



Community Board No. 5

Borough of Queens
Ridgewood, Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale
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Vincent Arcuri, Jr.
Chairperson

Gary Giordano
District Manager

6/18/2018
GG,DM

PARKS SERVICES COMMITTEE

Meeting Notice

Date : Monday, June 25, 2018 (7:30pm)
Place: 61-23 Myrtle Avenue Office of CB5Q

AGENDA

- 1) Discussion of Request by NYCH2O that CB5Q Support Their Efforts To Improve Conditions at the Ridgewood Reservoir, Including the Idea of NYCH2O Entering Into a Formal Agreement With the NY City Dept. of Parks and Recreation, In Conjunction With Community Organizations, (Which Should Include CB5Q), To Develop Plans to Enhance the Reservoir Site and Improve Both Safety and Access to the Ridgewood Reservoir Portion of Highland Park.
(Attached, please find the Draft Proposed Resolution Submitted to CB5Q by NYCH20)
- 2) Capital Projects Update
 - a) Current Reconstruction of the Soft Surface Ballfields at Principe Park, in Maspeth
 - b) Current Reconstruction of the Roller Hockey Rinks at Mafera Park and at Juniper Valley Park
 - c) Status of Project to Reconstruct Children's Playground Area in Rosemary's Playground
 - d) Status of Project to Reconstruct the Soccer/Football Field and Running Track in Juniper Park
 - e) Funding Available to Reconstruct Starr Playground in Ridgewood
- 3) Parks Maintenance Needs Discussion
- 4) Other Issues

Whereas we celebrate that the Ridgewood Reservoir was added to the National Register of Historic Places on February 12, 2018 and the New York State Register on December 7, 2017 and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation issuing its initial report designating the Reservoir as a Class I wetland on February 22, 2018.

Resolved, the Ridgewood Reservoir should be protected through its adaptive reuse as an interpretive center highlighting both the environment and the history of the site to serve the students in this community and the greater community in Queens and Brooklyn.

Resolved, this work should be performed in a way that is sensitive to and protective of the Ridgewood Reservoir's unique ecology in keeping with its wetlands designation and its National Register status. Moreover, the historic gatehouses should be repurposed as public space that maintains its original features to the greatest extent possible.

Resolved, NYC H2O, having proved itself over the last four years as an effective advocate for the Reservoir and partner with this Community Board 5, is recognized for its stewardship at the Ridgewood Reservoir. We call upon the New York City Parks Department to enter into a formal partnership with NYC H2O to work in conjunction with community groups around the Reservoir to develop plans to enhance the site and improve both safety and access to the Park.

NYC H2O is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation that provides education programs about NYC's water and ecology. Over the past 4 years NYC H2O has helped protect the Reservoir and increase community access by accomplishing the following:

- Drafted the successful National and State Historic Register nominations.
- Partnered with this Community Board's advocacy efforts to delineate the Reservoir as a Class I Wetland.
- Advocated successfully to the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) for the installation of a pedestrian activated signal on Vermont Place to allow for safe passage from the parking lot to the Reservoir. In addition, DOT has just committed to installing a speed hump on Highland Boulevard further enhancing pedestrian safety at the Reservoir.
- Organized 2 volunteer landscaping events in which invasive plants were removed and native ones planted. A total 85 volunteers participated in these 2 events
- Engaged over 3,500 students in STEM learning on Water Ecology and Engineering Field Trips to the Reservoir
- Provided 20 free tours of the Reservoir to 400 community members
- Held 4 listening meetings about the Reservoir, engaging 150 community members including community board members, elected officials, and DOT and Parks Department staff and management.
- In conjunction with architecture and landscape design partners, created 'visioning' materials to help foster and inspire conversation about the future of the Reservoir.

Resolved, as per the above, that we call on the Parks Department to speedily implement said formal partnership with NYC H2O to help protect the Ridgewood Reservoir and at the same