

## ***Group home facts weren't available***

Commissioner Arthur Webb's letter regarding the Corson's Brook Woods is clear evidence that community board chairman Edmund Murphy and land use committee chairman Philip Scampas have betrayed their responsibility to both the public and the State of New York.

As community board leaders, both of these men are fully aware of the City Planning Commission recommendations and plans to include the Corson's Brook Woods in the Greenbelt, and of protests last spring against construction in this woodland. They were present and in charge when Community Board 2 voted a formal resolution that the Corson's Brook Woods be included in the Greenbelt. Mr. Scampas, representing

Community Board 2, was present at the May 4 SIDC Task Force meeting when Commissioner Webb stated "opponents of the (construction) plan will be able to comment when OMRDD makes a presentation to Community Board 2."

During the summer, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Scampas met with James Walsh of OMRDD. They set up an unannounced meeting, not a public hearing, of several community board committees to hear an informational presentation by OMRDD. Then they arranged an unannounced presentation at the September community board meeting, where the public is not allowed to speak.

This maneuvering, which deliberately kept the concerned

public uninformed, deliberately denied the public the right to speak, is a betrayal of their responsibility to the community. State officials have been given the false impression that the community board is the community and that the community board had approved construction in the Corson's Brook Woods in violation of the board's own formal Greenbelt resolution.

Public issues are complicated enough without deceit, trickery and secret deals of community board leaders who think they are so important that they have the right to speak for the community board and the community. This kind of leadership is too costly to be allowed to continue.

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