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SEEMA SHAH, ASST. SECRETARY

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404
NEW YORK, NY 10017

**Parks, Landmarks and Cultural Affairs Committee
May 7, 2019 7:00 PM
Community Board 6 Board Office
211 East 43rd Street, Suite 1404**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pamela Vassil (Chair), Mark Thompson (Vice Chair), Rajesh Nayar, Reshma Patel, Samuel Albert, Gary Papush, Dean Stefanides

Excused: Martin Barrett

Absent: Amelia Acosta, Matt Bondy, Adam Hartke, Aaron Humphrey, Ronnie White

Guests: Lou Sepersky, Manhattan Community Board Six (CB6) Member; Ernie Gray, East 54th Street Table Tennis Association; Lincoln Jacobs, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR); Jack Collins, East End Hockey Association; Sara Newman, Council Member Keith Powers' office; Robert Markowick, DPR; Ellen Cooper, Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board; Brian Lafferty, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer's office; Brendan Birth, CB6 Staff

Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda/Previous Meeting's Minutes

Chair Pamela Vassil called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Gary Papush made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Sam Albert and passed.

Gary Papush made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 2, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Sam Albert and passed.

Committee Business

Pamela Vassil introduced Ernie Gray who spoke about issues at the 54th Street Recreation Center. Robert Markowick from DPR reported about use of the facility, which includes multiple age groups and offers senior and toddler programs. Mr. Gray discussed the problem with the elevator always being out of order, which is a big issue for seniors and disabled. Mr. Markowick reported that they have funding for repairs but that three other centers have broken elevators. Committee discussed alerting the Commissioner of the problem.

Mr. Gray stated that some ping-pong tables were donated; four new ones are coming and that the elevator may be an issue. He asked for a room-high net to divide ping-pong and pickleball players. Mr. Markowick will research cost. Chair Vassil asked about scheduling at the Center

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and creating a community advisory committee. Mr. Markowick discussed roof and need fencing so that it can be used. Mr. Markowick will look into converting pool to salt water.

Wesley Hamilton is out sick so there was no DPR report.

Chair's Report

Chair Vassil thanked Gary Papush for his decades of service as he converts to a Public member.

Chair Vassil mentioned that the gates at Peter Detmold Park are now in place. Dean Stefanides was thanked for his amazing efforts in making this happen.

Finally, she announced the cancellation of concerts in Stuyvesant Cove Park. Gary Papush stated that this was due to insurance issues.

Old/New Business

The issue of the ping-pong tables at the 54th Street recreation center was brought back up. Since the tables are being donated by others, it was suggested that Council Member Powers may be able to pay for some other gym equipment.

Chair Vassil discussed the POPS (Privately Owned Public Spaces) Project. She asked that each member take responsibility for visiting and updating the one-page sheets that were passed out describing the earlier inspection of each POPS.

Jack Collins from East End Roller Hockey Association reported that the roller hockey nets that were stored at the Field House were missing. He had not received any response from DPR.

Gary Papush suggested writing a letter to the DPR Commissioner about the multiple issues at East 54th Street. Chair Vassil asked Mr. Gray to send her a list of issues that would be included in that letter.

Ellen Cooper from the Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board asked about presenting the Community Board. (Side Note: This was done last year.)

Adjournment

The Committee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed at 7:56 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mark Thompson.

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