



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



GREGORY FAULKNER, CHAIRPERSON

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

**PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes**

January 23, 2008 at 6:30 PM

Board Members: Nora Fuery, Helene Hartman, Margaret Mack, Cynthia O'Neal-Riley, Barbara Stronczer, Gregory Faulkner

Members Absent: 0

Guests: See the sign-in sheet.

The meeting opened with a review of recent correspondence. Items included a request for bids from the Parks' Department for the renovation and operation of a newsstand at Rose Hill Park. A letter from Sonia Lappin regarding the dangers of artificial turf was discussed.

The scope of work for the renovation of Poe Cottage was reported. The work includes a new porch which will be handicap accessible, new windows, shutters, and the painting of the interior and exterior of the cottage. Since the building is a historic landmark, all alterations will mirror the original construction.

Motion #1: The Parks' Committee recommends that the Board approved the scope of work for the renovation of Poe Cottage.

Lot at 3188 Villa Avenue: Mr. Al Sorano, the President of the Assumption St. Anthony Realty Co. discussed his plans for the lot. Parents from the Bronx New School requested the sale or leasing of the property for use as a playground for the youngsters from the school. Mr. Sorano is willing to lease the property to the Department of Education.

Adam Dubin, the Chief of Staff for Councilperson Koppell attended the meeting and promised to discuss the matter with Mr. Koppell and the Dept. of Education. He will report back to the Board once he has obtained additional information.

Library Lane: It was established that the rehab of this de-mapped street was not under the jurisdiction of the Parks' Dept. The status of this project will be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee.

Illegal Barbecuing on Mosholu Parkway: Members of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Improvement of Mosholu Parkway reported on their recent meeting with Councilperson Koppell. The committee requested the creation of a pamphlet highlighting the beauty of the Parkway and listing areas in the Bronx where barbecuing is both safe and legal. Councilperson Koppell agreed to have his staff develop

the brochure. He also expressed his willingness to meet with the committee along with the Police and Commissioner Aponte. Arnyce Foster, the District Manager for the parks in our board area is following up on the committee's suggestion to post 60 signs along the Parkway, warning residents and visitors that barbecuing at this site is illegal.

Spot Light for the Flag and World War I Monument at Mosholu Parkway & Hull Ave:

It has been brought to the attention of the Parks' Committee that since the flag at this site is not removed during the night, a spotlight should be installed on both the flag and the monument.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Parks' Department, the Department of Traffic, and the Grand Marnier Company who sponsors the maintenance of the monument, requesting the installation of a spotlight. Greg Faulkner also suggested that the item be included in our budget priorities.

Motion #2: The Parks' Committee recommends that the Board approve the sending of a letter in support of the installation of a spotlight on the flag and World War I Monument at Mosholu Parkway and Hull Avenue. The letter should be sent to the Parks' Dept., the Traffic Dept., the Grand Marnier Company, and to our elected officials.

Dog Run at Williamsbridge Oval: A letter from the Friends of Williamsbridge Oval Park was reviewed. Although the Parks' Dept had installed a new fence around the dog run, there are still some adjustments to be made. Adam Dubin reported that he had spoken with Commissioner Aponte regarding the surface on the area. Councilperson Koppell is willing to budget a sufficient amount (\$10,000-\$20,000) for a stone screen for the flooring of the dog run. This budget item, however, will not be available until the summer.

Baseball Fields: Concern regarding the lack of space for the leagues in our area was expressed. It was also pointed out that the Parks' Dept. needs to communicate with all these leagues before the start of the baseball season.

Respectfully submitted
Barbara Stronczer