



Chairman: Brandon Ganaishlal - District Manager: William Rivera

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Summary

May 10, 2023

Board Members Present: Chiene Jones, Abunoman Rahman, David Marin, Lena Johnson, Marie Davis, Victor Cordero

I. Introduction

- A. Committee Description:** The Parks and Recreation Committee represents the community's interests with regard to parks, park services and all park related matters and acts as a liaison between parks users and the New York City Parks Department.

II. Speakers

A. Joel Grassi & Derrick Holman, Skatepark Project

Mr. Grassi's previous presentation to the board can be accessed here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17egwUWRXEX1I5LQvvoLICsskZpbAMPF5/view>

CB9, The Friends of Soundview Park and Mr. Grassi to have a site visit at Soundview Park to discuss/identify a potential site for the skate park with the help of Mr. Holman (10-12 thousand sq ft at minimum), the group will be cautious not to identify a space that will take up utilized green space in the park.

As per Ms. Barnes, the area next to the track in Soundview Park was previously identified about 10 years ago as a plausible site for this.

As per Mr. Grassi, the Tony Hawk Foundation wants to have a meeting with all Soundview Park stakeholders to discuss the feasibility of this park housing the skate park

As per Ms. Barnes, it may be helpful to loop in Kips Bay for suggestions as they have an ice skating rink in the district

As per Mr. Grassi it is important for the skate park to be world class and not a park skaters don't want to visit.

CB9 to email Parks to see if there have been any previous proposals or money allocated towards this cause in the past.

B. Edwards Bailey, Bronx Senior Outreach Coordinator - Partnership for Parks

Partnerships for Parks is a unique public-private partnership between City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks that supports and champions neighborhood volunteers by providing the tools needed to advocate and care for neighborhood parks and green spaces.

It's My Park, offers opportunities to give back by cleaning, painting, weeding, planting, and more. We connect you to a network of volunteers who are sustaining local parks and communities and provide the resources to make a tangible, lasting difference.

It's My Parks used to be annual event, however, currently it is now a more common event as it can take place as per the capacity of the hosting group. The Partnership for Parks calendar page has a list of all of the upcoming It's My Parks events here:

<https://cityparksfoundation.org/calendar/category/build/>

C. Victoria Toro, Bronx River Alliance

The Bronx River Alliance serves as a coordinated voice for the river and works in harmonious partnership to protect, improve and restore the Bronx River corridor so that it can be a healthy ecological, recreational, educational and economic resource for the communities through which the river flows.

The Starlight Park Phase II converted 2.7 acres of formerly paved, industrial property into a beautiful greenspace with added greenway connections for New Yorkers to enjoy. It officially opened last month with \$41 million in renovations.

The schedule for Community Paddling has been posted for both canoeing and kayaking along the Bronx River. Participants of all ages and experience levels are welcome. More information can be found here: <https://bronxriver.org/visit-the-river/paddle-the-river>

The Bronx River Alliance is always looking for volunteers and has stewardship opportunities posted which can be found here:

<https://bronxriver.org/?s=Volunteer+and+Stewardship+Opportunities>

The Bronx River Intermunicipal Watershed Management Plan (IWMP) is the result of collaboration between the Bronx River Alliance, the City of New York Department of Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Group, New York State Department of State and the Westchester County Department of Planning, along with more than 100 stakeholders engaged in planning efforts and resource management throughout the watershed.

Friday, May 19th at 2pm, the Bronx River Alliance along with CB6 will be hosting a safety rally for intersection improvements on access to Starlight Park.

III. New Business

A. June Agenda Items

- Request for DSNY composting bins at Soundview Park.
- Pre-teens hang out and throw water balloons, behave inappropriate in the Soundview Park bathroom at the Children's Playground frequently around 5/6pm on Metcalf and Lafayette. CB9 to notify Parks and PEP Captain.

OFFICE INFO

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