



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, June 10th, 2015, 6:30pm
Hon. Karen Horry, Chair

Meeting began at 6:50 pm and was held in the Manhattan CB10 conference room. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Karen Horry, Chair.

Committee Members in attendance: Chair Karen Horry

Committee Members Excused: Barbara Nelson

Committee Members Absent: Lupe Moreno, Derrick Graham, Troy Gethers and Dabney Montgomery.

Guests in attendance: Shamell Martin (Partnership for Parks), Steve Simon (NYC Parks- Manhattan Chief of Staff), Michelle Langlie (NYC DPR), Margaret Hoffman (GROW NYC), John Krawchuk (NYC Parks- Director of Historic Preservation) and Armando Buret (District Office Intern).

A Moment of Silence was commemorated to the Memory of Community Activist Mr. Richard Toussaint of the Harlem River Park Task Force.

PRESENTATION

- A. **NYC Plan for Restoration of the Mt. Morris Fire Watchtower in Marcus Garvey Park – Michelle Langlie NYC Parks Project Manager & John Krawchuk Director of Historic Preservation** – NYC Parks is requesting a letter in support of the project to reconstruct the landmarked Mount Morris Fire Watchtower located in Marcus Garvey Park, bounded by Mount Morris Park West, West 124th Street, Madison Avenue and West 120th Street within CB 11. The proposed restoration and construction project for the landmarked structure is slated for completion by summer 2017.

The majority of the work will be done at foundry where original processes will be used to recreate the tower's features. Assemblage will be onsite with minimal disruption to Marcus Garvey Park activities.

NYC Parks Department presented the proposed design and scope of work and outlined the following goals:

- i. Restore tower components, retaining as much original fabric as feasible
- ii. Restore historic relation to topography by removing portions of plaza paving and wall regrading
- iii. Restore original roof configuration based on historic photos
- iv. Reinforce structure with internal cross bracing
- v. Remove the rods that impede stair access
- vi. Extend railing height at 4th level to 42” from historic height
- vii. Provide new security fencing panels between columns

The project will also include the reinstallation of the 150 year old bell which will be automated to ring, resounding through the Central Harlem area.

Outcome: The Committee sentiment was in favor of the project and will communicate with CB11 to determine their position. In view of a lack of quorum a vote was not taken in Committee. If the project is supported by CB11 the Committee will draft a letter of support and submit to the Executive Committee.

CB 11 unanimously supported the project at their June 16th full board meeting.

DISCUSSIONS

- A. **Rucker Anniversary Celebration – George Ball, Program Director/National Association of Each One Teach One, Inc.** - Rucker Park will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of it's existence by inviting a host of former NBA, Harlem Globetrotters and Play ground legends back to the legendary basketball Mecca to take part in a weekend of festivities. The historic event is scheduled for August 14-16th. Events surrounding the 50 Years of influence and achievement will be highlighted along with the memorable contributions of basketball legends. The event will be attended by celebrities and elected officials. Activities will include games, giveaways and a presentation of the history of the original Rucker Pro Tournament. The event is presented by Each One Teach One and

sponsored by Rucker Pro Legends, Harlem Professionals Inc. and The New York KNICKS.

Outcome: Mr. Ball was unable to attend. Manhattan CB 10 will be represented at the event.

B. Development of Farmer's Market Procedures for CB 10 – Margaret Hoffman, GROW NYC – The Grow NYC's Farmers Greenmarket Program was founded in 1976 with a two-fold mission; (1) to promote regional agriculture by providing small family farms the opportunity to sell their locally grown products directly to consumers, and (2) to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the freshest, most nutritious locally grown food the region has to offer.

GROW NYC is always looking for new locations in New York City with heavy foot traffic, room for trucks, and community support. GROW NYC operates the Greenmarket Program in a wide variety of locations in New York City, on wide sidewalks to closed streets, private plazas, parking lots, even inside parks and transportation hubs.

The Community organization is required to have a local sponsor (e.g. BID, block association, church, community center, co-op, tenants association) for promotion assistance and on site storage (fliers, a table, a tent, etc). The most desirable sites are (1) well known, easily visible and accessible, (2) in a neighborhood of medium to high density, (3) have significant existing foot traffic, (4) have parking for farmers' trucks and (5) have sanitary facilities for farmers

GROW NYC is the largest and most established agency providing support to community-based Farmers' markets and is one resource option for community farmers' markets. The basic procedure to start a farmer's market through GROW NYC is as follows:

1. Applying organization analyzes suggested site appropriateness through the GROW NYC website: <http://www.grownyc.org/>
2. Site identification is based on community-generated interest or initiation
3. Community organization must substantiate/document community support
4. Community organization contacts GROW NYC

5. GROW NYC reviews site for acceptability with respect to layout and sustainability
6. GROW NYC presents prospect to the Parks and Recreation Committee of the local Community Board
7. Letter of Support or Resolution obtained from full Board
8. GROW NYC obtains permits from the appropriate agencies, staffs markets with farmers and managers, provides outreach to community and promotes the markets
9. A local sponsor (e.g. BID, block association, church, community center, co-op, tenants association) is partnered with for promotion assistance and on site storage (fliers, a table, a tent, etc), and

Outcome: The Committee will use this information to develop a standardized process to be utilized in Committee review of requests for Community Board support of farmers' market establishment in CB 10.

C. DISTRICT NEEDS STATEMENT – The Committee is continuing to review and compare capital and expense submissions for the Parks and Recreation Committee that were either rejected or accepted in the Register of Community Board Budget Requests For the Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2016. The Committee is also providing updates indicating newly developed needs.

Outcome: As an outgrowth of the discussion on the District Needs, an ongoing sanitation problem existing between Harlem River Park and Harlem River Houses' dumpster management was brought to the attention of the Committee. It is recommended that CB 10 advise CB 11 of the concerns.

The Committee will continue to review the current District Needs Statement and plans to submit at the June Executive Committee Meeting.

There were no Committee Members present other than the Committee Chair. Four of the six standing members were absent and one was excused. The Committee strongly suggests that new Board Appointees be assigned to the Parks and Recreation Committee in addition to the standing Members to ensure achievement of future quorums.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.