



Diane Collier
Chair

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District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Environment, Open Space, & Parks Committee Thursday, December 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Board Office

MINUTES

- Present: Frances Mastrota (Chair), Russel Shuler, Nilsa Orama, Jeffrey Monteiro, Ryan Sheffield and Thomas Herrera (staff)
- Excused: David Giordano, Tabatha Lozano
- Absent: None
- Guests: Renee Katt (Chenchita's Garden), Shirony Chong, Eric Peterson (NYC Parks)

1. Call to Order - Adoption of the Agenda

Committee was called to order by Chair Frances Mastrota at 6:04 p.m. Motion to adopt the agenda by Nilsa Orama and seconded by Jeffrey Monteiro at 7:20p.m., when quorum was attained

2. Announcements and Informational Updates

- a. NYC Parks & Recreation are hiring Lifeguards for Summer of 2018
- b. Christmas in the Park at White Park (106 Street between 3rd and Lexington Avenues) was held on 12/16/2017 from 7:00 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- c. The development team of Sendero Verde project will be providing an informational update on the development of their project (111th to 112th Streets between Park and Madison Avenues) and the arrangements for the temporary closing of four community gardens at the Land Use Committee on January 10, 2018
- d. NYC Parks & Recreation will be presenting and seeking a letter of support from the Environment, Open Space and Parks committee for the conceptual design of the Harlem Greenway Link
- e. The chair reviewed with the committee the East Harlem Rezoning Points of Agreement (See pages 12-14 on East Harlem Points of Agreement), which is a comprehensive list of Mayor de Blasio's administration's commitment to East Harlem. The commitments reflect many of the requests put for from the East

Harlem Neighborhood Plan. The committee chair also reviewed the FY2018 Statement of District Needs, which will be tracked along with the East Harlem Points of Agreement in the internal Board tracker.

- f. As of January 2018, the committee will begin to shift its focus to the long term repair of the East River Esplanade and the reconstruction of Pier 107. The committee will continue to follow up with the correspondent agencies and elected officials to regarding the availability of funds and timelines for construction.

3. Presentations & Discussions

a. Marcus Garvey Park Alliance

Connie Lee gave a recap of the events and ongoing program initiatives from 2017 working with Partnerships for Parks, additional corporate sponsors, and community resident volunteers. The Marcus Garvey Park Alliance gave a presentation that included the following: a horticultural artistic musical, poetry and dance, a silent parade to bring awareness to social injustice with references to the revered Harlem Hellfighters, reading circles, a farmers market and the continued mission of Parks Without Borders.

Ms. Lee and the alliance strongly believe in Public/Private partnerships. Marcus Garvey Park has become a major tourist attraction. In stating the alliance's mission is the belief that the Park is a tool for building community pride and ownership. Ms. Lee and her groups incorporate placemaking, as they develop programs that attract the attention of local residents.

4. Continuing Business

- a. Russell Shuler, President of Youth and Education Through Sports Inc., expressed his desire to see Community Board 11 become more engaged in creating partnerships in the community that would attract the community's school aged youth to have access to better programming and increasing retention in our local schools.

5. New Business

- a. Eric Peterson, Deputy Administrator of Randall's Island Park Alliance (RIPA) announced that the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) was calling its Civil Service list. The city has not had a Civil Service exam for park managers since the year 2002. As a result, there have been no permanent managers in parks, with the exception of one manager. Therefore, the current parks managers will fall in one of the categories: demoted, promoted or moved. They created a new position called Regional Manager that will have jurisdiction of many community boards, including CB 11. The

next regional manager will be a current District Manager, but that announcement has not been made yet.

6. Old Business

- a. The 22,000 square feet of space at the site of the MTA Second Avenue Construction site (NE corner of 96th Street and Second Avenue) has not yet been vacated. Concern over who is in charge of cleaning the sidewalk, in the wake of snowfall on 12/09/17, has come up at the committee. The committee will follow up with the Public Safety committee to address this concern.
- b. The committee continues to follow-up on the lack of due process in obtaining the City Council's approval of Marx Brother Playgrounds. The committee feels that playgrounds should not be turned into development sites.

7. Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., the Chair called for an adjournment. So moved by Russell Shuler, seconded by Jeffrey Monteiro.

Minutes submitted and prepared by Frances Mastrota