



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 MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

- I. Attendance: See sign-in sheet
- II. Park Maintenance:
 - A. The meeting opened with a discussion of park maintenance during this past summer. Community residents present felt that the parks were not maintained as well as they were last season. Inconsistent cleaning and erratic garbage pick-up characterized much of the summers. Complaints were made about the lack of cleaning at Jerome Ave. and Mosholu Parkway North. The lack of grass cutting near the Jerome Park playground was also pointed out. The need for more crews to trim the grass around tree pits and along sidewalk areas was also discussed
- III. Updates on Construction Projects:
 - A. Poe Cottage Renovations: Design work should be completed in August, 2016
 - B. St. James Park: Soccer Conversion: January, 2017
 - C. Basketball Courts: September 2015
 - D. Whalen Park: Design work to be completed during September 2015
- IV. Bench Replacement on Mosholu Parkway:
 - A. Since no one attended the meeting from the Parks' Dept., it was decided to send a letter to the Bronx Parks' Commissioner and Larry Scoones, the Director of Operations to find out what happened to the promise to restore many of the benches this summer. Ms. Scoones, Ms. Ferguson and representatives from the Community Board walked the Parkway last May to pick out sites for these benches
 - B. MOTION:
 1. A letter be sent to the Bronx Parks' Commissioner and the Director of Operations requesting information as to why these benches on Mosholu Parkway were never replaced
 - C. It was also decided to invite the new Bronx Parks' Commissioner to a future Parks' meeting
- V. Oliver Place Lot:
 - A. Old tires and wood have been placed in the lot. Complaints about loose wires were made. Verizon or Con Edison will be contacted. It was suggested that a community garden may be a possible option for the site
 - B. Since maintenance has been a problem in the parks this summer, it was suggested that we pursue an "Adopt a Park" strategy to be modeled after the adopt a highway program. Mayor De Blasio is currently in support of public/private partnerships. CB#7 will follow-up on the details
- VI. Additional Concerns were as follows:
 - A. A resident complained about the trees planted on the Mosholu malls. She felt that the green space was destroyed and security problems will result from this planting.



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- B. A request to contact the contractor renovating PS 56 was made. The contractor placed wooden fences around the tree pits on this property. The resident would like to have the lower wooden protection left around the trees when the school is completed. A request to remove the garbage left around the trees was also made
 - C. Additional garbage receptacles are needed in our parks
- VII. The meeting ended at 8:20 P.M.