

# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

## PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	January 08, 2025
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	<a href="#">Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center</a> 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer   ✓ Gwendolyn Thomas Steed ✓ Tasha Andrews   ✓ Marcus McLarty   _ Tobie Buford _ Esme Sattaur-Low   ✓ Jesús López-Jensen
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

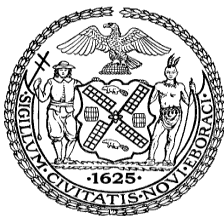
### Minutes:

- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting were read
- II. Attendance was taken and quorum was met
- III. Review of Previous Minutes
  - A. The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed and accepted.
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month
  - A. Water Main Break in Front of Webster House:
    1. Joe Magneri stated the water damaged one side of the building but luckily did not touch the other side of the building where a new boiler was recently installed. Once the weather gets warmer, a cleanup of the area will be done.
  - B. Tree Lighting Ceremony:
    1. Suggestions for next year include inviting Norwood Community Library to give out free books.
    2. There should be two tables for hot chocolate because the lines were long.
- V. New Business
  - A. Tennis Courts at Williamsbridge Oval:
    1. A request to convert 2 of the 8 tennis courts at the Oval to Pickleball courts was made. The popularity of the game has created a need for this conversion.
      - a) **Motion:** The Parks' Committee is in favor of converting two tennis courts at Williamsbridge Oval to Pickleball Courts on a temporary

THIS MEETING'S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

E-MAIL: [KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV](mailto:KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV) ♦ WEBSITE: [WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7](http://WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7)



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basis. As long as there is a demand for participation in Pickleball, the committee is in favor of this conversion.

2. A vote was taken and all were in favor of the motion.

#### **B. Public Safety In Bronx CB7 Parks:**

1. Incidents at local parks have been brought to the attention of the board. Although we have two parks with PEP officers, the officers remain in the building and do not observe what is happening in the park.
2. Joe Magneri mentioned the lack of PEP officers and he promised to check if PEP officers can supervise outdoors as opposed to remaining inside the recreation buildings.

#### **C. Park Maintenance:**

1. Joe Magneri has been interviewing candidates for summer help and currently his staff is being used as a roving crew for each park for maintenance tasks.
  - a) Garbage Pickup: Complaints regarding spillage when emptying trash bins were made. Joe will speak with his staff regarding this issue.
  - b) Condition of Parks: The parks have been cleaner than usual as a result of the lack of usage due to the cold weather.
  - c) Suggestions for Next Spring and Summer: Additional staff is needed during the summer months. The Bronx recently received 40 CPW's but the exact number for each district is not yet known.

#### **D. Other Items:**

1. A suggestion was made to dedicate a bench at the Oval in memory of Dwight Downer, who was tragically killed in a road collision. As a local volunteer football coach for the Bronx Buccaneers Football League, he spent hours working with youngsters at the Oval. The committee liked the suggestion and will report back next month on this possibility.

**VI. Next Meeting Date: February 12, 2025**

**VII. Discussion on Next Agenda: A presentation by the Citizens Committee for New York is planned.**

**VIII. Adjournment: Meeting is adjourned.**