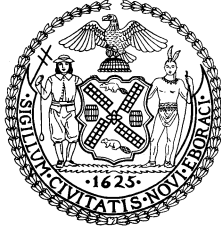


Alida Camp, Chair

Will Brightbill  
District Manager



505 Park Ave, Suite 620  
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106  
(212) 758-4340  
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)  
www.cb8m.com - Website  
info@cb8m.com - E-Mail

**The City of New York  
Manhattan Community Board 8  
Parks and Waterfront Committee**

Via Zoom with Will Brightbill, District Manager Hosting  
December 3, 2020 at 6:30 PM

*Please note: The resolutions contained in the committee minutes are recommendations submitted by the committee chair to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolutions are discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.*

**Resolution for Approval: Item 1**

**Minutes**

**Community Board Members (Present):** Lowell Barton, Alida Camp, Rebecca Dangoor, Felice Farber, Takako Kono, Craig Lader, Pope-Marshall, Rita Popper, Barbara Rudder, Barry Schneider, Tricia Shimamura, Marco Tamayo, Jack Zimmerman

**Community Board Public Members (Present):** Judy Schneider, Irma Torres

**1. Presentation by Parks Committee of Community Board 10M: The Exonerated Central Park Five Exhibit proposed for Central Park by Karen Horry and Cicely Harris**

- Following the 1989 rape and assault of a young white women jogging in Central Park, five teenagers from Harlem were convicted and spent between 6-13 years in prison. In 2002, they were exonerated after DNA evidence linked to another individual who also confessed to the crimes. The lives of these five young men were forever changed due to their incarceration and treatment by the media, criminal justice system, and broader public for crimes they did not commit.
- The goal is to create a permanent exhibit in the northeast portion of Central Park commemorating the Exonerated Five, formerly known as The Central Park Five: Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Raymond Santana, Korey Wise, and Yusef Salaam
- Ms. Horry described the significance of this project as an effort “to shed light on the prejudice and hatred on the unnecessary incarceration of these young boys and on the inequities inherent in the American justice system. We want to inform, engage and activate the public to build a path to healing in Black and Latinos communities and communities throughout the world.”
- Ms. Horry noted that the Exonerated Five were young boys from the Harlem area, and that prior to this experience Central Park was an oasis for the boys—Central Park was their backyard.
- The objective of the exhibit is to engage audiences about racial injustices - especially young people of color – as well as the surrounding community and all other visitor who come to the Park. The organizers would also like the exhibit to address the role of media and the impact racial profiling and discrimination had on coverage of this case. Ultimately visitors should walk away with the reflection on the human cost of systemic racism.
- This would be a physical and permanent exhibit and would involve an art selection process.
- CB10 has recommended that 110<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue could be the location. They are also engaging with the local museums in the surrounding area.

- The Resolve from the **CB10 Resolution** is as follows:  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on June 3, 2020 Manhattan Community Board 10 supports the installation of a permanent exhibit to commemorate the Exonerated Five to be located in NYC Central Park with a vote in favor of 48 yes 0 no 0 abstentions.
- After much discussion of the issue and its significance, the Committee put forward the following resolution:

**Resolution:**

**WHEREAS** Community Board 10 made a thorough presentation on the importance of an exhibition commemorating the Exonerated Five in Central Park, and

**WHEREAS** Community Board 8 notes the significance of honoring the experience and resiliency of Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Raymond Santana, Korey Wise, and Yusef Salaam, and

**WHEREAS** Community Board 8 commends efforts to increase civic engagement and social justice across New York City - especially in our parks and open spaces,

**BE IT RESOLVED** Manhattan Community Board 8 supports the efforts of Community Board 10 calling for a permanent installation commemorating the Exonerated Five in Central Park.

**Approved Board Members:** 13-0-0 (Yes: Barton, Camp, Dangoor, Farber, Kono, Lader, Pope-Marshall, Propper, Rudder, B. Schneider, Shimamura, Tamayo, Zimmerman)

**Approved Public Members:** 2-0-0 (Yes: J. Schneider, Torres)

**2. Update by Stacy Papas, Executive Director, Friends of the East River Esplanade (60th-120th Streets)**

The Committee introduced Stacy Papas, the new Executive Director, Friends of the East River Esplanade. Stacey discussed a few ongoing projects Friends is working on, including proposed exercise equipment additions to the esplanade. Because the proposal involves Andrew Haswell Green Phase IIB, it was determined that the item should be properly heard at 197-A Queensboro Bridge Area Committee meeting in the future.

**3. Update from the NYC Parks Department by Wes Hamilton, District Manager**

- Carl Schurz playground is completed and the ribbon cutting will be later this month.
- 24 Sycamores Park is on schedule and in progress
- Other projects coming out of the design phase and ready for bid are delayed because of Covid.
- Now issuing permits for youth activities and next week adult permits on synthetic turf will be issued. We have only one in community District 8, Asphalt Green. Other permits for special events in small groups of 25 and for 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights and religious reasons are being issued. Holiday trees and Menorah lights have been approved.
- Usage is way up in the parks and litter abounds. It is difficult with limited staff and due to budget issues to keep everything clean. Parks is trying to work through these issues. The Chairs called attention to a consistently over-flowing garbage pail at 70<sup>th</sup> street on the Esplanade.
- Q & A
  - **THANK YOU.** Your crew was great help at Ruppert Park after blustery winds and leaves everywhere and they cleaned up immediately. Wes said they were fortunate for such a good staff.
  - Request made to remove illegal exercise equipment at the Pavilion of Andrew Haswell Green as it could be dangerous. Wes said they may have to get special help—maybe with a bucket truck.

- Cat Bird Playground has a design issue with the hexagonal pavers that leads to the sandbox--they are extremely smooth. Parents and children are slipping on loose sand and getting hurt. Can you look and maybe the surface can be scarified or roughed up?

Happy Holidays to all and a better 2021.

There being no other Old or New business, the meeting was adjourned.

Tricia Shimamura and Barry Schneider  
Co-Chairs, Parks and Waterfront Committee  
Barry Schneider, Chair 197-A Committee  
Judith Schneider, Scribe