

BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND COMMUNITY BOARD #3

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Parks & Recreation and Environmental Committee Public Hearing Report

DATE: January 14, 2025 TIME: 7:00 PM

Committee Members Present

Frank Morano, *Chairman of the Board* Al Klingele, *Chair, Parks & Environmental Committee* Cliff Hagen John Kiernan Frank P. Morano Anthony Riccardelli <u>Committee Members Absent</u> Robert Bozza Paul Sanders

<u>Staff</u>

Stacey Wertheim, *Interim District Manager* Susan LaForgia, *Community Coordinator* Board Members Present Jeff Geary

Guests

Colleen Siuzdak, New York City (NYC) Parks Department Sining Zhu, NYC Parks Department, Capital Projects Gabriella Keller, NYC Parks Department, Capital Projects Lily Zafaranloo, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis Denise Pacheco, Rep., Assm. Michael Reilly Frank Rapacciuolo, Rep., Cm. Joseph Borelli Area Residents

Public Contact Session

An area resident is questioning the timeline of the Lemon Creek Marina dredging project. In 2014, \$12M was allocated to the Parks Department for this project. There is only 6" of water at low tide. Marina members pay anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for a summer slip. Their use is severely limited due to the condition of the slips. Docks are deteriorating. There are no facilities. They are requesting answers and for this project to be expedited. Representatives from Congresswoman Malliotakis, Assemblyman Reilly, and Councilman Borelli, as well as Colleen Siuzdak will investigate this and report back to the committee.

<u>Agenda</u>

NYC Parks Department presented design plans for the **Conference House Park Lenape Playground Spray Shower,** located at Swinnerton St and Billop Avenue. The total budget is \$750,000 and was funded by Speaker Adams and Councilman Borelli.

Project Scope

- Add a spray shower to the existing playground.
- Provide water service and drinking fountain.
- Upgrade the existing pathway with benches on the north of the site.

Added Features

- Meadow Planting
- Walkway and Seating
- Spray Shower
- Walkways
- Asphalt Path
- Lawns
- Drinking Fountain
- Lighting
- Fencing and Guardrails

Discussion

- Committee members requested that the water be turned off at dusk, coinciding with park closure hours.
- Committee members suggested replacing Serviceberry with a different shrub as this one will attract many birds and cause inconvenience to patrons.

*Full presentation on file in the Community Board office.

MOTION

The Committee put forth a Motion to Accept the Lenape Playground Spray Shower Project.

VOTE: In Favor 6; Against 0; Abstentions 0

Morano Y; Klingele Y; Hagen Y; Kiernan Y; Morano (FP) Y; Riccardelli Y

Parks Announcements

- Lifeguard Recruitment is underway; 2/2, 3/10 exams on Staten Island
- Lemon Creek Tot Lot construction will begin in the spring
- Greencroft Playground construction will begin in the spring
- Aesop Playground construction will begin in the summer
- Seaside Nature Wildlife Park Comfort Station will be completed in the summer
- Let's Green NYC is always looking for volunteers

Old Business

None

New Business

• A board member spoke about new tree regulations introduced by the City of Yes because of the zoning change. Parks now control the planting. Streetscapes will be changing with new construction.

 A Committee member spoke about a program entitled "Saturday Night Lights." Saturday Night Lights (SNL) is a citywide program led by the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) and its agency and community partners that provides young people with year-round free, exceptional sports programs on Saturday nights. As the Parks Department is one of the community partners, it was requested that Parks assist with bringing this program to the CB3 District.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert W. Klingele, Chairman