

2-1-1988

Letter from Donald E. Moore, President of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, to Richard Ravitch, Chairperson of the Charter Revision Commission

Donald E. Moore
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

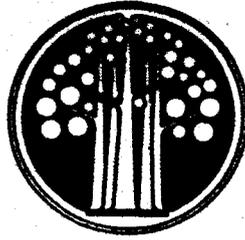
Follow this and additional works at: <https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/trager>

Recommended Citation

Moore, Donald E., "Letter from Donald E. Moore, President of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, to Richard Ravitch, Chairperson of the Charter Revision Commission" (1988). *David G. Trager Papers from the NYC Charter Revision Commissions: Dec. 1986-Nov. 1988 & Dec. 1988-Nov. 1989*. 22.

<https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/trager/22>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at BrooklynWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in David G. Trager Papers from the NYC Charter Revision Commissions: Dec. 1986-Nov. 1988 & Dec. 1988-Nov. 1989 by an authorized administrator of BrooklynWorks.



Brooklyn Botanic Garden

DONALD E. MOORE
PRESIDENT

Response - Board of
Borough Pres
2/23/88
for
private
meeting

February 1, 1988

Will David have your attention
I hope this

Mr. Richard Ravitch
Chairperson
Charter Revision Commission
11 Park Place - Suite 1616
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Ravitch:

The cultural institutions of New York City--especially those of the "outer boroughs"--will regard as a grave threat to their very existence any charter revision suggestion that borough presidents be removed from the city budget process.

All of our experience is that any mayor or other city-wide official (indeed any commissioner) ineluctably comes to be concerned primarily with the dominant institutions of the world's "cultural capital," Manhattan--seldom acknowledging or understanding that such things as the zoo and the garden in the Bronx or the aquarium and the garden in Brooklyn are among the world's finest and most important.

At a recent meeting of the Cultural Institutions Group, I had an opportunity to ask Mayor Koch how we could operate if our worst fears about charter revision are confirmed, and this was his reply:

"Simple...you'd go to your councilman."

That is clearly absurd. A councilperson is concerned with the interests and needs of her or

088

his district. And the idea that a borough's delegation of as many as 11 councilpersons might function as a unit in representing one or another of the institutions' interests is surely unworkable.

Whatever else the Charter Revision Commission may suggest, we implore you not to propose anything that would remove from the budget process the effective participation of a borough-wide executive for each borough.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald E. Moore", written in a cursive style.

Donald E. Moore

DEM/ksp