

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

LEURYS ACOSTA, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	September 10, 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 ✓ Yini Rodriguez
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

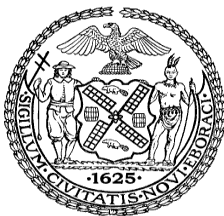
Minutes:

- I. The meeting began with the reading of the code of conduct and the taking of attendance.
- II. A request was made for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda. Katerine Borrome, the Director of Capital Projects for Parks, sent a letter requesting a letter of support for the rehabilitation of two parks in another board area of the Bronx. Committee members agreed to the inclusion of this item.
- III. Last month's minutes were read and approved.
- IV. **New Business:**
 - A. Letter of Support for the Rehabilitation of Ben Abrams and Matthews Muliner Playgrounds: The playgrounds are in the area of the Greater Morris Park Downtown Revitalization Initiative Funding Opportunity. It is hoped to have both these playgrounds rehabilitated, along with the improvements in this business area. The committee felt support for this project was needed, even though the area is not within our board.
 1. Motion I: A letter of support be sent to Parks, requesting these two playgrounds be considered for rehabilitation funding as part of the Greater Morris Park Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI).

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 ♦ WEBSITE: WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7



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2. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

B. Summer Quality of Life & Public Safety Issues: No one from Parks' Maintenance or the Police Dept. attended the meeting. A major concern was the violence, which occurred at Williamsbridge Oval Park.

C. Parks' Enforcement Patrol: Capt. Lorenzo attended the meeting. Her staff is now down to 22 officers for the entire borough. Members of the committee had questions regarding the coverage of the outside park areas at both St. James and Williamsbridge Oval Parks. Requests for more visibility at the Oval were made. Capt. Lorenzo stated that PEP officers are required to remain indoors as a result of Fire Guard regulations. She also described how short-handed her crew currently is and requested support for both additional officers and more overtime work.

1. Motion II: A letter be sent to Commissioner Iris Rodriquez Rosa and Bronx Commissioner Aponte requesting that additional PEP officers be hired for the Bronx. In the meantime, we are requesting longer hours for the current PEP officers.

2. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

D. Capital Project Updates: No one from Parks attended to provide an update for these projects.

E. Parks' Recreation Centers and Volunteer Group Updates: Tobie reported on the book giveaway at Devoe Park. Elizabeth Quaranta, from The Future of Mosholu Parkland, described her work with the summer youth workers. She also related her experiences working with the youngsters at PS 8 and PS 167.

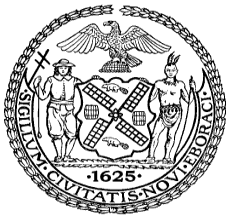
F. Tree Count NYC: A request for volunteers for this project was made. Instructions will be given on the morning of the count. Volunteers are asked to meet at Mosholu Parkway South and East 204th Street on Monday, Sept 15th at 10:00 AM.

G. Review of FY 26 Capital & Expense Budgets: The committee reviewed all items in the past year's budget. Most responses stated a lack of funding and advised one to contact elected officials for funding.

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H. Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Expense Budget Requests: The committee decided to keep all current requests in place for next year's budget. Items that were marked as 'in progress' will also be kept until construction actually begins.

1. New items include:

a) Rehabilitation of the Playground at French Charlie's Park.

b) Renovation of the Dog Run at Williamsbridge Oval.

I. Expense Budget Requests: Item number 12 needs clarification. Equipment should be listed separately from the need for more park workers to be stationed at the many parks in our board area.

V. The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8th. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.