



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

1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457

Telephone: (718) 579-6990 Fax: (718) 579-6875 Email: bronxcb6@bronxcb6.org
Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. WENDY RODRIGUEZ
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Margarita Espinosa, Committee Chairperson

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on February 15, 2017 at the Bronx Community Board #6's district office. During the following members were present: John Sanchez, Gil Simmons, Sahre Davis, Moussa Siby and Jannie Armstrong,

The following items were discussed:

- **Planning of Happy Land 27th Anniversary Memorial.**

The Happy Land Monument clean up will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Board members and youths are advised to participate. The mass will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 4:00 PM. The mass will be coordinated by Ms. Ivine Galarza former District Manager of Bronx Community Board #6. Procession towards vigil at the Happy Land monument following mass ceremony. Flyers will be available by the next Board meeting.

- **Register of Bronx Community Board #6 Budget Requests for the Preliminary Budget.**

The Department of Parks and Recreation did not approve out request for funds to construct an indoor recreation center on the former site of the Bronx Borough Hall. In response, we will find 2-3 possible non-profits who can support the project financially, and then we will reapply to have the RFP released.

The Department of Parks also did not approve additional funding of approximately 7.9 million dollars to begin improvements to the Quarry Ballfield by adding artificial turf, additional benches, re-sodding the field's comfort station and adding a play area for children. While they did not approve funding, they did give the project support. We will be adding this to a request of the Mayor's office to put it into the capital budget, and we will ask the Department of Parks and Recreation to reconsider. If the park were to receive private funding, we could accelerate the project.

The Mapes Ballfield renovation also did not receive funding. It is less likely to be funded in the long-run because the of the building nearby, which complicates it. We will also add this project to the Mayor's capital funding request.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has requested a further study into the pricing of the Vidalia Park track addition in order to better understand the pricing. We will request that this study is competed so they can get a price, and then make a decision on funding.

The request to add play equipment for young children to the Murphy Triangle was not approved. This park is meant to be a passive sitting area, not a place for children to play, thus it can stay the way it is.

We also requested for more funding to hire additional park maintenance crew, including pruners and cleansers. The Parks Department will recommend this for the FY 2018, however they cannot fund it at this time. We will respond strongly urging that they provide funding now.

The Parks and Recreation Committee meets every third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in our district office.

***Honorable Ritchie Torres,
City Council Member, 15th Council District***

***Honorable Rafael Salamanca,
City Council Member, 17th Council District***