



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



PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS' & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, October 27th, 2010 @ 6:30 PM

I. Attendance: See sign-in sheet.

II. Follow-up on Funding:

A. Regatta Park: Greg Faulkner representing Councilperson Cabrera will arrange a meeting with the Councilperson and the Bronx DOT and Parks' Commissioners to discuss the transfer of this piece of land along the Harlem River.

B. Spotlight for the World War I Monument: Councilperson Koppell has appropriated funding for this site. Members of the Parks' Dept. and Councilperson Koppell met at the monument to discuss the project.

C. Aqueduct Walk: Ray Acosta promised to report back to the Board regarding a date for the start of construction.

III. Restoration of the Van Cortlandt Golf House: Chris Farnum presented the plans for the renovation of the golf house. The exterior will be completely renovated with new windows, gutters, siding and a new roof. The renovated golf house will contain a pro shop, a snack bar and new office space for the Parks' Dept. The old maintenance building will be demolished and a new facility will be built. Landscaping will also be done. The concessionaire will cover the costs. The project will take about five months to be completed. A starting date has not as yet been determined since the work will be scheduled around the golf season.

The Board was asked that a letter of support for the project be sent to the Design Commission.

The committee voted 5 to 1 in favor of sending a letter of support.

Motion: A letter be sent to the Design Commission in support of the renovation of the Van Cortlandt Golf House and the building of a new maintenance facility.

IV. David Lehmann from the "Smoke-Free Partnership" discussed the proposed legislation to ban smoking in city parks.

V. Holiday Tree Lighting: The annual tree lighting is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 9th at 6:00 PM. Fernando Tirado has applied for a permit and has asked Sally Caldwell to seek funding from Assemblyperson Naomi Rivera for the cost of the lights and the Wing-o-Wagon.

VI. Permits for Park Use: Complaints regarding the use of Mosholu Parkway for sports' activities have been made. A discussion on what activities are appropriate for the area was moved to a future meeting.

VII. Winter Maintenance: Ray Acosta discussed staffing in the district for the fall and winter months. He requested a list of problem sites for snow and ice clearing.

VIII. Security Cameras at St. James Park: Councilperson Cabrera will fund security cameras for St. James Park. His staff will coordinate the placement of the cameras with the 52nd Precinct. The cost of each camera is \$6,500.



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IX. Lighting at Williamsbridge Oval: Ray Acosta, met with DOT to correct the lighting problem at the Oval. The number of inoperable lights has been reduced to eleven. The Parks' Committee will follow –up on this situation.

X. Trees: Complaints regarding stump, branch, and dead tree removal s were made. It was suggested that the Board ask our elected officials for funding to be used exclusively for trees in the district. Other boroughs use this process to offset the lack of funding by the City for tree care. Fernando Tirado will look into the process used in other areas of the City.

XI. Materials for the Website: The committee was told about the proposed changes for the website relating to parks.

XII. Other: Jenn Beaugrand who is in charge of Horticulture for MPC discussed her activities in our parks for the autumn season. Christodora, an environmental group which volunteers in our parks has requested help in obtaining tools for the young people who volunteer their time.

The next Parks' Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 23rd at 6:30 PM.

The meeting ended at 7:50PM.