

# President's Report

By Lorraine Zamora

Summer is drawing to a close, Labor Day is a week away, and vacationers are returning to the city to resume their urban lives. I had hoped that the city would be close to returning to “normal,” and that Covid masks would be a thing of the past. I also had hoped that Three Parks could resume its club meetings in person next week. But neither is about to happen. Given the rise of the Delta variant and the number of people still unvaccinated, the Three Parks Board feels that in-person meetings are still too risky. However, we are assessing in-person meetings on a monthly basis. I am in regular contact with the hostel, and as soon as we feel it is safe to meet in person, the hostel will be ready to welcome us back. And Three Parks members will be glad to see one another again. Fingers

crossed that that can happen soon!

We have an exciting line-up of speakers for September and October. This month Susan Lerner, Executive Director of Common Cause/New York, will speak on redistricting, and Mark Levine, Chair of the City Council's Health Committee and Democratic nominee for Manhattan Borough President, will bring us up to date on Covid and the Delta variant. In October, Scott Stringer will speak in his last club appearance as Comptroller, and Brad Lander, Democratic nominee for Comptroller, will discuss his plans to take office in January.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, our Female District Leader Cynthia Doty expresses the club's thanks and appreciation to Bob Botfeld, our Male District Leader for the past two decades. Bob lost as District Leader in the June primary and

we will miss him. His passion for Three Parks was deep and genuine. He gave himself to the club 24/7. I join Cynthia in thanking Bob for all his efforts on behalf of Three Parks. On a personal note, I am grateful to Bob for encouraging me to join the Three Parks board and to become its president.

To emphasize just how crucial the role of District Leader is, here is a brief refresher. The District Leader

- is an unpaid volunteer elected official who represents the party members in his/her district to the party's apparatus
- sits on the Executive Committee of the County Democratic Committee
- works with the district's elected officials to insure that the voices of the community are heard
- provides support to elect good candidates to public

office in the district;  
manages petitioning

- recruits and recommends poll workers to the Board of Elections for the primary and general elections
- is an information resource for the district's voters in numerous ways including poll site locations, election results and information about candidates
- is responsible for promoting Democratic turnout in general elections

Three Parks will continue its mission to uphold all that Bob held dear and important to maintaining progressive ideals on the Upper West Side, but it will not be the same without him.

I look forward to seeing you on Zoom on September 8. Stay safe and keep healthy.