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197-a QUEENSBORO BRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE Phase IIA—Pavilion Section of Andrew Haswell Green Park NY Blood Center, 310 East 67th Street, Auditorium Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 6:30

Board Members Present: Matt Bondy, A. Scott Falk, Peggy Price, Judith E. Schneider, Barry Schneider **Excused Board Members:** Barbara Rudder, Hedi White **Parks Dept. Present:** George Bloomer, Jon Ernsberger, Steve Simon

- 1. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Judy Schneider. Judy spoke for a few minutes about her former Co-Chair Helene Simon who had passed away several months ago. Helene and Judy had been working on the 197-A plan, which had a vision for new and completed parks in our community, for over 12 years and it seemed very strange to be finally moving forward on this project without Helene being there. "We are sure that she was here in spirit". Judy then introduced Scott Falk the new Co-Chair, who is very eager to see the various parts of the plan move forward.
- 2. George Bloomer of the NYC Parks Department, with the assistance of Jon Ernsberger then proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation and talked about the Pavilion area. The last time this project was brought to the community was in 2010, so since work is ready to proceed we thought the community needed to be updated. The project was divided into three parts:
 - A. Work on the Superstructure, which supports the Sculpture
 - The existing paint on the metal superstructure is flaking and it is a lead abatement issue.
 - Federal regulations require the structure to be scraped, which will be done by hand and tented in the necessary areas. This is an acceptable method of abatement.
 - When the Superstructure is clean, then it will be re-painted with an orange color paint called Ablaze, which has been approved by the Public Design Commission (PDC). This is a significantly more expensive paint and has a 15 year guarantee. There will be a primer, an intermediate coat and a finish coat.
 - The work is expected to start approximately May 5th and be completed approximately July 3rd. This schedule is totally weather dependent.
 - During work at the Pavilion Area of the Park, it will be closed to all but the workers.
 - B. Restoration of the Round-About Sculpture sitting on the Superstructure
 - The Round-About Sculpture by Alice Aycock has been up for almost 20 years and the aluminum has lost its luster.
 - Jonathan Kuhn in charge of Antiquities for the Parks Department has gone up in a cherry picker and examined the sculpture and found it to be structurally sound.
 - Municipal Art Society has a grant to restore the sculpture. The method they are planning on using is to hand rub it with something akin to a "Scotch Pad".
 - The work should take approximately 8 weeks, from mid-July to mid-September, of course these dates are weather dependent.
 - This work still needs approval from the PDC.
 - During this work the Pavilion Area will be closed to all but the workers.

C. Restoration of the Pavilion Area



Illustration of rooftop sitting area

- Once the other two phases of the work are complete the rooftop sitting area will get underway. This is the top of the former sanitation building. The former heliport was located below, at one time.
- This area is reached by the ramp at 60th street and York Avenue or you can come over the 63rd Street pedestrian bridge and walk down and up to the Pavilion.
- Work should start approximately the mid-October 2014 and end in 18 Months.
- The work includes cutting through the 27 inch thick roof top to drop in the planter box, which is the dark green elongated triangle area in the above plan.
- As you enter there is a paved sitting area on grade; it is ADA accessible.
- In the center is a planter created by a 16" to "18 seat wall on all four sides.
- As the plant bed becomes angled it is planted differently. Light green is the turf grass. There will be three water outlets/ground hydrants to hook up a hose. There will be water drains built in. Parks Department will water as needed.
- There will be four plants used in the triangular bed: Woody Sumac, Mulley Grass, Switch Grass, and Northern Sea Oak, which blooms. They are all native plants. They are tolerant of the salt spray from the water. There is a one year guarantee on all the plants.
- There will be an ADA drinking fountain; three trash receptacles; individual seats—some will be placed together but will not allow for sleeping; chess tables with granite inlay; and 3'-6" (42") perimeter fencing all around the edge of the park, different from the traditional sea rail fencing below.
- During this work the Pavilion Area will be closed to all but the workers.
- When the Pavilion re-open it will no longer accommodate dogs.

D. Discussion other than the Pavilion—Lower level—Phase I--with Dog Run

- Steve Simon reported that the Parks Department purchased a shade structure for the Dog Run down below that will be installed after Memorial Day. Mr. Simon will follow up with a photograph.
- Some good top soil and trees for the items that died in Phase I, which need replacing. According to Mr. Simon, Parks can send their Forestry People to do this now and we do not have to wait for this project to be completed.
- Mr. Simon stated that this park has been in the planning stage for years and should not be a surprise to the community. It was known the Pavilion was going to have to close when work began and would not welcome dogs when the park re-opened.

- E. Q&A centered on the following items:
 - There was discussion by some dog owners who felt it unfair to close this area off permanently to dog owners. They also stated the dog run down below did not work for them or their dog for various reasons.
 - The other group of dog owners praised the dog run and felt it worked very well, but needs some upgrades.
 - The last group of questions came from the gardening community. They wanted to get into more details about storage for tools and how care would work.
 - If was stated the next meeting would be in the fall when the RFP had been let and the project for the Rooftop Sitting area work would start.

The entire presentation, talked about above, will be located on the CB 8 website:

CB8M.COM/committees/197A Queensboro Bridge Area Committee, as soon as the CB receives it from the Parks Department.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

A. Scott Falk & Judith Schneider Co-Chairs 197-A Queensboro Bridge Area Committee