



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
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Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 5, 2020
Community Board 11 Office

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:09 p.m.

PRESENT: Patricia Charles, Chair; Edith Blitzer; Debra Kawalick; Joseph Menta; John Musto; Lisa Soto; and Janice Walcott.

EXCUSED: Dominick Schiano

ABSENT: Jacob Rosado.

GUESTS: Valerie Davis O'Neal; Matt Doiron, Parks; Roxanne Delgado, Friends of Pelham Parkway

Everyone introduced themselves.

Matt explained the parks information (available online) in community board 11. Parks are divided into zones. Cb11 is in zones 1, 2 and part of 3. He explained the differences between parks and playgrounds. A moratorium has been placed on Pelham Parkway and no planting, etc. can be done.

Parks Committee will visit the parks to see what is need as a capital project. Different equipment was discussed and that many of the older equipment is now considered unsafe. Need for age appropriate equipment to be installed.

Matt explained that the designers will determine which equipment is to be installed. Park house at Zimmerman Playground is unsafe and needs to be replaced. Cost for Zimmerman is \$5 million plus. Matt explained funding needs to come from capital improvement upgrade for Eastchester Gardens. Does not come out of Parks budget. City Council members get to decide how they will spend their funds. Gates on playgrounds was discussed. Possibility that Parks might be able to do it in-house.

Matt explained process to have money allocated for projects. Need elected officials to commit to a particular project; letter to parks commissioner who would determine where the money is needed.

Eastchester Gardens Capital Project and its needs was discussed, as well as Loreto Park; half of which would be closed for 2-3 months; basketball and handball courts.

The change in direction of the baseball fields was brought up and the problems it would cause; balls going into the street and traffic.

Matt stated that any changes to the design would bring the project back to square one. Installing netting to help prevent the balls getting into traffic was proposed.

Process for deciding on parks projects:

1. Identify park
2. Establish date to survey park
3. Take pictures of areas that need improvement
4. Due written tutorial
5. Send information to parks commissioner
6. Final Report

Pat will be organizing the team; Edith will work with commissioner's office to ask them what they would like to see; Debbie will take photos; Other members will take an area and let the committee know what is needed.

Discussion on whether to submit one or two projects ensued; with the decision to submit both Eastchester Gardens and Zimmerman Parkhouse.

Matt announced that Waring and Loreto Park would be going into capital project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes typed and formatted and by staff.