

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 VIRTUAL FULL BOARD MEETING - JUNE 8, 2021, 5:45 P.M.

NICHOLAS SICLARI, CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
Joseph Ahlstrom, Absent
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow, Excused
Joseph Bird, Absent
Telee Brown
Loretta Cauldwell
Anastasia Ciluffo, Leave
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle
Claudette Duff
Linda Eskenas
Timothy Forsyth
John Guzzo
Celeste Holmes
Robert Holst
Sunny Jain
Lisa Lattanzio
Ali Mir Masum
John McBeth
Pearl Minsky, leave
Friday Ogbewe
Ole Olsen
Ernest Paige
Catherine Paradiso
Amy Poirer
Mohan Radharkrishn
Fran Reali
Chris Rooney
Anthony Scutari
Nicholas Siclari
George Sona
George Turner
Kevin Washington
Daniel Williams, Absent
Steven Williams
Camille Zarrelli
Nicholas Zvegintzov

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Coordinator
Linda Maffeo, Community Associate

Chairman Nicholas Siclari called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM.

Nicky Siclari led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call attendance and acceptance of the minutes will wait, no quorum at this time.

GUESTS

James Oddo, Borough President
Jason Razefsky, Chief of Staff Borough Hall
Robert Englert, LU Borough Hall
Wil Fisher, NYC EDC
Roseann Caruana, NYC DOT Commissioner
Donald DeRosa, Rep. Comptroller Stringer
Lily Zafaranloo, Congressional Office
Jermaine Williams, DSS/HRA
Lisa Thompson, RCDA
Elena Brady, Rep. Councilman Matteo
Frank Fontana, DOB
Joan Cusack, Director HRA
Joe Helferty, Dept. of City Planning
Meenakshi Srinivasan
Hanane Dbajt, Rep. Assemblyman Tannousis
Elyse Foladore, Rep. Eric Palatnik
Daniel Flamhaft
Sarah Gowell
Brooke Russell-Zaccone
Max Stemba-Young, Langan
Theo Dorian
Lillian Lagazzo
Marissa Williams, 32BJ
Michael Morrell, Westerleigh Improvement Soc.
Stephen Whitehouse, Starr Whitehouse
Stan Sacks
Kate Ward, NYCEDC
Mary Bullock
Michael Harwood
Computer Sam
Mary Theresa
John Kilcullen
Everett Wattley
Ben Abelman
Neil Berry
Dorothea C.

Jane Wynter

Diana Caughell
Mario Buonviaggio, Pt. Richmond Strong
Miriam Arnold
Mohammed Bility
Jasmine Blake
Additional guests on file

Wil Fisher, NYC Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) - I am joined here by several colleagues including from Department of Transportation and the Parks Department. Update following the

Pandemic with our capital projects. I will speak about two projects. The Tompkinsville Esplanade Project and the New Stapleton Waterfront Project. We are strictly talking about the Capital Projects tonight. I am joined by Sam Hersh and Julia Melzer from our Capital Construction team. Showing a presentation with screen share. There are a lot of capital investments going on in the North Shore. We are currently in the process of finishing the design on the New Stapleton Waterfront Project and will be beginning design on Tompkinsville Esplanade Project to be connected to the St. George Ferry Terminal.

Julia Melzer - Stapleton Waterfront Project - This is a three Phase Project. The middle phase is one. The open space was completed in 2016 and Urby is completed. This would be the southern phase and northern phase to be completed. \$180 million for all the new construction on Front Street which is new sewers, water mains, roadway, and bike lanes, as well as the open space project. Back in 2016 we presented the conceptual project to the local community. We held a public workshop for Public Artist presentations and Artist selection (DB Lampman). In 2018, we presented the Preliminary Open Space Design to CB1 Parks Committee. In 2019, we presented Preliminary Comfort Station and Maintenance Building Design to CB1 Parks Committee. In 2019, we presented Preliminary Design to CB1 Stapleton Area Committee. Between April 2020 - March 2021, the project was suspended due to COVID-19. In the Fall 2021, EDC will present design and schedule updates to CB1. The Northern Phase will connect to the Tompkinsville Esplanade. It will be along Front Street to a park entrance to a comfort station to the Sports courts to Pier Place for some programming. This will all be adjacent to Front Street. Pier Place will have a grandstand seating complex. Will be ADA compliant and universally accessible. The Southern Phase will be the Cove Project with ADA compliant ramps, dog park and a barbecue picnic area and a playground and maintenance facility with office space for staff. It will slope up to an overlook area. Final design schedule: EDC to update CB1 in Fall 2021 with design and schedule updates, with project updates continuing through construction phases. Spring 2022, Shoreline, and Infrastructure 100% design. Summer 2022, Open Space & Buildings, 100% design. Construction Milestones: Fall 2021, Issue RFP for Existing Building Demo Contractors. Winter 2022: Award Demo Contract, mobilize for construction phase start (DOB permits). Summer 2022: Shoreline Reconstruction Construction Phase Start. Fall 2022: Northern Phase Infrastructure Construction Phase Start.

Sam Hersh - Tompkinsville Esplanade: We are looking at connecting to the Stapleton Waterfront to the Staten Island Ferry. The goal is to create that 1/2-mile pedestrian and bike pathways. There will be planting, lighting and fixtures that are salt-water tolerant with passive recreation such as seating areas. New pier for DOT Dock Builders who will maintain the ferry terminal infrastructure. The Budget is \$74 million. This is the early conceptual design. Schedule: EDC intends to re-engage CB1 in the advance of preliminary PDC submission in the Fall and during ULLURP review. Projected Milestones: Community Engagement, 3/21, PDC Preliminary Design Submission, 4/21, ULLURP Certification, 2/22, PDC Final Submission, 3/22 and Construction start, 1/23.

Joe Carroll said Ole is in the process of setting up a meeting with Mr. Fisher and his team. Chairman Siclari said it is very preliminary. Let's speak in the Fall.

Secretary Loretta Cauldwell took roll call attendance.

Quorum present.

Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept May 2021 Full Board Minutes.

Mr. Accornero asked if we can speak to Wil Fisher of EDC regarding the numerous requests, we've had over the year regarding the wheel project and the stadium. Nick said it's in such a preliminary stage. Vinny said it's not about the presentation made tonight. Wil Fisher had left already.

Public Session:

Jermaine Williams, Department of Social Services: Beach season is now open. If you want a free air conditioner, you will qualify if you have health conditions exasperated by extreme heat. Fill out an application online. Email me at Williamsje@dss.nyc.gov. Concerns with rent arrears, send me an email for an ERAP application. Make a request for back rent. Have a great summer.

Lisa Thompson, District DA McMahon's office - Save the Date, Thursday, June 17th, 5pm via Zoom, Focusing on Mental Health. An email will go out in the next day or so. Thank you for joining our DA and Staten Island Crimes Task Force press conference for update in crimes on our Jewish and Asian neighbors.

Mary Bullock, Port Richmond Strong spoke regarding River North. We know when we are being groomed by predatory developers. Empty promises for nonprofits for youth and jobs that experience tells us will never happen. They cut out our union construction workers. We will be dealing with the social consequences. Does anyone see River North residents taking public reservations to get groceries? Underused, vacant are the words they use to describe this area. I prefer an open area. This should not go forth. Thank you.

Nicole Brooks, Parks - Two updates from NYC Parks. Monday morning pitch-ins. Looking for volunteers to help pick up garbage after the weekend. They usually last 3-4 hours. NYC Parks provides all the supplies. This will make our area greener and safer. To sign up go to [NYC.GOV/PARKS/STOP LITTER](http://NYC.GOV/PARKS/STOP_LITTER). Lastly, just a reminder, the beaches are now open. Pools will open on June 26. Thank you.

Mario Buonviaggio, Port Richmond Strong Civic. Last month we had our Veteran Banner Event. It was first of its kind in the City of New York. It came to our attention that morning that there are able military veterans who want to join but are not U.S. Citizens. Upon completion of their service, they would have to go through the process of becoming a US Citizen. It's unacceptable. Looking for CB1's support. Mary Bullock will prepare a letter. We are dubbing this campaign as Operation Citizenship. No man or woman should wear a uniform for this country and not be a US Citizen. A couple of local and state officials are on board. Nicole Malliotakis supports it. Senator Savino and Assemblyman Tannousis along with my colleagues in Queens and Brooklyn are on board. If you can reach out to CB 2&3, so we can spread this campaign. This has nothing to do with party lines, demographics, or financial backgrounds. This is to do the right thing for the men and women who serve this country.

Michael Harwood: River North Project. This project with R7 zoning is wrong for the North Shore, for St. George and Staten Island. It's also wrong for the cause of affordable housing. It only benefits the developers and certain real estate interest. I say this as a Homeowner in St. George and a Landlord for 12 units in the neighborhood. Current R6 zoning on these properties is for 176 units. This project is exploding with 900 units. This would be an increase of 725 units. Let's assume they are \$300,000 or \$350,000 per unit; this would increase this developer's property value to \$200 million to a quarter of a billion dollars. What are they offering in return? A 7,000 square foot public plaza with the main entrance for their tenants. They are allowing triple the green space for the tenants not available for the public. This will be an open invitation to other developers to come in and build more R7 projects here and all over the island. At the Land Use meeting they said this would increase our property values. This means affordable housing will no longer be available. It will be priced out. St. George is already dense in population. We need open space, with existing hillside topography. Future businesses will want to locate here because of the neighborhood character without a wall of high-rise apartments blocking the waterfront.

Theo Dorian, President of St. George Civic Association: The developers spent a lot of their time explaining our neighborhood to us and showed little appreciation spelled out by our civic groups and by

Borough President James Oddo in his urgent testimony to your Land Use meeting last week. This zoning variance is well beyond the norm. Their redrawing of the boundaries results in Gerrymandering. They would bury the hillside and Staten Island's signature ridge line. Six times more would be added to the area. The figures would not be affordable. We support the Borough Presidents strong call.

Ronald Lauria: River North Issue. They plan on hiring the cheapest labor force. They went to our religious leaders and promise to hire minorities under wage. I have seen this exploitation on the part of developers. Developers want to set up shop and get rich in our backyard. 73 people have been killed on construction sites in the last four years. 90% were on nonunion sites and 90% were minorities. To try to increase this density against the will of the community with part-time jobs with no path to a career. I agree with Jimmy Oddo. He has been head-to-head with these developers. Stand our ground. You do this with a great labor force. Thank you.

Lorie Honor: I would like to address the River North Project but before that, I would like to address the Port Richmond Strong comment. Asking for your support on a program that would punish people that decide to serve our country. in my own family, I have a Marine son when he graduated from boot camp, was the proudest moment of my life, but also seeing the immigrants wanting to serve their country while simultaneously becoming a US Citizen. I think Port Richmond Strong has done a wonderful job, but I think they are wrong in this. Undo this action. I am a resident and a candidate for Borough President. The developers of this project do not represent the vision for what the community wants for itself. This area lacks infrastructure. This is a project that the community and electives will fight. This is a greed-based plan. By opposing this project, we would honor visionaries like Jane Jacob saving Greenwich Village and Staten Island Icon Greta Moulton who saved High Rock Park.

John Kilcullen: River North Project: This project doesn't make logical sense in proper planning. The St. George District was approved in 2008, the Corridor Zoning Project was approved in 2019. To date, in the St. George High Rise District there has been no hi-rise buildings built. I oppose this, it's not needed. This should not be done with an up zoning to an R7 and taking away a hillside district that was crafted for the neighborhood.

Larry Cirillo: Resident of North Shore. I represent 18,000 skilled men and women. We are in favor of responsible building. You're better off working at a fast-food restaurant. You are more likely to come home from work. It's greed for the developer and the contractor.

Ernie Selitto: Lifelong third generation Staten Islander. This should not move forward. They should abide by the current zoning laws. We may need affordable housing but not on this scale. This is Staten Island with its own character. We should not build on every green area. 341 parking spots to 780 units. We need infrastructure first. Remember, "When the bridge is paid for the toll will cease". Let's think of a better plan.

Jahi Rose: CCRB is an agency that takes complaints of police misconduct. We have changed the rules to investigate Phase I and II sexual assault. Our agency is staffed with a civilian assistance unit for trauma. The agency can investigate officers making untruthful statements. We can make recommendations to the NYC Police Department. If you have any events coming up, I can make a presentation. I will leave my contact information in the chat.

Sharon Valentin: Longtime resident of Staten Island and St. George. I am opposed to the 750 units. I agree we need more affordable housing but not the amount they want to build. It will change the historic nature of our area. I sent in writing my comments, please review. Thank you.

Meenakshi Srinivasan, Senior Land Use and Zoning Advisor, here on behalf of Madison Realty Capital owners of 24 Stuyvesant Place. We are committed to building a vibrant livable, 24/7 community near the best mass transit on the island. The existing R6 zoning severely constraints the development of the property. As of right development would only deliver 167 units, significantly underdevelopment under the R6. The other area would be vacant. There would be no open space. With the R6 zoning, the building would be taller than the proposed building at the same location. Parking would be much less with only 29 spaces and 75 spaces offsite. The R7 space would create open space, build character. Since 2008, no single project has been built. This project will be the catalyst that will provide a vibrant community and economic development.

PUBLIC SESSION CLOSED

Chairman Siclari thanked all the members for attending the Land Use. Thank you to Vinny for his work. He did all the heavy lifting for us. We know what the bathroom tile will look like and where the developer went to high school. I would like to bring up Borough President James Oddo for his comments.

Borough President Oddo thanked Chairman Siclari. Thank you to all the members on the board. Mr. Chairman, thank you for keeping your sense of humor, it's certainly necessary. I know we're not supposed to do any politicking, but I am strongly considering writing Mary Bullock's name in on the ballot for Mayor. Thank you for speaking truth for if not greed, lack of planning on this project. Thank the Land Use Chair and his committee for their attentiveness and their endurance. I'm strongly considering holding a public hearing of our own here in Borough Hall. At my advanced stage, I'm not sure I will show the endurance that Vinny and those folks showed. I want to thank them most of all for their vote. I think it is the vote that represents most of most North Shore residents and Staten Islanders. I want to highlight two quick paragraphs from my testimony last week. This proposal is precedence lead. Not only in terms of its height but also the way it ignores almost every existing special district control and every underlying zoning rule that has been deemed appropriate by the same agency, City Planning over the past three decades. As well, the applicant is requesting removal or redesignation of special districts, actions that were not previously appropriate by City Planning. They are also requesting an up zoning from R6 to R73 which has never been supported by City Planning in the history of this borough. Finally, they are asking for a special permit allowing them not to comply with the very R73 regulations that their seeking. Why? because they think they can. You all have a say in this to prove that that's not true. I want to close with two comments I heard last week. Last week they called this a logical extension of the St. George Special District Area. I took umbrage with that. A previous and better version of City Planning specifically excluded this lot from the St. George Special District and included it specifically in the Hillside Preservation District. But there was another comment that I want to touch on that was said last week at the Land Use Committee meeting. We heard the phrase, "People in the community like us." Was it said by a local resident who is deathly afraid of this density? No. Was it said by a proponent of the project who wants affordable housing? No. It was said by the very same Manhattan big developer who said, "people in the community like us." He was parroting some of my language that articulated voicing my disapproval with the Bay Street Corridor didn't include workforce housing. I would say often, the proverbial nurse married to the proverbial sanitation worker. Well, the developer used those analogies and used the phrase, "people in the community like us". Just so happens a week ago, I finished reading the book, The Psychology of Persuasion, Influence. He just updated the book. He added a seventh lever of persuasion, it's Unity. Talks about how people try to influence and persuade by tapping into a shared identity. "We-ness". There is no we here. It's Staten Islanders who are tired of irrational development devastating our quality of life and forever changing this borough. That's what this precedent would do. That's what this project would do. We are not against growth. We are not against affordable housing. We are not against housing. They don't care about infrastructure; they don't care about planning. I think all of you do because you have lived it for decades. I thank you for your time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the board. Stay safe.

Chairman Siclari thanked Borough President Oddo for attending the meeting and the late Land Use Meeting. It was passed my bedtime. I appreciate your attendance.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – No report.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, TIMOTHY FORSYTH -

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE - No report.

SECRETARY, LORETTA CAULDWELL - No report.

TREASURER, LARRY BESLOW – In the packet.

CHAIRMAN, NICHOLAS SICLARI - Thank you again everybody. Thank you, Borough President, for both for the Land Use and our meeting. Want to thank all the board members that did their homework. That came to the Land Use meeting. I really appreciate it. I never want you to come to more meetings than you must. It seems like every June somehow the city wakes up from their bureaucratic slumber and we get bombarded in the June meetings. Thank you for doing double duty this month. I really appreciate it.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL - We had our system check meeting from Con Ed today for the summer storms. Unfortunately, there are 2,600 people out. Tomorrow we are meeting with the Office of Emergency Management over planning for the hurricane season. Lastly, I want to thank Lisa and Linda for getting us through the year. We had a series of devastating budget cuts. It has made operations difficult but because of them, we were able to get through it.

Chairman Siclari said we usually have refreshments at the last meeting. Next year we will have to owe you twice and hopefully we will be back to normal. If it wasn't for Linda and Lisa keeping the lights on. They always answer the phone and always have the paperwork, even working from home.

Mr. Carroll said we want to thank Deacon McBeth for putting this Zoom in operation. Nick said hopefully Deacon, this is the last Zoom meeting we must attend. It will be nice to see everybody.

Chairman Siclari thanked Mr. Accornero, I passed out at 10:45 and he was still going. He is so meticulous. Here's our Land Use Chairman, man of the hour, Vincent Accornero.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO –

Department of City Planning Application Nos. 210289 ZMR, 210290 ZZR and 210291 ZSR- proposal for several land use actions to facilitate a 592,014 square feet development with 750 housing units comprising three mixed-use buildings on the property located at **24 Stuyvesant Place, 170 and 180 Richmond Terrace** The proposed development would also provide approximately 225 affordable housing units in accordance with the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program. Land Use actions include zoning map and text amendments. This proposal is in the Special Hillside Preservation District.

The following motion was presented:

WHEREAS this application seeks to rezone the proposed area from an R6/C2 District within the Special Hillside Preservation District to an R7-C3/C2-4 within the Special St. George District
WHEREAS this application is in the Special Hillside Preservation District which was designed to give oversight to building in steep slope; and,

WHEREAS the application seeks to obliterate the Special Hillside Preservation District in an area of the steepest slope in Community Board #1, and
WHEREAS it is unprecedented for any proposal to be removed from the Special Hillside Preservation District; and,
WHEREAS, the existing R6 District provides the greatest bulk and height of any district in SI, and,
WHEREAS, The Special St. George District provides parking and other development controls designed and adopted specifically for this area, and,
WHEREAS this development is asking for multiple authorizations and waivers all intended to maximize density and bulk in a district that can be developed without this extreme contorted level of relief, and,
WHEREAS this application has been extremely fast tracked through the Department of City Planning and will saddle new representatives and administration with a decision that should be left for them to debate, and,
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT: Community Board #1 opposes all the actions proposed by the application and strongly suggests they build within existing zoning controls so as not to completely disregard all previously crafted zoning.
Vote passed Land Use 12-1-0 (1 ineligible).

Motion to limit this debate to 10 minutes.

Motion to call the question.

Roll call vote taken, vote passed 28-1-0 (1 ineligible)

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 2021-14-BZ – Application submitted for proposed construction of a new eating and drinking establishment with an accessory drive through facility at 2010 Victory Blvd. (Starbucks)

Call the question:

Roll Call vote taken, Vote passed 29-1-0

Department of City Planning Application No. – proposed amendments would enable the construction of a new 5-story, 55-foot mixed use-building under R6B/C1-3 (MIH) district regulations with 54,942 square feet of residential floor and 8,687 square feet of combined (retail) and community facility space (daycare) space on the ground floor for a total of 63,629 square feet. Pursuant to Mandatory Inclusionary Housing, the building will contain 46 dwelling units, 12 of which will be permanently affordable to income averaging 60% of AMI and include 59 accessory off-street parking spaces at 252 Victory Blvd. in the Special Hillside Preservation District.

Vote passed Land Use 14-0-0.

Roll call vote taken, vote passed 27-2-0.

Three Citywide Zoning Text Amendments:

Health and Fitness Text Amendment – A citywide text amendment that seeks to make it easier to open gyms, spa, and licensed massage therapy establishments by reducing the red tape that these types of establishments are subject to today.

Passed 13-1 by Land Use.

Call the question:

Roll call vote taken, vote passed unanimously.

FRESH II – An expansion of the existing FRESH zoning incentives program to encourage the construction of new food stores in parts of the City with the greatest need – including Staten Island’s North Shore. This program would offer new zoning incentives and to encourage the development and retention of stores that provide fresh fruits, vegetables and meats and a full range of grocery products in more communities.

This passed 13-1-0 at the Land Use Meeting.

Chris Rooney said there are none on Staten Island.

Call the question:

Roll call vote taken, vote passed unanimously.

Citywide Hotels Text Amendment - a Mayoral initiative that aims to create a more consistent approach to hotel development across communities.

Provide the inaction of a special permitting process which would be required in the siting of a proposed hotel. Does not apply to a homeless shelter or temporary housing or a facility that was going to be used for that purpose. Only for transient hotels. Deemed by the community after discussion that this would be a layer of bureaucracy that would be unnecessary, overregulation.

Motion is to deny Passed 13-1-0 at the Land Use Meeting.

Roll call vote taken, vote passed to deny 25-6-0.

Mr. Accornero said he wanted to thank all the Land Use Committee, we had 10 out of 11 members plus 15 Board Members at the Land Use Public Hearing. That work that we put in, almost 5 hours helped with this evening.

Chairman Siclari said he couldn’t thank people enough. You should be so proud of yourself. You went out of your way to make the Land Use Meeting. Vinny takes so much time to scrutinize the application. Sometimes it’s tough but I just want to thank you for doing their homework and Vinny said you can see the effects. I think this is the first time Vinny finished at 7:30pm. Vinny thank you again.

Mr. Carroll said how important Land Use is and this is what Corey Johnson is trying to take away from us. Be very vigilant about what’s going on at the City Council.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AMY POIRER – No report, have a nice summer everybody.

WATERFRONT, OLE OLSEN – We should have some information in September about the offshore wind opportunities for the North Shore of SI. District Manager, Joe Carroll and I will be scheduling meetings with BBC regarding the Esplanade Projects. I appreciate everyone’s help. Have a safe summer. Get vaccinated.

PUBLIC SERVICES, SUNNY JAIN – Mr. Carroll will be meeting with Mr. Jain and Mr. Olsen tomorrow.

YOUTH SERVICES, ERNEST PAIGE – Chairman Siclari said hopefully meetings will be back in September. Mr. Paige responded absolutely, looking forward to that. No minutes as of now.

RULES AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY –No report. Looking forward to convening in September. Chairman Siclari said we should add to only have 10- minute discussions on Land Use Applications. Mr. Rooney agreed.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – I'll be representing the Board in various ceremonies, beach openings. Tomorrow I'll be at Tom Paulo ceremony, honoring him. Will be at the CCRB meeting. Have a happy and safe summer.

TRANSPORTATION, NICHOLAS ZVEGINTZOV - Two subjects. We had complaints about the North end of Front Street. We heard it's the job of the EDC to fix that. Secondly, much to my surprise, visualize the north exit to the ferry terminal for the Empire Outlets, there used to be a ramp, which they took away and they were supposed to have the elevator working there which they haven't yet. We asked the Empire Outlets, and they say the elevator will work in July. The previous one got rained on or something like that. We will celebrate with them. No report.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

LABOR, ROBERT HOLST - I hope you all saw the letter I sent about the redevelopment of Staten Island's North Shore. We wrote a letter about the EZ Pass offices. MTA wants to close those offices and break that contract up and spread it across the state. We feel it's another layer of bureaucracy. We wrote the letter to all electives requesting they keep that office open. I would like to make a motion that the Board support this letter. Vincent and you guys are great at what you do. Hope you have a great summer.

Reverse roll call. Passes unanimously to write the letter.

Mr.. Accornero said some of the heated discussion was about the developer of River North making promises with jobs in construction. I'm wondering if the building trades themselves are not communicating those programs or advertising those programs to the community. If we can act as a catalyst to promote this in the buildings trades industry.

Mr. Holst said he thinks it's well known of the apprenticeships. We sent a letter to the Councilwoman from the Labor Committee recommended that she have this discussion with the developer. We never received a response. We don't know if the developer had any position on that. I don't know how to make that happen.

The unions do offer that trade apprenticeships. It's been my experience being an architect. Big projects don't get to use non-union labor very much. If they do it's a very small percentage. To build those big buildings must be skilled laborers and they are mostly union. The developer usually doesn't have say. That is the Construction Manager's job. They manage the installation of the building development. The developer deals with this legal aspect of the Project.

Ms. Celeste Holmes said if I want to pass the word to young men and women at my church, I believe if you can be taken in as a novice, that gives you the right to put this on your resume to get more jobs like that. Also, does working on that site help you to get into the union.

Amy said years ago, Councilwoman Rose made a deal with 750 spots opened for Apprenticeships. You get into the union by going through a program plus work on the project. Also, you need to be on time and drug-free. The politicians are in the position to get this done. Last week when I asked the developer directly about the pay-scale, he said yes, but that's not true. We must stop selling out our community.

Mr. Holst said to step on a construction site, you must have an OSHA card. You must go to an OSHA class. The developer says they will pay for the class. That program is not registered with the state. The jobs they provide, there are no benefits and low pay. People don't stick with those jobs. Building Skills New York is creating a pipeline for cheap jobs. The developer should be paying people enough to be able to live in the buildings they build. It's not easy building a union these days. Electives should secure 10 positions that have a 40-year career with benefits. I'm available 18 hours a day to talk to about this.

Lyons's pool is opening June 26th on schedule.

It was asked when Louis Lopez Park is reopening?

Mr. Carroll said there has been a lot of delays due to the Pandemic and construction.

Nicole Brooks, Parks said, yes, the pool is opening the day after school ends, June 26th. Lopez park scheduled for July. We are waiting for the lighting.

PARKS, NORMAN LIGHT – No report.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, LORETTA CAULDWELL – No meeting. No minutes. I thank everyone from the committee that joined our Land Use Meeting. Have a healthy safe summer.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, TIMOTHY FORSYTH/CAMILLE ZARRELLI – No meeting, no minutes. Have a safe and healthy summer.

ROSBANK/FT. WADSWORTH, JOHN GUZZO – No meeting, no report.

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, JOHN MCBETH - Did have a meeting and we are meeting next week. We will decide if we will meet in the summer. No minutes. Nick said your committee has met through all this time and you provided us with the Zoom platform. John said we will be looking for a site that meets our needs and we will talk to Lisa about whether we can meet there.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – No report.

George Doyle said he has a problem with DOT in Stapleton. Complaints about cross-street being a crater-filled street between Bay Street and the Dead End by Citibank.

Ms. Giordano said Ms. Crosby sent me this location, and this is part of a DDC project. A water main is being installed there. We can now send it for pothole maintenance repair.

Secretary Loretta Cauldwell cased ballots for each of the current positions for the Executive Committee:

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman
Anthony Cosentino, First Vice-Chairman
Timothy Forsyth, Second Vice-Chairman
Friday Ogbeweale, Third Vice-Chairman
Larry Beslow, Treasurer

Nick cast a vote for Loretta Cauldwell as Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.

Nick said thank you for everything you did. It has been an honor to lead this board. I do nothing without you guys. The attendance for Land Use was great. I owe you two lunches and two dinners. I can't wait to see everyone in person. I wish everyone a healthy summer. River North is going to be a process with City Council and the Borough President. If this one goes through there will be other developers to follow.

Joe said when it comes to the Planning Commission and orders from the Mayor to increase affordable housing.

Nick said I want to thank Joe Carroll who has been available throughout this time. Thank Lisa and Linda for controlling our budgets. I'm glad it's 8:05 pm and this meeting is over.

John McBeth said early voting starts June 12th to the 20th and then June 22nd is the Primary. Learn all you can before voting.

Fran Reali asked where the memorial is for Tom Paulo.