

Alliance for Flushing Meadows Corona Park Meeting of the Board of Directors

Board Members in Attendance: Anthony Sama, Michelle Stoddart, Andrea Hirsch, Melanie La Rocca, Jean Silva, Michelle Villagomez, Sanjay Rawal, John Wang, Zanib Ahmad, Andrew Hollweck, Daniel Zausner, Travis Terry, Jackie Langsam, Heather Palmer, Jane Builder

Also in Attendance: Rob Carson, Allison Kucinski, Lynda Doulin, Stephanie Bohn, Liz Fallon

Zoom – January 26, 2023, 9:00AM Minutes

#### 1. Welcome

#### 2. New Business

- a. Travis Terry Nomination Full Board Votes
  - Andrew gives a nominating speech for Travis, putting a spotlight on his work around Queens, particularly on the QueensWay project
  - ii. Danny makes a motion to elect Travis to the Board, Andrew seconds the motion. None are opposed
    - 1. Travis Terry is elected to the Board
  - iii. Travis Terry thanks the Board for giving him this opportunity. He looks forward to improving the park experience for all in the Queens community.

### 3. Report from the Chair

- a. Approval of Minutes from October 27
  - i. Danny asks for a motion to approve
  - ii. Motion is given and seconded

- iii. No objections, motion is approved
- b. Identifying a Vision for FMCP
  - i. Rob and Anthony met with Travis to discuss Queens Way and the High Line and identify strategies from those successful projects that could inform the course of AFMCP's Vision Project
  - ii. As part of this exercise, Rob and Anthony will conduct similar discussions with other Board members

# 4. Report from the Committees

- a. Governance Committee
  - i. Officer and Board Elections April 2024 Meeting
    - 1. Committee Review Full Board Votes
      - a. In coordination with Julep, the Executive Director will be reviewing committee assignments and leaderships
      - New assignments and terms will be inaugurated at the April meeting, cmte members require a vote from the entire board
  - ii. Anthony asks for a motion to approve initial new committee assignments, motion is seconded and approved
- b. Finance and Development Committee
  - i. Alliance Financial Status and Recent Reports
    - 1. Brand K delivers a report on the Alliance's financial status
      - Some pledges from Evening Under the Sphere are still outstanding, Brand K is helping AFMCP track these
      - b. They are processing AFMCP's 1099 forms for its various vendors that work in the programming

## ii. YEA Report

- 1. The Alliance raised over \$1,000 for the Conservation Corps workforce development program. This was in conjunction with a \$500.00 pledge from the FMCP Conservancy and a further renewed grant from ABNY for the program.
- 2. The Alliance concluded 12 months of fundraising appeals with the YEA.

- 3. This marks a full year of data in our Salesforce database that will help the Alliance build stronger relationships with individual donors in addition to the corporate outreach that defines Evening Under the Sphere
- iii. Evening Under the Sphere Update
  - 1. Save the Date! September 26, 2024
  - 2. All Board members are encouraged to submit potential honorees to the Gala Committee for consideration
  - 3. Likewise, any ideas for further benefits to entice sponsorship packages
  - 4. The tentative theme for this year's event is Sustainability / Climate Change resiliency

## 5. Report from the CAB

- a. Jean delivers the CAB report
- b. She highlights recent redistricting that removed Council District 19 from the group of districts that abut or include the park
- 6. Report from the Executive Director
  - a. What's New in the Park
    - i. Shoutout to the M&O team at FMCP who have been intrepid in combating the harsh recent winter weather
    - ii. The Waterfront Alliance is beginning its climate change resiliency study in the park
    - iii. Urban Park Rangers received \$25,000 from CM Gennaro, Anthony is working to ensure this money is well spent on natural areas stewardship and programming
    - iv. Gov Ball 2024
      - 1. Last year's event was a well-run event that was an all-around success
      - 2. The festival is returning to the park in 2024
      - 3. Gov Ball Gives Back AFMCP is partnering with the fest, more details to follow on this arrangement
    - v. DEG Presents

- Hosting the second large-format event of the year, in August
- 2. Will be a single stage event and feel more like a large concert than festival
- vi. Cinco De Mayo in FMCP
  - 1. Falls on a sunday this year, should prove to be an exciting event
- vii. Art in the Park
  - 1. RFP is live, please share with any Queens-based artists in your network
  - 2. Most recent grant winners are now installed in the park and on-view:
    - a. Light Portal by Julia Sinelnikova
    - b. Hey Neighbor NYC by Kisha Bari and Jasmin Chang
- b. NYC Parks Budget Update
  - i. 1% for Parks Petition Link
- 7. Next meeting is on April 26, 2024
  - a. In-Person at the National Tennis Center