



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
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Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.
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- Community Development & Budget Priorities*
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- Land Use*
- Parks & Recreation*
- Public Safety*
- Sanitation & Environmental Protection*
- Transportation*

Parks & Recreation Committee
 May 5, 2021
 Webex Meetings

MINUTES

PRESENT: Lisa Soto, Chair; Edith Blitzer; Debra Kawalick; and Janice Walcott

GUESTS: Matt Caulfield and Roxanne Delgado, members of the public; Diana Finch, Bronx Park East Community Association; Judi Desire, Uptown & Boogie Bicycle Advocacy; and Matt Doiron, New York City Parks Department

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

1. October and November 2020 and January 2021 Meeting Minutes
 The Committee approved all sets of minutes.
2. NY Botanical Garden Bronx Park East ADA Entrance Ramp Issue tabled, representative from the Garden not present.
3. Loreto Playground Dog Run Petition
 - a. Matt Dorion will look into whether or not the Parks Department had issued an objection to this, but recommends going through the local elected official for discretionary funding and a statement from St. Francis Xavier regarding their support or opposition
 - b. Edith will speak to Councilmember Gjonaj about the issue
 - c. Issue tabled until we hear back from the parties above
4. Other Parks Issues
 - a. Rat holes along Pelham Parkway and Holland Avenue: Parks Department is not allowed to put poison down holes or cover with mesh. They are only allowed to bait
 - b. Illegal BBQs: PEP officers will not be increased by much this year, and they do their best but cannot be everywhere. Signs will be installed along the parkway and other areas. They do not have jurisdiction to enforce BBQs on sidewalks. Matt Doiron will follow up with a phone number to call to report illegal BBQs
 - c. Zimmerman Playground: follow up on estimate for renovation of bathroom facilities. Survey was done five years ago. Matt believes the amount will be approximately \$20 million (rough estimate),

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however an official estimate must come from the capital division at the request of the borough commissioner. Matt will put in this request for us. Once we receive the capital estimate, then the funding request has to go to the capital division of parks through an elected official. Letter of non-objection submitted by CB 11 to support the federal funding application as well. Federal funding, however, can take years

5. Surveying Parks Properties Next Steps
 - a. Goal is to identify areas of need and request funding estimates from Parks, then submit to electeds for consideration for capital projects based on our priorities
 - b. Matt to email us all parks properties so we can determine next steps in the survey

6. Gallery Session
 - a. Matt Caulfield raised concerns regarding the dog run: Reached out to the CB11 Chair who had no concerns and St. Francis Xavier School does not want to get involved. Matt to submit the petition of over 600 signatures and reached out to electeds, who recommend he reach out to CB11
 - b. Roxanne Delgado agreed with Mr. Caulfield on the need for a dog run...and requested No BBQing signs
 - c. Diana Finch provided a Waring Playground construction progress update and agreed with the need to renovate Zimmerman Playground
 - d. Judi Desire: working to set up a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) with the Parks Department as a first step to a farmers market in the area at Bronx Park East and Brady Ave. CSA to begin in June to run for 22 weeks at \$20 per week on Tuesday mornings. June 1 event to test produce and educate the community on how CSAs work: www.bronxparkcsa.com.
The Committee recommends that she reaches out to Jeremy to speak at the general board meeting about her initiative. Pelham Parkway Neighborhood Association will also post information on its website

7. Old Business
 - a. Minutes takers will be decided at the beginning of each meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Minutes by Lisa Soto, edited and formatted by staff.

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