

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:	May 08, 2024
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center
	3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Jesús López-Jensen
In Attendance:	✓ 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
 - A. Corral at Devoe Park: Joe Magneri, the Parks' manager, mentioned the corral was recently removed from Harris Field and plans to send a letter of request to remove the corral at Devoe Park was postponed until next month.
 - B. Frisch Field: It is uncertain if the field will receive any additional funding. Currently, the field is being used for soccer games. As a result, this has resulted in the loss of all the grass in the outfield.
 - 1. Joe was asked if the soccer league has a permit since the outfield does not qualify as a regulation soccer field. Joe said he would look into the matter.
 - C. Aqueduct Walk: The Walk has officially become the first scenic landmark in the Bronx. A celebration was held along the Community Board 5 section of the park.



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V. New Business

A. Gregory Hernandez, the Executive Director of the Bronx Independent Cinema Center -

- 1. The organization is about 2 years old and hopes to become a haven for movie lovers and filmmakers. In addition, the organization also plans to establish a workforce development program to train residents in casting and producing. Currently, the not- for- profit is working from CUNY on the Concourse at 2501 Grand Concourse.
- 2. Mr. Hernandez requested a letter of support for his organization. The letter will be needed when he applies for additional funding for the Center.
- **B. Motion:** The Parks' Committee approves the sending of a letter of support for the Bronx Independent Cinema Center.
 - 1. Jesus Lopez-Jensen seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

C. Summer Staffing:

- 1. Currently there are 20 grass cutters workers in use for Community Boards 6 to 12. Staffing is now at a base level and seasonal workers will be added in the future.
- 2. Security has improved at the Oval but permit holders are still having some problems. A request to keep the bathrooms open later was made.
- 3. Complaints regarding the PEP Officers not leaving the recreation building area were reported.
- **D. The People's Money:** Karla, the District Manager for CB#7, explained the program and how citizens could be involved in this



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citywide participatory budgeting process. Ballots were passed out to those in attendance. The listed proposals were voted upon.

- **E. Bronx Week Parade and Festival:** All were invited to attend. Joe reported on the progress of the grass cutters along the Parkway. The Parkway will be ready for the parade.
- VI. Next Meeting Date: June 12, 2024
- VII. Discussion on Next Agenda
 - A. Robert Madera: Partnership for Parks
 - B. Information on "Kids In Motion" at Devoe Park
- VIII. Meeting is adjourned