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COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
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Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 4, 2010@ 6:00PM
Community Board 11 Office
1664 Park Avenue (bet. 117th /118th Street)

- Present:** Frances Mastrota, Keith Massey, Frank Brija, David Giordano, Cora Shelton, and Hector Nazario
- Excused:** Debbie Quinones
- Absent:** Robert McCullough, Russel Shuler and Richard Toussaint
- Guest:** Lisa Spitzner, Matthew Ryder and Aden Brija and Sonia Rodriguez

1. **Opening remarks** - Committee Chair Frances Mastrota called the meeting to order. Adoption of the agenda, Review of the minutes of the last meeting quorum was established.
2. **Presentation and Discussion** - Mr. Thomas Luongo, Community Businessman introduced information on the John Theissen Children's Foundation. This 501C3 non-profit proposes a Holiday Lighting Fundraiser on Randall's Island for twenty (20) days in December 2010 behind the ICAN Stadium, where Cirque du Soleil holds its event. Mr. Luongo will submit to the Park's Committee by November 22, 2010 the timeline for 20 days in December that the Holiday Lighting Fundraiser Project will be open for admission to the public.

A portion of the proceeds (35-50%) will be distributed to a non-profit organization selected by the community board.

ACTION ITEM

Motion was made by Hector Nazario, to support the Holiday Lighting Fundraiser Proposal on Randall's Island, seconded by Keith Massey, 5 for, 1 present not voting (David Giordano).

3. Unfinished Business

- a. Budget Priorities see below:
 - i. Rebuild and repair parts of the East River Esplanade between 125th and 96th Streets.
 - ii. Complete the development of phase “A” 125th – 132nd Street on the East River Esplanade
 - iii. Install hi-intensity lighting at all public parks in Community District Eleven.
 - iv. Build a comfort station with a bathroom in the Harlem River Park
 - v. Expand Thomas Jefferson Park Recreation Center to accommodate increased usage.
 - vi. Rehabilitate historic /landmark Bell Tower in Marcus Garvey Park.

ACTION ITEM:

Motion was made by Frank Brija to accept the Budget items as stated, seconded by David Giordano, passed unanimously.

- b. The questionnaire for the proposed candidates to the RISF was read and distributed to the committee. See attached

ACTION ITEM:

Motion was made by Frank Brija to accept questionnaire to be asked the Randall's Island Board Candidates, seconded by Cora Shelton, passed unanimously

- c. The Chair after a 10-28-10 meeting with the members of the NYC DOT Division of Bridges Movable Bridge Group representatives reported that the 103 Street Pedestrian Bridge would close on 11-22-10 not to reopen to possibly June, July, or as late as August 2011 due to bridge rehabilitation.

AT THIS POINT IN THE COMMITTEE MEETING CHAIR F. MASTROTA STEPPED DOWN. She handed Chairmanship over to David Giordano.

4. **New Business** - Lisa Spitzner, American Lung Association, and Matthew Ryder, Asian Americans for Equality, Presented a proposal that would prohibit smoking in Public Parks.

ACTION ITEM:

Frances Mastrota made the motion to reject the proposal to prohibit smoking in Public Parks, seconded by Frank Brija, and approved unanimously.

5. **Announcements** - The New York City Marathon, 11-07-2010

6. **Adjournment @ 7:03 PM** - A motion was made by David, seconded by Frank Brija, and accepted unanimously.

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