



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
1664 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10035
TEL: 212-831-8929
FAX: 212-369-3571
www.cb11m.org

Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

Environment, Open Space, & Parks Committee Thursday, September 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m. Board Office

*** MINUTES ***

Present: Diane Collier, Jessica Elliott, David Giordano, Jada Heredia, Nilsa Orama (ex officio), Frances Mastrota, Malik McCullough, Jessica Morris, Russel Shuler, Carly Wine (staff)

Absent: Jeffrey Monteiro, Ryan Sheffield (chair)

Excused: none

Guests: David Salerno, RIPA; Anthony Thompson, NYC DEP; Benny Tortorici, NYC DEP; Richard Lopez, Gannett Fleming; Oleg Khomich, NYC DEP; Robert Cuevas, NYC DEP; Selene Wellette, NYC DEP; Stanley Joseph, NYC DEP; Antonio Sosa, NYC DEP; Lina Posso, Greeley and Hansen; Teresa Lu, LuminoCity; Aubri Emery, iDeko; Jasmine Castillo, iDeko; Connie Lee, Marcus Garvey Park Alliance; Matthew Carroll, NYPA; Joe Fiteni, Savin Engineers; Nan Melville, Lasker Pool; Humberto Galarza, NYC DPE; Melanie Baker, Lasker Pool

1. Call to Order– Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting was called to order by committee member Frances Mastrota at 6:30 pm.

2. Announcements

Jessica Morris was invited to testify to NYCC regarding NYC Parks procurement process. She asked other members to provide input to her prior to the hearing.

3. Informational updates

a. Randall's Island Park Alliance (RIPA)

RIPA informed the committee about LuminoCity, an upcoming light festival at Randall's Island Park. The festival will open on November 23, 2019 until January 5, 2020. Discounts are available for children, students, and seniors. David Salerno is inquiring about discounts for community members.

b. NYC Parks

More than 300 people attended the ribbon cutting of the Mt. Morris Fire Watchtower, where Frances Mastrota of CB11M was given an award in recognition of her years of advocacy for the restoration of the watchtower.

The design process for the capital improvements to the P.S. 155 Playground has begun. The scope meeting will be held Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 PM at P.S. 155. It is open to all residents who have an interest in seeing the playground improved.

NYC Parks has awarded the contract for the capital improvements to Thomas Jefferson Playground. Construction should begin in the spring. The irrigation project around the recreating center has been completed.

NYC Parks is in the process of awarding the contract after adding funds to the budget to accept the low bid. Construction should begin in the spring. In the meantime, NYC Parks is pushing the contractor for the comfort station to start working.

The contract to for the new synthetic turf ballfield at Wagner Ballfield has been awarded. Construction should begin early next year.

The Keith Haring mural at Crack is Wack Playground has been restored. The project for play equipment at Poor Richard's Playground will be submitted for bidding soon.

c. Marcus Garvey Park

Connie Lee expressed gratitude for the work CB11M has done for the Mt. Morris Fire Watchtower.

4. Presentations & Discussions

NYC DEP Wards Island Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility

DEP came to present on the following three projects:

a. Primary Settling Tanks and Prehouses

DEP proposes to upgrade the ten primary settling tanks as well as the five prehouses that contain the electrical, mechanical, and HVAC equipment. The prehouses will be expanded in size to accommodate new equipment and the deteriorated facades will be stripped and replaced with a rainscreen façade featuring metal panels, face brick and storefront glazing. The roof and all doors will be replaced and supergraphics identifying each of the prehouses by number will be applied. Construction Notice will proceed in January 2021, and mobilization will begin in Spring 2021. Construction will be substantially completed in January 2025, and ultimately completed in January 2026.

b. Dewatering Building

In partnership with New York Power Authority, DEP will upgrade the Dewatering Building's lighting, HVAC, odor control, and fire protection systems to meet new energy conservation measures. The exterior scope of work at the Dewatering Building includes (1) replacement of the roof with a high reflectance insulated roof; (2) installation of rooftop HVAC equipment; (3) replacement of damaged windows, doors, and skylights; (4) installation of louvers to meet the needs of the upgraded HVAC system; and (5) installation of new odor control scrubber stacks and a new boiler stack on the roof. Ancillary to the building, a new water tank for fire suppression and a new gas meter will be installed. Both structures will be screened with evergreens. Construction will begin in November 2020 and end in August 2022.

c. **Power Distribution**

DEP proposes to reconstruct the power distribution system for the facility. While much of the work will be performed within existing buildings, the scope also requires (1) the renovation and expansion of Power Distribution Center #4, located on the east side of the site; (2) the replacement of Power Center #7, located at the south side of the site; and (3) installation of transformers adjacent to the recently completed storage building (reviewed by CB 11 in 2015) located on the northeast corner of the site. Construction will begin in 2021 and end in 2026.

DEP reassured the Committee that the careful removal of harmful materials, such as asbestos, would be dealt with, as part of the protocol they must follow.

A motion was made by Russell Shuler and seconded by Malik McCullough to write a letter of support for the three proposed Wards Island Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility projects (Final Settling Tanks and Prehouses; Dewatering Building; and Power Distribution) as presented by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to our Environment, Open Space & Parks Committee on November 8, 2019. The committee unanimously passed the motion.

5. New Business

a. **Letter of Support for RIPA's Urban Forestry Grant due Dec. 4th**

The Committee raised concern about not having seen the proposal to be submitted prior to voting, and requested that RIPA provide the proposal prior to the vote. The Committee is particularly interested in learning more about how RIPA will select schools for their programming, how the program will be laid out in schools, and whether there will be designated staff for outreach and engagement.

In an effort to resolve concerns without withholding necessary services and programming, a motion was made by Jada Heredia and seconded by Jessica Elliott to write a conditional letter of support for Randall Island Park Alliance's (RIPA) Urban Forestry Grant that stipulates that they will work in connection with CB11M to conduct outreach to local schools and make sure that the community's needs are being served. The committee unanimously passed the motion.

6. Old Business

a. Resolution for Harlem Meer Project

The Committee reviewed a brief resolution drafted by Jessica Elliott for CB11M, as well as other resolutions provided by Community Board 5, 7, 9 and 10. The Committee heard concerns from guests who frequent Lasker Pool, particularly about the size decrease and its potential impacts on capacity. The Committee agreed to table the vote on our resolution until the December meeting and requested that staff reach out to Central Park Conservancy.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.