



**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**SHELTON J. HAYNES**  
President & CEO

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

RuthAnne Visnauskas, Chair, Commissioner of NYSHCR  
Robert F. Mujica Jr., Director of BUDGET  
Conway S. Ekpo  
David Kraut  
Howard Polivy  
Michael Shinozaki

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 29, 2021 MEETING OF THE  
ROOSEVELT ISLAND OPERATING CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held via videoconference on December 29, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

**Directors Present:**

Linda Manley	Representing RuthAnne Visnauskas, RIOC Chair and Commissioner, the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal
Erica Levendosky	Representing Robert F. Mujica, Director, the State of New York Division of Budget
Conway Ekpo	Director
David Kraut	Director
Howard Polivy	Director
Michael Shinozaki	Director

**Directors Absent:**

David Kapell	Director
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**Officers and Staff Attending:**

Shelton J. Haynes	President/Chief Executive Officer
John O'Reilly	Vice President/Chief Financial Officer
Gretchen K. Robinson	Vice President/General Counsel
Debra Kustka	Incoming Vice President/Chief Operating Officer
Anthony Amoroso	Deputy Director of Public Safety Department
Amy Smith	Public Information Officer
Lada V. Stasko	Assistant General Counsel

1 Gretchen K. Robinson, RIOC’s Vice President/General Counsel, called the Board meeting to  
2 order at 5:40 p.m. The roll was called, and a quorum found to be assembled and present.

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4 \* \* \*

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6 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

7  
8 The first item of business was the approval of the minutes of the October 28, 2021 meeting of  
9 the RIOC Board of Directors. The proposed draft of the October 28, 2021 Board meeting minutes  
10 had been previously distributed to all Board members for their consideration.

11  
12 Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by unanimous votes in favor (Ms. Manley,  
13 Ms. Levendosky, Mr. Ekpo, Mr. Kraut, Mr. Polivy, and Mr. Shinozaki), the minutes were  
14 **APPROVED** and ordered filed.

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16 \* \* \*

17  
18 **NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1**

19  
20 The first item of new business was the approval of the proposed RIOC Budget for Fiscal Year  
21 2022-23.

22  
23 Mr. John O’Reilly, RIOC’s Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed budget for FY  
24 2022-23 to the Board. He noted that the final budget was also discussed at the Audit Committee  
25 meeting on December 22, 2021.

26  
27 Mr. O’Reilly stated that the budget is essentially similar to what was presented to the Board  
28 at the September meeting. He noted, however, that some adjustments were made to the salaries line  
29 item. RIOC reduced the number of full-time employees, which resulted in \$500,000 in savings. He  
30 stated that after the final approval, RIOC will be entering the budget into the PARIS system for the  
31 state. The proposed budget for FY 2022-23 has also been reviewed by the Division of Budget and  
32 recommended for approval.

33  
34 Director Polivy noted that the updated proposed RIOC Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 was  
35 discussed in detail at the Audit Committee meeting. He noted that there is nothing remarkable about  
36 the salaries in the budget, and that the full budget will be posted on RIOC’s website.

37  
38 The Board Members thanked Mr. O’Reilly and the staff for thorough preparation and prompt  
39 submission of the budget.

40  
41 Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by unanimous vote in favor (Ms. Manley,  
42 Ms. Levendosky, Mr. Ekpo, Mr. Kraut, Mr. Polivy, and Mr. Shinozaki), the following resolution was  
43 **ADOPTED**:

44  
45 **RESOLUTION**

46  
47 **APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED RIOC BUDGET**  
48 **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23**

1 **RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation of the  
2 State of New York, as follows:  
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4 Section 1. that the proposed RIOC budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23, in substantially  
5 the form annexed hereto, is hereby approved;  
6

7 Section 2. that the President/Chief Executive Officer or President's designee is  
8 hereby authorized to take such actions and execute such instruments as  
9 deemed necessary to effectuate the foregoing; and  
10

11 Section 3. that this resolution shall take effect immediately.  
12

13 \* \* \*  
14

15 **NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2**  
16

17 The second item of new business was approval of the schedule of 2022 Meetings of the  
18 Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation Board of Directors.  
19

20 Chair's Designee Ms. Manley recommended approval of the schedule of 2022 meetings of  
21 the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation Board of Directors previously provided to the Board.  
22 Director Kraut stated that additional Board meetings can be convened if necessary.  
23

24 Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by unanimous vote in favor (Ms. Manley,  
25 Ms. Levendosky, Mr. Ekpo, Mr. Kraut, Mr. Polivy, and Mr. Shinozaki), the following resolution was  
26 ADOPTED:  
27

28 **RESOLUTION**

29 SCHEDULE OF 2022 MEETINGS OF THE  
30 ROOSEVELT ISLAND OPERATING  
31 CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
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33 **RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation,  
34 pursuant to By-Laws, Article III, Section 2 as follows:

Section 1. That notice is hereby given that the regular meetings of the Board of  
Directors for the year 2022 shall be held at the Cultural Center Theater,  
548 Main Street, Roosevelt Island, New York, unless notified otherwise,  
at the following dates and times:

January 27, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

March 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

April 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

May 19, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

June 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

September 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

October 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

December 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Section 2.

That the Secretary is hereby authorized, upon the request of the Chairperson or upon the request of three (3) or more of the Directors to the Secretary, to cancel or reschedule any regular meetings of the Board of Directors previously authorized by the Board of Directors, and to provide written notice of the cancellation, if personally or by tele facsimile, at least 72 hours prior to the authorized regular meeting date, or if by mail, at least ten days prior thereto, in accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws; and

Section 3.

That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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**NEW BUSINESS ITEM #3**

The third item of new business was appointment of Debra Kustka to the position of Vice President of Operations of the Corporation.

RIOC' President Shelton Haynes introduced Ms. Debra Kustka to the Board. He highlighted her outstanding background and discussed her prior work, including Ms. Kustka's most recent position as COO at Hudson River Park Trust. Mr. Haynes stated that Mr. Kustka's education and experience would make her a valuable asset to the corporation.

Ms. Kustka briefly discussed her work at the sister agency and responded to questions from the Board Members to their satisfaction. She was welcomed to the RIOC team by the Directors.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by unanimous vote in favor (Ms. Manley, Ms. Levendosky, Mr. Ekpo, Mr. Kraut, Mr. Polivy, and Mr. Shinozaki), the following resolution was ADOPTED:

**RESOLUTION**

**APPOINTMENT OF DEBRA KUSTKA TO THE POSITION OF VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS OF THE CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (the "Corporation") is a public benefit corporation empowered by Title 35, Article 8 of Public Authorities Law to carry out the operation, maintenance, and development of Roosevelt Island; and

**WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section 1, of the Corporation's By-Laws provides that the Board of Directors shall determine the officers of the Corporation, including the Vice President and such other officers as may be determined by the Board;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION, AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. that Debra Kustka is elected Vice President of Operations of the Corporation at an annual salary of not more than \$195,000 for the Fiscal Year ending

1 March 31, 2022 and thereafter not more than that which is approved by  
2 the Board of Directors;

3  
4 Section 2. that the President/Chief Executive Officer is authorized to take such  
5 actions and/or execute such instruments necessary to effectuate the  
6 foregoing;

7  
8 Section 3. that this resolution shall take effect immediately.  
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12 **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**  
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14 President Shelton Haynes provided the Capital Planning and Project updates. He announced  
15 that the Southpoint Park Rip-Rap Renovation project was successfully completed in December. Mr.  
16 Haynes noted that the Southpoint Park Rip-Rap Revetment project was a huge initiative which  
17 garnered community feedback and engagement. He congratulated and thanked the contractors,  
18 RIOC’s staff and owners’ representatives, as well as the community for bringing this project to  
19 fruition. He invited everyone to visit and enjoy the revitalized and enhanced Southpoint Park.  
20

21 The Sportspark facility will receive a total facelift which will include gym flooring and the  
22 exterior façade. Mr. Haynes noted that once renovations are complete the facility has the potential to  
23 increase revenue for the Island. The project is scheduled to be completed during the summer of 2022.  
24 Prior to the project’s completion, RIOC will reassess the programming for the space.  
25

26 The Tram Elevator project is in progress, and the final phase is scheduled to be completed  
27 during the month of December. The Lighthouse reconstruction project is moving forward and will be  
28 completed during the winter.  
29

30 Mr. Haynes discussed The Nellie Bly Girl Puzzle Monument opening ceremony on December  
31 10, 2021. He thanked the author, Amanda Matthews, and RIOC’s CPP staff for completing this  
32 exciting project commemorating fearless journalist Nellie Bly. He credited the Communications  
33 team for the excellent organization of the event and expressed his belief that the Monument will  
34 attract even more visitors to the island.  
35

36 Mr. Haynes announced that the Blackwell Park Pavers was successfully completed in  
37 November. He noted that the fountain within the area will be fully functional.  
38

39 Finally, Mr. Haynes thanked the Board and RIOC’s staff for their hard dedicated work during  
40 the difficult pandemic year and congratulated everyone with the upcoming new year.  
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44 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
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46 **AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
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48 The Audit Committee met on December 22, 2021 to discuss the proposed budget FY 2022-  
49 23.

1 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2  
3 The Governance Committee did not meet.

4  
5 OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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7 The Operations Advisory Committee did not meet.

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9 REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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11 The Real Estate Development Advisory Committee did not meet.

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15 **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

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17 Ms. Robinson noted that the Public Safety Report was included in the Board package.

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21 Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by unanimous vote in favor (Ms. Manley,  
22 Ms. Levendosky, Mr. Ekpo, Mr. Kraut, Mr. Polivy, and Mr. Shinozaki), the meeting was adjourned  
23 at 7:50 p.m.

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Gretchen K. Robinson, Secretary  
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