**Community Board 17**

**Parks & Beautification Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

**Present: Guest:**

Jorge Tait Danielle Goldfarb,

Jacqueline Williams Parks Manager, CB 17 & 18

Audrey Henderson NYC Parks Dept.

Ann Hudson Jean Remarque

Ricky Da Costa Shanasia Hodges

Linda Turner

Adele Bennett

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The **Parks & Beautification Committee Virtual** meeting was held on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 7:30pm.**

**Mr. Jorge Tait** called the meeting to order at 7:42pm.

**Roll Call**-Shanasia Hodges, Ann Hudson, Audrey Henderson, Ricky Da Costa, Brie Da Costa, Jackie Williams, Danielle Goldfarb, Parks Manager, NYC Parks Dept., Linda Turner

**Chairperson’s Report**

**Mr. Tait** said the main thing they are working on a Parks & Beautification project at Paerdegat Park, which is tentatively scheduled for Sat., June 4th because the Social Service Committee is having a health fair on Sat., June 11th and because of a conflict, they had to reschedule it for Sat., June 18th. They are not going to change their date, but just clean up and spruce up the park for the following week. He wanted to make sure the committee is okay keeping the date for June 4th or changing it to June 11th. His take is to leave it for June 4th and he would like their opinion on that.

**Ms. Jackie Williams** said they should leave it as is for June 4th, since the health fair is going to be on June 18th, since they are going to be doing some planting.

**Ms. Linda Turner** said she agrees and that would allow the plants a chance to grow.

**Ms. Audrey Henderson** said she agrees also.

**Mr. Tait** asked if there were opposition to that? Hearing none, the date will be for June 4th.

He had a walk-thru with Ms. Goldfarb and Rodrick Phillips, who is the Borough Horticultural Manager. He gave them some ideas on plants and where they can do some of the plantings, since there is a lot of shade in the park. He will send him a link for Dragonetti’s, which is where they have to order the plants from. They will discuss the plants later on. They can save some of the plants to do some planting at Tilden Park. The plants will be purchased with the $1,200.00 from the discretionary funds allocated to the Parks & Beautification Committee. The funds will be used to purchase the tee-shirts and the plants. For the plants, he plans to purchase perennials.

**Ms. Danielle Goldfarb** said she May will mark 3 years that she has been the Park Manager for CB 17 & 18 and combined, they have the largest slice of the Brooklyn pie as they say.

This is only to add to the beauty at Paerdegat Park. After the walk-thru at Paerdegat Park, there were quite a few ideas and the daffodils are blooming at Paerdegat Park around the tree pits and possibly around one of the garden areas and to make sure it look as great as will be and actually enjoy it. Her suggestion was to add a little more color, which she finds to be more pleasing to the eye and she is sure the Horticultural Manager, Mr. Phillips will guide everyone in the right direction because one thing that was mentioned was that the trees will be getting leaves on them pretty soon and that comes with shade and that is something they have to take into consideration is the amount of sunlight in each of the areas they were looking at.

**Mr. Tait** asked if there were any questions? Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Goldfarb for her input.

He asked in terms of the date, how would he go about that?

**Ms. Goldfarb** said that would go through Hannah Bossio and she will review it with her. She has no issues with the date and she does not think there is anything else going on at Paerdegat Park for that date.

**Mr. Tait** said he will contact Ms. Bossio with the date of June 4th and June 11th as an alternative.

**Ms. Turner** said she should have received a call from Ms. Simon regarding some upturned concrete on the Tilden street side of Tilden Park that is causing a walking hazard to residents with canes, walkers and wheelchairs. Last time she spoke with her, she was not clear as to whose responsibility it is to fix the broken concrete that is right outside of the park. The tree roots have caused the concrete to lift up.

**Ms. Goldfarb** said she did contact her and texted her the photos and the **(INADUIBLE)**  handles all the root requests for sidewalks and anything that causes broken sidewalks that need to be patched. She put it back in her work order system for it to be readdressed because she was not happy with the job they had did. So far, it is still pending in the system and there has been no movement on it as of yet.

**Mr. Tait** asked if they are finish with the renovations?

**Ms. Goldfarb** said the comfort stations are open, but there has been no final walk-thru as of yet, due to the fact that DEP still has to come and check some things inside the park house itself, but the comfort stations are open, operational and usable.

**Mr. Tait** again thanked Ms. Goldfarb for her presence and information.

He sent out a request for tee-shirt sizes and he did get back some responses. He is ordering polo shirt and they will say, Community Board 17, Parks & Beautification Committee. He was also thinking of ordering regular tee-shirts for the volunteers who are not committee members. Ms. Francis indicated that there may be some tee-shirts remaining in the office from the last time when she ordered, but he will go by the office to check for them. He was thinking of ordering forest green shirts, if that is okay with them.

The members agreed with the green shirts.

**Ms. Hudson** asked if there were a list of all the parks that are being monitored by Community Board 17?

**Mr. Tait** said there is a list and he will get a copy of it. They have some large parks and a lot of smaller parks in the area and sometimes, they get neglected because they are so small. He passed by Chirantano Park on Farragut Road and East 45th Street and he noticed the benches need to be painted. If anyone has any of those small parks in their community and see that they are in disrepair, call Community Board 17, call him or send him a note because he would really like to see if they could press them into taking care of the smaller parks. He will discuss it with Ms. Goldfarb and if they cannot do it, they will have to find a way to see if they could do it for the betterment of the community.

He asked did everyone receive the March 1, 2022 minutes? He asked for a motion to approve the minutes?

**Mr. Da Costa** made a motion to approve the minutes.

**Ms. Turner** seconded the motion.

**Mr. Tait** said in regards to the Urban Tree Planters program, he reached out to Ms. Balistreri twice and he has not heard from her. There was a question as to when the classes would take place and the internship for the youth.

As far as the $10 Million needed for the renovation of the parks, he is going to meet with Ms. Taylor on how to request funding for the project. He will get back to them on that.

He asked if there were any new business to discuss?

He will send the link for Dragonetti’s website so they can see the plants. Mr. Phillips suggested the hydrangea for the entrance by Albany and Foster Avenues and he has the final say. He asked them to send in their suggestions and he will let them know if they are appropriate considering the shady areas in the park. They cannot plant on East 40th Street and Foster Avenue because they discovered some rat holes and they will have to take care of that.

He asked if there were any other business to discuss? Having heard none, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting?

**Ms. Turner** made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Ms. Williams** seconded the motion.