



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 24, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

- I. Attendance: See sign-in sheet in file
- II. Holiday Tree Lighting:
 - A. Ms. Ferguson was asked to have someone trim the shrubs in front of the tree prior to Dec. 11th. Everyone was invited to attend this annual event. Flyers were distributed
- III. Plans for two construction projects were presented by David McConnell, Samir Rey and Judi Raymund. The three presenters were from the design division of the Department of Parks
 - A. Soccer Field at St. James Park:
 1. Slides were shown on the proposed conversion of three tennis courts to a soccer field
 2. The cost involved is \$735,000, which has been appropriated by the Mayor's Office and Councilman Cabrera. The field will be composed of astro-turf. Once the bidding is complete, the time frame for completion will be approximately 450 days
 - a. ***MOTION 1:*** The Parks' Committee recommends that the Board approve the design work for the conversion of three tennis courts at St. James Park to a soccer field
 - B. Whalen Park:
 1. Judi Raymund presented the slides and a description of the plans for the rehabilitation of Whalen Park
 2. The park will be divided into two parts. The side closest to the library will be for passive recreation. The other side of the park will be a toddler play area for youngsters from 2-5 years old. In addition to some small playground equipment, there will also be spray showers. The cost of the project is \$1,245,000. It should take about 2 years to complete, once construction is started
 3. After much discussion with community representatives, it was decided that the committee would request the following additions to the project:
 - a. Install several game tables on the passive recreation side of the park
 - b. Increase to 3 feet for the fencing along the backside of the park. The higher fence would grant better protection to the shrubs and plantings
 - c. The installation of a "setting" area in the adult section for the display of art work
 4. The residents attending also made a request for WiFi at Whalen
 - a. ***MOTION 2:*** The Parks' Committee recommends that the Board approve the design work for Whalen Park with the following additions:
 - i. Install several game tables on the passive recreation side of the park



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- ii. Increase to 3 feet the fencing along the back side of the park. The higher fence would grant better protection to the shrubs and plantings
- iii. The installation of a "setting" area in the passive recreation section for the display of art work

IV. Other issues:

- A. Complaints were heard regarding the condition of the artificial turf at Williamsbridge Oval Park. It has been five years since the installation of the turf and during this time it has never been cleaned. Councilman Cohen stated that he would send a letter requesting the turf to be cleaned. He asked that CB#7 do the same. Ms. Ferguson, the Parks' Manager reported that the borough has only one machine for this purpose

V. Announcement:

- A. The Parks Committee will NOT meet in December. The next Parks' Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28th, 2014

VI. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.