WH's Admission Policy Breaches Admission Provisions Provided for in a November 1965 Agreement Authorized by New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law

See: Chapter 439 of the Law of the State of New York of 1965 restated Section 532-14.1 of the New York City Admin. Code, as added by Chapter 611 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1936, and as renumbered by Chapter 100 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1963, provides as follows:

"...that (1) [WH] may charge such fees as may be approved by the commissioner for entrance and admission to the premises...." [emphasis added]

Chapter 439 provided for the charging of admission fees, among other things, depending on whether the Commissioner of Parks managed or the stewards and staff of WH managed and operated WH. In a November 4, 1965, Agreement between the City of New York and WH, it was disclosed that the Commissioner did not assume responsibility for WH, and as such, admission charge provisions in the 1965 agreement stated in pertinent part:

"ELEVENTH. Wave Hill may charge admission fees which shall be fixed by it with written approval of the Commissioner All professors and teachers of public schools of the City or other institutions of learning in said City in which instruction is given free of charge shall be admitted...for independent and individual study, research and investigation free of any charge therefor. Wave Hill shall charge a general admission fee of no more than fifty cents per adult person, and less for children. Wave Hill shall have the right to charge a fee for parking of passenger cars..." [emphasis added].

NOTE: The November 4, 1965, Agreement between the City of New York and Wave Hill Incorporated was produced by New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs [DCA] in response to FA's Freedom of Information

Current Admissions Policy

See: <u>Tickets/Visit</u>

WH charges a fixed, mandatory admissions fee to non-WH Members over age six. Amounts vary for adults, students/seniors, and children over age six. Corporate members are admitted free. Free admission for all visitors on Thursday. Thursday tickets must be pre-ordered after 5:00 pm on the previous Monday.

Law [FOIL] requests. Its terms should be properly and legally scrutinized regarding compliance with controlling State laws.

Generally, State laws supersede City agreements.

WH's ADMISSION POLICY DOES NOT COMPLY with Chapter 439 as codified in an 11/04/65 Agreement because it:

- [1] <u>Denies</u> professors and teachers free access during all operating hours.
- [2] Charges an admission amount greater than the fifty-cents for adults and lesser for children, as is provided for in the 11/4/1965 Agreement.

Free access to the PEC institutions is unique to New Yorkers and is provided for in the laws and contracts applicable to the PPP structure. Stewards of PEC institutions may choose to charge an admission fee to other visitors.