



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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**CICELY HARRIS**  
Chairperson

**SHATIC MITCHELL**  
District Manager

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 9th, 2019, 6:30pm

**Hon. Karen Horry, Chair**  
**Hon. Leevert Holmes, Vice Chair**

Meeting began at 6:40 pm and was held in the 4th Floor Conference room. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Karen Horry, Chair.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Chair Karen Horry and Karen Dixon

**Committee Members Excused:** Eboni Mason

**Committee Members Absent:** Kevin Bitterman, Maurice Sessoms, Henrietta Lyle, Leevert Holmes and Smith Jerel Hart

**Guests in attendance:** Shena Kaufman (District Manager -NYC Parks), Linda Gerber (Harlem Health Action Center), Harriet Addamo (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Aaron K. Mitchell (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Joan Knibb (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Rasheedah Ali (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Dara D. Harris (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Marianne Samake (Frederick Douglass Academy Student), Katherine Nicholson, Lillian Braxton (Harlem Honeys and Bears), Lettice Graham (Harlem Honeys and Bears) and Fathima Nazumdeen (Harlem Health Action Center),

**DISCUSSIONS:**

**I. Committee Event: Youth Sports Safety Forum**

The Committee is planning to host a Youth Sports Safety Forum in collaboration with the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and the New York Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. The CB 10 component will highlight the dire need for safety precautions for our local area little league athletes as they engage in sports and will feature a 15-year veteran NFL player who will share his career pathway and address safety protocols. This will be the repeat of a very successful event held by the Committee in 2015.

The 22nd Annual College Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 16th, 2019 from 12pm – 4pm at Denny Farrell Riverbank State Park located on West 145th Street & Riverside Drive.

The Community suggested inclusion of other sports in addition to football such as: swimming, basketball, soccer, Lacrosse, skateboarding, volley ball, street

hockey, track and fencing. Many of our local area youth are competing for sports scholarships in these areas for college.

**Outcome:** The Committee will develop a budget and details of the sports safety event.

## **II. Community Proposal to Install a Lift at the Dunlevy Milbank Center Pool to Accommodate Swimmers With Physical Disabilities**

Casper Lassiter, Campus Director of Dunlevy Milbank Center at Children's Aid Society, located at 14-32 West 118th Street, was unable to attend due to an on-site emergency. Mr. Lassiter expressed interest in the project. The Committee provided information to the Honeys and Bears about possible lift considerations and options. The Committee also provided FY2020 Discretionary Funding Application information which runs from January 2nd to February 19th 2019 for not-for-profit community-based organizations. The lift would benefit all age groups of disabled individuals.

Request for listing of other available indoor pools for use by Honeys and Bears and senior programming during interim of Hansborough's 1 to 2 year closing scheduled for August 2019. Riverbank State Park and 1199 Plaza Recreation Center have been suggested in addition to Dunlevy Milbank Center.

Maintenance of water temperature is still problematic and continues to prevent swim for seniors suffering from arthritis.

**Outcome:** The Honeys and Bears Grant Committee will reach out to collaborate with Dunlevy Milbank Center to apply for funding for a lift, its installation and ongoing maintenance. The Committee will continue to monitor the situation.

## **I. Old Business**

### **a. Updates**

- i. A. Philip Randolph Square and Fred Samuels Playground - District Service Cabinet Follow-Up - Homelessness - The square is working in collaboration with DOT and the Marcus Garvey Park Alliance to install a temporary art installation.
- ii. Seneca Village Task Force - The second meeting, a walkthrough of the footprint of the historic village was held on Saturday, December 8th. The group included members of the Seneca Village Project, the Central Park Conservancy and members of the Boards surrounding Central Park and CB 10 Chair and Vice Chair of Parks & Recreation, representation from Transportation and Historic Landmarks & Preservation. Arts & Culture did not provide representation.

- iii. Harlem African Burial Ground - update is pending - the EDC archaeological report has to be reviewed.
- iv. Parks
  - 1. Colonel Young Playground - located on West 143<sup>rd</sup> to West 145<sup>th</sup> Streets between Malcolm X Boulevard and the Harlem River Drive is a project which involves renovation of the existing ball field to a turfed multi-sport field to accommodate football, soccer and Lacrosse in addition to baseball. The project is still pending. An RFP is being prepared to move the project forward.
- v. Byrd Classic Park Renaming - Still pending per NYC Parks
- vi. Nelson Mandela Garden - The Gardeners are fighting in Court and are asking for Community to appear in support of their case in NY County Supreme Court - January 4th
- vii. Joseph Daniel Wilson Memorial Garden - The ULURP hearing before the New York City Planning Commission is scheduled for January 9th.

## II. New Business

The City of New York is seeking artists interested in creating a public monument to be installed at the site of the recently removed J. Marion Sims statue. Artists are asked to apply to call by January 31st, 2019. Building on recommendations of the Mayoral Advisory Commission on City Art, Monuments and Markers and years of community activism, the statue of J. Marion Sims was removed from its location in Central Park in April of 2018. In addition to the relocation of the existing statue, the City has committed to working with local stakeholders to commission a new artwork for the site that moves beyond Sims' legacy of medical experimentation and reinterprets the site where his sculpture formerly stood.

In October 2018, the city announced that it joined a community coalition dedicated to expanding representation through public artwork in East Harlem to explore the legacy of racism and inequities in reproductive justice in the medical community. Comprised of East Harlem advocacy groups, cultural organizations, City Council and Community Board representatives, and City agencies, the Committee to Empower Voices for Healing and Equity will work towards the goal of commissioning new permanent public artwork for the former site of a statue that honored J. Marion Sims. The current goal is to install the new permanent public artwork in 2020.

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit artists or artist teams who are interested in being considered to design a permanent public monument for the location in Central Park that had sited J. Marion Sims. The artist chosen to design a monument will be determined through the City's Percent for art (<http://www.nyc.gov/percent>) commissioning process.

The project budget is up to \$1 million and must include all project costs, including but not limited to the following: artist's fees, design services, community engagement, site preparation, engineering, fabrication, travel, transportation of the work to the site, insurance, permits, installation, documentation of the artwork, and contingency.

The open call is organized into two phases:

Phase One is the RFQ in which artists or artist teams may respond with samples of past work and supplementary materials to be considered for the Beyond Sims commission. The City, in partnership with an advisory committee of outside arts and design professionals (the "Committee"), will select artists to proceed to Phase Two of the open call (the "Finalists").

Phase Two is a Request for Conceptual Designs in which Finalists will submit a conceptual design for final review by the Committee. Finalists will receive a \$1,500 honorarium for completion of a conceptual design in response to the Request for Conceptual Designs. One artist will be selected by the Committee from Phase Two to finalize designs, fabricate and install the artwork in partnership with the City (the "Selected Artist").

### **iii. Announcements**

The Committee **did not have quorum**, eight of the ten standing members were not in attendance, no items were voted on. The Committee strongly suggests that members attend to achieve quorum for all future meetings.

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.**

***~Respectfully submitted by Parks and Recreation Chair, Karen Horry***