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Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President

MS. EVONNE CAPERS Board Chairperson

VACANT District Manager

## **Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 Margarita Espinosa, Committee Chairperson

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 via Zoom Audio and Video Conference. The following board members were present at this meeting: Clarita Bailon, Evonne Capers, Nicole Carter, Margarita Espinosa, Julisa Hamilton, Laura James, Magdamary Marcano, Matthew Martinez, Lamont Parker, Rosa Peraza, Carmen Rivera, and Kristine Rivera.

The following information was discussed:

 Presentation by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Bronx Zoo on the Gelada & Ibex Management and Breeding Complex

The Wildlife Conservation Society presented on a project within the Bronx Zoo facility that builds upon the existing Gelada and Ibex facilities. They have a breeding program, in fact, the only Gelada breeding program in all of America to breed this animal and then ship them off to other zoo's. This proposal includes improvements to the facilities and utilizing all the unused land to maximize the prospective project. This project aims to preserve the Gelada species by breeding and distributing Gelada baboons to other zoos as well as to improve the infrastructure of Bronx Zoo to uphold beauty and maintain nature. The horticulture department is going to transplant and protect the trees by adding new types of trees but it is important to note that they are not taking away any trees. This presentation served to educate the community about its new project and to address any concerns. The committee recommended that a letter of support be issued for this project.