusskin
Shari Lusskin
Carri Lyon
Betty Machol
Wendy Mackenzie
Susan R. Malloy
Anita Engel Malon
Hon. Carolyn Maloney
Janet Marcus
Patricia A. Marks
Cathy Marshall
Anne-Sophie Martz
Diana J. Mason
Hon. Elizabeth A. Mason
Gerard A. McCallion
Jane E. McCarthy
Jeannie R. McCloskey
Margaret McClure

Tanya M. Melich
Hon. Ruth Messinger
Gertude G. Michelson
Sally Minard
Frances Mitchell
Jeanene M. Mitchell
Francine Mittelman
Jean S. Moscow
Mary C. Murphree
Elva G. Murphy
Maxine Myers
Constance H. Hogueet Neel
Iris D. Nelson-Schwartz
Heather Malkin Nesle
Roy R. Neuberger
Gloria S. Neuwirth
Leonie Newman
Elizabeth N. Norton
Helen Olson
Elaine Pevar Osterman
Ellen K. Pachnanda
Ethel S. Paley
Naomi Paley
Jessie Palmer
Frederic Papert
Elizabeth Patchias
Irene Pave
Clarence Pearson
Effie Smith Perry
Elisabeth Israels Perry
Regina Peruggi
Morgan Pfaelzer
Dorothy Christine Phillips
Eleanor Jackson Piel
Madelaine Piel
Day Piercy
Joan F. Piker
Hope Platt
Ellyn Polshek
Annabelle Prager
Kathleen J. Prestwidge
Donna J. Raffanello
Helen D. "Heidi" Reavis
Theresa M. Reilly
Geraldine E. Rhoads
Kurt Richwenger
Altrud Rickenback
Barbara T. Rochman
Sandra Priest Rose
Annette Y. Rosen
Pola Rosen
Carole Rosenberg
Sonya M. Rosenfeld
Roberta S. Ross
Barbara Ingersoll
Rothenberg

Joan Rothschild
Phyllis Rovine
Nancy Rucker and
William Miles
Barbara Rudder
Mary Ellen Rudolph
Stephan S. Russo
Valerie B. Salembier
Joan Saltzman
Ann S. Sand
Mignon Sauber
Stella Sberro-Cohan
Margery Schab
Marge Scheuer
Jean Way Schoonover
Susan F. Schulman
Maria Schweitzer
Martha Scotzin
Edith Segal
Elizabeth Seidman
Marian Seldes
Amy Selwyn
Nanette Shaw
Honorable Felice K. Shea
Marjorie Kelleher Shea
Kathleen M. Sheahan
Helen B. Sheldon
Saundra Shohen
Janice Weinman
Shorenstein
Elizabeth B. Shwal
Joanne H. Siegmund
Sunny Silver
Dorothy Silverman
Phyllis L. Sivin
Renee K. Sklar
Florentine J. Sokol
Jennifer C. Stark-Hernandez
Lisa Starzyk
Roschel Holland Stearns
Alice R. Steinberg
George Stelluto
Eleanor Stier
Margaret R. Stillman
Ellen B. Strickler
Marcy Syms
Eva-Maria Tausig
Lucille Cole Thomas
Nancy Ticktin
Alair A. Townsend
Nina Untermyer
Jo L. Vanderkloot
Jan L. Vinokour
Grace Lyu Volckhausen
Betsy Wade
Kathleen Waldron

Elaine M. Walsh and
Brenda McGowan
Irene C. Warshauer
Louise Y. Wasserberg
Marilyn R. Wellemeyer
Nada L. Westerman
Thomas Wharton
Orin B. Wilf
Anne G. Williams
Angela Williams-Dunford
Katherine Willinger
Dorothy H. Wilner
Orie Marie Wittek
Terry C. Woitach
Mary C. Wolf
Blaikie F. Worth
Sharon Sullivan Yakata
Bernice Zimney
Barbara Zucker
Celia C. Zuckerman

FY 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Ruth Acker

Vice Presidents

Sharon Yakata

Barbara Zucker

Treasurer

Joan Fabio

Secretaries

Arden Down

Nada Westerman

Co-Counsels

Eleanor Jackson Piel

Helen D. Reavis

Susan Alt * Laura Ludwig
Helen Aronstein Phyllis Lusskin *
Barbara Chocky Gloria Browne-Marshall
Annette Choolfaian Anne-Sophie Martz
Jane Creel Mary Murphree
Elsie Diamond Elaine Pevar Osterman
Goldie Dumpson * Ethel Paley *
Adele B. Filene * Day Piercy
Edythe W. First * Geraldine Rhoads
Joan Freilich Barbara Rochman
Doris Hirsch Annette Rosen
Margaret B. Howard * Mary Ellen Rudolph
Marjorie Ives Marjorie Kelleher Shea
Nora Lavori * Eleanor Stier
Blanche E. Lawton * Eva-Maria Tausig
Carol Leimas Rachelle C. Tessier
Frances Levenson Marilyn Wellemeyer
Elizabeth Lubetkin Lipton * Blaikie Worth
Ann R. Loeb Bernice Zimney

* *Honorary Directors*

FY 2009 Annual Report

Edit and Design: Paulette Geanacopoulos

Printing: Walnut Printing, Long Island City, NY



SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY

**WOMEN'S CITY CLUB
OF NEW YORK**

307 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1403
New York, NY 10001
T: 212.353.8070 F: 212.228.4665
info@wccny.org www.wccny.org