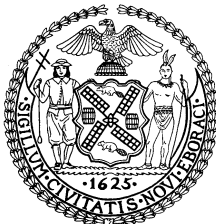


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197-a QUEENSBORO BRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE
Phase IIA—Pavilion Section of Andrew Haswell Green Park
NY Blood Center, 310 East 67th Street, Auditorium
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 6:30

Board Members Present: Matt Bondy, A. Scott Falk, Jonathan Horn, Peggy Price, Barbara Rudder, Judith E. Schneider, Barry Schneider

Excused Board Members: Hedi White

Parks Dept. Present: George Bloomer, Jon Ernsberger, Mark Vaccaro

1. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Scott Falk and Judy Schneider.
2. George Bloomer of the NYC Parks Department, with the assistance of Jon Ernsberger and Mark Vaccaro, walked us through a PowerPoint presentation and talked about the Pavilion area—Phase IIA of Andrew Haswell Green Park. The last time this project was brought to the community was in 2014. Now that work is ready to proceed by the contractor, we thought the community needed to be updated. The work on the superstructure supporting the sculpture and the work on the “Round About” sculpture by Alice Aycock has been completed. The following is about the work on the rooftop seating area.

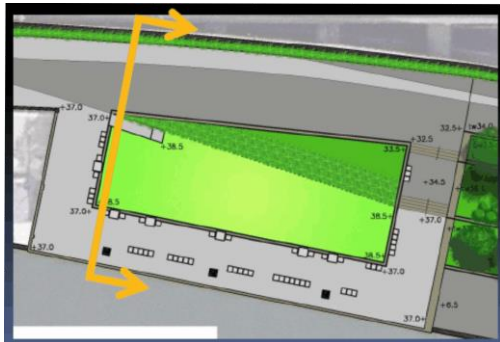


Illustration of rooftop sitting area

- This is the top of the former sanitation building. The long-closed heliport was located below.
- Work should start approximately the end of May 2015 and end in about 18 Months—November 2016.
- 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, as well as the waterfront level of Andrew Haswell Green Park, where the contractors will set up a construction fence.
 - When the Pavilion re-opens it will no longer accommodate dogs. It is expected the Park Enforcement Police—PEP Officers will be stationed there to see this does not become a dog park. It was suggested that in addition to the dog park below, Peter Detmold Park at the FDR between 49th and 50th Streets could be used.
3. After the presentation Q&A followed, consisting of:
- About 10 people expressed a great concern that they are losing the hard surface temporary dog run once the Pavilion reconstruction starts. Their complaints were about how unsatisfactory the dog run below was because: the surface was in poor condition, not clean, it is dusty, water pools there constantly and some complained of allergies. The committee co-chairs stated they would look into what would be involved and if it was practical to change the surface. Once we had some more information we would get back to the people who were in attendance.
 - Members of the public also said they had young children and were looking forward to having a real green area for their children to play on.
 - A Green Gardener who is one of the people who has been looking after the park adjacent to the Esplanade made an impassioned plea to those present to volunteer to look after not only the dog run but gardens. An area such as this needs a “Friends of “ group. She also said we all should be asking the City Council to devote more funds for gardeners to maintain our City Parks. This is something that can be done at our CB8 Budget Recommendations.
 - Mark Vaccaro stated with reference to dog run below that when there is a dog run the dog owners are usually the one that look after the run. He said once he had a week of dry weather he will look into getting a rototiller to get the ground into good condition, so that when it rains the water will be absorbed. Also a plumbing repair needs to be made there but he wants to the rototilling completed before the repair.
4. Lower Level of Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase IIB
- Hunter College/Memorial Sloan Kettering Project has closed with the City as per the news article in the Commercial Observer. Part of this project is the donation that was made to the City to fix the pilings that support park at the waterfront level.
 - Now that the money is in place to repair the pilings, the City Agencies—Economic Development Corp and Parks Department—can move forward on the implementation of this project. When repairing the pilings they will not only be working in the water but on the land side. Therefore, this part of the project must be completed first before the park itself is actually built.
 - There is also a possibility of a Ferry Landing located between 62/63 streets. More to come about that down the road.
5. 14 Honey Locust Park
- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will be finished with the secondary water main for the Third Water Tunnel and expected to vacate the property by approximately July 2016.
 - The DEP is then supposed to restore the park. The DEP and the Parks Department are starting talks about this site now.

The committee will continue to update the community as the different parcels of the 197-a plan come into being.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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