

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

**Billie Jean King National Tennis Center (Indoor Training Facility)  
Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens**

**August 2, 2019**

**9:00am**

**Board Members and Executive Director in Attendance:** Ken Cohen, Jim Haddad, Andrea Hirsch, Andrew Hollweck, Janice Melnick, Vicky Morales (representing Melinda Katz), Patty Ornst, Tom Finkelppearl, Mitchell Silver, Terry Tang, Jean C. Silva, and Daniel Zausner

**Board Members Absent:** Julissa Bisono, James Gennaro, Carl Rodrigues, Edwin Wong, Raul Garcia, and Victoria Schneps-Yunis

**Also in Attendance:** Meira Berkower, NYC Parks, Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy, and Jacqueline Colson

**Report from Chair**

Mitchel Silver introduced Ali Davis who is representing the Deputy Mayor. She is replacing Carl Rodriguez.

Chair Silver was sorry to say that Carol Conslato has retired from Con Ed and has resigned from the Board of the Alliance. Carol has moved to Nevada to golf and enjoy life. Carol was a tremendous asset to our board and she will be greatly missed. We hope that Con Ed will continue to support the Alliance.

Mitchel Silver asked the committee members to review the minutes from the April 26th, 2019 meeting if they had not already done so. A motion was made to approve the minutes. All Directors present voted in favor.

Chair Silver was happy to give an update on the FY20 Budget allocations explaining that there was significant funding for Parks. Specifically 150 year-round CPW and 150 "Play Fair" CPW positions, including CPWs for Flushing Meadows Corona Park. He also shared information on funding for GreenThumb, PEP, Urban Park Rangers, and Forest Management.

He also reported on Lead testing of all drinking fountains across the city. Janice added that the fountains in FMCP had all been tested and were free of lead.

Chair Silver reported that we had a groundbreaking for the Henry Hudson entrance and parking lot on July 10th. This is a Parks Without Borders site, a program that Commissioner Silver implemented throughout the 5 boroughs to help better connect our parks to the community. This is a \$4.5M project that should be complete next spring.

**Report from Executive Director**

Janice Melnick was happy to announce that Nike made an in-kind donation by restoring Soccer Field #7 and the Skate Park in honor of the American Woman's team winning the World Cup.

Janice gave a brief capital update. She was pleased to report that the Lawrence Street Playground construction was complete and the playground was now open to the public. She went on to say that this was a transformative project as it also incorporated a previously unused piece of grass land which will now provide the only sledding hill in the park.

Janice went on to report that the Mauro Playground on the southeastern end of the park is now under construction. The eastern entrance to Willow Lake will remain open throughout the construction. And both the Reflecting Pools project and the NYS Pavilion projects will be starting in early fall.

### **Report from Community Advisory Board**

Jean Silva was elected as the new Chair of the CAB. She noted that Commissioner Tom Finkelppearl and the new Queens Parks Commissioner, Mike Dockett attended the CAB meeting.

The CAB will be deleting its website because it believes that there should just be one website for the Alliance.

The CAB noted that they'd like to continue the Art in the Park program, host an Open house, create a Google group and expand its mailing list.

### **Committee Reports**

Governance noted that there will be election at the December 2019 meeting for the Officers of the Board. Chair silver has completed his two consecutive terms as Chair and we are very grateful for his leadership. We will need nominations for all officer positions – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. If anyone is interested, please let Janice, Ali Davis, or Jim Haddad know.

501C-3 has been put on hold because we are trying to get guidance from the City Law Department, but will re-start the process shortly.

Finance & Development has been working diligently to raise money for the upcoming Gala. Andrew and Tom noted that all the Board Members should buy a table. Patty emphasized that everyone should attend the event and let us know if you have any potential sponsors.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.