

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Committee

Chair	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Thursday, November 14 th , 2018
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check	<u>✓</u> Barbara Stronczer <u>✓</u> Betty Arce <u>✓</u> Nora Feury <u>✓</u> Chad Royer
Those In Attendance)	Gwendolyn Thomas-Steed
Minutes Done By:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

I. Review of last month's minutes

II. Introductions

a) The meeting opened with introductions. Commissioner Iris Rodriquez and Councilman Cohen were in attendance

III. Follow-up from previous month

a) A follow-up of maintenance issues addressed last month was discussed. Almost all of the issues were taken care of by Manager Joe Magneri.

IV. New Business

- a) A presentation by DDC on the final design for the Van Cortlandt Park
 Pedestrian Bridge was postponed. Plans were sent but pictures of the final
 design were not included.
- b) Frisch Field: A neighborhood league began using the field this fall. The league has a girls' softball team and a boys' baseball team. Plans to rehab the field for several sports were discussed. One resident objected to the addition of other sports.
- c) Plans for the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony were updated. Students from PS 20 and the Academy of Mt. St. Ursula will be singing. The event on Dec. 6th will be in place of our monthly meeting.
- d) Contracts: Joe Magneri, the Parks' Manager promised to follow-up on the status of the new boiler for the Webster House. Fencing for Devoe Park is in progress. There was no update for Kossuth Playground.
- e) Intro 1058: Sasha Zachah Koufalis, a community resident and graduate student requested our support of this bill which is before the City Council Committee on Land Use. The bill requires the Dept. of City Planning to

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develop an urban agriculture plan to address land use policy for the purpose of encouraging urban agriculture in the City. It is felt the plan would expand the availability of healthy food in low-income neighborhoods, provide education on local food production, and establish jobs in the field of agriculture. The following motion was passed by the committee.

f) Motion:

- 1. A letter be sent to Councilman Rafael Salamanca, stating that A tally of the crimes committed in the district parks since the start of 2018 was given. A request for knowledge of the location of the 4 crimes on Mosholu was made.
- g) Trees: Several matters concerning the Forestry Division of Parks were raised. The removal of dead trees, stumps, and the method used to classify dangerous trees are all issues, which need further clarification. The committee will try to get a representative from the Forestry Division to a future meeting.
- h) Sarah Bishow, the Executive Director of the Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center announced upcoming events. They include a Literacy Day on Thurs. Dec. 6th from 4:00 PM 6:00 PM and a Winter Wonderland celebration on Sat. Dec. 15th from 12:30-2:30 PM. Volunteers are needed for these events.
- i) Everyone was urged to attend the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 6th.
- V. Next month's meeting date: Wednesday, Jan. 9th at 6:30 pm.
- VI. Discussion on next month's agenda
- **VII. Adjournment** The meeting ended at 7:40 PM.