

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	April 10, 2024
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members In Attendance:	 ✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Jesús López-Jensen _ Gwen Thomas Steed ✓ Tobie Buford ✓ Tasha Andrews
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

- I. Meeting Guidelines were read
- II. Attendance was taken and quorum was met
- III. Previous months minutes were reviewed and approved
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month (If applicable)

A. Lighting at the World War I Monument:

1. The electricians are replacing the bulbs and cleaning the covers to obtain better lighting. Joe Magneri is unsure when the crew would complete the task.

B. Corral at Devoe Park:

- 1. The Park's staff is in favor of keeping the corral because it's easy for the trash to be collected from one site.
- 2. Complaints regarding the illegal dumping will be handled by asking PEP to visit the location to spot the individuals causing the illegal dumping.

C. Opening of the Webster House:

1. The park house will be reopened this summer, but there is no date yet for reopening. The manager will house the crew in charge of maintenance along Mosholu Parkway in this building.



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V. New Business

A. Dr. Steven Payne, Director of the Bronx County Historical Society

1. Dr. Payne attended the meeting and provided an update on events and activities being sponsored by the Society. Dr. Payne listed the facilities which the organization maintains and their hours of operation. This includes the Valentine Varian House, Poe Cottage, and a Research and Archive Facility on Bainbridge Ave. He distributed flyers for the upcoming events, many of which they sponsor, and invited all to attend.

B. Maintenance Issues -

- 1. **Staffing Update**: Joe Magneri was not able to provide any details until the City and Parks' budget is completed.
- 2. **Garbage Pick-up**: Joe announced daily pick-ups will be conducted at all parks unless the truck was not operable and replacements were not available.
- 3. Lack of Trash Receptacles: A limited number are available each season and theft of receptacles is common. Therefore, attempts will be made to lock and anchor them to stationary objects in park areas.
- 4. **Aqueduct Walk/Landmark Status**: Additional information will be given.
- 5. Amateur Astronomers Association's Public Observatory: A date for the opening has not been announced. The Association is still waiting for the Parks' Dept. to sign-off on the project and Joe Magneri will follow up on the project.

C. Friends Group:

1. Tobie announced several activities at Devoe Park. She is currently planning a date for the Play mobile and additional games for the children. She would like to create an art event where the equipment shed can be painted.

VI. Next Meeting Date: May 8, 2024



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VII. Discussion on Next Agenda

A. A presentation by the Bronx Independent Cinema Center. The committee also hopes to have an update on summer staffing at all CB#7's Parks.

VIII. Meeting is adjourned