



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:	March 8, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Meeting Recording:	https://youtu.be/Q2x1MCr-2g8
Members In Attendance:	<p>✓ <u>Barbara Stronczer</u> __ Betty Arce ✓ <u>Tasha Andrews</u></p> <p>✓ <u>Daisy Perry</u> ✓ <u>Gwendolyn Thomas Steed</u></p> <p>✓ <u>Ruth Caraballo</u> ✓ <u>Tobie Buford</u></p>
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

I. The meeting opened with the reading of the guidelines. The minutes from the February 8th meeting were presented. A motion to accept these minutes was made by Ruth Caraballo and seconded by Tobie Buford.

II. New Business:

A. Karl Vetter from Partnership for Parks introduced himself and announced the events, which his organization planned in the Bronx. An It’s My Park Day is planned at Henry Hudson Park on April 29th and work is being done by his organization in Devoe Park.

B. Debra Travis, Parks’ Chairperson at Community Board 8 discussed their board’s recent resolution to obtain a PEP Squad Station in Van Cortlandt Park. She discussed the problems with dirt bikes and ATV’s as well as the numerous large parties in the park. She requested the support of our committee for this resolution. The need for a PEP Squad in CB#7 parks were expressed.

Motion: The Parks’ The Committee supports a resolution to obtain A PEP Squad stationed at Van Cortlandt Park. This station in the northwest Bronx

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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would also enable officers to patrol the parks in the CB#7 areas in a more timely manner.

The motion was made by Gwen Steed and seconded by Ruth Caraballo. All voted in favor of the motion.

III. Parks' Updates:

A. Damaged Pillar on Mosholu Parkway: Joe Magneri reported on the attempt by Parks' to obtain coverage for the cost of the repair from the driver's insurance company.

B. Boiler Installation at the Webster House: Work should be completed by this June.

C. Staffing for the Spring & Summer: Staffing for the season has not as yet been determined. Joe Magneri spoke about a new "late crew" for cleaning both St. James and Williamsbridge Oval. The new crew will start next month.

IV. Recreation Centers:

A. Sheroly Jones, the recreation specialist from St. James Park reported the contract for the rehabilitation of the Center has been signed and work is expected to begin.

B. Shiri Alley representing the Williamsbridge Oval described the plans for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 8th. Arts/Crafts, fitness activities, and games are planned for the event.

V. Friends' Groups:

A. Friends of Devoe Park: Tobie Buford reported on activities planned for the spring. She was pleased with the current maintenance of the park. Partnership for Parks' will be working with them to implement their spring and summer events.

B. Friends of Mosholu Parkland: Elizabeth Quaranta reported on an event planned for April 22nd at Mosholu Pkwy North and Jerome Ave. The Friends will be working with the Jerome/Gun Hill Bid to beautify the area. The event will take place at noon and volunteers are needed.



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C. Van Cortlandt Park Alliance: Stephanie Ehrlich, the executive director, reported on their upcoming events. They include a social at the Rambling House on April 11th, an Earth Day event on April 22th, and the Philharmonic Orchestra at Indian Field on June 13th.

VI. Other:

Geraldine McCleave from the Women of Woodlawn reported her dissatisfaction with the latest proposal for connecting the east side of Van Cortlandt Park with the west side of the park. She expressed concerns regarding the status of the monies, which had originally been designated for the bridge.

VII. Discussion on next agenda:

- A. A Presentation on the “Million More Trees” Program
- B. Request for a Pride Flag at the World War1 Monument on Mosholu Parkway
- C. Tree Removal at 263 E. 203rd Street

VIII. Next meeting date: Wednesday April 12, 2023.