

The City of New York

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES May 2023

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson said good evening everyone. The presenters have the floor. So, officially, you can begin.

Okay so my name's **Gary Dearborn**. I supervised capital work for the **New York Restoration Projects**. We're a small not for profit been around for almost 30 years and we own a series of community gardens around the city. That are open to the public, and for our gardeners, and last year we applied to the state for capital funding to improve 6 gardens. 5 of which are in the Bronx 1 in Brooklyn. Two of those gardens are in your district and community board district one It's called Willis Avenue Garden on Wilson and 143rd street. The other one is called members Dalia Garden, which is on Courtland Avenue Bronx, NY.

As part of the grant, the state requires that a body with some official capacity review and approve the work. And we felt that being the official representative of the community, the community boards would be the most appropriate, rather than going to the parks department or something. So, these are privately owned gardens that are held in a land trust.

We've owned them since about year 2000, so it's been about 23 years and they're open to the public. We provide support and maintenance and on occasion, like, tonight what I'm explaining, I'm talking about capital improvements.

We have a garden membership on all of our gardens, and they have keys. have keys to the gates and are obligated to open them up certain hours and there's gardening beds so people can grow vegetables or herbs. And in some of these gardens, like the Willis Avenue Garden, we have performance events, cultural events barbecues.

You know, they become like people's backyards. So, what I'd like to do, if I could just share a quick slide deck, just to explain the work. But I'm happy to answer any questions if anyone has, you know, feel free to interrupt.

So, this is just a listing of the locations, the 2 that I'd like to speak to you tonight about Willis Avenue Garden and members garden,

but there's a few other sites and this is just a map from our grant application. Both are in in. Mr. Dearborn spoke in order to move forward with receiving this grant, this institution must seek municipal endorsement from the community boards.

So, nonprofits must attach an official endorsement on letterhead from the community board in which the project is located for projects involving multiple modalities.

Endorsement is required from the, with a planning jurisdiction and only or affecting property. So, the sample resolution ladies and gentlemen is whereas. The new administration project has been award grant under the Environmental Protection fund. A grant program administered by the New York State office, of Parks and Recreation.

The project to be located at 2 locations, including 401 East 140, 33 the Bronx, New York, 104, 54 and 724 Cortland Avenue, Bronx, New York, 10451 located within the territory within the territory Jurisdiction Bronx community board 1 of the city of New York, So, we don't have a quorum so the item will be tabled to the board meeting.

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson asked if anyone had any questions?

Questions and Answers

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED