



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, January 13, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Stronczer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leurys Acosta <input type="checkbox"/> Tasha Andrews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gwen Thomas-Steed
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

- I) **Introductions**
- II) **Review of previous minutes**
 - a) **The minutes from the December meeting were approved.**
- III) **Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)**
 - a) **Hornet’s Nest at the Holt Place entrance to the Oval: Joe Magneri, the Parks’ Manager was not concerned about the nest at this time of the year. He did mention what the department was doing regarding the rodent population.**
 - b) **Tree Lighting: The tree remained lit for the entire holiday season. Hopefully, next year, we will be able to have an event at the site.**
 - c) **Lighting at World War I Monument: Joe Magneri could not report on the status of the lighting at the World War I Monument. Barbara will check the site in the evening and report to him if the lighting has not been repaired.**
- IV) **New Business**
 - a) **Fordham Landing Park: Members of the “Friends of Devoe” will check out the condition of the park. It was reported that residents were still using the facility. Joe Magneri promised to do whatever can be done “in house” to restore the area.**



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- b) Garbage Pick-up:** The packer is working and garbage pick-up is done on a daily basis. Corrals were set up in 3 parks as a trial for future collection. The locations are Harris Park, Mosholu Parkway, and Williamsbridge Oval. Mr. Magneri is pleased with the results. It was suggested to cover the sides of the corral to make the garbage less visible. The area along Webster Ave. between Mosholu Parkway North and South is being cleaned by Sanitation with the help of the 52nd Precinct. The Precinct has promised to remove the old vehicles and allow for some cleaning on both sides of the street.
- c) Reports from the Friends' Groups:** Pilar Maschi was not able to attend this meeting but promised to join us next month.
- 1) Friends of Aqueduct Walk:** Peirina Sanchez reported on the group's activities. They are planning fitness classes and trying to find funding sources for their programs. The area from Fordham Road to 184th Street has been the site of drug problems. The Friends are looking into food programs and other social service activities for the community. They are also hiring an individual to work on the history of the park. The group is asking residents for old photos and information about the Walk for this project.
 - 2) Friends of Devoe Park:** Toby Buford, a member of the group reported on the tree lighting, which the group arranged at the park. The group is also identifying the different species of birds at Devoe. They plan to use the information to teach some of the youngsters who attend the park. The friends are also hoping to plant a tree at Devoe.
 - 3) Friends of Mosholu Parkland:** David Rosas and Elizabeth Quaranta reported on the activities planned for this spring. They are working on combining and coordinating their activities at the local playgrounds in the area. The edible garden at the Keeper's House will also be enlarged.



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Their first event for the spring is planned for the 1st Saturday in April.

4) Friends of Williamsbridge Oval: Betty Arce reported for the Friends of the Oval. Things are quiet at the Oval. Recreation activities have not taken place due to Covid.

d) Status of Construction Projects: Mr. Magneri was unable to provide any information on the dog run for Devoe Park, the new boiler at the Webster House, and the rehabilitation of Frisch Field. Many Parks' employees assigned to these projects are working from home and do not have this information available.

e) Other: The meeting was opened to questions and concerns from the attendees. A resident of the East 204th and Mosholu Parkway South area requested better street lighting at the entrance to the park. She complained about the problem of urination in the park at this location. Since the lighting is provided by DOT, we will request brighter lighting in this area.

V) Next meeting date: Wednesday, February 10th

VI) Discussion on next agenda

VII) Adjournment