



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

Environment, Open Space and Parks Committee Thursday, February 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m. Board Office

*** Minutes ***

Present: David Giordano, Tabatha Lozano, Frances Mastrota (committee chair), Jeffrey Monteiro, Ryan Sheffield, Thomas Herrera (staff)

Absent: None

Excused: Russell Shuler

Guests: Anne, Wilson (RIPA), Mahfuzur Rahman, Eric Peterson (NYC Parks)

1. Call to Order - Adoption of the Agenda

The Committee was called to order at 6:02 PM by the Chair F. Mastrota. Quorum was present.

Agenda was adopted by Jeffery Montero, Seconded by Tabatha Lozano. All in favor.

2. Announcements

CB11 will hold a public hearing on the FY 2019 Preliminary Budget during the Full Board meeting on 02-20-2018 at the Dream School, [1991 Second Ave.](#)

3. Presentations & Discussions

- a. Anne Wilson, Randall's Island Park Alliance (RIPA) seeking a letter of support for the NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Office of Environmental Justice Grant. RIPA is asking for a \$450k share of this \$1million grant. If awarded the grant money will be used for the refurbishment, design & construction of an Urban Environmental Education Center to be located in the Brick House Building, which is in the middle of Randall's Island Park. The building which is located next to the Freshwater Wetlands, Salt Marsh, and Urban Farm would house the staff for those and the Natural Area Staff. Additionally 1 classroom for 30 students, a community exhibition area, and two Restrooms. A new pathway under the railroad arches will be build for an easy walk from the building to the Urban Farm. Currently the Waterfront Programs reach 6 thousand CB11 & Bronx students and 3.5 hundred said students at the Urban Farm, as well as

affording to these communities 322 Drop-In Events. A map of Randall's Island Park, and Student work books for the Wetlands, and Urban Farm were made available .

Members of the committee asked for a list of the area schools being serviced by these programs.

A motion was made by David Giordano to issue a letter of support for the Randall's Island Park Alliance's (RIPA) application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for an Environmental Justice Grant, in favor of the \$ 450,000 grant share, for the design and construction of the Urban Environmental Education Center to be located in the Old Brick House Building on Randall's Island. The letter is to be addressed to Aimee Boden, Executive Direct of RIPA. The motion was seconded by Ryan Sheffield and approved unanimously.

The grant awarding time line is May 2018. (See drafted letter of support)

- b. The committee reviewed and discussed the 13 item requests line by line on the FY 2019 Preliminary Budget. Additional comments by committee members to be E-mailed to Thomas Herrera before Friday 02-16-2018.
- c. The Chair reviewed month by month of 2017 the committee's accomplishments.

The three major committee goals for 2018 are:

- i. East River Major Reconstruction of the 107th St. Pier,111th St, and 117th Street walkway reconstruction.
- ii. The Naming of the new 125th St. -132nd,St, on the Harlem River proposed linkage to the Greenway Richard Toussaint Park, as well as !32- 142nd Sts on the Harlem River Esplanade Richard Toussaint Way.
- iii. Advocating for the resolution of the zoning and development of the Marx Bros Playground 96th -97th Sts. 2nd to 1St Avenues. As well as advocating for an increase in the NYC Parks Department's .6% of the NYC budget.

4. New Business

- a. CB11 Board Chair, Nilsa Orama brought to the committee's attention the fact that our committee has \$500 to be used at its discretion. This sum must be used within the next two months. After a short consideration time, the matter was tabled until next month when ideas will be heard and a decision made.

5. Old Business

- a. Succession Planning, under the leadership of the current committee Chair, Frances Mastrotta, and with the approval of the Board Chair, Nilsa Orama, the transition of leadership of the committee is taking place. With a time line that began on 01-01-2018 and continues moving forward to date, to reach conclusion in late Spring 2018, it is proposed that Ryan Sheffield will take over Chairmanship of the committee, with Jeffery Montero as Vice Chair.

6. Adjournment

Sending our Best Wishes for Public Committee Member Russel Shuler speedy recovery from knee surgery

The committee moved by David Giordano, seconded by Jeffery Montero moved to adjourn. Unanimously agreed upon.

Minutes submitted by: F. Mastrota, T Herrera

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