

Meeting Minutes

Parks, Landmarks & Cultural Affairs Committee

April 4, 2017

NYU School of Dentistry, Room 230

Elizabeth Massella from NYC DPR presented proposal for sculpture in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. Multiple questions were raised by committee members and public over material of sculpture (recycled paper). Questions were raised about potential for fires, decay of paper due to rain and water damage, ability of public to damage the sculpture or climb on it, etc. After much discussion, it was decided that Elizabeth would get back to Committee with additional information. Item was laid over to future meeting.

Commissioner Bill Castro spoke on the structure and activities of the Department of Parks and Recreation. 14% of NYC (29,000 acres of land) are parkland. He reviewed parks in district. He spoke about the proposed sculpture, Glick Park, how the recent park acres were acquired, the Detmold stairs (he will get back to us regarding repairs that may have been made), the temporary use of public spaces, the issue 30% funding restriction, and many other topics. The committee thanked the Commissioner for his support and open dialogue, and posed for a group photo.

Mark Vacarro followed up with his parks update. Discussed summer staffing, spring cleaning on 4/22, movies this summer in Bellevue Parks South and Stuy Square (maybe Dag Hammarskjold), Taiko drumming in Asser Levy this summer, Sandy funding for Glick, the Stuy Square fence and One Sutton Parks South. Bill Huxley raised the issue of a gate at the top of the Detmold stairs; Mark and the Commissioner will discuss getting this done.

Mark Thompson