

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:	March 12, 2025
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Gwen Thomas Steed ✓ Tasha Andrews _ Marcus McLarty ✓ Tobie Buford ✓ Esme Sattaur-Low ✓ Jesús López-Jensen
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

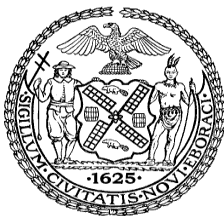
Minutes:

- 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 January meeting were reviewed and accepted.
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month**
 - A. NYC Public Observatory:**
 1. The Goulden avenue site selection was rejected because the New York City Parks Legal department would require the Amateur Astronomer's Association to be responsible for all liabilities at this site.
 2. Since the association is a small, not-for-profit, the group could not carry this risk. Therefore, the group is still locating a new site.
 - B. Adopt-A-Bench:**
 1. Council Member Dinowitz announced his office would pick up the cost of renaming a bench at Williamsbridge Oval in memory of Dwight Downer from the Buccaneers.
- V. New Business**

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

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A. Citizens Committee for New York City - Presentation by Carlos Santiago (<https://bit.ly/4kybHLK>)

1. Carlos discussed the two grants offered by the Citizens Committee.
 - a) Community Leaders Grant
 - b) Neighborhood Business Grant
2. He explained the dates that applicants must follow when submitting an application and he encouraged all groups to apply and reapply in the future.

B. Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) - Presentation by Jessica Einhorn (<https://bit.ly/4kya1So>)

1. Jessica who heads the Forestry Division presented a summary of the Parks' Department new approach to tree planting. This new method eliminates public tree planting requests and areas will be reached on a three year basis with stump removals, tree bed closures, and new tree plantings done throughout a given area or neighborhood at a time.
2. Currently, the new plan is in a transitional stage through 2026 and it should fully be implemented by 2027.

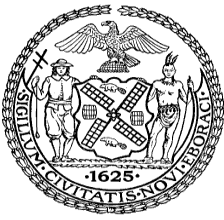
C. Maintenance Updates

1. No one from the Maintenance Division of Parks was in attendance.

VI. Recreation Centers

A. Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center:

1. Pamela Coleman, Recreation Specialist, gave an update on events planned for the next month.
 - a) Open House from March 23rd to March 29th.
Non-members may attend and programs include a silent disco and after-school activities.



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- b) Annual Egg Hunt on April 19th.
- c) Summer Camp for ages 6-13 is being planned again for the summer.

VII. Other Items:

A. Christopher Taylor, a local Boy Scout was introduced at the end of the meeting. He came to observe how the committee functions. He was applauded for his efforts and urged to join us again in the future.

VIII. Next Meeting Date: April 9, 2025

IX. Discussion on Next Agenda: A local Pickleball player asked to present at next month's meeting.

X. Adjournment - Meeting is adjourned