



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, January 11, 2017 @ 7:15 PM

- I) Attendance: Nora Feury, Gwendolyn Thomas-Steed, Barbara Stronczer
Absent: Emmanuel Capellan, Edgar Ramos

II) Topics Discussed:

- A) Jennifer Greenfeld, the Assistant Commissioner of Forestry, presented 3 options for the trees, which were planted on the Mosholu Parkway Malls. Complaints were received by the Parks' Dept. concerning the fact that the newly planted trees did not conform to the historical significance of the Parkway.

The 3 options were:

- 1) Move to trees to the perimeter of the malls and create a mound to prevent active play in the center of the malls. Cost was approximately \$475,000.
- 2) Move the trees to the perimeter of the malls and construct low-rise railings as on Pelham Parkway. The cost is approximately \$920,000.
- 3) Move some of the trees to the perimeter of the malls and keep the others in clusters to permit a view of a green line and space across the Parkway. The cost is approximately \$219,000.

After much discussion the Parks' Committee proposed and agreed on the following motion:

MOTION(S):

- (a) A letter be sent to Parks' Commissioner Iris Rodriquez Rosa stating the Parks' Committee supports keeping the newly planted trees in place provided work is done to remove excess mulch and reseed the brown areas along the malls.
- B) Complaints regarding the pruning of trees during the winter months were made. Residents noted that trees still vibrant were removed in some areas. Problems with the dumping of mulch along the Parkway were also discussed. Commissioner Iris Rodriquez Rosa promised to inquire as to how Parks' decides where to place tree guards when planting new trees.
- C) Risse Street Garden: Several gardeners complained about the construction of a 3 by 4 foot hole in the center of the community garden. The hole was



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constructed for the purpose of creating a pond. Liability, health, and safety concerns were discussed. Green Thumb will be invited to the next meeting. Commissioner Rodriguez promised to look into the matter.

D) Update on Construction Projects:

- 1) Harris Field: work on the perimeter and slope will begin this spring. A sewer connection will also be installed.
- 2) Skate Park at the Oval: Additional funds may be needed.
- 3) Whalen Park: Commissioner Rodriguez will get back with the information.

E) Recent Vandalism at the Williamsbridge Oval was discussed. Tony Rosa, the District Manager, is working on improving security.

III) The meeting ended at 8:25 PM

IV) Adjournment