



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, June 9, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Leurys Acosta ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Tasha Andrews ✓ Daisy Perry ✓ Gwen Thomas-Steed
Minutes done by:	Barbara Stronczer

Minutes:

- I) Introductions
- II) Review of previous minutes
 - a) The minutes from the May meeting were approved with one correction. Leurys Acosta was in attendance at the May meeting. A motion to accept the minutes with the correction was made by Betty Arce and seconded by Gwendolyn Thomas Steed
- III) Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)
- IV) New Business
 - a) Grass Cutting: Joe Magneri, the District Manager, attended the meeting and responded to complaints. Grass cutting along Mosholu Parkway was discussed. Although the grass had been cut, the trim was never done. The high grass is unsightly and creates a problem for local residents trying to exit their cars. Mr. Magneri promised to bring the grass cutters back to Mosholu once they are finished on Pelham Parkway.
 - 1) Questions were asked about the cutting of grass at University Woods Park. Joe explained that both Devoe and University Woods were maintained by District 5 even though Devoe and part of University Woods are within District 7.



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- b) **Complaints about the use of the corrals on both Mosholu and Williamsbridge Oval were made. The packer is slow to remove the garbage and residents are starting to dump larger objects into the corral. The stench from the accumulating garbage is also a problem in both areas.**
- c) **Other issues included complaints about electric cycles on the field and track at the Oval. Additional trash cans were also requested for the upper level of the Oval. A request from a resident for a Pride flag in the park was also made. It was pointed out that benches removed for the construction of the dog run would be installed in another area of the park.**
- d) **Joe Magneri discussed recent staffing at Harris Field, and St James Park.**
- e) **The committee reviewed the Design Build Concept and decided to pass a motion to send a letter to our three councilpersons asking for their support of the concept for both tree planting and projects in the park. Design Build is being supported by the Laborers Local Union 1010 as a way to cut both costs and time needed for park projects.**
- 1) **Motion: A letter be sent to the three councilpersons covering the CB#7 area requesting their support for the adoption of the “Design Build” concept for procurement and construction in our local parks.**
- **The motion was approved by Betty Arce and seconded by Gwendolyn Thomas Steed. It was unanimously approved by the Parks’ Committee.**



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- f) **Barbara reported on the park walk taken by Tobie, Joe, and herself at Fordham Landing Park. The park was in need of grass cutting which Joe, the manager, was able to get done later in the day.**
 - g) **Capital outlay and expense items for parks' from last year's budget were highlighted. New items would be requested at our Sept. meeting. Some requests were made. They included ADA accessibility for the recreation center at the Oval and fencing along the paths at University Woods. Greg Faulkner, representing Councilman Cabrera, requested cameras at Devoe. He also suggested we visit the Councilman's office to discuss our requests for the next budget.**
 - h) **Vision for Parks: Members were asked to share their ideas for the future of Parks. These included:**
 - 1) **A larger citywide budget for Parks. Currently one half of 1% of the total City budget is allocated for parks.**
 - 2) **A conversation with the NY Botanical Garden and other institutions regarding help for our parks.**
 - 3) **Better cooperation from the Forestry Division. e.g. Additional pruning and tree replacement**
 - 4) **Better collaboration between Parks and the community. e.g. schools, gyms, community group**
 - i) **A clean-up is planned for this Sat. June 12th at University Woods at 10:00 AM.**
- V) Next meeting date: Wednesday, September 8th at 6:30 PM.**
- VI) Discussion on next agenda**
- VII) Adjournment**