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**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan  
Roosevelt Island Committee  
Monday, April 1, 2024 - 6:30 PM  
Conducted remotely on Zoom.**

**MINUTES:**

Present: Judith Berdy (Public Member), Paul Krikler, James Starace (Public Member), and Valerie Mason.  
Absent: Barbara Rudder (Overseas), Sharon Pope-Marshall.

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 18

Paul Krikler, Chairman, welcomed all attendees to the meeting (4:35 minutes in). Introduction to the Agenda featuring RIOC Updates with a focus on the Working Advisory Groups and with particular attention to resident participation, Coler Hospital and flood mitigation work, Christina Delfico and the Saving Community Food Scrap Compost Program, and Tibor Krisco speaking about environmental sustainability on Roosevelt Island.

**Item 1 – (5:45 minutes in) Saving Community Food Scrap Compost Program - Christina Delfico**

Paul Krikler introduced Christina Delfico to speak about saving the Roosevelt Island Composting Program. Christina presented four slides detailing the dispute with the Parks Department and the eviction of the Scraps Composting Program with Big Reuse Program from under the Queensboro Bridge (Ed Koch Bridge). A \$500,000 investment was made for the compost program, and then NYC funding was cut December 2023. This compost was put to use in various ways including community use, school use, Lighthouse Park tree plantings, and the Pocket Miniature Forest for South Point Park. Details included how soil helps in flooding and the health of the community.

Ms. Delfico discussed the importance of the Orange Compost bins on Roosevelt Island, the Newtown Creek processing facility, and the benefits of compost over landfill. She provided a phone number to call Julie Menin to ensure the program does not get evicted.

**Item 2 (16 minutes in) – RIOC Updates**

Paul Krikler introduced Bryant Daniels, Director of Communications for RIOC, to provide the RIOC update. Pocket Forest planting April 6, 2024. 11:00 am - 2:30 pm. The ceremony begins at 10:30 am.

Mr. Daniels discussed the Community Working Groups, convening working groups composed of residents of Roosevelt Island to discuss economic development, capital projects, and other important issues such as the Tramway Management and the upcoming Cherry Blossom season. RIOC would like residents that have always been engaged, as well as residents that have not always been engaged in outreach with RIOC. The goal is to hear new ideas and solutions. Mr. Daniels discussed the success of the first meeting with residents, stressing that RIOC wants to be available to hear from the community. Upcoming working groups will discuss economic revitalization on Main Street, Coler Hospital Flood Berm, Paved Roadways project, and meeting the community's needs.

Final Points: The F Train service is back to normal. Earth Love Day on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. More details to come about the planned activities for the day. Wayfinding signage has been updated.

**Item 3 (32:50 minutes in) – Coler Updates with Senior Director of External Affairs for NYC Health + Hospitals**

Paul Krikler introduced Laura Atlas, the Senior Director of External Affairs for NYC Health + Hospitals, to discuss flood mitigation projects at Coler Hospital. Ms. Atlas stated that the project is in the early stages, with visioning sessions in the future to present concepts and designs. The project is FEMA money provided to protect vulnerable public hospitals. The funding includes flood prevention as well as projects ongoing within the hospital. The present state of the project is the site investigation, including borings and surveys to learn where the water table is, and soil type. May will be the first community session. The website will be available soon. Paul Krikler asked about the rough timeline for the beginning of building. Ms. Atlas responded that it would possibly be one to two years away.

**Item 4 (43:40 minutes in) – Environmental sustainability on RI - Tibor Krisko**

Paul Krikler introduced Tibor Krisko to speak about environmental sustainability on Roosevelt Island. Mr. Krisko presented slides detailing the amount of trash generated by New York City as well as waste collection on Roosevelt Island and the lack of enough garbage bins and recycling bins. Mr. Krisko presented locations where RIOC could increase recycling collections at high priority locations where people congregate, future and long-term goals/aims for RIOC, and the use of recycled materials for various locations on Roosevelt Island. Bryant Daniels stated that RIOC increased the number of recycle bins along the island and mentioned the teen plogging group on Roosevelt Island.

**Item 5 – Old Business**

No items of Old Business were discussed.

**Item 6 – (55:40 minutes in) New Business**

Will Brightbill introduced Brandon Korosh, the new librarian of the Roosevelt Island Library. Mr. Korosh introduced himself and detailed how he came to Roosevelt Island. A new community work workshop presented by the library branch will have presentations on Wednesdays May 1st, 8th, and 15th at 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Judith Berdy announced early voting election day at PS/IS 217 for voting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

**Paul Krikler, Chair, Roosevelt Island Committee**