



# CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 10th, 2024, 6:30 pm

Hon. Karen Horry, Chair

Meeting began at 6:36 pm was hybrid and was held in the Community Board District Office Conference Room and via Zoom link. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Karen Horry, Committee Chair.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Chair Hon. Karen Horry, Hon. Lyn Woodley, Hon. Derek Perkinson and Hon. Philip Desgranges

**Committee Members in Attendance via Zoom:** Hon. Tahanie Aboushi.

**Committee Members Absent:** Hon. Nathan Quist, Hon. Elvin Garcia (Resigned), Hon. Darryl Jenkins and Hon. Jaran Manzanet.

**District Office:** Miguel Walters (Community Assistant).

**Guests in-person attendance:** Bob McCullough (Each One Teach One, Inc.), Cheryl Marius (The Entertainers' Basketball Classic - EBC Rucker Park), Dr. Malcolm Punter (HCCI) and Richard Williams.

**Guests in attendance via Zoom:** Philip Rucker, Stacey Marius, Dave Williams (NYC Parks District 10 and 11 Manager), Ron Myers, Steve Simon (NYC Parks Manhattan Chief of Staff), Robert McLean (Regional Director, NYC Parks), NYC Parks, Zakiyah DeGraffe (Director, Hansborough Recreation Center), Abena Smith, Richard Williams. Tapashi Narine (Harlem Historic Parks Administrator), Nina Talley, Stacey's OtterPilot, Khalid Bey and Stacey's iPad

### I. Welcome/Introductions

### II. Discussions

- a. **CB 10 Capital Projects and Master Plan** - CB 10 issued a February 2022 letter requesting a Ten Year Master Plan for Manhattan Community Board 10 Parks and Recreational Facilities. Since 2014 Central Harlem parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities have undergone a great deal of extensive renovations. We have been the beneficiary of programs such as The Community Partnership Initiative and Parks Without Borders in addition to NYC Parks capital projects through Community Board advocacy. The Community would like to preserve, protect, and maintain these relatively recent investments as well as the integrity of our park network as a whole. As a long-time under-served community this effort would be integral to retention of this achieved equity. We are awaiting a detailed response from NYC Parks.

- b. **Community Outreach - 3rd Annual Soccer Festival** - The Third Rail will attend February's meeting to discuss planning for the event.
- c. **Harlem River Park - Harlem River Park NYCEDC Greenway Update** - NYC EDC will provide a recap of all greenway projects in the CB 10 area at the February meeting with presentation materials.
- d. **Harlem Historic Park/ Jackie Robinson Park Update** - Tapashi Narine is the newly hired Harlem Historic Parks Administrator position is still vacant. Regional Manager Robert McLean announced that new gardening tools are being made available to the site.
- e. **ACP Malls** - Malls have been completed from 123rd Street to 110th Street. NYC Parks Water Truck is out of commission.
- f. **Community Gardens Update** - No current update
- g. **Jackie Robinson Park Conservancy Updates** - Jackie Robinson HVAC is in design completion - update is pending.
- h. **Hansborough Recreation Center Updates** - The Hansborough Recreation Center will be closed for construction. The last day of operation will be January 27th. The reconstruction project will include the installation of a brand new pool, new lobby, new entranceway, new elevator and new boilers. Membership can be used to access other NYC Parks facilities. The closure will be for two years. The Knicks League Tournaments will be held in January (flyers will be provided for CB 10 e-blast) in Jackie Robinson Park. Fitness classes and operation will continue until January 27th. A January 26th Silent Disco and Fitness Party scheduled (flyer will be provided for e-blast). Outdoor programming will be ongoing.
- i. **CB 10 Park Updates .....Steve Simon (NYC Parks Manhattan Chief of Staff)**
  - i. **Howard Bennet Playground** - No update at this time.
  - ii. **Brigadier General Charles Young Playground** - Ballfield is awaiting MTA approval. Additional funding is needed for the installation of storm mitigation strategies.
  - iii. **Brigadier General Charles Young Triangle** - No update at this time.
  - iv. **St. Nicholas Park So.** - The scope of work has been expanded to include the basketball courts through funding by Borough President Levine's office. Additional funding will be required for stormwater solutions and prevention plans. The contract is pending.
  - v. **William McCray Playground** - Contract award will be made by March. This is a CPI project.
  - vi. **Renaissance Playground** - The playground project has been allocated \$4,750,000 for reconstruction and is the preliminary design phase. An engineering consultant is being hired to prepare the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.
  - vii. **Courtney Callendar Playground** - Comfort station reconstruction still pending to become a NYC Parks capital project. Community advocacy is ongoing.
  - viii. **A. Philip Randolph Square** - DOT has asked NYC Parks to address lighting issues. NYC Parks funding allocation has been increased to \$16.7 million. The project requires the hiring of an engineering consultant.
  - ix. **Frederick Johnson Playground** - Project is completed. Work inspection is pending.
  - x. **Fred Samuel Playground** - Advocacy needed for comfort station renovation. New curb dog signage will be installed.

- xi. Harlem Lane Program (Percy E. Sutton Playground)** - The reconstruction project is nearly at 100% completion. NYC Parks work inspection pending completion.
- xii. Jackie Robinson Park Dog Run** - No update at this time. NYC Parks will have info for February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- xiii. Langston Hughes Playground** - The Park will be closed at 6 pm to mitigate illegal activities.
- xiv. Hancock Square** - Work is still needed- whole park renovation is recommended.
- xv. ACP, Jr. Malls** - Malls have been completed from 123rd to 110th Streets - The water truck is currently unavailable.

\$2,000 to \$6000 in hand tools will be sent to the District Manager for distribution in addition to \$20,000 of plants for CB 10 and CB 11.

### **III. Old Business**

- a. CB10 Master Plan - NYC Parks Presentation pending schedule for February
- b. Harlem River Park Greenway - NYC EDC pending schedule for February
- c. Jackie Robinson Park Dog Run - discussion for February meeting

### **IV. New Business** - None

### **V. Announcements** - P& R Subcommittee Rucker Walk of Fame Promenade & Holcombe Rucker Statue in Rucker Park Meeting 1/11/24 11:00 am via Zoom.

### **VI. Adjournment** - Motion: Hon. Lyn Woodley; Second Hon. Derek Perkinson Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

*~ Respectfully submitted by Parks and Recreation Chair, Hon. Karen Horry ~*