

Russell Squire
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, 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
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Roosevelt Island Committee
Thursday, April 15, 2021 – 6:30 PM
Conducted Remotely via Zoom**

Minutes:

Present: Lynne Strong-Shinozaki, Brian Correia, Billy Freeland, Sharon Pope-Marshall, Barbara Rudder, Tricia Shimamura, Marco Tamayo, Judy Berdy (Public Member)

1. **Roosevelt Island Bridge Bike Lane Resurfacing Update:** There was no update from DOT, and the committee would like to invite the Community liaison representatives from DOT and elected officials to visit our bridge. The committee would like to have a walk through with DOT and electeds and possibly a presentation from RIOC of the proposed Bike Helix Ramp and new bike lane on the East side of Roosevelt Island. There was discussion of these ideas.
2. **Resurrecting the WIRE initiative** was discussed and there seems to be some interest. Some of the challenges of supporting a paper are costs and distribution. Getting advertising dollars may be possible by having a paper that connects Roosevelt Island, Western Queens, and Upper East Side.
3. **Coler:** Peter Yearwood provided an update from the Coler Task Force and reported that 53% of employees are now vaccinated and 88% of residents. The big news is they are in a much better place. They still have Residents testing positive, however they are now able to have visitors and get passes and visit friends. Barbara Rudder mentioned Resolutions from the Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee supporting nursing home reform that will come before the full board. Judy Berdy provided a report from Coler Auxiliary that the situation at Coler is getting better and that they are working on the requirements for day passes. They will have regular schedules for vaccines available to all employees and residents.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. Status of Community Bank: There is no resolution yet, although weekly meetings are occurring. Credit union with Cornell branch here. Municipal Bank viability. Awaiting information from office of Financial Services. The Banks need a minimum of \$50 million to have a bank presence. Why not a Bank on Wheels? Sharon will follow up with Cornell on Credit Union. People need mortgages for Westview's privatization.
 - b. Status of Helicopter Taskforce update: Taskforce Member Sharon Pope reported on the Improving Helicopter Safety Act <C:\Users\ERN\AppData\Local\Temp\ER0490~1.NEW> (senate.gov) [Reps. Maloney, Nadler, Velazquez Introduce Legislation to Address NYC's Helicopter Safety Needs | Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney \(house.gov\) To amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit certain helicopter flights over major cities with high population densities, and for other purposes. \(H.R. 1643\) - GovTrack.us](https://www.congress.gov/newsroom/recordings/detail/2021/04/14/1643). Sharon will ask about Sea Planes at the next Taskforce meeting.
 - c. Vaccine Pop-up Site: RIOC is prepared to host one if the need arises.
 - d. There are congestion issues on Roosevelt Island due to visitors who are coming here to staycation and see our beautiful Cherry Trees. However. there will be no F service. We will be following up on the people traffic issues.
5. **New Business:** None

Lynne Strong-Shinozaki, Chair