

Alliance for Flushing Meadows Corona Park Meeting of the Board of Directors April 21, 2023

Members in attendance: Jim Haddad, Patty Ornst, Sanjay Rawal, Matt Gewolb, Danny Zausner, Heather Palmer, Danny Zausner, Rich David, Jane Builder, John Wang, Jackie Langsam, Melanie LaRocca, Ed Wong, Jean Silva, Phil Ballman, Jim Haddad, Terri Richardson, Michelle Villagomez, Andrew Hollweck

Also in Attendance: Liz Fallon, Steph Bohn, Rob Carson

Report from the Executive Director:

Anthony introduces the new Project Manager, Rob to the full board.

Anthony then updates the board on the Alliance's fiscal separation which is now complete! Brand K is our accountant and the Alliance's financial processes are currently being designed in collaboration with them. Lutz and Carr will be the auditor.

The New York Pavilion capital project is nearing completion, currently the Parks Capital team is overseeing nightly management of the lights but eventually that responsibility will fall to Anthony.

The Aquatic center has also reopened.

FMCP's Earth Week series was a great success with daily volunteer events and over 150 individual volunteers. The Alliance partnered with NYC FC to offer all the volunteers tickets to their Earth Day match against Dallas.

Cherry Blossom festival is also tomorrow, to which all Board members are invited.

Governor's Ball is moving forward in the beginning of June, with load-in on May 30th. Anthony is working to ensure that the public remains aware of the assembly process. Gov Ball is being asked to translate all their signage to accommodate the park's users.

Queens Night Market is back and a wild success, as usual. Anthony gives John a moment to update the Board on QNM, which was recently named the 9th best restaurant in NYC by the Times.

Report from CAB:

Jean urges Board members to complete the CAB survey, located in their page on the Alliance's website.

The CAB met with a representative from the Flushing Bay Guardians to discuss the casino development prospect.

Jean has been hindered by illness recently and so the Conservancy's Earth Day activities were postponed. She hopes to catch up with some programming once she recovers.

Report from Finance and Development:

Andrew shares the alliance's updated budget document. Anthony notes that the org's accountants are transforming this document into a formalized chart of accounts and the displayed document may be subject to change.

Andrew notes that a Capital Fund line has been added to the budget, in the hopes that the Alliance can begin working towards longer-term initiatives and court larger contributions from the sorts of organizations that support CPC or PPA.

Andrew discusses that the Alliance will be allocating more to staffing as it expands as an organization.

Andrew puts the budget to a vote which is nominated and seconded for approval. There are no objections. The budget is approved.

Report for Development:

The Date has been set for the 2023 Gala, which will be held on September 28th.

Patty notes that the Board is currently ahead of schedule compared to last year's planning process.

Anthony asks the Board to be proactive in offering feedback on last year's event and with suggestions for 2023.

The Board will also be hosting a cultivation event in June in anticipation of the gala.

Throughout the summer, the Board will try to have some sort of visible presence at major public events in the park.

Governance Committee Report:

Jim thanks everyone who has helped in the governance process as the Alliance has built its team of Julep, Venable, Brand K, and Lutz & Carr.

Jim also highlights the prospect of returning to in-person meetings for future Board quarterly cycles.

Anthony asks everyone to complete the conflict of interest self-disclosure form.

Danny thanks Jim and Anthony for their hard work in completing the independence of AFMCP