**Community Board 17**

**Parks & Beautification Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022**

**Present:**

Jorge Tait

Ann Hudson

Sabrina Samedi

Ryan Wharton

Adele Bennett

Linda Turner

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

**Mr. Jorge Tait** called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**-Jorge Tait, Ann Hudson, Sabrina Samedi, Ryan Wharton, Adele Bennett, Linda Turner

**Chairperson’s Report**

**Mr. Tait** said this is the last meeting for the fiscal year and his last meeting as the Chair of the committee and his term ends on June 30th. Every year, the Chairperson of the Board decides who they want to appoint as committee Chairs for the different committees. It has been a pleasure working with the different committee members on this committee and he has really learned a lot. He also was the Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

He was grateful to see what was happening at Paerdegat Park on Saturday, June 4th and is thankful for all the people that came to work at the event, and whatever help that was given, it was greatly appreciated. He received a lot of positive feedback and accolades for the committee. Even Councilmember Farah Louis approached and said that she would like to see something done in the near future at other parks in the community. He told her that as long as they have the funding, they would be more than glad to do something.

He wants to thank PathMark, Elite Learners and Brooklyn Level Up for their contributions for the event and also thank Councilmember Rita Johnson, Senator Zelnor Myrie, Assemblyman Brian Cunningham and Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein for their donations of water and snacks. The funding for the event was $1,200.00 and it was donated by Councilmembers Alecia Samuels and Matthieu Eugene. The shirts were $600.00 and the plants were $600.00. He will contact Councilmember Farah Louis about doing something in Tilden Park.

**Ms. Adele Bennett** said usually, by now, they start planning for November and December for what they are going to do. They have to also get funding for the event.

**Mr. Tait** said he does not know who is going to be the Chair in September. Whether he is Chair or not, he wants to continue the dialog with Councilmember Louis regarding the renovation of Tilden Park and he will submit a request for funding from the Capital Expense budget before June 30th.

**Ms. Bennett** asked if the Christmas tree that was planted in Paerdegat Park still alive?

**Mr. Tait** said last year, they purchased an artificial tree for the Winter Celebration.

He did walk by the park to check the plants because of the sewer backup that happened when they were in the park on Saturday, they were not able to water the plants. It is supposed to rain this week, so they will get some water.

They will have to table the minutes until September because they do not have a quorum.

**Ms. Bennett** asked if they will be doing any clean-ups during the Summer?

**Mr. Tait** said they will not be doing any clean-ups because he will not be the Chair after June 30th. He spoke to the Chair of the Sanitation Committee and they will be doing some clean-ups in the area and maybe they can work with them. He will follow-up with him and inform the members of what they are doing. The Sanitation meeting will be held on Monday, June 20th at 7:30pm. If they are interested in joining the meeting, he will forward the information to them or they can call the office.

**Ms. Bennett** said before COVID-19, they had a list of parks in the areas that they would clean up to make the area look better. Can they get some signs so people will keep their dogs out of the parks?

**Mr. Tait** said the Sanitation Dept. no longer have those signs to put up and this was told to him by Ms. Cunningham at a Sanitation meeting.

**Ms. Turner** said the Weedwhackers came to Tilden Park and cleaned the inside and the perimeters of the park and they did a really good job.

**Mr. Tait** said they also cleaned the weeds in Paerdegat Park. They have a new person in charge of the parks in Community Boards 17 & 18 and he will send him an email to get his new telephone number.

He really enjoyed his time as the Chair of the Parks & Beautification Committee, and he wants to continue working with the committee to beautify their neighborhood.

**Ms. Bennett** said she has been getting a lot of complaints about the noise at Harry Maze Park. There is an exercise area for adults and the make so much noise and they do not care about the residents in the area.

**Mr. Tait** said Ms. Martinez complained about that and the Parks Dept. is supposed to be looking into that and they are working with the Precinct to see what they can do regarding that and he hopes the problem can be alleviated.

He will speak to Councilmember Louis to see if they want to do something at Tilden Park, but her office would have to purchase the plants. He also wants to do something in the smaller parks in the area.

He thanked the members for their help, and they gave him a lot of ideas. As he said before, this is a team and he was just the representative for the team.

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

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

**Ms. Hudson** seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned.