

Waterfront/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday December 7, 2011 at Broadway Housing 583 Riverside Drive 7th floor
Meeting called to order at 7:06pm

CB9 Public member in attendance: Jen Silverman

Public attendees: Allyson Schill-Grow NYC, Terese Flores-NYC Parks, Joe Rusiello-NYC Parks, Laci Aribé

Minutes of November 2011 Meeting adopted

Presentations and discussions:

Alyson Schill of Grow NYC Office of Recycling Outreach & Education gave an overview of the various recycling programs administered by the agency which is funded in part by the office of the mayor of NYC. Among the programs discussed by Ms. Schill were the Green Markets program, Grow to Learn, Health & Space Greening program, and Youth Markets. The Youth Markets program teaches high school students how to grow healthy foods and targets areas of the city with high rates of youth obesity and diabetes. She also discussed at length recycling programs that teach tenants of buildings how to recycle. She also provided a number of brochures for follow-up.

Next on the agenda Arnold Boatner announced that the Urban Youth Foresters program was being postponed until the spring of 2012. This was done due to the fact that most of the students recruited are enrolled in charter schools, and the logistics of getting the students to the forester training on-time made it impossible to start the training sessions on time.

Also there was a discussion of the Horticultural Society CB9 letter of support proposal for a training program administered by the society for a green roofs water recycling initiative. There was extensive discussion regarding the details of the proposal and the funding being sought for the initiative. The total cost of the proposal is approximately \$450,000 for training 45 people over a two year period. The primary funding source being pursued is the WHLDC.

Brad Taylor next discussed a resolution in support of the repair and rehabilitation of the greenhouse at Riverbank State Park seeking both private and public funding. The committee vote was unanimous in support of resolution.

Vicky Gholson called for a public hearing on Riverbank State Park to address issues of concern voiced by the community. A meeting with the new commissioner of state parks was proposed by Gholson.

Vicky Gholson next discussed efforts by members of her senior arts community organization to designate a parcel of public land as an historical site. The Seniors Sculpture Garden is a parcel of land owned by the DEP that is part of the Croton Aqueduct reservoir system. Gholson wants a letter of support to be written to the New York state agency responsible for historic registry. Gholson was also referred to Michael Henry Adams a staff member of State Senator Bill Perkins office for follow-up.

Public member Jen Silverman discussed a sidewalk needed near Covo Restaurant in Riverside Park and the dangers to the public presented by the lack of a sidewalk. Silverman was referred to the Uniformed Services Committee for follow-up with the DOT.

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Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15pm

Submitted by Arnold Boatner