



Officers & Directors

November 2020

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Advisor
Jean Epiphan
Restoration Ecologist
Rutgers University

Dear Neighbor:

“The earth has music for those who listen” chimed William Shakespeare. We agree and have made it our mission to let that music be heard throughout Ridgewood’s parks and public spaces — many of which require care and attention beyond what our municipal budget can provide.

But we need your help to enable our Village parklands to sing!

The Conservancy was born out of a need for preservation and renewal. Joyfully, that renewal was on full display and abundantly appreciated over the past 9 months as so many of our friends and neighbors reconnected with the parks and public spaces of Ridgewood as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. Village streets were alive with walkers, runners, cyclists and dog walkers as people needed to “get outside”. The Butterfly Garden at the Stable has become a popular spot for picnics and has also hosted two weddings!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have made great strides in support of our mission including planting thousands of flowers, shrubs, and trees throughout the Village. Our most recent project, the **2020 Renewal of Memorial Park at Van Neste Square** was well timed. The veterans were delighted that their sacred space was restored in time for the Memorial Day Celebration.

With your ongoing support, we look forward to the **2021 Expansion of the Children’s Sensory and Butterfly Garden**. This very special setting has continued to amaze children and adults alike with its magical display of color, texture, and interesting animal and insect life. In addition to this nature experience, discovery and wonder are encouraged by using the five senses while in the garden through use of the activity cards provided. An opportunity for play is also available through several natural wooden features where children can walk, climb and balance. Hopes are to enhance the landscape to let the beauty of nature inspire musical self-expression and creativity. This will include the purchase and installation of several outdoor instruments possibly: an Akambira, a set of drums and some Contrabass Chimes. Proven to encourage social participation, promote health and wellness this ensemble is a perfect addition to this children’s nature area. But we will need your support.

Please help us by making a donation to the Conservancy so that we can continue the important work of preserving and enhancing our Village parklands and make them sing for generations to come. For further information please visit our website at www.cfrpl.org.

Thank you for your generosity, and happy holidays!

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia Halaby".

Cynthia Halaby
President