MINUTES OF THE
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 29, 2021, 2:00 PM
Pier 40, 353 West Street
New York, NY 10014
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

Directors: Vicki Been, Basil Seggos, Michael Kuh, Aloysee Heredia Jarmoszuk, Lowell Kern, and Alda Chan for Director Fialkoff

HRPT Staff: Noreen Doyle, Christine Fazio, Kimberly Quinones, and Roseann Julien

Noreen Doyle began with introductions and addressed the agenda for the meeting. She first summarized the Hudson River Park Trust’s Transparency Plan that was developed in response to an initiative by Governor Hochul to address transparency by all agencies. The Trust’s plan, dated October 2021, is posted on the Trust’s website and was shared with all Committee members. Ms. Doyle explained that the Trust participates in a number of public forums, including through the Advisory Council, the three Manhattan Community Boards, the Technical Advisory Committee that assisted in the preparation of the Estuarine Sanctuary Management Plan, and public meetings held by the Trust as Significant Actions. The Hudson River Park’s website also contains a considerable amount of information such as budget and financial information, park events, maps, requests for proposal, rules and information required by the Authorities Budget Office. Christine Fazio explained that areas noted for improvement in the Trust’s Transparency Plan include: meeting with the Governance Committee once a year to address the Plan; forming a task force to review the Park’s website every six months; adding the President’s Report to the Draft Minutes that would be posted within one week of a Board meeting so that it is accessible to the public sooner than when the Final Minutes are posted; creating a list of awarded contractors to post on the Bids and Business Page; and posting data on the number of Park events each season and amount of waste collected as part of the Trust’s composting program on Open Data NY. One Director commented that the Park’s website may contain too much information such that it is hard to navigate and find particular documents. Trust staff agreed that this would be an area of review by the new task force.

Ms. Doyle then addressed the Trust’s initiative to develop a Monuments Policy for the Park, particularly for large-scale permanent installations similar to the LGBT memorial located near 12th Street. Ms. Doyle stated she would address this effort in the President’s
Report for the December 2, 2021 Board meeting with the goal of having a proposed plan for approval by the Board at the January 2022 Board meeting.

Ms. Fazio then summarized the minor edits to the Trust’s Employee Handbook that is before the Board of Directors for approval at the December 2, 2021 meeting. The Committee had no comments on the revisions. Ms. Fazio also explained that the Trust held four in-person Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings in October and that all staff had participated in the mandatory training.

The Committee members then moved to Executive Session to address pending litigation. No resolutions were made during the Executive Session.

The Governance Committee Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.