

Triangle Fire Open Memorial Meeting – 23 August 2010

:: Initial ideas & comments

want memorial to reflect fight for women and labor
respect for people from all walks of life
relate to events - what has changed, what has not
how groups are connected, Italian + Jewish = different but connected
how this can relate to new immigrants
no text, no names
not static, something that is re-newed
something that transforms the space at the factory site
simple, powerful with the names,
wants discussion of socialist aspect – these women were not just victims
focus on women
the building is pivotal
rights for women, workers, immigrants
relation of past & present conditions
lessons learned – especially relating to worker safety
that the mistakes of the past were not in vain, constructive action can be taken
leave people with questions so that the conversation doesn't stop but continues
historical continuum of labor & society.
Accessible & speaking to young people (the age of the workers) about this history
this area was the original garment district
where (at the factory site) is as important as *what*
few monuments to women in nyc
many don't even know where this fire happened
cultural & social importance of naming
don't want list of names that has no emotional impact or engagement
do no harm – no Absolut Bottles & no environmental damage.

:: Brainstorm for building support

Creative Time, Fashion Week, Columbus Day Parade mailing list, Sites of Conscious/Tenement Museum
Chase/Amex community funds, Bloomberg matching funds, JC Penney, Federated, Macy's, other
companies reaching their 100 year anniversary, CUNY TV
Kickstarter
Descendants from the garment trade & celebrities - who?
Ask collaborating organizations to put memorial paypal donation button on their site
Givebacks – what thanks for participation: names sewn on a piece of cloth, DVD of LuLu LoLo,
button
Pros & cons of corporate sponsorship
Walking tour specifically for Triangle - NYC Visitors Bureau

:: Summary

The ideas that seemed to rise towards a sense of consensus were

- the names, people want in some form for the names to be incorporated
- a connection between the past & present fight for the rights of women, workers and immigrants
- dynamic, a continuing conversation and engagement
- visually striking and accessible to young people