

Brooklyn Community Board 17
4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn NY 11210
Parks and Beautification Committee Meeting
ONLINE
February 3rd, 2026

Call to Order: Parks & Beautification Committee Meeting was called to order by Berlotte Antoine at 7:32 p.m.

The meeting covered plans for The Shirley Chisolm Center ribbon-cutting ceremony, community programs, membership pricing, security measures, and upcoming events & partnerships while emphasizing community engagement.

Chairperson's Report:

- Select community members did a walkthrough at the Shirley Chisolm Center earlier that week.
- Meeting with Wycoff House Museum to partner on event on March 21
 - Upcoming event on March 21 focuses on gardening and community engagement.
 - And possible future initiatives and how to committee can contribute.
- Spoke with Park manager about tree, branch and sidewalk issues surrounding Tilden Park

Approval of meeting minutes

- Committee votes to accept January minutes

Presentation(s)

- *Rebecca Williamson – Shirley Chisolm Center Manager*
 - Discussed the upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony on Monday, February 9 at 9:30 AM.
 - Public tours, demos and on-site registration will be available during the event on Monday.
 - Open house week, Tuesday – Friday.
 - Various community programs and activities are planned for different age groups throughout the week.

- Youth Day, Youth Programming is Monday thru Friday, 3-6pm for ages 6 years old -13 years old.
- Senior Day, for people 55 and up- a specified time to come in and register.
- Youth Camp capacity at 40 for the inaugural year.
- Afterschool & Homework Help for various topics
- Membership pricing includes discounts for seniors, veterans, and youth under 24.
 - 24 & under: Free
 - 25 – 61: \$75/6 mos., \$150/yr
 - 62 & older: \$25/yr
 - Veterans + Persons with Disabilities: \$25/yr
 - 10% for IDNYC Card
- The facility will offer swimming lessons and fitness programs for all ages.
- Can use membership in all five boroughs
- Security measures include Park security, staff presence, surveillance cameras throughout the building and partnerships with 63rd & 67th Precincts.
- Community partnerships established with local schools and organizations for programming.
- Rebecca Williamson will send out a flyer with a breakdown of weekly events by Friday.
- Tamika will reach out to Dorothy Gordon to provide a list of community organizations that have been contacted for partnerships.
- Rebecca Williamson will look into potential partnerships with local fitness organizations for community classes.

New Business:

- N/A

Unfinished Business:

- Virtual meeting scheduled for February 5th with DeCostole (1481 Troy Ave) discuss materials and waste management issues.
- The community board will send out a reminder email about the February 5th meeting to all members- inviting community participation.
- Repository of information available for community members to review past discussions.
- Land Use Chair Kwame Afreh will follow up with elected officials to confirm their attendance at the February 5th meeting.

- New Staff, Ayanna Sinclair will cover Parks & Beautification in place of Nowshin Fara

Summary:

- Community officials invited to participate in upcoming meetings regarding local projects.
- Jorge will provide information about the upcoming gardening event at the farmhouse to the committee.
- Ruby Harrisingh will share information about the property tax outreach event at Brooklyn Borough Hall in What’s App Group
- Audrey Henderson will share the flyer for the upcoming Passport Renewal fair on February 13th.
- Meeting discussed accepting minutes from the last meeting and addressing name identification issues in place of phone numbers.
- Parks & Beautification Chair Antoine acknowledged the importance of community engagement in local initiatives and events.
- Discussed Caucus weekend in Albany February 13 – 15, elected officials sends free buses for community to learn about the legislative process.
- NHS Tax exemption flyer to be shared
- Parks & Beautification Chair Antoine encourages Community members to share information and resources actively within the group related to Parks & Beautification and the community in general.

Adjournment:

Dorothy Gordon: Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Gabriel Holmes: seconded the meeting for adjournment.

Meeting Adjourned.

ROLL CALL | PRESENT

Ann H	Dorothy Gordon	Marie (646-6.....49)
Audrey Henderson	Gabriel Holmes	Rita Costa
Adele Bennett	Jaqueline Williams	Ruby Harrisingh
Berlotte Antoine	Jody Walch	Vonetta
Brie Decosta	Jorge Tait	
Cherly Saunders	Kwame Afreh	