June 7, 2017 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Arlene Drayton, Chair, Patricia Charles, Co-Chair, Dominick Schiano
ABSENT: Keith Ramsey.

EXCUSED: Edith Blitzer; Yahay Obeid and Andrea Siegel.

GUEST(S): Samir Roy, NYC Parks & Recreation, Renata Sokolowski, NYC Parks & Recreation, Michelle Martell, NYC Parks & Recreation, Valerie Davis O'Neal, NYC Parks & Recreation, Raphael Schweizer, Bronx Park East Community Association, Veronica Castro, CB 11 Member & Allerton International Merchants, Gene DeFrancis, Allerton International Merchants, Janice Walcott, CB 11 Member & Allerton Coops

Although we did not have a quorum, the meeting was held anyway because the scheduled guests from the NYC Parks Department Design Team came prepared to give their presentation.

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.

- Samir Roy and Renata Sokolowski, NYC Parks & Recreation Design Team, began with a presentation of the proposed design for exercise equipment to be installed in Bronx Park East, inside the Allerton Avenue entrance. The total estimated budget for the installation is $200,000 (overhead ladder, sit up bench, double chest press). Positioning of equipment, benches, trees and paving were explained. Suggestion was made to replace one chest press with either a bicycle or leg press. Currently, there are no plans for a bathroom or water fountains due to lack of funds. Design team suggested that the community petition elected officials for donation of funds from their discretionary budget.
- NYC Parks & Recreation design team requested a letter of No Objection from CB 11 to the Design Team Commission for approval of the design and specifications. Deadline is June 23, 2017. Approval process takes approximately 7-9 months. Construction is scheduled to begin in Fall 2018.
Old Business: Update on Pelham Parkway North Construction - the contractor is waiting for grounds to dry out from previous rainfall to proceed with paving by the Select Bus Service Stop between White Plains Road and Boston Road. Benches have been installed. This area is expected to be open with 2-3 weeks.

New Business: Request by Gene DeFrancis for a tree stump to be removed in front of 926 Allerton Avenue (near Radcliff). Tree in front of furniture store (708 Allerton Avenue) is being damaged due to constant stapling of flyers.

Motion to adjourn by Dom Schiano, seconded by Patricia Charles.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Arlene Drayton, formatted by Staff.