



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, September 9th, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Stronczer <input type="checkbox"/> Leurys Acosta <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tasha Andrews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Davis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gwen Thomas-Steed
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

- I) **Introductions**
- II) **Review of previous minutes**
- III) **Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)**
- IV) **New Business**
 - a) **A motion to approve the minutes from our June meeting was presented by Betty Arce and seconded by Gwen Steed. Minutes were approved.**
 - b) **Summer issues in the parks were discussed. They included garbage pickup, illegal activities, and noise complaints. Lack of enforcement of park regulations was a common complaint in both the northern and southern parts of the district. Elizabeth Quaranta, from the Friends of Mosholu Parkland described her experience with calling the PEP officers. She shared their number (646-613-1200). It usually takes 20-40 minutes for them to respond. Even though they work 24/7, they do not come out after 10:00PM.**
 - c) **Celine Grogan, a volunteer with the Friends of Devoe Park described how the “Friends” clean Devoe Park on Saturdays. She, along with others is frustrated by the lack of enforcement of park regulations and quality of life issues. It was requested that the**



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larger playground be locked at night. Paulette Spencer reported on the activities of the Friends of Aqueduct Park.

- d) In addition to cleanups, they also distributed masks and other protective equipment.**
- e) Budget requests were reviewed. The addition of a full size packer and a mini packer to our budget was discussed. The items will be included in our expense budget. It was decided to retain last year's budget requests and to add the following items to the FY2021-2 Budget Requests:**
- 1) Expense Budget:**
 - **Add a full size packer and a mini packer**
 - 2) Capital Budget:**
 - **Lighting for Devoe Park**
 - **Funding for the Lehman Performing Arts Center**
 - **Funding for the NY Botanical Garden**
 - 3) On the Parks' Needs Statement the Committee agreed to list Park Care and Maintenance as our most important issue.**
- f) Lucy Aponte reported on events at the Poe Center. They currently have a virtual gallery with an exposition on COVID-19 plus activities in the morning and afternoons. They are also planning a concert for October.**
- g) Jenny Feliciano, a resident, who attends the exercise activities for seniors at the Williamsbridge Oval's Recreation Center complained about the program being discontinued. She requested support from our committee regarding the reinstatement of the program. The committee decided to send a letter of support for the program to Commissioner Iris Rodriquez Rosa.**

- 1) Motion: A letter be sent to Commissioner Iris Rodriquez-Rosa requesting the return of the senior exercise program at the Oval. The committee unanimously approved the motion.**



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- g) Tasha Andrews, discussed the problems with obtaining a permit for the Buccaneers to play flag football at the Oval. She also detailed several issues with obtaining future permits once tackle football returns to the parks.**
- h) Since no one from the Parks' Dept. attended the meeting, all questions and concerns would be forwarded to Joe Magneri, the District Manager.**
- V) Next meeting date – Wednesday, October 14th**
- VI) Discussion on next agenda**
- VII) Adjournment**