

## Bronx Community Board No. 10

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## Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting April 24, 2018, 7:30 PM

Present: K. Lynch, R. Bieder Absent: T. Franklin; D. Krynicki

Guests: K. Toal, Senior Operations Coordinator, Wildlife Unit, NYC Parks & Recreation

Observers: E. Gonzalez, III

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Katrina Tolle of the NYC Parks & Recreation Wildlife Unit gave an update to the Committee on the Coyote population living in the Board 10 area. They have been a presence in the Bronx since the mid 1990s. The Wildlife Unit has partnered with the Gotham Coyote Project to study the animals.

Three coyotes have received GPS tracking collars in the Ferry Point Park area. The devices allow their habits and their adaptation to urban life to be tracked and studied. Coyotes are resourceful and are feeding off berries, grasses, seeds, birds, and rodents. The collars will track the coyotes for one year. The coyotes are staying in green spaces rather than mixing with the human community. They are not nocturnal animals, though they typically become more active in the evening. The study has identified at least 6 coyotes in Ferry Point Park. Other populations are present in Pelham Bay Park and elsewhere.

## **Old Business**

The two Parks & Recreation Committee resolutions which could not be voted on at the April Board Meeting due to lack of quorum, will be presented again at the May Board Meeting.

## **New Business**

Mr. Bieder reported on the Mayor's Fund To Advance NYC, which appeared at the Youth and Education Committee on 4/23/18. They are proposing installing a soccer field at a school in Co-op City and also asked for suggestions of other sites. Mr. Bieder would like to propose a mini soccer field at Pearly Gates Park and would like the Committee to conduct outreach to the community to see if there is support for such a suggestion. It was proposed that Sandy Lusk of the Westchester Square Zerega Organization, also be consulted.

Mr. Lynch reported that the Parks Department has a new online tool NYC Street Tree Map to track City trees. Trees can also be requested on line. The Board Office can assist residents with using the tool.

Mr. Lynch discussed the need to restore property which was used by DOT during the City Island Bridge construction project, and belongs to the Parks Department, Catherine Scott Park. The bridge project is clearing out and that area needs to be returned to the Parks Department for use by the residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM