



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON VACANT, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	February 8, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Meeting Recording:	https://youtu.be/vQ6IW29Xydw
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Tasha Andrews ✓ Daisy Perry ✓ Gwendolyn Thomas Steed ✓ Ruth Caraballo ✓ Tobie Buford
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

I. Attendance/Introductions

II. The minutes were accepted as presented.

III. New Business:

A. Forestry: Tyler Wilcox, the Director of Forestry’s Bronx Operations attended the meeting. There were many questions regarding the lack of tree maintenance. The paving of tree pits by several merchants on 204th St was discussed. A list of these areas will be forwarded to Parks’.

Mr. Wilcox explained the Trees and Sidewalks Program which is used for 1-3 family homes. Questions regarding past 311 complaints, which were never addressed, were answered by a description of the Risk Management Program, which the department uses.

B. PickleBall Courts at Williamsbridge Oval: Katerine Barrone from the Dept. of Parks’ discussed plans to create two Pickleball courts on the multi-purpose

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

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area of Williamsbridge Oval near the skate park. The courts would be done in-house and be ready by the spring. The current use of the area for pick-up games would not be affected since the area is large enough to contain both activities.

C. Presentation from the American Institute of Architects & American Society of Landscape Architects:

Joseph Corbin and David Russo discussed the pro bono work, which was done along Mosholu Parkway. Both associations are working to develop a master plan for the rehabilitation of Mosholu Parkway. 150 interviews with residents were conducted along the Parkway. They will also be discussing their findings with DOT, the Parks' Dept., and the Friends. It was requested that they also meet with CB#7.

D. Recreation Centers:

1. Sheroly Jones reported on events at St. James Park. Work has not started on the recreation center. All activities this spring will be outdoors.
2. Sarah Bishow reported on the activities at Williamsbridge Oval. Week-long events are planned for the winter break from school. The Winter Olympics and a tea party are scheduled. They are also planning to schedule the Shakespeare mobile unit some time during May.

E. Friends' Groups:

1. Friends of Mosholu Parkland are working on the edible garden and have started their cleanup activities along the Parkway.
2. The Friends of Devoe Park are scheduling events for this spring and summer. These events include a play mobile, and pollination program.

Chad Royer complained about the electric scooters riding through Devoe Park and the need for more PEP officers. Joe Magneri, the Parks' Manager described the problem as happening in many of their parks.



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Barbara thanked Parks for the excellent cleanup recently done along Mosholu South and North from Marion/Hull Avenues to Webster Avenue. Tasha Andrews inquired as to who is responsible for drawing the lines on the football field at the Oval.

All were invited to attend the "Bronx Parks' Speak-up" event which is being held at Lehman College on Sat. February 25th. Admission is free.

The next Parks' meeting is scheduled for Wed. March 8th. It is hoped the Parks' Manager will be able to announce staffing plans for the spring throughout our board area.

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