

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



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON    ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Barbara Stronczer</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>January 12, 2022</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b>Via Zoom Video/Teleconference</b>
<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>✓ Barbara Stronczer    ✓ Leurys Acosta    ✓ Betty Arce          ✓ Tasha Andrews    ✓ Daisy Perry    _ Gwendolyn Thomas Steed          ✓ Ruth Caraballo</b>
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Barbara Stronczer</b>

**Minutes:**

**I. Meeting Guidelines**

**A.** The meeting opened with the reading of the guidelines.

**II. Introductions**

**III. Review of Previous Minutes**

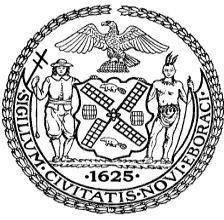
**A.** The minutes from the November 10, 2021 meeting were presented. A motion to accept these minutes was made by Betty Arce and seconded by Ruth Caraballo.

**IV. Follow-up from Previous Month**

**A.** Recommendations for next year’s tree lighting included using a different vendor for the lights. The arrangement of the lights on the tree was poorly done and did not reflect the cost charged.

**V. New Business**

**A. [Request for Bids to Operate Tree Sales:](#) The Parks’ Department is requesting bids for the sale of Christmas trees at Devoe, Aqueduct, and Poe Parks. The contract would be for 5 seasons. Several questions arose regarding the loss of street parking as a result of vendors’ trucks.**



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

Questions as to why these sales are slated for the park rather than the local business areas were also raised.

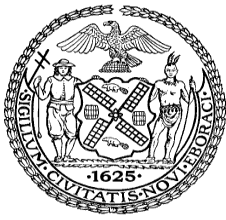
**B. Poe Park Renovations:** Councilman Feliz plans to fund renovations at Poe Park and is looking for suggestions to include in this work.

Suggestions made were:

1. Better Lighting
2. Renovations to the bandshell for future concerts.
3. A Sound system
4. New Fencing
5. Shrubs and flowering plants reflecting Poe's works.

**C. Leaf/Garbage Pick-up:** Joe Magneri, the Parks' Manager reported on current efforts for garbage pick-up. He was asked why park staff were still picking up garbage in the gator and not leaving the bags at certain areas to be picked up by the packer. The sweeping of sidewalk leaves into the street was also reported. Joe promised to follow-up on these issues. A request for the walkways to be redone at Devoe Park was made. It was suggested to speak with the local council person for funding.

**D. Trees:** Issues involving trees were presented. It is hoped to obtain a list of future planting sites. Street trees, which have outgrown their guards, were mentioned. They are located on Hull Ave. and outside of PS 20. Issues with overgrown trees along Bailey/Sedgwick Avenues were also presented. A request for replacement of the trees removed from Mosholu Pkwy So. between E. Van Cortlandt Ave. and the Grand Concourse was also presented. It is hoped to get some of these issues answered by Forestry in the near future.



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



---

HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON    ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

---

**E. Other:** The need to replace bags at the doggie stations was reported. Issues with composting were also addressed. The need for additional PEP officers for next summer was requested

#### **F. NYC Parks Updates**

- 1. POE Park:** Lucy Aponte reported the Center is still closed: however, all the storage items from flooded centers have been removed. She is confident the center will re-open in the near future.
- 2. St. James Park:** Ms. Jones reported on efforts to repair the damage caused by Hurricane Ida. Contracts are going out but the center is still closed until further notice.
- 3. Williamsbridge Oval:** Sarah Bishow reported on the classes at the Oval. A ballet class is in session and an adult art class is planned. A family arts and craft Saturday are also planned. Membership is free for up to age 24. Those between 25-61 pay \$50 for a six month membership. Veterans and those over 61, as well as, those with disabilities pay \$25 a year.
- 4. Devoe Park (If applicable):**

#### **G. Friends of Park Group Updates**

- 1. Friends of Devoe Park:** Tobie Buford reported on events at Devoe Park. The Friends planted bulbs and had a tree lighting ceremony. The new dog run is being used and kept clean.
- 2. Friends of Aqueduct Walk:** Tobie Buford reported that the group had a recent public art unveiling event in collaboration with Photoville and Bronx Community College, and the event went well.

- VI. Next Meeting Date:** [Wednesday, February 9, 2022](#)
- VII. Discussion on Next Agenda**
- VIII. Adjournment**