



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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HENRIETTA LYLE  
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District Manager

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:30pm  
**Hon. Karen Horry, Chair**

Meeting began at 6:40 pm and was held in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference room. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Karen Horry, Chair.

**Committee Members in attendance:** Chair Karen Horry, Kevin Bitterman and Leevert Holmes

**Committee Members Excused:** Maurice Sessoms, Derrick Graham

**Committee Members Absent:** Lupe Moreno, Troy Gethers and Barbara Nelson

**Visiting New Board Member:** Jason Clark

**Guests in attendance:** Beth Bingham (New Yorkers 4 Parks/ Director of Planning and Research), Julio Baptista ( New York-Presbyterian/Director, Community Relations External Relations), Jade Rivero (Fredrick Douglass Academy – FDA), Guillermo DePena (FDA), Juan Campanion (FDA), Jason Fajardo (FDA), Tyreek Young (FDA), Jonte Wammack (FDA), Marie Littlejohn (Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard - ACP Malls), Jeanette Boyd (ACP Malls).

**PRESENTATIONS**

- A. **Open Space Index (OSI) Project – CB 10 Collaboration Advocacy – New Yorkers for Parks – Beth Bingham and New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center – Julio Baptista**  
The Open Space Index (OSI) is a set of 15 specific open space and sustainability standards designed to provide residents, community groups and public officials with data about the strengths and weaknesses of local open space conditions. Communities can use the OSI to assess and prioritize their open space needs, identify environmental sustainability opportunities and organize and build advocacy campaigns. Public officials can use the OSI to more effectively target capital spending on park and other open space improvements. New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P), an independent not-for-profit organization operating city-wide to bring equity to park users, will conduct the research assessment and compilation of data. OSIs have already been completed for City Council Districts 4 and 5, Mott Haven and East Harlem.

Julio Baptista/Director, Community Relations External Relations and Bethany Bingham/Director of Planning & Research have agreed to collaborate to explore resources required to possibly undertake the project as a focus of

pediatric research or some other interested health area. Mr. Baptista will meet with New York Presbyterian Research Departments to determine relevant research interests and will follow-up with the Parks and Recreation Committee to advise of next steps.

NY4P has District profiles currently available for City Council Districts including CD 9. This is a research tool that can be utilized to help community groups to assess the correlation between parks and green spaces and health data to inform funding needs.

**Outcome:** The Parks and Recreation Committee will follow-up via e-mail with Mr. Baptista and Ms. Bingham to ascertain how the dialogue is ensuing around commitment to the project for the CB 10 area.

- B. **Friends of the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd.- Marie Littlejohn - Soliciting Support for the Restoration of the ACP, Jr. Blvd. Malls from 110<sup>th</sup> Street to 152<sup>nd</sup> Street** – The location of Adam Clayton Powell (ACP), Jr. Blvd Malls ranges from West 110<sup>th</sup> Street to West 152<sup>nd</sup> Street on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd. and consists of 1.679 acres. It is a premier boulevard in Central Harlem. The all-volunteer Friends of ACP, Jr. Blvd. Malls is requesting support from the Community Board with respect to community outreach and volunteer recruitment to ensure that all of the malls are covered for this Spring's plantings.

The group will be launching a campaign in November 2016 to restore the malls in their entirety. The project is targeted for completion by 2018 in commemoration of the renowned Congressman Powell's 110<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The group is looking for partners to develop a strategic plan to facilitate funding for the multi-million dollar project. The plan is to have uniformity along the length of the mall with respect to horticultural landscaping. ACP, Jr. Blvd. Malls has recently received a grant to produce a brochure promoting their work and fundraising efforts.

This Spring's plantings will be done on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to Noon. CB 10 will send out an e-blast. Harlem Children's Zone, 32<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Explorers and the Girl Scouts are participating in the plantings along with other community residents.

The group suggested that the Community Board must hold developers more accountable in supporting the community as they engage here in CB 10.

**Outcome:** ACP, Jr. Blvd. Malls would like to make a 10 minute power point presentation at the June General Board meeting. The Committee offered an alternative to a presentation in the form of off-line Q&A through a survey or sign-in sheet at the General Board meeting in support of the project. This is in view of the upcoming filled agenda which includes election of officers. The

group was advised that the Community Board would not be able to assist with actual fundraising, but would support in community outreach. NY4P provided information regarding resources in assisting with strategic planning from other community-based organizations with similar projects. ACP, Jr. Blvd. Malls would like to include CB 10 as a partner on their brochure. The Committee's favorable sentiment of the project will be conveyed to the Executive Committee.

## DISCUSSIONS

**A. 2016 Parks and Recreation Committee Community Outreach Event – Committees** – Committee Members Kevin Bitterman and Leever Holmes will work on community outreach and aggregate data on local area block associations and other community-based organizations. Chair Karen Horry will contact NYC Parks to arrange for permit and arrangements to schedule resource organizations and NYC Parks agencies.

**Outcome:** The Committee expects to have plans in place for the September event by mid-June.

### Announcements:

**\*\*The Parks and Recreation Committee is proud to announce that the Jackie Robinson Park was selected as one of eight city parks on May 24<sup>th</sup> to be showcased in the NYC Parks Without Borders project out of 6000 city-wide nominations and will receive \$5 million dollars in renovations. The project will focus on the Edgecombe Avenue and 145<sup>th</sup> Street edges.**

The June agenda will include the continued exploration of a skateboard park facility within CB 10 and will invite experienced skateboarders to share their perspectives.

CB 12 will be getting 10 additional PEP Officers and we are awaiting response as to how many officers CB 10 will be getting.

The Committee **did not have quorum**. Three of the nine standing members were absent and two members excused. The Committee strongly suggests that members attend to achieve quorum for all future meetings.

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.**