

**Community Board 12, Manhattan Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting
IS 52 (Broadway @ Academy St.) Cafeteria / May 5, 2015**

Committee members present: Mitchell Glenn, Chair; Kelley Boyd; Osi Kaminer; Richard Lewis; Elizabeth Lorris Ritter; Juan Mejia. **Additional Board Members present:** Mary Anderson, Barbara Frazier.

Community Members present: Paul Kittas; Julia Mair; Melanie & Andres Salcedo, 83 Payson Ave.; Nerida Beauchamp, 47 Seaman Ave.; Eddie Santos, 19 Cumming St.; Alfredo Sandoval; Franklin Morales, 4915 Broadway; Hugo Rodriguez, 1822 Amsterdam Ave.; Max Breslow, Jeremy Daniel, Ted Gallagher, Mary Ellen Hancock, Will Madeira, Joy Smith, Patricia Shoultz, and Bob Thorgrimson, 1793 Riverside Drive; Karie Brown, Felicia Jennings-Brown, Gail Sullivan, and Rachel Harrington, 105 Arden St.; Dan Mulligan and Andrea Kornbluth, 200 Pinehurst Ave.; Roger Meyer, 34 Hillside Ave.; Kevin McKeon and Steven Harris, Inwood Canoe Club; David Elkins; Max Breslow; Julianne Corucha; Michael Fischer; Denise Campbell-Sagua; Jeanne Ruskin; Danita Nichols; Jennifer Bristol; Daniel Pincus, 4791 Broadway; Sara (Sally) Fisher; David Thom; and John Doe.

Invited Guests/Presenters & and agency/elected officials' representatives: Laura Ringelheim & Stephanie Ruiz from the Mayor's Office of Contracting Services; Jennifer Hoppa, Steven Kirby, & David Cerron, NYC Parks; Jerald Tenenbaum & Joshua Rosen, Manhattan River Group/La Marina; Angel Reyes, La Marina; Rolando Ruiz, Oscar Paredes, Miguel Guzman, Tomas Perez, and <illegible>, Valet Parking; Adele Bartlett and Giovanni Puello, Manhattan Borough President's Office; Roberto Perez, Mayor's Office; Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez & Carmen de la Rosa.

Announcements: Before the meeting was officially called to order, there were announcements about upcoming events: Alice in Wonderland by the Pied Piper Children's Theatre this and next weekend; Cornerstone Chorale at concert this Sunday; UP Theater's presentation of an original play, Epic Poetry, Weds-Sat for the next two weeks; Urban Wildlife Appreciation Day at Inwood Hill Park this Saturday.

Mitchell Glenn, Chair, called meeting to order at 7:15pm, introducing the presenters and explaining that all questions would be held until the conclusion of the presentations. It was explained that rather than using a sign-up sheet, once the presentations concluded and the Q&A began, people would raise hands and a list of names (or physical descriptions to the extent that people's names were unknown) would be generated in-the-moment, such that speakers might be recognized in the order in which they raised hands without actually having to keep their hands raised.

Presentation by the Mayor's Office of Contracting Services (MOCS) by Laura Ringelheim, Deputy General Council: The Franchise & Concession Review Committee (FCRC) oversees the process from pre-solicitation to award for all 37 Mayoral agencies, of which 12 have concessions and most of which are through the Department of Parks & Recreation ("Parks"). The FCRC is composed of six members: two Mayoral appointees; one each from the Law Department, the Office of Management & Budget and the Comptroller's Office; and 5 Borough President appointees (one per BP), any one of whom votes on a matter depending on the borough in/for which the concession is being considered.

The FCRC has the authority to hold hearings for the awarding of franchises, and to approve by one of several methods certain concessions. A franchise is the right to use city property, e.g., phones, cable, wireless, etc. A concession is a grant made by an agency for private use of City land, including golf courses, ice rinks, restaurants, marinas, hot-dog carts, etc. Concessions awarded by sealed competitive bid are awarded solely based on the lowest bid that meets the bid requirement, and do not require FCRC approval. (The most common examples of this kind of concession are ice cream or hot dog carts, and mobile food trucks.)

Public hearings are held for concessions that are considered to be “significant”, i.e., those that are for more than ten years or will generate \$100k+ in revenue for the City, or are deemed by the Planning Commission to be a “major” concession. These factors are determined during the pre-solicitation review, during which the relevant Agency reviews the concession idea/description, provides a 30- or 40-day (depending on if it’s major/non-major) notice to the Community Board and Borough President of the upcoming RFP; MOCS approves the CB/BP notice as to form, approves the pre-solicitation review paperwork as to form and sufficiency of content, and certifies (via the City’s Chief Procurement Officer that the agency’s plan will comply with the City’s procurement requirements.

During the solicitation phase, the Agency:

- drafts the RFP, and may meet with the Community Board and other stakeholders to learn of factors that are important to incorporate into the RFP, but is not legally permitted to share the RFP prior to its release to the public.
- publishes a “Notice of Solicitation” in the City Record and distributes the Notice of Solicitation to each affected Community Board and the BP’s Office, as well as the FCRC.
- sends the RFP to the CB/BP and FCRC.
- drafts Ratings Sheets by which to evaluate the RFP responses.

During the solicitation phase, MOCS:

- reviews the content of the RFP, Rating Sheet and Notice of Solicitation and approves as to form.
- distributes the Notice of Solicitation and RFP to the FCRC.

Requests for Proposals (RFPs) are reviewed through a competitive sealed proposal process, during which other factors than revenue may be considered. In the case of significant RFPs, there must be a public hearing; notices of the public hearing must be placed in the City Record and two other publications repeatedly for not less than 15 days. If it is a sole source concession, the FCRC votes. If it is a competitive concession, the FCRC allows it to go forward as long as everything was met procedurally. For the hearing, the Agency prepares a Recommendation for Award (RFA) package which includes (per §1-13):

- a cover sheet with the concessionaire name, description, location, term, revenue and method of solicitation;
- certification that all notification requirements were met (i.e., agency completed consultations with affected CB/BP regarding the scope of solicitation 30 days prior to issuance; Agency sent notice to affected CB/BP regarding non-major concession determination 40 days before issuance; certification that a copy of the Notice of Solicitation in the City Record for at least 10 successive issues and that such notice was furnished to the affected CB/BP and the FCRC within 5 days of publication.
- A responsibility Determination by the Department of Investigation with a Vendor Name Check.

After the hearing, there is a Notice of Award.

Presentation by the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation Revenue Division by David Cerron, Chief Accountant: began by giving examples of concessions in general, including the very successful Shake Shack which began as a single concession in Union Square, the TKTS booth in Times Square and various greenmarkets throughout the city, in addition to more obvious offerings such as are noted above.

The New Leaf Café re-opened on April 23rd under a new vendor, Coffeed, which took over the same concession from the New York Restoration Project, under the same terms. DPR is working with the vendor on price points.

There were no responses to the RFP for the Highbridge Park Ice Rink. A new RFP has been issued which is more flexible regarding the size and location in the pool as well as additional services that might be offered (perhaps food, and or a holiday market, or other ideas?). Councilmember Rodriguez has set aside \$1 million for an electrical upgrade.

La Marina is a well-attended, popular concession, but there are some quality of life issues:

- Noise: Concessionaire has put in a new sound system, designed with a delimiter to ensure that sound doesn't leave the property. DPR and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have toured the property and have found that the new system seems to have been successful in this regard.
- Waterfront access: the concessionaire has worked with a non-profit local sailing school to do free programs for children as well as fee-based programs for adults. The eco-dock is anticipated to be installed by the 2017 season; the concessionaire is working w/ the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Traffic: the concessionaire is partnering with local garages and car service companies, and is encouraging patrons to take public transit. They will work with private event contractors for boat charters. They are working with the NYPD and DoT as well. DoT looked at traffic signals to refine and improve traffic flow.
- Smoking is prohibited on parksland but is permitted in designated areas in the case of restaurants. There is a designated area within La Marina in which smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes is permitted. Hookah smoking is not prohibited as long as the shisha does not contain tobacco. The Department of Health has visited La Marina to ensure that these regulations are being observed.
- Events: DPR has directed La Marina to reduce the number of events. The concessionaire is contractually entitled to have some. The prior contractor had many unauthorized and illicit events. La Marina must notify the Community Board and NYPD at least a week in advance if it is having an event there.

Question & Answer / Comment period:

Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez People ask if politicians can be fair, and if they can be for quality of life. I am insulted by that. I have two young daughters and I live on Arden St., and am affected by these things, too. I care about quality of life in the neighborhood. Business opportunities and services are important to the community, but they cannot come at the price of quality of life, and peaceful enjoyment of our neighborhoods and parks. We need to continue to identify ways to improve quality of life. My belief is that La Marina should look to be more rental oriented than [having] larger scale events. To see a lot of evening concerts is unacceptable. NYPD, especially its Traffic Division, needs to step up 4-6 people. They must be people working on moving traffic. Also I would like feedback on the possibility of reversing the direction of Staff Street as a way of moving traffic away from La Marina.

Regarding other developments/issues:

- if no one responds to the Highbridge ice rink RFP, I am happy to reallocate the funds to some other community purpose.
- I have allocated \$1.5 million to the High Bridge water tower.
- Looking to expand water service from Wall St. to Dyckman St; allocated \$500k for a landing.

Q&A from Committee members, and CB12 members

Osi Kaminer: what about smoking? Cited a letter from Borough President. A: (David Cerron) Sometimes people break rules. The objective is to get it right. We ask that concessionaires, including La Marina, remind people that smoking is not allowed.

Kelley Boyd: Where is the concession for the parking lot? We need to understand about the valet parking arrangement. I did see changes to the sound system, and am impressed and pleased at how things have been set up; by Staff Street we really can't hear it anymore. The biggest issues w/ La Marina are traffic and trash. What is the deal with private events? Parks is responsible for approving events. If La Marina is following rules then our problem is with the terms and permitting via Parks. **Liz Ritter:** echoed above concerns with parking, traffic, and the number of events permitted by Parks. A: (David Cerron) Parks doesn't object to valet parking. It can be part of a solution provided it is done properly. Regarding the number of events, we want to hear community feedback.

The Committee asked Parks to follow up with clarification as to the process for granting special events permits, and requested that there be a limit on both the number of permits granted each season, and the duration/lateness of the events, and a prohibition of special events on Sundays past evening.

Juan Mejia: It is important to gain partnership with the community.

Richard Lewis: What is the capacity? A: (Jerald Tenenbaum, La Marina) The beach is 1500, the restaurant is about 300; lounge+upper deck is 600-700; total capacity is 2500. A: (Jennifer Hoppa) Capacity is issued by NYC Small Business Services (SBS) in consultation with the FDNY. In the past SBS issued a combined capacity of 2086. A: (JT) the beach is 1500 people, and the restaurant is either 294 or 296. The adjacent outdoor area is not required to have Place of Assembly permits. Based on sheer square footage we are allowed to have more; we made the choice to not add a bathroom which would have triggered a higher permissible capacity than the 1500 we currently are allowed. A: (Joshua Rosen, La Marina) When we first opened we were told we didn't need a Place of Assembly permit. When CB12 and Parks asked, we got a permit.

Barbara Frazier: It seems like La Marina morphed from the original plan that was approved by the community. There have been many addenda. What was that process? Also, noted an advertisement for an event series, "Sundays @ La Marina" advertised on a website, www.fullyequippedent.com, which promotes "where the music gets louder and the nights get longer", beginning May 24th for Memorial Day weekend. [Note: this language has since been removed from the website.] A: (JR) We did not do the best job the first year but we will find out. This is not part of our group. A: (JT) I am a trademark attorney. I write dozens of "cease & desist" letters because it damages our brand. A: (JR) Spoke about the sailing school. We haven't morphed the method; it was what we said we'd do. A: (Laura Ringelheim) I don't know if there were contract amendments after the public hearing before it was finally signed. Important also to note that the public and the Community Board do not approve a concessionaire or a concession, that is done through the process described above.

Mitchell Glenn: There are many questions. FOIL (Freedom of Information Law request) never turned up any amendments. The nature of the business has changed and we want to know how that happened. And what about the smoking issue? A: (JT) The only amendment was related to the sewer. Smoking is prohibited. The law states that smoking is prohibited except for designated areas in the parking lot. We got a violation from DoH so we created a smoking area. DoH came in again and agreed it was a permitted use. A: (JR) Events schedule for 2015 isn't finalized. Anything we do is on our website.

Q&A from Members of the Public: *It was reiterated that rather than using a sign-up sheet, people should raise hands and a list of names (or physical descriptions to the extent that people's names were unknown) generated, such that speakers might be recognized in the order in which they raised hands without actually having to keep their hands raised.*

Sara/Sally Fisher: Why are provisions of the contract not complied with? There used to be a full-service marina with mooring, docking and launch; that's not happening. It's not just a restaurant, it's a nightclub. And what about concerts after 10pm when the license agreement prohibits amplified sound after 10pm? A: (JR) The docks we have are not designed for people to use except for going to their boats. We don't have a lot of mooring so that we can host kayaking and boating events. A: (JT) Everyone docking has to have indemnity certification. A: (DC) "Public access" means that anyone with a boat can dock there is space is available to do so. It doesn't mean that the public can walk out onto the dock. Regarding amplified sound, "concerts" is not a defined term within the License Agreement, and the sound system has a governor to turn over at 10pm so that the sound is contained within the property.

The Committee asked Parks to follow up with clarification as to what exactly is meant by a concert and by amplified sound; the extent to which either is permitted after 10pm, and if so by what mechanism, and reiterated the request for clarification on the number of events permitted during the season.

Kristin Nordewaal: Why did Parks approve a high-capacity establishment? The community rejected a bid for more than 500 people. Was an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) ever done as requested? If so, what was the result? If not, why not? Is Parks OK with rap lyrics referencing drug use, misogyny and other topics? A: (DC) We can't control what music is played; we may not like it, but people have First Amendment rights. I haven't heard of an EIS being done; I don't know about that. We feel our License Agreement is consistent with what we approved. A: (LR) There is a process in the City Charter that triggers when an EIS is required. The City Planning Commission didn't find an EIS to be necessary. Regarding capacity, the community provides input but the Community Board cannot "reject a bid".

Alberto Sandoval attempted to speak out of turn; the rules for the order of speaking were explained again at some length, and he was advised of his place in the cue.

Bob Thorgrimson: Issues/problems with parking. We park on the street. We are held captive on weekends. There is no parking when we get home. Can we have resident parking permits? A: (Lt. Warren Todd, NYPD 34th Pct.) Streets are public. We are doing what we can on double-parking. Try to get more traffic agents. I can't enforce in the Parks area, and I can't save parking spaces for community residents. Re: emergency services vehicles, we get them through. A: (JR) We also are concerned with traffic. When traffic shuts down, it's bad for business. We have talked about shuttles and even rickshaws, as well as other possibilities for getting people from the train.

Katherine O'Sullivan: Re valet parking on Parks property at the end of Dyckman Street, which is DPR, not DoT: what is the law? What happens to the revenue? It wasn't part of the original specs. Also, what happened regarding the shooting on 7/13/14? There were hundreds of witnesses but no one on the staff or among the patrons was willing to say anything to police. A: (JR) Our staff were fully cooperative with the NYPD investigation. A: (WT) La Marina personnel were cooperative with the investigation. A: (DR) I don't know the technical matters related to parking. It's not just DPR, it's also DoT because it's a street. Right now our general council is talking with DoT to make sure everything is being followed. There is no solicitation for valet parking. The act of paying someone to park your car is not illegal. A: (JT) We submit vendor contracts to Parks. We get revenue and it's part of our revenue that we report to Parks. A: (JR) Eight years ago when we first came to CB12, people asked for valet parking to keep cars off the street parking usually used by residents. So we provide valet parking, which we were asked to do.

The Committee asked Parks to follow up with clarification of the rules/requirements for valet parking.

Teddy Gallagher: I live at 1793 Riverside Drive, for 30 years. There has been a complete deterioration of my quality of life. It's not just La Marina, if the cars going to La Marina, and that stop traffic with the loud radios. Can we have Dyckman Street west of Staff closed to westbound traffic from 10pm-3am,

Thursday-Sunday for 16 weeks in the summer? A: (WT) We often do just that. We just got 25 cops and a new pilot program to get more people out there, more traffic agents. I will take your complaints and maybe we can put Auxilliary on it. We also have taken a lot of motorcycles off the streets which contributed to the noise, and are continuing to pursue removing them from the streets.

Max Breslow: Does La Marina have a cabaret license? A: (JT) No. Cabaret licenses are issued by the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs. Cabaret Liquor licenses are issued by the NY State Liquor Authority. Follow-up Q: how is it that dancing happens? How do cabaret laws apply? A: (WT) There isn't dancing that I've seen, mostly just standing around. A: (JT) Cabaret licensed are for establishments where there is formal, organized dancing as part of the entertainment, typically involving a dance floor.

Incidental to these questions, there was an undercurrent of background conversation regarding the extent to which dancing did or did not occur, what constituted "dancing", and the extent to which dancing occurs in bars that have live or recorded music but do not hold cabaret licenses.

Alfredo Sandoval: I lost a lot of weight due to La Marina. I eat there a lot; they have healthy food. To say it's not a restaurant is appalling. The chef there beat Bobby Flay. He helped me out. This is in the community's interest. I wish there were no smoking, and you can't stop people from smoking, but I didn't see them smoking at La Marina.

Eddie Santos: All of these locations on Dyckman Street are responsible together. This is a big improvement over the old marina; that was dangerous. It seems like there are groups who want to focus just on La Marina, but we need to elevate the standards of service, dining experience and quality of life of all of the establishments. No business that's successful stays the same. Everything morphs and changes to meet consumer needs.

James Morrissey: Echo larger issues that it's all the businesses and the parks themselves. In terms of neighborhood parking problems, we need to look at permitted resident parking, such as they have in other cities. *Mr. Morrissey was referred to the Traffic & Transportation Committee.*

Michael Fischer: I am a 70+ year resident of the neighborhood. I taught at 52 and GWHS and developed anti-bullying curricula. I have seen this neighborhood change for the better. There is more diversity. I feel that this is salvageable and there shouldn't be this tension. I love La Marina. I watch the sunsets and actually danced with my girlfriend. We need to stop all this innuendo.

Pete Levy: Regarding the New Leaf Café, there was no notification of the change in concessionaire. We need something that's for us, for people who are walking through the park, not a place that's a destination. We need lower price points. A: (DC) the New York Restoration Project made a decision on their own to assign the license. This was vetted and beyond that there was no requirement to notify the Community Board because there was no change to the license. We should talk about your suggestion for other offerings. A: (JH) We are working with operations to get public input to finalize the menu. The new concessionaire, Coffeed, is a known concessionaire with a reputation for giving back to the community in which they operated, and they would like to give back to do that here as well.

Barbara Frazier: La Marina was originally supposed to have something like a snack bar; what happened with that? A: (JT) Yes, the original sketches included a 'snack shack' at the northeast corner of the property. When we went to build it we were told we were building on a sewer line that no one told us was there, so we had to change the plans. If we could figure out a way to provide inexpensive concessions to the ball fields, we'd love to.

Julianne Mojica: I thought I was at another meeting, but I wound up staying here because it was interesting. And after more than two hours I have heard a lot of complaining and arguing, and I don't get that. I live at the corner of Dyckman & Broadway and have lived here for 38 years, all my life. If traffic is the issue then we all have bigger things to worry about. Today I can walk from Dyckman to Sherman and all over and I am not tainted by marijuana smoke and open-air drug sales. The neighborhood is much improved from when I was a child and you couldn't play outside.

This concluded the Q&A. It was agreed that Parks Revenue would provide additional information regarding: rules for and revenue from parking; concerts (both timing and number); rules for amplified sound; number of special events and the process for permitting them and community notification.

Jennifer Hoppa / monthly update:

Capital Projects Status

- High Bridge Reopening: Contractor is expected to be substantially complete at end of May, with punch list work undertaken in June. On Saturday July 25th we'll be having a High Bridge reopening festival on both sides of the bridge.
- Javits Playground: After the Public Scoping Meetings, the Landscape Architects developed a cost estimate; its projected to cost \$2.8M to renovate just the portion west of Fort Washington Ave.
- Inwood Hill Park pathway upgrades: pathway closures for paving, May 11th through Mid July during excavation of existing asphalt, installation of guardrail, etc. through mid September.
- Morris- Jumel perimeter walls and sidewalks work is advancing, with substantial completion anticipated by the end of July.
- Inwood Water Service at the ball fields/dog run is complete. No more flooding!
- Nature Center: Design for the water service connection for the Inwood Nature Center is underway. That design will be developed into construction documents and go into a citywide contract. We expect to be able to reopen the public restrooms next summer. Based on FEMA responses to date, we expect to need an additional \$1M for the Nature Center's reconstruction in addition to the generous \$500k provided to date by C/M Rodriguez.
- The \$750,000 water service project in Isham Park is coming to a close. The contractor must now restore all the lawns that were dug up for laying the pipes. Areas will need to remain fenced through the fall, so the new grass has a season to "knit".
- Bennett Park Lawn has been restored through a partnership between the Central Park Conservancy and NYC Parks. This lawn restoration is part of their five borough outreach program. NYC Parks staff have taken their turf management course. In order for the lawn to "knit" it must remain closed to the public through the fall. People should take advantage of lawns at J. Hood Wright Park, Fort Tryon Park, Fort Washington Park and Highbridge Park in the meantime.
- WiFi installation is complete at J. Hood Wright and the Rec Center. Work has begun on installing wifi in Highbridge Park at the Rec Center and the Juan Bosch Plaza.
- Eco Dock: Conceptual Design was developed with marine engineer drawings of La Marina. NYC Parks and Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance have submitted to all the permitting agencies. Army Corps had their public review period of our permits, which closed in mid March, we have not received their final approvals. As of last week our Essential Fisheries Habitat (EFH) Assessment amendment was still being reviewed by NMFS.

Participatory Budget Projects: Funds get approved as part of the FY'16 budget adoption at the end of June. They then make their way into NYC Parks' budget, by September. Then we'll have public scoping meetings at each site with key stakeholders and the Community Board. Design work will be undertaken, then construction documents developed and then ideally the projects can be folded into a multi-site contract. A few NYC Parks projects funded include: Inwood Work Out Center \$100k; Highbridge Farm

\$200k; and Dos Puentes/PS 132 playground (not be confused w/ Audubon Playground which presented to the Committee in April.

Tree Removals Contractor: Work is coming to a conclusion in Isham Park. Work is underway at Fort Tryon Park. Removals work will then take place at other Northern Manhattan Parks sites. Replanting contracts are expected to be underway in the fall.

Wildlife in NYC: Be Coyote Smart! Coyotes are common throughout New York State, including urban areas. Recent sightings confirm that coyotes live in New York City and are active in the Bronx. If you see a coyote, do not panic. Most coyotes are not dangerous to people. Coyotes are canines, which means that they are members of the same genus as wolves and domesticated dogs. In general, coyotes appear "sleeker" than domesticated dogs, with a flatter forehead and a more pointed snout. Coyotes appear to have longer legs than domesticated dogs. **Do Not Feed Coyotes.** Keeping coyotes wild is the key to coexistence. Their life and your safety depend upon coyotes remaining naturally wary of people.

Remove Attractants. Store food, pet food, and garbage in animal proof containers. Do not leave food or garbage behind in a park. **Supervise Pets.** Walk dogs on a leash and keep cats inside for safety. **Keep Coyotes Wary.** If you are approached, act big and make loud noises until the coyote retreats. **Appreciate Coyotes.** From a distance. Stay at least 150 feet or more from the animal. **When to Report a Coyote Sighting** Most coyotes are not dangerous to people. If you spot an aggressive or fearless coyote, report it immediately to on-site golf course or Parks personnel. In case of a medical emergency, such as a bite from or physical contact with a coyote, please call 911. Coyotes are not strictly nocturnal, but are generally more active after sunset and at night. You may see and hear coyotes more during mating season (January - March) and when the young are dispersing from family groups (October - January). Coyotes eat what is prevalent and easy to find, shifting their diet to what is seasonally or locally available, including rodents, birds, vegetation, insects and carrion. Coyotes are naturally wary of people but can habituate to the food sources we provide and our presence.

Upcoming Events:

- Urban Wildlife Appreciation Day: May 9th, noon-3pm. Sponsored by the Fort Tryon Park Trust & the Urban Park Rangers. Live animals, tortoises, wildlife rehabilitators, ranger passports, live music, food, games, crafts and more
- Inwood: Senior Tennis and Senior Yoga Walkabouts have begun
- Ft. Tryon Park Trust is sponsoring a bird migration talk Saturday at 8:30am in Inwood Hill Park.
- Sid Horenstein is going to be putting on a geology and history talk at Bennett Park, J. Hood and Mitchel Square Wednesday May 6th for the Fort Tryon Park Trust

Parks Stewardship: Thanks to the 60 people who came 4/25 to help improve Inwood Hill Park with Million Trees on. More than 200 trees were planted and many invasives removed. Thanks to the 53 people who came out to Fort Tryon Park to work with NYC Parks and the Fort Tryon Park Trust Friends Committee on planting in the subway terrace and painting in the Heather Garden. Upcoming:

- IMPD at multiple sites throughout Northern Manhattan Parks. Sign up at www.nyc.gov/parks
- Friends Committee of the Fort Tryon Park Trust at the end of May
- Monthly work days with NRG/New York Cares at Inwood Hill Park
- Stay tuned for monthly volunteer opportunities with the Natural Areas Conservancy

There being no old or new business, the meeting **adjourned around 10pm.**

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth Lorris Ritter