



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

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Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Margarita Espinosa, Committee Chairperson

Gil Simmons, Committee Co-Chairperson

The Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting met on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 via Zoom Audio and Video Conferencing. The following members were present: Clarita Bailon, Milagros Cancel, Margarita Espinosa, Audrey Harden, and Matthew Martinez.

The following item was discussed:

- Update on the capital projects from the Department of Parks and Recreation

The Department of Parks and Recreation informed us about the status of the capital projects in our district.

- The Mapes Ballfield Reconstruction, which is part of their last round of Community Parks Initiatives, is currently under construction. The former budding site at the park was recently demolished and they are currently working on the site for the completion of the reconstruction project.
- The Prospect Playground, which is also part of their last round of Community Parks Initiatives, is also currently under construction and is anticipated to be completed by September 2021. The playground will have a basketball and volleyball court and synthetic turf with a painted track area.
- The Quarry Ballfield is part of a two-part project. This project will construct a synthetic turf soccer/football field and sitting area. The project is presently in the procurement phase. The average time for construction for this project is 12-18 months. The construction timeline for this project will be established at the conclusion of the procurement phase.
- The Bronx River Channel Restoration, which is part of their Natural Resource Group (NRG), the project will restore and enlarge the main (western) channel of the Bronx River around Forest Island, remove invasive species, and plant new trees in Bronx Park. This project is currently in the procurement stage.
- The Ranaqua Roof Reconstruction project, which is the Department of Parks and Recreation's Bronx Headquarters, will reconstruct the roof at Ranaqua in Bronx Park. This project is currently in the procurement stage.
- The Bronx Zoo Twin Dams Fish Passage Construction, which is also part of their Natural Resource Group (NRG), is a tentative project that will allow the fish to make their way to their natural habitat through the Bronx River. The project is currently tentative because it's underfunded.

The Department of Parks and Recreation informed the committee that due to the COVID-19 pandemic related impacts, many of the capital projects are experiencing significant schedule delays.

Vacant,
City Council Member, 15th Council District

Honorable Rafael Salamanca Jr.,
City Council Member, 17th Council District