

**Flushing Meadows Corona Park Alliance  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Friday, January 20, 2023 at 9:00 am  
Videoconference**

**Board Members in Attendance: Daniel Zausner, Anthony Sama, Jim Haddad, Julissa Bisono, John Wang, Patricia Ornst, Jean Silva**

**Others in Attendance: Liz Fallon, Stephanie Bohn**

**Report from Chair:**

Daniel welcomes new board member Melanie LaRocca

Minutes from October 28 are approved

Board member descriptions have been fully completed

The Alliance will be continuing Julep Consulting's contract for another year

**Executive Director Report:**

Anthony met with Councilmember Ung and Councilmember Paladino to discuss ongoing developments with the Alliance and board appointments

Councilmember Ung expressed interest in appointing a new board member, as suggested by the board. Anthony requests that board members do not hesitate in sharing any potential appointees, especially from Councilmember Ung's district in Flushing.

Governance committee has been conducting conversations with potential banking partners, including Maspeth Savings Bank and NY Community Bank.

Daniel notes that the occasion of the Alliance's fiscal independence presents a good opportunity for filling vacant board seats.

Anthony updates the board on Meadow Lake's path renovations and the Wayfinding Project, which is nearing final approval by March or April.

The city is moving forward with the Willets Point development, which will add thousands of low-income housing to the area surrounding FMCP.

Gov Ball music festival has announced its relocation to FMCP on June 9-11 2023, which presents an exciting opportunity to elevate the park's profile. Daniel asks about the potential interruptions in the park due to Gov Ball. Anthony notes that preparations will be phased to maximize park amenity access surrounding the festival dates. The goal will be to achieve full park access on either weekend abutting the festival.

Let's Get Free is also interested in having FMCP host its multi-day music festival in August.

NYC's preliminary Fiscal Year 2024 budget will reduce Parks Dept budget by \$46 million. Advocacy groups are currently lobbying the Mayor's Office to eliminate that reduction and secure the 1% budget commitment.

**Community Advisory Board Report:**

John Wang asks about the potential for dedicated Parks Enforcement staff in FMCP. Seasonal plans and budgets will be finalized in March.

Jean Silva asks about surveillance camera installation using Alliance funds. Due to legal liability and infrastructure challenges, parks can not maintain their own system. The Alliance can work with the NYPD to identify high-need areas for surveillance.

Daniel asks what measures can be taken to help park visitors feel safer. Anthony points to the park's dedicated NYPD detail and the establishment of a trailer or other visible NYPD presence in the park. Parks Enforcement funding can be made a priority to this end.

Jean updates the board on CAB. A joint effort between the Park staff and CAB has set up a Gofundme to institute a Trailblazers group for Willow Lake maintenance. She highlights a need for more garbage cans and restroom facilities. FMCP has hired two gardeners for 2023.

Jim suggests a sustainability project to remove and maintain phragmites for better visibility around Willow Lake.

**Finance and Governance Committee Reports:**

Anthony delivers the Finance update on behalf of Patty. Julep will be assisting with expanding the Alliance's fundraising efforts. There is one new grant from ABNY for \$5,000. Year-end appeals netted the Alliance a further \$5,000 for gazebo renovation or replacement. \$124,000 is allocated for seasonal staffing in the first half of the fiscal year.

Development updates: the Alliance is considering various options for development events including a silent disco or pickleball tournament.

Liz highlights the advantage of using the Alliance's Board as an instrument for fundraising, both for board members' individual contributions and activating their networks.

Jim updates on the search for accounting and auditing firms, of which Lutz and Carr are the leading auditor candidate.

Citywide projected budget cuts will mainly impact administrative and programmatic hiring rather than operations.

**Meeting is Adjourned at 10:00am**