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# **April 4, 2018 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**

PRESENT: Arlene Drayton, Chair; Edith Blitzer; Kelly Murphy; Dominick Schiano and Andrea Siegel.

EXCUSED: Patricia Charles, Co-Chair and Joseph Menta.

GUESTS: Iris Rodriguez, Bronx Borough Commissioner Parks; Ismael Guzman, Outreach Coordinator – Partnership for Parks; Matt Doiron, District Manager Parks; Matt Ortiz; Director of Capital/Parks; Jussara, Designer/Capital Projects; Tim Fowe; NYC Parks; Brian Adams; Cecilia Smoker, Raphael Schweizer, BPECA; Daniel Flores; Larry Mauriello, Gene DeFrancis; Tara McCrossan, Al D'Angelo, Board Member; Frank Agovino, MPCA; Nathalia Fernandez

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

## 1. Waring Playground

A presentation was made on the plans for upgrading the park. Trees will be moved, removed and replanted as needed. New playground equipment will be installed for 2-5 year old and 8-12 year olds. The basketball courts and the water fountain will be upgraded. A new bike rack will be installed as well as a new spray shower. Questions were asked regarding the comfort stations. There is no money for this. The game tables will be replaced with musical drums. There was a great deal of discussion about the drums vs the bathroom upgrade ensued. The playground will not be locked at night. The brick on the comfort station will be power washed to restore its original color. Construction is scheduled to begin October 2019.

It was noted that anyone seeing lights out in the parks should call 311. The issue of kids on bikes in the park as a danger to other kids and adults was discussed. "No Biking" signs and bike racks need to be installed. There was a request for fencing to separate the

Date last modified: 4/26/18 Page 1 of 3

playground from the rest of the park. It was stated that the design may not allow it.

After discussion with members of the Bronx Park East Community Association, committee members, voted and approved the conceptual designs for the park.

### 2. Loreto Park

A presentation was made on Loreto Park. The Committee has to choose one of the three concept.

- a. All Synthetic field
- b. Part soccer field, fence/activities and concert, track and field
- c. All Asphalt Lights will be removed from the hockey field. Soccer/softball.

After discussion with members of the Morris Park Association, committee members voted and approved the conceptual designs for option 3.

## 3. Partnership for Parks

Ismael Guzman discussed the installation of a Bulletin Board on Pelham Northway North and Wallace Avenue. The Board will provide information to the community about upcoming clean up events on the Parkway, beginning in May through October 2018. A grant was awarded to community advocate Roxanne Delgado for the purpose of the bulletin Board. Mr. Guzman also distributed flyers about dog runs, and the rules and regulations for safety in all parks.

4. A request was made for lighting along the walkway at Wallace Avenue. The Committee was told that this would be a capital project. The Holland Avenue walkway that was closed was also discussed as well as the no barbequing on the Parkway. A request for more garbage cans was also made.

#### 5. Old Business

- a. Discussion took place on the benches at Bronx Park East and Lydig Avenue. Matthew Doiron said they are doing their spring inventory to see what repairs need to be made. Hopefully they will be done in a month. The issue of the stone pavers were discussed and Edith requested to have a walk through.
- b. Boston Garden Green Street.

Date last modified: 4/26/18 Page 2 of 3

This green street is a triangle located at Boston Road and Allerton Avenue. Request was made by Gene DeFrancis for fencing around the trees and maintenance of the triangle.

### 6. New Business

Discussion on Matthew/Muliner Park and teenagers smoking pot in the park during the day. This park is supposed to be closed at 7 pm on the dot. Matthew Doiron will talk to the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Affairs office and will have an answer by the next meeting.

The issue of whose responsibility it was for the parks on NYCHA property was discussed.

Motion to adjourn by Arlene Drayton, seconded by Dom Schiano.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes formatted by Staff.

Date last modified: 4/26/18 Page 3 of 3