



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

ANDREW SANDLER, DISTRICT MANAGER

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 10, 2016 @ 7:15 PM**

- I. Attendance sheet in file
- II. Budget Requests 2017:
 - A. Only four of our eleven capital outlay requests have been funded. These include: Poe Cottage, the skate park at the Oval, Whalen Park, and Kossuth Playground. Several of our expense requests for additional manpower and equipment may be met if funds are available.
- III. Bronx Parks Speak-Up:
 - A. Residents were reminded about the upcoming Bronx Parks' Speak-up Conference to be held on Sat. Feb. 20th at Lehman College.
- IV. Snow Removal:
 - A. The Parks' Dept. was thanked for their efforts during the recent blizzard. Ms. Ferguson, the manager, explained some of the problems faced by her staff. Complaints regarding the condition of the sidewalks going from the south to the north side of Mosholu Parkway along Webster, Marion, Hull, Bainbridge and Van Cortlandt Avenues were discussed.
- V. Security at Williamsbridge Oval:
 - A. Ms. Ferguson reported that locking the gates at the Oval would not be possible. Some of the entrances are without gates and several of the gates, can be easily climbed.
- VI. Presentation on the Putnam Trail/Wetlands:
 - A. Jennifer Greenfield and Ilan Kutok presented a proposal to rehabilitate the Putnam Trail in Van Cortlandt Park. The Parks' Dept. has received a federal grant of \$2.5 million to improve the 1.25 mile trail. The Federal Highway Association is issuing the grant. The paving of the trail would be 8 to 10 feet in width depending on the area encompassed. The work would make the trail ADA compliant and would be constructed to reduce any site disturbance. Many stakeholders attended the meeting. Cyclists were in support of the proposal while several naturalists spoke against the proposed work. Several wheelchair bound residents spoke in favor of the proposal since the work would give them access to the trail
- VII. Other Issues:
 - A. After much discussion, Nora Feury presented the following motion, which was seconded by Ruth Santana:
 1. **MOTION:** The Parks' Committee recommends that the Board support the proposal for the rehabilitation of the Putnam Trail.
 - B. The Parks' Committee voted unanimously to support the motion.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm. The next Parks' Committee meeting was announced for Wed. March 9th