

Government Relations Committee April 2, 2012

The committee work of the last few years revolve around various topics:

1. Legislative, which is an ongoing subcommittee chaired by Ashton Barfield
2. Democracy will be folded into the GR committee and we will continue to follow unelected board members using political favors to get things done. Dick will be writing up some particulars for next meeting.
3. Dave Evans has updated the politicians contact list which is reasonably up to date, but might need to be made current.
4. Political outreach has been done by Matt and Sherie going to meeting and caucuses representing RI and going to the Wednesday and Thursday community hours the Sen Serrano and Assemblyman Keller sponsored.

Actions decided on:

5. Resolution to RIOC
6. Political outreach continues. Ashton, Vickie and Linda will visit with Damaris Olivo to discuss what is happening in Albany about the elections results.
7. Approved CB8 resolution (which has subsequently changed to a letter) regarding bike share. *See motion below*
8. Maple Tree group decided to continue as a silent entity to hold the vision of an elected RIOC.

Open items for discussion in next meeting:

1. Democracy: review of Dick's letter
2. Obtain updated contacts for elected officials and their representatives
3. RIOC communications with the community
4. Making RIRA more important to government officials by soliciting feedback from the community via meetings and questionnaires returned to building RIRA representatives

New item for next agenda: creating and maintaining an experts list.

Resolution 1

Request that RIOC hold quarterly open community discussions.

Whereas, RIOC board community members are empowered by community elections to make decisions related to the community's needs and

Whereas, the community does not have direct ways to communicate to board members prior to their taking votes, therefore,

Be it resolved that RIRA support the sending of a letter to RIOC requesting that resident board members hold quarterly open community discussions that encourages discussion, dialogue and exchange of ideas .

MOTION to support the CB8 bike share letter and send the following additional letter to politicians.

April 4, 2012

Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan
Department of Transportation

Re: Bike Share locations at 63 and Lexington and at the Manhattan tram plaza

Dear Commissioner Sadik-Khan,

The Roosevelt Island Residents Association (RIRA) is writing to request that you add bike share locations to our two Manhattan entrance points namely the 63 St and Lexington Ave subway stop and Second Avenue between 59 and 60 known as Tram Plaza.

Roosevelt Island has been investigating bike share and decided to wait for Alta so that it could join the larger city initiative. We are disappointed that we are not included in the initial roll out. However, we are hoping that you could at minimum add the two above locations two your list. Transferring at those locations is particularly challenging and having an easy way to go a short distance would be very helpful. In addition, at certain times of the day, there is nearly impossible to get a bicycle on the train or the tram. Therefore, having a bicycle at the other end would be very helpful.

While we support whole heartedly the request from CB8M to extend the bike share above 79 Street, we appreciate the enormity of the initial phase of the bike share program. We realize that tough choices on neighborhood need to be made. Therefore, if you are not able to service the full CB8 community and Roosevelt Island at this time, at minimum we are asking for the above two locations.

Thank you for your consideration,