

HRPK Advisory Group
HRPK Friends Advocacy Update
September 29, 2020

1. Hudson River Park Friends will have a virtual UnGala.

Wednesday, October 21 at 8 PM. We hope many of you can join and support the Park. We are $\frac{3}{4}$ to our fundraising goal. Donations are at all levels. Invite and link with information is below and attached.

<https://hudsonriverpark.org/get-involved/gala/>

2. Pier 76/Tow Pound: Friends is reaching out to the Mayor's office, Governor's office and Community Board #4 on any new developments. Friends may engage on an advocacy campaign late fall/winter and/or 2021.
3. Friends' volunteer program: Neighborhood Gardener Program is going strong. Openings are available throughout the week except Mondays. Tuesdays are in the West Village, Wednesdays are either downtown in Tribeca or uptown in Clinton. Thursdays and Fridays take place in Chelsea. We keep it to under five volunteers per session and it is usually about 2-3 people.

We've hosted two more Saturday projects since the last update including a Shoreline Cleanup on September 12th and a Green Team horticulture project this past weekend on September 26th. We've increased our capacity at these events to 20 participants and hope to have a full roster for upcoming projects on October 17th and October 24th.

Corporate groups are starting to activate in the Park again - we've had 3 new Corporate Members join us for weeding and debris collection projects in the Habitat and Boardwalk the past few weeks. A handful more are scheduled before the end of the year and will include lots of bulb planting.

Staff and volunteers must follow PPE protocols, including wearing masks at all times sign waivers, etc., and place barriers around their work areas so that the public doesn't get too close.

4. Park coalition update: Parks and Open Space Partners – NYC
 - A. Frozen capital dollars due to COVID. Coalition is working on addressing this with Council Members.

- B. Looking to set up mayoral candidate forums.
- C. New efforts to obtain funding from the Green fund for 2021. Also, coalition organizations compared notes on virtual galas and socially distanced small events such as picnics.
- D. Planning advocacy and press actions on city council funding cuts, parks maintenance and layoffs.

Hudson River Park

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2020

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Wednesday
October 21
8:00 PM

An At-Home Celebration of
Hudson River Park

Featuring:

Michael R. Bloomberg

David Chang

Andy Cohen

Lea DeLaria

Charlotte Groeneveld

Julianne Moore

Martha Stewart

and more

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hudsonriverpark.org/gala

HUDSON RIVER PARK