



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



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PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

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**PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2011 @ 6:30 PM**

- I. **Attendance:** See sign-in sheet.
- II. **Update on Construction Projects:**
  - A. Harris Field: Work will not be completed for the spring season.
  - B. Poe Visitor's Center: The Center will open later in the year.
- III. **Ice Skating Rink at Van Cortlandt Park:** Tony Cassino, the chair of the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy, along with Chris Farnum and Davita Mabourakh from the Parks' Dept. attended the meeting. They are planning to seek a concessionaire who will offer skate rentals, lockers and a food concession, in addition to constructing a rink, during the fall and winter months. The rink will not be used by school hockey teams and the operators must offer at least 5 hours per day of public use. The Conservancy is working to obtain some of the profits from the project. Currently, proceeds are returned to the City's general fund.
  - A. The Parks' Dept. promised to send a copy of the RFP to our Board once it has been completed.
- IV. **Horticulture Program:** The Mosholu Preservation Corporation has eliminated the horticultural program which has been in existence in the parks throughout CB#7. Several community groups plan to reach out to our elected officials to seek their help in restoring the program.
- V. **Re-Zoning of Webster Ave.:** The committee plans to request that future developers include tree planting and other types of greenery in their projects. These amenities will provide a healthier and more attractive corridor.
- VI. **Bronx Parks Speak-Up:** The committee was urged to attend the annual conference on parks which is scheduled for Sat. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at Lehman College.
- VII. **2012 Budget:** Replies from the agencies were reviewed by the committee. Since most items were listed as lacking funds with the need to seek funding from our elected officials. It was suggested that our follow-up should include a request for an estimate of the cost of each project.
- VIII. **Health Fair at St. James Park:** Plans for the fair have been canceled for this spring.
- IX. The next Parks' meeting is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.