

identify the appraisers.

"The price is way above market value. Some people don't like the idea of mentally retarded people in their neighborhood, but if the house was sold for a fair price, it would be different," said Angela Fumando, who lives behind the proposed home. She said the appraised price is twice the cost of an average home in Westerleigh.

She also voiced a concern shared by many residents about a decrease in property values, which Palevsky said does not happen because of group homes.

Ms. Fumando did admit that if the price was lower, many of the people would still complain be-

said the facility was a "done deal" and the community input meant nothing.

Palevsky tried to assure the audience that the deal was not complete and asked any interested parties to tour the association's other group homes to see how they function. He also said residents could join the neighborhood advisory committee that would serve as a liaison between the community and group home.

Jane Vredenburgh, Community Board 1 human resource committee chairwoman, said the board will meet soon and make its recommendations regarding the home.

cause they did not want mentally retarded people in their neighborhood.

"There are some people who (think) the mentally retarded are to be avoided, but I've worked with retarded children and I know they are loving and do not pose a threat," she said.

Many of her neighbors disagreed.

"They can get out and roam the neighborhood and kill one of us," said June Clark, a resident of nearby Constant Avenue.

At the end of the meeting, one man yelled out that he and his neighbors were not properly notified about the proposed home. He

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