**Community Board 17**

**Parks & Beautification Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022**

**Present:**

Jorge Tait

Jacqueline Williams

Audrey Henderson

Brie Da Costa

Linda Turner

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The **Parks & Beautification Committee Virtual** meeting was held on **Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:30pm.**

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

**Roll Call**-Jorge Tait, Linda Turner, Brie Da Costa, Audrey Henderson, Jacqueline Williams

**Chairperson’s Report**

**Mr. Tait** said for the tee-shirts, he wanted green, but they could only order light grey, dark grey or black and he went with the dark grey. The dark grey does not look too bad. It was mentioned that there were some green tee-shirts in the office from a previous event the committee had. He ordered a total of 36 polo shirts for the members and volunteers. They were ordered from 4 Imprints.

For the flyers, he was told not to make any until he gets the approval from the Parks Dept. The request for the park was put in on April 14, 2022. He is going to call Ms. Bossio to find out about the permit. He does not want to send any communication to the elected officials until he gets the approval for the park.

The tee-shirts cost about $600.00 and they have $600.00 for the plants and they will be ordering them from Dragonetti Brothers. He will go there and look at the plants and asked if any of the members were available to go with him, let him know. He does have a list from the Parks Dept. of plants they can get.

He went by the park and was told there were some areas they will not be able to use because of a rat infestation in those area. He has been walking around the neighborhood to get some ideas to see what they can do around the tree beds. It was mentioned not to use perennials because they are not colorful, and he will take that into consideration when looking at the plants. He would also like to save some of the plants for Tilden Park.

He asked if there were any suggestions, concerns or questions?

**Ms. Brie Da Costa** said he mentioned that the perennials were not colorful, but does he worry about having to replant every season.

**Mr. Tait** said hopefully, next year, they can get some free tulip bulbs to plant in October. Unfortunately, by the time he received the information this year, it was past the deadline to do the request. If he is the Chair next year, he will make sure they get the information in a timely manner. He would like to use the perennials because there is no guarantee they will get the funding from the elected officials every year, but he hopes they will continue with it. That is why he wants to engage them in this project so they can see what is happening.

**Ms. Linda Turner** said perennials come in a lot of different colors, depending on what they are buying, but maybe they should get some annuals because they are usually cheaper than the perennials. She hopes the perennials they plant will be there next year.

**Mr. Tait** said he wants to buy some perennials and annuals this year.

The members agreed that they should get perennials and annuals.

**Ms. Turner** asked how are the plants going to get plant food? Would they have to go back every 2 weeks or is the Parks Dept. going to take that over?

**Mr. Tait** said he understands the Parks Dept. will take care of that. He will bring this up to the Parks Dept. to ensure that they do that. The person cleaning Paerdegat Park is doing a good job and he does see the difference so far this year and he hopes that continues.

He values the opinions of the members and wants as much input as possible. He will give them the link for Dragonetti Brothers website and they can look at the plants.

It was mentioned that when he goes there, let them know this is a City agency because they don’t pay taxes. They should have the tax-exempt certificate on file since they were used before to purchase plants.

**Mr. Tait** said after he talks to Ms. Bossio, he wants to send the letters to the elected official requesting donations of water and snacks. He has spoken to Councilwoman Farah Louis and Elite Learners and they said they would like to help them as much as they can. He would like to have another meeting to finalize everything before the event. He asked the members if they were open to have another meeting on Friday, May 20th?

The members said the date of May 20th at 7:30pm is okay.

**Mr. Tait** said he will update them as things happen before the next meeting.

**Ms. Turner** asked when will the shirts be delivered?

**Mr. Tait** said they should be delivered by next week and they can be picked up from the office or he can deliver them.

**Ms. Da Costa** asked if they have to bring their own tools or will they be provided?

**Mr. Tait** said the Partnership for Parks will provide the necessary tools and equipment for the event. After he speaks to Ms. Bossio, he will update them on what they will be getting and what was approved.

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

He asked if there were anything else to discuss or have any questions? Having heard none, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting?

**Ms. Williams** made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm.

**Ms. Turner** seconded the motion.

**Mr. Tait** thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight and he will see everyone at the May 20th meeting.

Meeting sdjourned.