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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Roosevelt Island Committee
Monday, October 7, 2024 - 6:30 PM
Conducted remotely on Zoom.**

Please note: The resolution contained in the committee minutes is a recommendation submitted by the committee chair to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolution is discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.

Resolutions for Approval:

Item 4: City Council Resolution 0132 regarding Governance and Democracy on Roosevelt Island - (Unanimous Approval)

MINUTES:

Present: Paul Krikler, Sharon Pope-Marshall, James Starace (Public Member), and Todd Stein.

Absent: Judy Berdy (Excused), and Barbara Rudder (Excused).

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 20

Paul Krikler welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Bryant Daniels, Director of Communications of RIOC.

Item 1 – (06:06 minutes in) RIOC Updates

RIOC Update provided by Bryant Daniels, Director of Communications for RIOC. Bryant Daniels began discussing the topic of the Speed of the Tramway. Mr. Daniels discussed the decisions regarding the speed of the Tram as related to swaying on the Tram cabins and the possible reasons for the swaying. Tram morning rush hour service will run until 10:30 am and the evening rush will be from 2:30 to 8 pm. Mr. Daniels discussed the Red Bus Service with descriptions of service for buses and improved service with three buses running during the rush hour service. Two new buses will arrive most likely early in the new year. Mr. Daniels discussed the various ways RIOC seeks to improve service going forward. Mr. Daniels discussed reports of animals being exposed to toxins on the Island. RIOC has gotten reports from residents about sickly animals and has not done any spraying or altered bait stations for rats. Mr. Daniels provided information about how to proceed if one needs to handle reports of animals being sickened or seeming unhealthy. Mr. Daniels announced the Halloween Extravaganza and Parade on Sat. Oct. 26th with a 10:45 am start time at Capobianco Field with festivities at Southpoint Park to follow.

Item 2 – (28:00 minutes in) Library Updates

Paul Krikler announced there were no new updates for the Public Library for this meeting.

Item 3 – (28:10 minutes in) Community Updates

Paul Krikler introduced Community updates. Paul Krikler introduced Rick O'Conner who provided information about TRIBA and the upcoming Awards Gala on October 23rd to honor three Roosevelt Island residents who will be honored for their achievements.

Item 4 – (31:35 minutes in) City Council Resolution 0132 regarding Governance and Democracy on Roosevelt Island

Paul Krikler introduced the discussion about City Council Resolution 0132 regarding Governance and Democracy on Roosevelt Island. Mr. Krikler described the Resolution introduced by Julie Menin at City Hall and Mr. Krikler described the resolution to be voted on during this meeting of the Roosevelt Island Committee. Mr. Krikler began the vote which then passed with committee members present voting in favor. The passing of this resolution will now go to the full CB8 Board.

The following resolution was then put forward by Community Board 8:

WHEREAS the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (“RIOC”) is a New York State public-benefit corporation whose function is to plan, design, develop, operate, and maintain Roosevelt Island; and

WHEREAS the board of RIOC is made up of 9 members, all appointed by the State of New York, seven being residents of the island and two being employees of NY State; and

WHEREAS approximately 12,000 people live on Roosevelt Island; and

WHEREAS almost 1,100 residents of Roosevelt Island have signed the following petition:

“We are asking for all RIOC Board members to be directly elected by residents of Roosevelt Island. We have had too many years of lackadaisical and ineffective management at RIOC. We need better oversight of RIOC.

The current administration is not functioning. The most senior members of RIOC Management are in litigation over their employment and are clearly no longer engaged in the management of RIOC for the benefit of the Roosevelt Island community. This situation is untenable and needs fixing.

There are a lot of staff at RIOC who do a great job for the community, including a number of very capable members of middle management. However, a number of senior administration officials appeared to have been hired without being appropriately qualified for their roles and without RIOC conducting a public executive search for the position.”;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 supports City Council Resolution 0132, calling on the NY State Legislature and Government to grant residents of Roosevelt Island the power to vote for members of the board of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation.

Yes (4): Krikler, Pope-Marshall, Starace, Stein

No (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Item 5 – (36:05 minutes in) Renewable Ravenswood Plan with Lydia Downing, Director, External Affairs, at Rise Light & Power

Mr. Krikler introduced Lydia Downing to speak about the Renewable Ravenswood Plan with Lydia Downing, Director, External Affairs, at Rise Light & Power. Ms. Downing, Roberta Sawyer, Jennifer Garvey spoke about the Plan and how the Plan relates to Roosevelt Island as well as to New York City.

Item 6 – Old Business

No items of Old Business were discussed.

Item 7– New Business

No items of New Business were discussed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Paul Krikler, Chair, Roosevelt Island Committee