**Community Board 17**

**Parks & Beautification Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

**Present: Excused:**

Berlotte Antoine Rae Beth Maye

Adele Bennett Karlene Gordon

Jackie Williams

Jorge Tait

Brie DaCosta

Jadeeva Smith

Yolanda Belcher

Linda Turner

Ann Hudson

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The **Parks & Beautification Committee Virtual** meeting was held on **Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:30pm.**

**Ms. Berlotte Antoine** called the meeting to order 7:35pm.

She welcomed the members and thanked the teams that helped to pick up the toys and wrap them.

She asked if everyone received the November 1, 2022 minutes? She asked if there were any corrections to be made to the minutes?

The name of the person that did the walk through for the Parks Dept. was Ms. Chamlee.

She asked for a motion to approve the minutes?

**Ms. Linda Turner** made a motion to approve the minutes of the Nov. 1, 2022 meeting.

**Ms. Yolanda Belcher** seconded the motion.

**Chairperson’s Report**

**Ms. Antoine** said the funding they requested was approved for the toys, but since they received a lot of toys from Toys for Tots, they will use the funding for their next event.

Councilmember Farah Louis and other agencies will be partnering with them for the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Councilmember Louis will be providing the tree and the committee members will decorate it. The committee will be giving out the toys and snacks and the other agencies will do their part. They will also have activities for the children to do during the event.

She met with the Parks Dept. about the plants in the park and it was explained to her what is needed to keep the plants alive after they are planted. There is a program called the Super Steward Program, where they have people who are certified to take care of the plants and they also have training programs and they will talk about that after this event, if that is something they want to do.

She met with Brooklyn Level Up and it is project to look at open spaces in the community to see what spaces they can work with to see what can be done with them.

She received 2 bags of daffodil bulbs from the Parks Dept. and it was suggested they can put them in bags and give them away to the community residents during the event. If any of the members want bulbs, send her an email.

She needs volunteers to come into the office to help wrap the gifts because the event is in 10 days. They also need to pack the goody bags.

**Ms. Ann Hudson** said flyers were sent to the homeowners to bag the leaves and they would be picked up, but they were not collected. Her concern is they have a rat problem in her neighborhood, and she called 3-1-1 about the leaves and was told that Community Board 17 was not in the compost program.

**Ms. Antoine** said she will reach out to the office and the Sanitation Chair to see what can be done to address this issue.

**Ms. Belcher** said she received information from the Councilmember’s office about a new compost program and she will forward it to the Chair and have it sent to the members.

**Ms. Antoine** said at the January meeting, they can discuss the renovations for Tilden Park to see what can be done. She is working with someone from the Parks Dept. on this project.

For the event, she asked the members if they want to be a part of the committee to help out in the park?

**Ms. Turner** said she and Ms. Williams will help Santa with giving out the toys and the swag bags.

**Mr. Tait** said he will help with the decorations and with whatever else needs to be done for the event.

**Ms. Antoine** said they can start decorating at 2pm because the event starts at 4pm and they have to be finish by 8pm.

**Mr. Tait** asked if there any updates regarding the Shirley Chisolm Community Center at the Nostrand Playground?

**Ms. Antoine** said there will be a presentation made by the DDC at the General Board meeting on Wednesday, December 21, 2022. They will be making the presentation to inform the community about the plans for the center.

She will contact the Parks Dept. to make sure the park is cleaned for the event and they will do a walk through before the event.

**Ms. Brie DaCosta** asked how was the walk through at Tilden Park?

**Ms. Antoine** said during the walk through in November, they looked around the park and the first issue they saw was the children’s area and some of the mats were missing and needs to be fixed or replaced. They saw equipment for the older children and nothing for the smaller children and everything needs to be repainted. There were paintings on the ground that need to be repaired. There was an area where the adults were playing ball. The Parks Dept. said they have a project for this huge open space area. She needs to follow up with the person she did the walk through with who said she will take all the concerns back to the people who make the decisions for that park and by the next meeting she should have an update on that.

**Roll Call-**Adele Bennett, Jackie Williams, Jorge Tait, Linda Turner, Brie Da Costa, Yolanda Belcher, Ann Hudson, Jadeeva Smith

She asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting?

**Ms. Adele Bennett** made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Ms. Hudson** seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned.