



Chairman Nicholas Himidian Jr. & District Manager William Rivera

Parks Committee Meeting **Minutes**

October 9, 2018

Meeting Location: BRONX CB9 OFFICE

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Nicholas Himidian Jr., Sharan Fernandez, Kevin Kiernan, Kwabena Gabay, Abunoman Rahman, Doris Colon

Introduction

- A. Committee Chair, Board Members & Guest
- B. 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.

Speakers/Presentations

- A. Alexis Salgado, President of Hank Greenberg Little League
Speaker was not in attendance.

Old Business

- A. District Needs Statement, copy of the district needs statement review was not available for the committee to review. Office to please submit this to all board members in the committee to be discussed. The purpose of this review is to determine what items can be kept on as priorities, edited or evolved, and which items need to be added. Note** No statement is available.

New Business

- A. Letter to Commissioner Silver from Comptroller Stringer, letter was shared with the committee and board members were given time to read and review the letter.
As per public member Joan Barnes, she would like CB9 to send a letter to get tracking information on the Bronx, specifically the CB9 district regarding what pruning has been done and obtaining a Parks' contact person for tree removal, etc.
There are nearly 7-8 parks in our district, many of which are large.
As per Chairman Himidian, he would like to add Pugsley Creek Park on a future Parks agenda, specifically to discuss the path to nowhere at this location, the park needs to be remediated. There has to be a number of reasons why the park is closed, possibly because of the toxicity level emanating from the park.

As per Joan Barnes, how is the partnership going with the school in the vicinity? As per one resident, there are several residents that use the park constantly to work out or use the basketball court. None of the park is closed off.

As per Chairman Himidian, this should be the first park the committee visits.

As per resident, Call Boxes are the only light in the park because foliage covers the street lights there.

There is police presence at the park, however, the metal poles throughout the park make it difficult for police officers to enter the park with a vehicle.

174th Street Playground will be receiving an in ground pool and a bathroom. The park is open to the public from the front but not through the back. As per Chairman Himidian, this should be another park to visit to ensure everything is flowing well here.

As per Joan Barnes, what is the status of el Parque de Los Ninos progress? Parks representative was not present to address this inquiry.

As per Chairman Himidian, are there any other suggestions/ideas related to our parks to be added to this letter?

As per resident, Soundview Park enforcement does not allow residents to pick up their trash to clean after themselves when asking residents to exit the park. As per Chairman Himidian, there is a chronic issue of younger residents staying in the park until late, way past dusk.

Parks is interested in a recreational center, possibly Lafayette and Colgate.

Residents are also interested in an additional dog playground.

As per Joan Barnes, a park administrator is needed for Soundview Park.

There have been hawk and coyote sightings, as well as wild turkeys, geese, and rabbits throughout Soundview Park.

As per Walter Nestler, has there been any follow-up from Parks regarding the concession at Pugsley Creek Park?

As per Chairman Himidian, we have not heard back from Parks on this and Valerie is not present today to comment.

As per Walter Nestler, there have been many requests for letters of support to elected officials but he has not seen any letter to electeds come from CB9.

As per Chairman Himidian, these letter wouldn't come to the general board for a vote because they are not a motion and because board members would have to vote on something they do not have full information on, which is why letters come from committees for the most part.

As per Walter Nestler, what was the attendance of both town hall meetings CB9 hosted?

As per Chairman Himidian, he was out on vacation, however, based on the pictures he had seen, there was great attendance on both but follow-up with District Manager on this matter is needed.

As per Walter Nestler it is essential to send and track letters sent to elected officials requesting support.

As per Chairman Himidian, CB9 to draft response letter to Commissioner Silver based on committee suggestions as well as to share with committee any updates on Parks Concession stand for Pugsley Creek Park.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Minutes created by CB9 Office Staff

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