VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE
HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 3, 2021 at 4:00 pm

MINUTES

Directors Present:
Vicki Been, Chair
Basil Seggos
Erik Kulleseid
Michael Kuh
Rose Harvey
Sarah Nielson for Director Silver
Aloysee Heredia Jarmoszuk
Jeffrey Kaplan
Purnima Kapur
Lowell Kern
Pamela Frederick
Lawrence Goldberg

Appearances:
Hudson River Park Trust:
Noreen Doyle, President and CEO
Daniel Kurtz, CFO and Executive Vice President, Finance & Real Estate
Christine Fazio, General Counsel

Also present:
Connie Fishman, Hudson River Park Friends
Jeffrey LeFrancois, Advisory Council Chair
With a quorum being present, Chair Been called to order the June 3, 2021 meeting of the Hudson River Park Trust Board of Directors. She explained that due to the coronavirus pandemic and consistent with Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1 issued on March 12, 2020, this meeting is being held remotely via a Zoom teleconference enabling participation of the Directors and the general public.

Chair Been then noted that the Directors have received the Agenda materials in advance of this meeting and are free to ask questions or comment at any time on the action items submitted for approval today. Chair Been further noted that questions or comments from the audience will not be entertained at this meeting. She explained that the Board memos and resolutions prepared by Trust staff that are on today’s agenda have been posted on the Trust website in the link entitled Board Meetings, Bylaws and Other Materials under Board Agendas and Minutes and thus are available to the public.

Before beginning with the agenda items, Chair Been first recognized Director Seggos who stepped in to serve as the Trust Chair after Diana Taylor left the Board in September 2020. Under Director Seggos’ leadership, the Trust has completed designs and commenced procurement of the construction contracts for both Gansevoort Peninsula and Pier 97, and on behalf of the State he had a key role in leading the effort to convert Pier 76 into interim park space that will open to the public very soon. Chair Been also appreciated how Director Seggos coordinated with her and the other Directors in thinking through issues that were confronting the Park particularly as the Trust was gearing up for its 2021 peak season in an uncertain time period due to the COVID Pandemic. She also noted that Director Seggos lead the initiative for the search for a new Trust President, which is the first item on today’s agenda. Chair Been thanked Director Seggos for his leadership during a very busy time for the Park and stated that she looks forward to working closely with him and all the other Directors as they continue to build out the Park.

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Chair Been then introduced the first agenda item: the appointment of the Hudson River Park Trust’s President and Chief Executive Officer. Chair Been reminded the Directors that she had prepared a memo and recommended resolution that was shared with each Director. Chair Been explained that, as the Directors are aware, the Trust prepared a job description for the President and CEO position in February 2021 that was posted on the Trust website and on
LinkedIn, Indeed and Idealist. The Trust received about 150 resumes that were shared with all Directors via a Drop Box. The Directors held three special board meetings to address the candidates, including on March 10, April 27 and May 26, and Director Seggos and Chair Been interviewed eight candidates with many of the Directors observing the interviews. They then interviewed four of the eight candidates for the second round of interviews that were also observed by most Directors. Chair Been thanked all the candidates who submitted resumes as they had a very strong pool of qualified candidates, and she noted that she and Director Seggos both enjoyed getting to know the candidates that they interviewed and were so impressed with each of their experiences and qualifications.

Based on the resumes, interviews, and the discussions at the Special Board meetings, Chair Been recommended that the Board appoint Noreen Doyle to serve as the next Trust President and CEO. Ms. Doyle has served as the Trust’s Executive Vice President since 2004 in which she supervises many of the Trust’s Departments. She has been very involved in the build-out of the Park over the past 20 years as well as the designs for the planned construction going forward. She is also the primary Trust employee that communicates with the press, elected officials, the Community Boards, the State and City and the Advisory Council. And she is very knowledgeable of the Trust’s finances. Ms. Doyle has served as the Acting President since last February and the Directors have all seen firsthand how knowledgeable Ms. Doyle is on all aspects of the Park, how quick she is to respond to requests, and how tirelessly she works at all hours of the day and on weekends and how dedicated she is to the Park and its operations. All the Directors have high praises for Ms. Doyle. Chair Been therefore sought Board approval to appoint Noreen Doyle as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Trust and to hold that position in accordance with the Trust’s By-Laws.

Chair Been then asked if there were any questions. There being none, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

**HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Approval of Corporate Officer**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Hudson River Park Trust hereby appoint, effective as of June 3, 2021, Noreen Doyle to hold the office of President and Chief Executive Officer in the manner provided for in the Hudson River Park Act and the Trust By-Laws; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the General Counsel is hereby authorized to take such actions as the General Counsel may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the foregoing resolution.

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Chair Been then stated that there are five items on the Consent Agenda for today’s meeting: 1) Approval of Minutes and Ratification of the Actions Taken at the March 25, 2021 Meeting of the Hudson River Park Trust Board of Directors; 2) Ratification of Second Contract Amendment with Public Works, Inc. and Dima Productions, LLC for Blues BBQ Event Production Services; 3) Authorization to Extend Contract Term with Wilson Conservation LLC for the Conservation of Private Passage Sculpture; 4) Ratification of Contract Amendment with Operation, Inc. for Payroll Services; and 5) Ratification and Adoption of 2021 Investment Guidelines.

Chair Been then asked if there were any questions or comments. There being none, upon a properly called motion, the following consent agenda items were unanimously approved.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST - Approval of Minutes of and Ratification of the Actions Taken at the March 25, 2021 Meeting of the Hudson River Park Trust Board of Directors

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Hudson River Park Trust Board of Directors held on March 25, 2021 are hereby approved by the Board of Directors, and all actions taken by the Directors present at such meeting, as set forth in the Minutes, are hereby in all respects, approved and ratified as actions of the Hudson River Park Trust, and a copy of such approved Minutes are hereby ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust.

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HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Ratification of Second Contract Amendment with Public Works, Inc. and Dima Productions, LLC for Blues BBQ Event Production Services for a One-Year Extension of the Contract Term

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby ratifies and authorizes the Second Contract Amendment with Public Works, Inc. and Dima Productions, LLC for Blues BBQ Event Production Services for a one-year extension of the Contract term; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.
HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST - Authorization for Hudson River Park Trust to Extend the Term of Contract with Wilson Conservation LLC for the Conservation of Private Passage Sculpture

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting of June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby authorizes the Hudson River Park Trust to extend the term of contract with Wilson Conservation LLC for the Conservation of Private Passage Sculpture through August 23, 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Ratification of Contract Amendment with Operations, Inc. for Payroll Services

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby ratifies the Contract Amendment with Operations, Inc. for Payroll Services for an additional $20,000 and another one-year term for a Total Board Authorization Amount of up to $40,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Ratification and Adoption of 2021 Investment Guidelines for Hudson River Park Trust pursuant to New York State Public Authority Law Section 2925 and the New York State Comptroller’s Investment Guidelines for Public Authorities
RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby ratifies and adopts the Hudson River Park Trust 2021 Investment Guidelines; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the foregoing resolution.

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Chair Been then proceeded with the corporate actions, introducing the first item: a request for Authorization to Contract with E-J Electric Installation Company for Gansevoort Peninsula Electrical Construction.

President Doyle first thanked the Directors for appointing her as the new Trust President. She stated that she was honored to receive their vote of confidence and that she will do her best to keep bringing everyone together as the Trust works to complete the Park, care for the sanctuary, find sustainable ways to pay for the Park’s care and operations and ensure that the Park is a place that actively welcomes and serves all people.

President Doyle transitioned then to address the Board item and began by saying that the transformation of the Gansevoort Peninsula into public open space requires the services of an electrical contractor to install lighting, power distribution and other electrical components for the synthetic turf field, resilient beach area, lawn and esplanades. As with all of the competitive procurements on today’s Board agenda, pursuant to the Trust’s Procurement Guidelines, an advertisement for a Request for Proposals for the Gansevoort Peninsula Electrical Construction contract was published in the New York State Contract Reporter and on the Trust’s website for the period of March 17 through April 16, 2021, and the Trust received four proposals on the submission deadline.

A selection committee comprised of the Trust’s Design/Construction and Legal staff reviewed the submissions and evaluated each submission according to the selection criteria in the RFP. Interviews were conducted with the top two ranked firms followed by clarification questions and a request for best and final pricing.
Based on this review, Trust staff determined that E-J Electric Installation Company was the highest ranked respondent. E-J is a well-established company that successfully completed electrical work at Pier 26.

President Doyle then requested Board authorization to contract with E-J Electric Installation Company for Gansevoort Peninsula Electrical Construction in the amount of $1,547,805 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $1,702,586. Funding for this contract is available from the City of New York.

Chair Been asked if there were any questions or comments. Director Goldberg asked if E-J Electric Installation Company was under budget or over budget on the Pier 26 job. President Doyle answered that they were within the contract amount, and Trust staff member Kevin Quinn confirmed they were under budget with some money left over in the contingency. Director Goldberg then asked if the Trust was pleased with the company’s work, and President Doyle and Kevin Quinn answered yes.

There being no further questions, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Authorization for Hudson River Park Trust to Contract with E-J Electric Installation Company for Gansevoort Peninsula Electrical Construction in an Amount Not to Exceed $1,547,805 Plus a 10% Contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $1,702,586

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby authorizes the Hudson River Park Trust to contract with E-J Electric Installation Company for the Gansevoort Peninsula Electrical Construction in an amount not to exceed $1,547,805 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $1,702,586; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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Chair Been then referred the Directors to the next item before the Board: a request for Authorization to Contract with Kelco Construction, Inc. for Pier 97 General Construction.
President Doyle began by stating that the transformation of Pier 97 into public open space requires the services of a General Construction contractor. The scope of work for this contract includes construction of the distinctive new playground, multipurpose activity field, flexible gathering space, sun lawn, and belvedere and sunset deck in addition to pathways and other amenities.

The Trust released a Request for Proposals for the Pier 97 General Construction for the period between March 29 through May 14, 2021 and received seven timely proposals on the submission deadline. A selection committee comprised of the Trust’s Design/Construction and Legal staff reviewed the submissions and evaluated each submission according to the selection criteria in the RFP. Interviews were conducted with the top three ranked firms followed by issuance of clarification questions.

Based on the submitted proposals, clarifications and interviews, Trust staff determined Kelco Construction, Inc. to be the highest ranked proposer. Kelco has successfully completed a number of projects in Hudson River Park including the Reconstruction of the Morton Street Upland and the LGBT Memorial and has also completed work for Brooklyn Bridge Park, Battery Park City, and Governor’s Island.

President Doyle then requested Board authorization to contract with Kelco Construction, Inc. for Pier 97 General Construction in an amount of $21,026,972 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $23,129,670. Funding for this contract is available from the State of New York. Chair Been asked if there were any questions or comments. Director Goldberg asked if the contractor is fully bonded, and Kevin Quinn answered yes. Director Goldberg then asked if the contract includes the comfort station, and President Doyle answered that it does not and that there’s a separate procurement package due to the nature of the construction. Director Kaplan then asked how the contingency worked and if there’s an owner’s contingency built into the base amount as well. President Doyle answered that the contractor isn’t entitled to the contingency and that all of the contingency is in the 10%.

There being no further questions, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Authorization for Hudson River Park Trust to Contract with Kelco Construction, Inc. for the Pier 97 General Construction in an Amount Not To
RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby authorizes the Hudson River Park Trust to contract with Kelco Construction, Inc. for the Pier 97 General Construction in an amount not to exceed $21,026,972 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $23,129,670; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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Chair Been then directed the Board to the next agenda item: a request for Authorization to Contract with Reicon Group, LLC for Segments 3, 5 and 7 Pier Repairs.

President Doyle began by stating that based on an inspection and review by the Trust’s marine engineers, structural repairs are required to certain piles and concrete decks at Pier 34’s South Finger, Pier 62, Pier 63 and Pier 64 and to the foam filled fenders at Pier 97.

The Trust released a Request for Proposals for Pier Repairs in Segments 3, 5 and 7 for the period between April 9 and May 20, 2021 and received four proposals on the submission deadline. A selection committee comprised of the Trust’s Design/Construction and Legal staff reviewed the submissions and evaluated each submission according to the selection criteria in the RFP. Based on the submitted proposals, Reicon Group, LLC was found to be the highest ranked proposer. Reicon completed a similar park-wide marine repair contract for the Trust in 2020 and is currently working at Pier 40 on the Phase 6 pile repairs.

President Doyle then requested Board authorization to contract with Reicon Group, LLC for the Segments 3, 5 and 7 Pier Repairs and such other marine repairs as may be identified as necessary in an amount not to exceed $1,882,525 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $2,070,778. Funding is available from the Trust’s capital maintenance budget.

Chair Been asked if there were any questions or comments. Director Kapur asked what is the period during which these repairs will keep the piers intact. President Doyle advised that all of the piers designed by the Trust are designed for a 50-year build at a minimum, excluding Pier
34 which was built by the Port Authority before the park was created. However, prudent maintenance is needed in between, which is the intent of this effort.

There being no further questions, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Authorization for Hudson River Park Trust to Contract with Reicon Group, LLC for the Segments 3, 5 and 7 Pier Repairs in an Amount Not to Exceed $1,882,525 Plus a 10% Contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $2,070,778

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby authorizes the Hudson River Park Trust to contract with Reicon Group, LLC for the Segments 3, 5 and 7 Pier Repairs in an amount not to exceed $1,882,525 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $2,070,778; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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Chair Been then directed the Board to the next agenda item: a request for Authorization to Contract with Trevcon Construction Company, Inc. for Pier 40 Structural Restoration Phase 7.

President Doyle began by stating that to date, the Trust has entered into six separate contracts for pile repairs at Pier 40 to address serious pile degradation issues. The first six phases are either complete or are well under way, with currently active phases expected to be complete by the end of the summer. The Trust must now authorize the final phase of pile repairs. Phase 7 is generally located at the northwestern section of the pier and comprises the repair of 435 piles and an underdeck repair area of approximately 78,695 square feet.

The Trust released a Request for Proposals for Pier 40 Structural Restoration Phase 7 for the period between April 9 and May 20, 2021, and received four proposals on the submission deadline. A selection committee comprised of the Trust’s Design/Construction and Legal staff reviewed the submissions and evaluated each according to the selection criteria in the RFP. Based on the submitted proposals, Trust staff determined Trevcon Construction Company to be the
highest ranked proposer. Trevcon has successfully completed Phases 2 and 5 of the Pier 40 Structural Restoration among other projects.

President Doyle then requested Board authorization to contract with Trevcon Construction Company, Inc. for the Pier 40 Structural Restoration Phase 7 work in an amount of $8,493,800 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $9,343,180. Funding for this contract is available from restrictive funds from the sale of air rights.

Chair Been asked if, on the earlier phases, Trevcon completed the work within budget, within time, and at high quality. President Doyle answered affirmatively.

There being no further questions, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Authorization for Hudson River Park Trust to Contract with Trevcon Construction Company, Inc. for Pier 40 Structural Restoration Phase 7 Work in an Amount Not to Exceed $8,493,800 Plus a 10% Contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $9,343,180

RESOLVED, based upon the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Board hereby authorizes the Hudson River Park Trust to contract with Trevcon Construction Company, Inc. for Pier 40 Structural Restoration Phase 7 work in an amount not to exceed $8,493,800 plus a 10% contingency for a Total Board Authorized Amount of $9,343,180; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby, authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the forgoing resolution.

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Chair Been then introduced the last item before the Board: a request for Annual Confirmation of the Hudson River Park Mission Statement and Performance Measures.

President Doyle began by stating that in accordance with the Public Authorities Reform Act of 2008, the Trust adopted its mission statement in 2010 and developed performance measures to evaluate the Trust’s fulfillment of its mission. Each year, the Trust’s Board must review the Mission Statement and performance results to ensure that the Trust’s mission has not changed and that the Trust’s performance goals continue to support its mission.
President Doyle then sought confirmation of the previously circulated Mission Statement and the 2021 performance measures by the Board.

Chair Been asked if there were any questions or comments. There being none, upon a properly called motion, the following resolution passed unanimously.

HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST – Confirmation of Hudson River Park Trust Mission Statement and 2021 Performance Measures

RESOLVED, based on the materials presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting on June 3, 2021, a copy of which is ordered filed with the records of the Hudson River Park Trust, the Directors hereby confirm the Hudson River Park Trust Mission Statement and 2021 Performance Measures; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President or the President’s designee(s) be, and each of them is hereby authorized to take such actions as the President or the President’s designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement the foregoing resolution.

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Chair Been stated that completed the Board action items for approval and asked President Doyle to present the President’s Report.

President Doyle began her report by saying that by any measure, the last several weeks have been remarkable for Hudson River Park. Within a span of five days, two monumental projects – both achieved through exceptional philanthropic support – opened within just a few blocks of each other. Twenty blocks north, State Parks is nearing the finish line on Pier 76, which will open to the public as interim public open space shortly. The Draft Estuarine Sanctuary Management Plan was released for public review and comment. Staff is working with the Tribeca Film Festival on plans to screen films at Pier 76 later this month, not to mention dozens of free programs throughout the Park this summer. Tenants have reopened for business as Covid recovery continues, and Trust operations, safety and horticulture staff seems busier than ever as the Trust takes on new challenges associated with operating and constructing more public open space. Between the March meeting and today, the Board has approved approximately $60 million in construction and capital repairs contracts, and there is more on its way shortly. Most of these achievements have taken years to plan, and it’s a testament to the incredible staff, the Board, the Governor, the Mayor, and scores of Park partners that the Trust has reached these milestones.
President Doyle continued by noting that on May 17, the Whitney Museum of American Art hosted a Dedication and Celebration ceremony for *Day’s End*, an ephemeral stainless steel sculpture by David Hammons installed on the southern edge of the Gansevoort Peninsula. *Day’s End* takes its name from Gordon Matta-Clark’s 1975 artwork of the same name at the former Pier 52 piershed, and is located in the identical location and with the identical dimensions of the original piershed building. Subsequent to the dedication ceremony at which Chair Been represented the Trust formally, the Whitney transferred title of the sculpture to the Trust to become a permanent part of the Park as required by the Hudson River Park Act, and the Whitney has committed to pay for maintenance of the art installation in perpetuity. Currently, Trust and Whitney staff are working on completing a long-term maintenance plan that will involve regularly scheduled inspections of the piles as well as more frequent visual inspections and cleaning when needed.

A few days later, on May 21, Little Island opened to the public. Located near 13th Street, Little Island is an inspiring public space made possible primarily by an extraordinary donation from Barry Diller and the Diller-Von Furstenberg Family Foundation. President Doyle acknowledged and thanked Barry Diller and the Diller-Von Furstenberg Family Foundation for this once in a lifetime gift of public open space and culture to New Yorkers and visitors from across the globe. She also expressed gratitude for Governor Cuomo and Mayor DeBlasio, who both contributed to the public’s share of the construction costs. Governor Cuomo also led the effort to get the project back on track after a difficult period of litigation, and the funding that the State and City have committed for the construction of the Gansevoort Peninsula, Pier 97 and the Tribeca Habitat Enhancements project is a direct result of this leadership. Finally, President Doyle acknowledged Diana Taylor and Madelyn Wils directly. Without their willingness to dream big, take some risks and think outside the box, not to mention their supreme attention to all kinds of details, the Park would not be celebrating Little Island, Day’s End or the start of construction on Gansevoort and Pier 97 today.

While Little Island is open from 6 am to 1 am seven days a week, they have implemented a timed entry system from 12 pm until closing as a means of managing crowds given COVID as well as the pier’s popularity. The first performance on Little Island is scheduled for Sunday, June 13. Among the lease requirements under which Little Island must operate is ensuring that the majority of performances be available to the public on a free or low cost basis. Little Island has worked hard to plan a distribution method that ensures tickets will be accessible to as many New
Yorkers as possible. 40% of tickets will be sold at $25 and distributed through the Theatre Development Fund; 30% will be distributed for free to Little Island’s non-profit partners including the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, Hudson Guild, PS 33, The Door, and Westbeth; and 30% of tickets will be sold through Little Island’s website at $65 for regular price and $25 for seniors and children.

HRPT’s staff is working closely with Little Island on a variety of operating issues that stem from the pier being a popular place to be, and together, the Trust and Little Island have spoken with the Advisory Council earlier this week about some of them. State DOT has been in the vicinity to observe crowds crossing Route 9A and Tenth Avenue and the City is similarly engaged. It seems likely that some measures, such as signs, bike parking, and designated taxi/Uber/Lyft locations, may need to be considered by the appropriate agencies. Chair Been’s office and the Meatpacking BID have been helping with outreach to various involved City agencies. [The Directors thereafter praised the extraordinary achievement and thanked all who made this happen.]

President Doyle then turned to Design and Construction. At Pier 76 near west 35th Street, State Parks continues to make swift progress on the process of converting Pier 76 to interim public open space, and the Trust expects the pier to be open to the public very soon. The Trust and community appreciate the leadership of Governor Cuomo, Commissioner Kulleseid and their staffs in facilitating the removal of the NYPD tow pound and the opening of the new interim park for the public. The Trust also appreciates New York City, including NYPD, for cooperating in the process of transferring the premises to State Parks and for providing considerable initial information and support on the ins and outs of the pier building before the demolition process could occur. State Parks, along with the Office of General Services, has worked long hours to create what is sure to be a popular new space for the community to enjoy. Hudson River Park has a long tradition of making creative use of interim open spaces, and plan to do so again at Pier 76, whether by learn to bike programs, environmental programs, space for cross country skiing in winter, or pop up events. On that note, the very first of those events will be the Tribeca Film Festival, which will provide free films and related lectures on a portion of the pier from June 9 to June 20 while the balance of the pier is open for general public use.

On Tuesday, June 1, the Trust released three RFPs related to construction of Chelsea Waterside Park Phase 2, including site and landscape work, athletic field turf replacement, and comfort station construction. Proposals are due in late June and early July and the Trust expects
to bring these contracts to the Board for consideration at the July meeting. The Chelsea Waterside Park Phase 2 project involves construction of a new comfort station, replacement of an expanded turf field, and construction of an expanded dog run area and improved picnic areas and walkways. The Trust presented the construction phasing plan to Community Board 4 in May and to the Advisory Council this week.

At the Gansevoort Peninsula, Steven Dubner, the contractor for Phase 1, has begun work, mobilizing first on the north side of the Peninsula where the salt marsh will be created. Work on the south side of the Peninsula will commence later this month. Today, the Trust issued RFPs for the remaining site and electrical work, and next week, the Trust plans to issue RFPs for the park building, which will host restrooms, a small concession, and a park maintenance and operations area.

With today’s approval of the Pier 97 General Construction contract, the Trust expects to commence construction on Pier 97 around the middle of July. Proposals have been received in response to the Electrical Construction RFP and contractor selection will be presented at the July board meeting. Final engineering of the structures and shop drawing development has commenced for the shade structures pursuant to the contract approved by the Board in March. Finally, an RFP for the Pier 97 Comfort Station and concession building is being developed and we anticipate contractor selection to be presented to the Directors in the fall.

President Doyle then addressed some Public Programs and River Project updates. As mentioned at the Board’s March meeting, the Trust’s Public Programs department has planned a hybrid program of virtual and in-person program offerings for this summer season. Highlights include dance such as Bollywood & Bhangra, Batingua Arts and Sunset Salsa; an eclectic group of performers at Sunset on the Hudson including returning favorites Manhattan Samba and High & Mighty Brass Band; Jazz at Pier 84 in Partnership with the Jazz Foundation of America; a virtual Blues BBQ festival featuring The World Famous Harlem Gospel Choir; RiverKids family entertainment, and in-person Healthy on the Hudson exercise programs. Information on these programs is available on the Park’s website and Facebook Live. The Park is also hosting several school graduation ceremonies and many walks and runs for charity. Thanks to one of the Advisory Council members, the Trust will be hosting a temporary art display in Chelsea by NYC Salt, whose mission is to engage, inspire, and empower underserved youth in New York City to reach their full potential through photography, video and an understanding of the visual industry.
The Park’s River Project staff continues to offer virtual field trips to NYC schools as well as in-person opportunities for students and the public. This month, public in-person programs hosted by the River Project included a global BioBlitz program called the City Nature Challenge at Pier 45, a shoreline cleanup organized in partnership with Riverkeeper at Pier 76 and Tide Deck tours at Pier 26. Next week, staff will also lead a virtual “Ask a Scientist” program focused on water quality and pathogen testing as part of an ongoing professional development grant between the Trust and other partners with the National Science Foundation.

To further support NYC teachers and connect them to local STEM resources, the River Project educators partnered with the NYC Soil and Water Conservation District to organize and present environmental programming at the 2021 NYC Outdoors Environmental Education Virtual Expo. Seventeen different environmental organizations, including NYS and NYC Parks, DEC and DEP, and others participated virtually.

President Doyle then stated that, as shared with the Directors last week, the Trust has commenced the public comment period on the Draft Estuarine Sanctuary Management Plan. The comment period runs from May 27 through August 9, 2021. The Trust has also scheduled a virtual public hearing for Tuesday, June 29 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The ESMP is a foundational management document that guides the Trust and its partners in protecting and conserving important aquatic habitat in the Hudson River while also fostering access to and public education about the Estuarine Sanctuary. The Draft ESMP that is now available for public review is organized into two sections. The first section provides an overview of progress to date under the original 2002 ESMP Action Agenda. The second section sets forth a 2021-2030 Action Agenda that was drafted by Trust staff in partnership with a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of experts in three separate but overlapping topical areas: Public Access and Recreation, Environmental Education and Natural Resources Research and Enhancement. The ESMP’s overarching purpose it to set forth a plan that preserves and refines current best management practices, and to provide a blueprint for expanding environmental priorities in ways that weren’t possible twenty years ago. The 2021-2030 Action Agenda will serve as both a management tool for the Trust and as a reliable resource for research and education among the Trust and its community partners. NYSDEC will also approve the ESMP after it is approved by the Trust Board.
President Doyle then reported that the historic Fireboat McKean will be coming to the middle berth on the north side of Pier 25, next to the retired US Lighthouse Tender Lilac in June. Both the McKean and Lilac were selected in 2020 following an RFEI that the Trust issued for long term historic vessel docking. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the McKean was not able to come into the Park in 2020. The McKean will operate as a museum with free admission, offer limited sightseeing excursions, along with publicly accessible educational and cultural programming.

President Doyle noted that the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the very important Hudson Tunnel public infrastructure project was released last Friday, May 28. The project involves construction of a new two-track rail tunnel connecting New Jersey to Penn Station under the Hudson River, along with new railroad infrastructure in New Jersey and New York connecting the new rail tunnel to the Northeast Corridor, as well as rehabilitation of the existing Northeast Corridor tunnel beneath the Hudson River. Construction of the new tunnel will involve the use of a tunnel boring machine below the Hudson River, including through the historic bulkhead at around 29th Street. Construction of the Hudson Tunnel will thus impact Hudson River Park in the area of the Heliport, including the public walkway and adjacent bike way, for approximately eighteen months. The Trust is currently reviewing the Final EIS and can report to the Board more at the next meeting. The Trust does not yet have a date when construction in Manhattan will begin, but it will not be before 2022. The Federal Railroad Administration, New Jersey Transit, Port Authority and Amtrak, which are working together on this project, have been sensitive to the Park’s concerns to date and have committed to continue working with the Trust as the project proceeds. President Doyle informed the Board that the FEIS also includes a Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that the Trust reviewed and concurred on, and the Trust is pleased that the Programmatic Agreement provides specific measures for protecting the historic bulkhead. Again, after Trust staff has an opportunity to review the FEIS more fully, Trust staff will be available to discuss the impacts and mitigation measures provided for in the FEIS as it relates to the Park.

President Doyle then completed her report by noting that the Board packet includes the PEP statistics, a list of all contracts between $100,000 and $200,000, and the financials for the first month of this fiscal year.
Chair Been thanked President Doyle and asked Jeffrey LeFrancois to present the Advisory Council Report.

Mr. LeFrancois started by congratulating President Doyle. The Advisory Council has met twice since the last Trust meeting. Most recently, Little Island was the top of the agenda with key concerns around safety, given the number of people who want to go on it. The Advisory Council wanted to understand what Little Island’s role was, what the Trust’s role was, and then where the Advisory Council might begin to advocate to the City and the State on how to make sure crossing the highway into the park is done safely. Mr. LeFrancois also noted that the Advisory Council has created a new committee on diversity and inclusion. Its goals are broad but twofold. It will look at how to diversify the Advisory Council itself and how to support/guide the Trust regarding diversity in its programming.

Finally, Mr. LeFrancois addressed safety concerns in the park. There are ongoing concerns related to park safety and enforcement, specifically around the greenway. PEP only has limited enforcement capabilities and resources. It is continuing to raise this issue with the Trust, and the Advisory Council is seeing where else it can bring these issues up, whether it’s through the community board channels or the Police Department.

Chair Been thanked Mr. LeFrancois and asked Connie Fishman to present on behalf of Hudson River Park Friends.

Ms. Fishman began with congratulating President Doyle. Next she stated that Friends have received a small grant working with the Central Park Conservancy Partnership’s Institute to work on their own Board development, expansion, engagement, and diversity. This is work that takes place with eight other institutions nationally.

Ms. Fishman also said that they are working on the Hudson River Park Gala, which will be October 7th and is honoring Madelyn Wils and Google as two of this year's honorees. It will be in person and outdoors at Pier 62 for cocktails and indoors at Chelsea Piers. Friends have already raised about a third of the revenue goal for this year. Their audience is 500 rather than a thousand because of COVID, and they are working on completing the program decor and fundraising for the event over the next four months.

Friends is also raising the final million dollars for the Pier 26 science play area. The goal is to complete the fundraising by the end of the year and this year’s gala auction. Small donations from people who can’t attend will go towards the capital campaign.
Ms. Fishman concluded by thanking Michael Kuh and Rose Harvey for meeting with Friends to discuss their particular fundraising expertise.

Chair Been thanked Ms. Fishman for her report and then asked the Directors if there was any further business. There being none, Chair Been called for a motion to adjourn and the virtual Board meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.