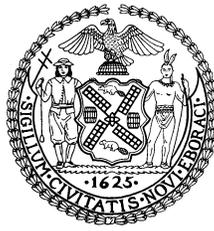


Alida Camp  
Chair

Will Brightbill  
District Manager



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**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan  
Parks and Waterfront Committee**  
New York Blood Center, 310 East 67 Street, Auditorium  
May 2, 2019 at 6:30 PM

*Please note: The resolutions contained in the committee minutes are recommendations submitted by the committee chair to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolutions are discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.*

**Minutes**

**Resolutions for Approval**

**Item 5**

**Community Board Members (Present):** Lowell Barton, Paul Higgins, Rita Popper, Tricia Shimamura, Barry Schneider, Marco Tamayo

**Community Board Public Members (Present):** Judy Schneider

**Community Board Members (Excused):** Alexandra Harrington\*, Greg Kirschenbaum, Sophia James, Craig Lader, Sharon Pope-Marshall, Peggy Price, Barbara Rudder

**Community Board Members (Excused):** Irma Torres

\*Outgoing Board Member

The Chairs welcomed two new Community Board Members Lowell Barton and Paul Higgins.

**1. Update on Temporary Relocation of East River Crew by Wesley Hamilton, NYC Parks & Recreation**

Wes met with East River Crew and looked at two locations in the E. 90s for a possible move and discussed what was needed for each site and obstacles to overcome. Each site has its own unique features and challenges. Each site will take a different amount of work. They are looking at sites as close to 96<sup>th</sup> Street as possible. Wes will work on this and we hope it will be resolved as soon as possible. Follow up will be next month's agenda.

**2. Update on Friends of Ruppert Park by Adrian Padron, President**

- FriendsOfRuppertPark.com is the way to reach the new group and keep up with events.
- May 18<sup>th</sup> will be "It's My Park Day" and they will be doing a cleanup.
- They are looking at events such as the possibility of a green market or art installations. Long- and short-term projects are being planned.
- They have met with and will continue to work with the Muslim Volunteers on their various programs so that they can schedule coordinated events for the year.

### 3. **Update on East River Esplanade by Rockefeller University from 64<sup>th</sup> to 68<sup>th</sup> Streets**

- On Wednesday, April 24th, the Rockefeller University cut the ribbon on a public/private partnership that repaired and refurbished a crumbling seawall and dilapidated stretch of the East River Esplanade. The cooperative relationship to improve the East River Esplanade emerged in early 2014 with Council Member Ben Kallos and Mayor Bill de Blasio during conversations around city approval for Rockefeller's \$500 million laboratory building, a construction project that is adding 160,000 square feet of modern, modular lab space to replace aging facilities. The University spent approximately \$15 million on seawall repairs and esplanade improvements, and committed to maintain the landscaping of this section of the esplanade in perpetuity. At the request of Council Member Ben Kallos, the investment by Rockefeller University was then matched by Mayor de Blasio with an initial \$35 million-dollar investment in 2014.

### 4. **Esplanade Discussion with Wes Hamilton**

- a. Sink holes with benches caving in at 114<sup>th</sup> Street and further up that are closed off and EDC is doing a survey and reporting to Parks. There is some funding but no start date yet.
  - b. Get a report on what the EDC survey says about our area.
  - c. Dog poop is a problem. Possibility of getting bag dispensers for poop periodically along esplanade.
  - d. Does Friends of East River Esplanade 96<sup>th</sup> Street Bulletin Board have a posting to put up a flyer to clean up after your dog?
  - e. Signage along the Esplanade about cleaning up after your dog. Parks has a sign committee working on these issues.
5. **Discussion of the NY State Assembly Bill A3264 that will provide important protection for parks and other open space by codifying case law regarding the alienation of municipal parkland.**
- a. MAS has asked for our support. (See attached Assembly Bill)
  - b. Under the new bill, parks will be protected by ensuring that the taking of parkland requires a replacement with parkland of equal or greater value.
  - c. The identical bill (Senate S180) was just passed by the NYS Senate.
  - d. This bill defines what municipal parkland is and that is helpful. It also defines what alienation by the municipality is and that is also helpful.

### **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** Community Board 8 supports the NY State Assembly Bill A3264.

**Approved Board Members:** 5-1-0 (Barton, Poppa, Shimamura, B. Schneider, Tamayo)

**Opposed Board Members:** Higgins

**Approved Public Member:** 1-0-0 (Yes: J. Schneider)

### 6. **Updates on various parks in the District**

- a. John Jay Park has not yet gone before the Public Design Commission.
- b. The 66<sup>th</sup> Street GreenStreets bid came in atomically high.
- c. Tramway Plaza still working on permitting process. They will be here next month for an in-person update.
- d. Ruppert Park two lights are out, and it has been reported to the transportation committee for action.

**7. Update by Wes Hamilton on the District**

- a.** 24 Sycamores Park contract will be awarded soon, and work should start in about two months.
- b.** The following events which are sponsored by Councilmember Kallos will be happening in our parks and Wes has flyers for:
  - i.** Family Fun Day on Saturday, June 8 at John Jay Park.
  - ii.** Jazz Concerts on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 7 at Andrew Haswell Green Park.
  - iii.** Movie Star Wars: The Last Jedi on Saturday, May 4 with rain date Wednesday May 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Catherine's Park.
  - iv.** Movie on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at John Jay Park.
  - v.** Movie on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at Carl Schurz.
  - vi.** Skate Night on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at Stanley Isaacs.

**Tricia Shimamura and Barry Schneider, Co-Chairs**