

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:	November 13, 2024
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	<u>Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center</u> 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer _ Gwendolyn Thomas Steed ✓ Tasha Andrews ✓ Marcus McLarty _ Tobie Buford ✓ Esme Sattaur-Low ✓ Jesús López-Jensen
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

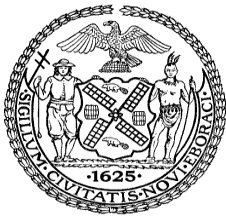
Minutes:

- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting were read**
- II. Attendance was taken and quorum was met**
- III. Review of Previous Minutes**
 - A. The October 2024 minutes were reviewed and accepted.
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month: No Items**
- V. New Business**
 - A. Vital Parks for All Presentation:**
 - 1. Valerie Davis O’Neal and Allyson Jackson, from the Parks’ Department presented the Commissioner’s plan.
 - 2. **Investing in NYC’s Living Infrastructure:**
 - a) The plan would set high standards for all parks and engage the community in the planning and taking care of local parks. Although the plan is much needed, there is no mention of how the funding would be obtained. The commissioner quotes a need of \$3.2 billion to restore and strengthen the parks’ system, however, it remains undetermined whether or not this amount would be available if 1% of the City budget was allotted to parks.
 - B. Parks Updates:**

THIS MEETING’S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

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1. Allyson Jackson announced the hiring of 76 new park workers where our district will receive 4 new staff members and she described the employee rating system that is now being used.
 - a) Each season, the district is rated for both cleanliness and structural integrity and our district received 98% for cleanliness and 90% for structural integrity.
 - b) A discussion followed regarding crime statistics in local parks. Although the police department shares this information with the parks' department, parks' is not responsible for these issues.
 - c) Flyers were distributed regarding the need for hiring additional lifeguards. Parks' is starting early to reach out to high schools and colleges for placements next summer.

C. Williamsbridge Oval Events:

1. Pamela Coleman from the Recreation Center described the center's upcoming events. They include a Winter Wonderland, a Silent Night Disco, and a Quilting and Sewing Club.

D. Annual Tree Lighting Celebration:

1. The committee reviewed the work already done by the office staff for the event on December 12th. Two groups from the Williamsbridge Recreation Center will provide entertainment and replies from local schools regarding additional entertainment are pending.
2. Montefiore Hospital is covering the cost of the stage (Wenger Wagon) and Ridgewood Savings Bank is contributing the cost for hot chocolate.
3. Decorations for the tree will be made by the students from PS 8 and PS 168. Santa Claus will come from the 52nd Precinct.
4. A request for help to assemble the goodie bags for the event was made on Saturday, November 30th from 10:00AM-1:00PM at the Keeper's House, 3400 Reservoir Oval. Helpers will also be needed for both setting up and breaking down during the tree lighting event.

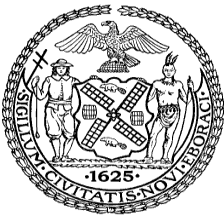
VI. Next Meeting Date:

- A. The meeting closed with a reminder for all to attend the Tree Lighting on December 12th.

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B. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8th, 2025.

VII. Discussion on Next Agenda: TBA

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned