

## Community Board #1 Virtual Full Board Meeting, May 10, 2022 - 6:30 PM

### **Nicholas Siclari, Chairman**

#### **Members**

Vincent Accornero  
Joe Ahlstrom  
Anjail Amgen-Rice  
Larry Beslow, Absent  
Joseph Bird  
Telee Brown  
Celeste Bute-Holmes, Absent  
Christopher Campbell  
Sandy Carles, Absent  
Loretta Cauldwell  
Kathleen Coen  
Christopher Corbo  
Anthony Cosentino  
George Doyle  
Claudette Duff  
Linda Eskenas, Absent  
Timothy Forsyth  
John Guzzo  
Robert Holst  
Sunny Jain  
Lillian Lagazzo  
Lisa Lattanzio  
Ali Mir Masum  
John McBeth  
Friday Ogbewe, Absent  
Olaf Olsen, Absent  
Ernest Paige, Absent  
Catherine Paradiso  
Amy Poirier  
Mohan Radhakrishna  
Francine Reali  
Chris Rooney  
Anthony Scutari  
George Sona  
George Turner  
Kevin Washington  
James West, Excused  
Daniel Williams, Absent  
Steven Williams  
Camille Zarrelli  
Nicholas Zvegintzov

#### **Office Staff**

Lisa Crosby, Community Coordinator  
Linda Maffeo, Community Associate

#### **Guests**

Donald DeRosa, Comptroller's Office  
Edward Jackson, Borough Dir. to Mayor  
Viomo Emmanuel, Assemblyman Charles Fall  
Hanane Dbajat, Assemblyman Tannousis  
Elena Brady, CM David Carr's Office  
David Pena, CM Kamillah Hank's Office  
Agnes McBeth, RCDA  
Ann O'Connor, ADA  
Adam Beckerman, DCP  
Nicole Brooks, Dept. of Parks & Rec.  
Jermaine Williams, NYPD Comm. Ambassador  
Victoria Carstensen, DOT  
Will Deautriell, DOT  
Annmarie Cantasano, DOT  
Jahi Rose, NYC CCRB  
Mary Bullock, Pres. Port Rich. Civic  
Michael Morrell, Westerleigh Impr. Soc.  
Sam Clarke, DSS NYC  
Ben Palevsky, SI, DCP  
Will, SIBCO  
Elena Abiavskiy  
Judy Alvarez  
Neil Berry  
Mario Buonviaggio  
Sarah Gowell  
John Kilcullen  
Bruce Lauria  
Maya Lipsman  
Mario Buonviaggio  
Troy McGhie  
Zara O'Brien  
Eric Patterson  
T. Porpora  
Jason Price  
Angela Ramos  
Marsha Russell  
Pam Silvestri  
Christine Tumbarello  
Carmen Torres  
Gabriella Velardi-Ward  
Emmanuel Viomo  
Harold Wagner  
Everett Wattle  
Sam Schiff, Computer Sam  
Vinh Vo  
Genevieve Davis, NYPL Reno Project

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call/Attendance** - Loretta Cauldwell stated there is a Quorum.

## **Public Session:**

Ms. Agnes McBeth: Reminder for us to lock our car doors and do not leave anything valuable in your cars. Crime continues to rise here on the island.

On scams, if it sounds too good to be true, then it is too good to be true. People are being scammed of large sums of money over the Internet and by email. If you don't recognize the email address, then don't click on it, just delete it. If you're a victim of a scam, please reach out to the DA's office or Agnes.

Today is the first National Fentanyl Awareness Day. The number of deaths associated with Fentanyl Overdose has surpassed every other form of death for Americans between the ages of 18 and 45. It can just be a small amount added to many drugs but mainly Cocaine. Staten Island has a continual problem with Opioid Addiction. The DA had a press conference with our Community Partners and Groups that work with Drug Addiction. During the next 7 days, there will be a series of public awareness on social media. Join us @StatenIslandDA across Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Continuing our efforts against school bullying. The DA Launched our Stand-Up Stop Bullying Initiative to High Schools and last month we did it in our Elementary Schools and Middle Schools. We hope to get kids to talk about their experiences to adults.

The warm weather is quickly approaching. Starting our neighborhood cleanups. Please send in any areas with litter or graffiti on buildings and we will clean it up. Let Lisa or Linda know and we will put them on our list. We dispatched a team to clean the graffiti under the overpass by Petrides School. The DA believes if you take pride in your neighborhood then crime is not as prevalent in those neighborhoods.

ADA's, Ann O'Connor: She is excited to hear about everything in the community and hearing from everyone.

Mr. Sam Clarke, Director of Social Services in Queens and Staten Island representing DSS, DHS and HRA: He looks forward to working with everyone. They are dealing with homeless issues with the City Council members. Reach out to him with any issues.

Mr. David Pena, Councilwoman Kamillah Hanks office: Wished everyone a Happy Belated Mother's Day. On May 3rd the office hosted a Town Hall with the NYC Comptroller Brad Lander's office where we discussed Sanitation and Property Taxes.

Excited for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Ferry Hawks Home Opener.

Street naming coming up which was placed by the previous administration, Debi Rose. Nick Troianello Way for a fallen soldier in World War II. Working on more street naming that we sent into City Council to have approved.

On June 25th, 12 P.M. to 4 P.M., Councilwoman Hanks will be having a Community Day with invited City Agencies at Clove Lake Park and a Town Hall for residents and constituents to come.

Ms. Zara O'Brien, Environmental Nonprofit Organization for NYC: Free Reuse Event happening this Sunday, May 15, 2022, at Snug Harbor, Building P., from 12 P.M. to 3 P.M. Inviting residents to donate their gently use items accepting clothing, books, toys, shoes, small appliances, electronics, bedding, etc. in usable condition and will be checked. If in good condition, they are put out for participants to take free. You can take without a donation. They will bring unused clothing to a textile recycling facility to keep as many items as possible out of the landfill. Also work with smaller nonprofit organizations. Proof of vaccination is required.

Ms. Carmen Torres: Recap on individuals who tend to congregate by the DCAS building on Stuyvesant Place. She spoke to Sergeant Serrota at the 120 Precinct. Two gentlemen were harassing her and making comments about her clothing and wouldn't let her pass when she came from 36 Hamilton Avenue. Problem for four years. She suggested to the Sergeant to have auxiliary patrol that area and he appreciated those ideas. She is going to run in the next election but not sure in what area.

Mr. William Deautriell: is the Chief of Staff of the Staten Island Borough Commissioner's Office with DOT with colleague Annmarie Cantasano.

Mr. Vincent Accornero asked if there was an update on the proposed rules regarding sidewalk seating in the adjacent areas for restaurants and Mr. Deautriell will look into it.

Nicole Brooks, Parks Department: Seasonal and Parks positions are now open. Beach openings on May 25th at 1 P.M. at Wolf's Pond Park.

Mr. Mario Buonviaggio: Talked about not being pleased with the nomination of board member Sunny Jain in an executive position to assign a District Manager for CB1. Went on to say there is a history of this gentleman bringing in a criminal dirty developer to the Staten Island, North Shore, Port Richmond area. He hand-held this person in a meeting to the former Borough President Jimmy Oddo which he stated in an email, "it was the most unsettling meeting since his time as Borough President."

Ms. Hanane Dbajat, Assemblyman Tannousis' office: Happy May and Happy Mother's Day. We are joining in with some cleanup efforts and any questions, concerns or issues, please reach out. May is Military Appreciation Month. I hope everyone will be busy with Memorial Day activities. Thank you to the DA's office for bringing awareness to the Fentanyl issue. We were present for that. Enjoy our parks and the rest of the month.

Mr. Jermaine Williams, SI, NYPD Ambassador: Happy Mother's Day. There will be a Police and Pet Event on June 4th at the big park at Marine Harbor from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. Individuals can bring their pets and dogs to get vaccinated. If you need your pet to get licensed, you can. There will be a host of other events taken place that day.

If individuals are looking to get the rock wall at any event, please be very mindful of the timeframe. If you know your event will start at 10 A.M. and setup is at 9 A.M. then you want the rock wall to be there at 11 A.M. or 12 P.M. when you know the people will be there. Other organizations may want to use it the same day. Please text your request. Thank you and stay safe and enjoy the weather.

Mr. Anthony Cosentino asked if they have a neutering service. I understand the vets are charging \$700 to neuter a female pet

Mr. Williams said the ASPCA will be at the event and may have a program. Sometimes they offer to do that for free when adopting pets.

Mr. Williams asked Ms. Carmen Torres for the location of the incident with the two individuals? Ms. Lisa Crosby said it was Stuyvesant Place between Hamilton and Wall.

Ms. Mary Bullock: On Saturday, May 21st, 10:30 A.M. at the Reformed Church, the second year of the Banner's Program. The FDNY Ceremonial Unit will be there as well as Color Guards. We will have coffee and pastries. We had 28 Banner's last year with 52 this year. The program is growing beautifully. Our Keynote Speaker is Captain Zeita Merchant of the U.S. Coast Guard, ranking officer for New York Harbor. Everyone is invited to march with us, Port Richmond Strong in the Memorial Day Parade on May 30th. Last year it was a very moving event working with these veterans, seeing their pictures and having to work with their sponsors and hear their stories. We have so many amazing people living on Staten Island who have given so much to make this place a wonderful place to live.

Ms. Lisa Crosby announced we have some late speakers on the agenda. Please let me know before 5 P.M. on the day prior to the meeting.

Mr. Jahi Rose, CCRB: The CCRB is back to doing in person board meetings. They are every second Wednesday of the month from 4 P.M. until the meeting is over, usually until 5:30 P.M. The central location is our headquarters at 100 Church Street in lower Manhattan on the 10th Floor. Please share the information. We are also hiring for investigators and CCRB Outreach Coordinators. If you're interested, please go to NYC Careers website under the Civilian Complaint Review Board. You will see the open postings available.

It was mentioned to the DA's office about an initiative called CCRB Cares. We volunteer with nonprofit organizations and charitable organizations to do stuff like community cleanups, planting a tree, and food pantries.

Ms. Maya Lipsman: Project Coordinator at Columbia University's Cancer Center in the office of Community Outreach and Engagement directing the activities of the Cancer Prevention Action Grant from the State Department of Health in Richmond County. We work with RUMC and the Staten Island Borough President's Office on this Grant with three main goals. First is to create sun safety policy at community organizations. Providing sunscreen, shade and signage about sun safety. Policy with Snug Harbor,

Goodhue Center, a couple of JCC cornerstones, a JCC Day Camp, Sunrise Day Camp, and a few schools based health centers at Wagner High School. Working on one at Curtis High School. Talking to United Activities Unlimited about a policy. Another goal is educating about indoor tanning and its relationship with skin cancer, HPV Vaccinations as cancer prevention. We bring sunscreen samples, lip balm and printed information to educate the public about reducing the risk of skin cancer. Please reach out if there is an event you would like us to attend. Looking for community champions of to post about it on social media and in newsletters. Please contact me if you'd like to partner with this program.

Public session concluded.

### **Officers' Reports**

**First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino** - Attended a couple of events. Little Liberia Street Naming. Our own Deacon, Telee Brown hosted that event with all the excitement and passion with him. I brought Mr. Nicholas Zvegintzov with me. I saw Mr. Mohan Radhakrishna and Mr. Sunny Jain at the event. We were represented well. I got to share the microphone with Councilmember, Kamillah Hanks and former Councilmember, Debi Rose and submitted pictures for Community Board 1. I also attended the Town Hall Meeting with Brad Lander, our Comptroller.

**Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth** - Attended the street naming for World War II Veteran, Nicholas Troianello on Forest Avenue a few Fridays back. It was a very well-attended and well-conducted event.

Chairman Nicholas Siclari thanked both Mr. Anthony Cosentino and Mr. Timothy Forsyth for "picking up the slack". We have 46 board members and I appreciate you taking the time out of your day of your schedules to attend.

**Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewele** – No report

**Secretary, Loretta Cauldwell** - No report.

**Chairman, Nicholas Siclari** - Chairman Siclari swore in the new community board members. Steven Williams has been on the board for a while but never sworn in. Christopher Campbell, Christopher Corbo, Kathleen Coen, James West and Lillian Lagazzo.

Chairman Nick Siclari congratulated all the new members for volunteering. If you want the Community Board Handbook, we have them in our office. You are non-paid city officials. What you put into it is what you get out of it. There are tons of committees that you can join, and the people are really great. They've been on for many years. Thank you for giving your time to what we think is the best Community Board of Staten Island.

Chairman Siclari mentioned we are going to have an election next month. We will have to decide whether we are going to meet in person or virtually. We will have to discuss that later, Secretary, Ms. Loretta Cauldwell. We'll take another vote on that. I don't know the logistics of doing an election virtually. The Corona Virus has been unticking.

Mr. Sunny Jain has a committee to search for a District Manager. I personally, Mr. Jain and his committee have been in touch with both the Borough President's Office, and city agencies. Mr. Jain please explain what is happening.

Mr. Jain said he has been in touch with all the city agencies and told by OMB that this position will be filled and not be affected by the freeze in hiring in NYC. Directions and guidance from the Borough President's Office. They have the budget. I have spoken to Mr. Ed Burke and Ms. Marie LaFrancesca at the Borough President's Office many times and with many texts. I also spoke to the Borough President for a few minutes. They are working to get a strategy for this. Hopefully they will set up a meeting with me next week. I have expressed to them the urgency in the matter since we are only meeting one more time and then we have summer vacation.

Mr. George Doyle asked if the Borough President knows that according to the City Charter, the District Manager is not hired by the Borough President, Kamillah Hanks, or any elected officials for Community Board 1. Mr. Jain said they are just giving a guidance with the money from OMB and the budget and those issues. They are part of the process with us to do the searches. City Hall directed us to Borough Hall in the search and process. Mr. Anthony Cosentino said the precedent has been set that two different Borough Presidents had appointed the District Manager for Board 2 and Board 3. Mr. Jain said he was aware of those reports from years ago. Mr. Doyle said that he is happy they chose Mr. Jain to head this committee. Mr. Kevin Washington said he thought Mr. Jain is doing an excellent job. Ms. Camille Zarrelli said she thought Mr. Jain's communication is excellent and he kept us apprised of every step of the way and looking forward to working with you on the committee. I think Chairman Siclari did an excellent job in choosing you for this committee. Chairman Siclari said this is a team effort. If everybody gives a little bit, we give collectively. Mr. Vincent Accornero asked if Mr. Jain reached out to other boards to see how they handled this. Mr. Jain said OMB said this was an unusual situation. Too many players in this whole process but everyone has been helpful and working with us.

Mr. John McBeth said there is a polling form available for virtual voting with only board members present.

Chairman Siclari said he wanted to touch upon something with the newly elected board members on abstention portion of Land Use. There was confusion with the last BJ's application 4-5 years ago. It looked like it passed but the abstentions were submitted like it failed. Mr. Accornero will explain how an abstention is counted as a no.

### **Functional Committee Reports**

**Land Use, Vincent Accornero** - Mr. Accornero explained a yes vote is in favor of a motion that is presented whether that motion is to approve or deny. Sometimes people are confused when there is a motion to deny the application. If the motion is to deny and you feel that application should not be passed, then you vote yes for the application to be denied. Some choose to abstain because they have some kind of misunderstanding about it or not enough information about the application. They feel they're not prepared to vote at the time, so they abstain. This is an acceptable vote

however in a case of a count of a vote, the yes votes have to be greater than the number of nos and abstentions. If not, the motion will fail.

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 2022-18-BZ, variance request to permit a two-story 2,413.5 square foot two-family home without the required rear yard in an R3-A District at **64 Butler Place**. Asking for a waiver by the BSA regarding the ability to acquire a rear yard which they are not able to do in an as-of-right development. During the discussion it was brought about the existing lot had been a subdivision of a previously larger lot. We felt that the applicant had created his own hardship for this lot.

Motion was made to deny this request for a variance. That passed in the Land Use committee, 9-0-1.

**Motion to deny this variance for 64 Butler Terrace Vote passes unanimously.**

Board of Standards & Appeals Application Nos. 2022-20-A to 2022-22-A – Appeal to the Board of Standards & Appeals requesting permission for construction of three one-story warehouses on three separate zoning lots in an M1-1 zoning District at **724, 726 and 728 Richmond Terrace**.

**Motion made to table with no objection to the next Land Use Public Hearing in June for more information and to reach out to the Civic Association. (All civic associations are notified via e-mail of all Public Hearings, meetings etc. Mr. John Kilcullen was in attendance and a member of the St. George Civic Association and was asked to reach out to the other members)**

**Vote passed Land Use Committee unanimously.**

**Vote passed unanimously to table by the Full Board.**

Mr. George Doyle asked if we ever received information on the Brownfield conditions there that City Planning and Loretta had talked about? Ms. Lisa Crosby said yes, and it was sent to John Kilcullen, Mr. Accornero and to Ms. Loretta Cauldwell. Ms. Crosby said she will send it to the whole Land Use Committee.

Applicant is requesting Renewal of Special Permit ULURP No. C 160174 ZSR which was approved by the Department of City Planning on October 31, 2017, to permit five retail uses to contain more than 10,000 square feet. The proposed approved project has not changed and is located at **534 South Avenue**.

Property at South Avenue and Forest Avenue also known as the BJ's development. Extension for renewal for a special permit from Department of City Planning. This site has been through multiple phases and litigation about development. This is also pursuant to the State Department of Environmental Conservation regarding Wetlands Mitigation. The original permit was granted by the City Planning Commission in 2017. To date, the applicant has not made sufficient moves as far as the construction of the site under the special permit. Based on the litigation that has been filed against this site development, they had issues raising investment dollars.

There was a discussion of the litigation. We told one of the litigants that we would bring into record the current estate of it as submitted by their attorney which is that an action was submitted in February 2020 seeking compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act. A wetlands permit was issued in October 2019, but no-one had ever evaluated feasibility of doing the project without a permit. They argue that the seeker requires action alternative where the

agency does not take the action requested. It requires exploration of the no action alternative where the developer and DEC to dismiss the action based on the argument that it was not timely, and DEC did not issue the permit until October 2019. The actual seeker review was done in 2017. They argue that even counting from October 2019, there was only 30 days to file so it was not timely. They argue that the applicable state of limitations was four months, not a direct challenge to the permit itself. The court dismissed that petition. It agreed the Statute of Limitations applied but held the clock ran in 2017 when the original seeker review was done. They have since appealed that decision to the second department. They have also requested a Stay of any construction while the appeal is pending. The Appellate Division denied the Stay. The appeal has been fully briefed as of Summer of 2021. They are waiting an argument date for the appeal and no date has been set by the court. That was submitted by the attorneys for the group has taken litigation against the site. That is not specific to this application. I feel it's relevant to have some background.

**Motion made and seconded to approve the renewal of the permits. Roll call vote taken; Vote passed Land Use Committee 7-3-0.**

Ms. Anjail Ameen-Rice said technically it expired. Is there any penalty and why did it take them so long? Mr. Accornero said the penalty would be they couldn't continue construction under that special permit. They would have to wait for the permit to be renewed.

Mr. John McBeth asked in regard to the vote we are taking right now, what is the effect either way? Mr. Accornero said if City Planning did not approve the extension or renewal of the permit, they could not continue with the construction. I don't know under which basis. There has been no substance of change in the application. The DEC permit has nothing to do with the environmental ramifications. It's specifically City Plannings permit. If we and City Planning voted to deny, then they could not continue construction without appealing that decision to the City Council first and then to the courts.

Mr. Sunny Jain asked what is the history of them denying these extensions if there are no substantial issues? Mr. Accornero said he didn't have knowledge of permits being renewed or not renewed. I think there's a strong legal argument. If a permit has been granted, they can make the argument that circumstances did not allow for them to come to substantial fruition of the project. Mr. Chris Rooney said they haven't been able to move forward with the financing because of the state litigation affecting the state permit. If we deny this permit, it doesn't have an effect one way or the other immediately on the project. It's if and when the Appellate Division makes a decision of the court below. Approving or not approving will not affect them one way or another.

Ms. Lillian Lagazzo was looking at the letter that was forwarded to them. It is signed by Assemblymember Cusack, and Senator Diane Savino addressed to City Planning last September asking City Planning to reexamine the area in light of the Wetlands. Mr. Accornero said the issue of Wetlands is more with DEC. City Planning is blind to the effect of Environmental consequences. There are different jurisdictional issues on this. Barring the court intervening, it would be difficult for the agencies to do a 180 on this. We can ask Assemblymember Cusack and Senator Diane Savino about it. I know they wanted to preserve the site.

Mr. Robert Holst asked Mr. Rooney if the State Appellate Court rules on behalf of the community group, the project will be dead at that point? Mr. Rooney said that would be correct.



If the Appellate Division were to rule in favor of the petitioners, the state would have to go back and reevaluate the whole thing or drop it altogether. Mr. Accornero said because of the designation of the site as having fresh water, wetlands, it is the state DEC's jurisdiction to permit or not permit development on the site. Mr. Rooney said he's not going predict what the Appellate Division is going to do but the lower court having held the state agency and dismissing the petitioner's complaint. The Appellate Division has already denied a Stay pending the result of the appeal, I think the likelihood of the Appellate Division reversing the lower court is not promising. Mr. Holst said we can't know for sure; I would suggest we table this on behalf of the community members who we represent who are in the middle of this legal battle with this multi-billion-dollar corporation. Mr. Accornero said the term tabling is an administrative for us to handle a motion. To put it off for a certain period of time but we can't ask the Department of City Planning to Stay their decision. That's not in our jurisdiction. We wouldn't be tabling the activity or continuance of the permit application.

Mr. Doyle asked to call the question.

**Motion made and seconded to approve the application submitted for the renewal of the special permit for 534 South Avenue.**

**Vote failed 5-26-0. Chairman Siclari said we didn't have any abstention like five years ago.**

Mr. Accornero said that everyone took a stand and that motion failed. We can make a motion to deny. I would recommend that we put forth to request to contact our state elected officials and our council members to the possibility of acquisition of the site and make a motion to that affect. Mr. Holst wanted to add to the motion to not only contact our legislators but put into City Planning they should wait until the litigation is done.

**Motion made to ask City Planning to hold renewing any permits until Appellate Division decides and ask Elected Officials to look into acquisition of the property.**

Motion was seconded by many members.

**Reverse roll call was done. Vote: It passes with three opposed.**

Chairman Siclari asked for a motion to accept the minutes, motion passed.

**Budget & Finance - Anthony Cosentino - No report.**

**Treasurer, Larry Beslow - The packet.**

**Transportation, Nicholas Zvegintzov - Mr. Zvegintzov is in London. Mr. Kevin Washington spoke. We have three items. Two items have to do with the BRT. We sent a letter to Congresswoman Ms. Nicole Malliotakis thanking her urging the Governor use infrastructure funds for the North Shore BRT. Secondly, we are recommending integrating the Bus Rapid Transit System merging with the West Shore transportation idea of bringing a bus to the North Shore. To merge with the BRT to go over the bridge to Newark Airport in Bayonne. Thirdly, the MTA is going to brief the Transportation Committee on signaling with the SIRT.**

**West Brighton/St. George, Loretta Cauldwell** - We didn't have a meeting so there are no minutes. We are discussing the Richmond Terrace properties again at the June Land Use. I encourage all of the members of the West Brighton/St. George area to attend that meeting. We have a meeting next week jointly with Mariner's Harbor which is next Tuesday. Please attend that meeting also. Ms. Lisa Crosby will send the link.

**Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh, Timothy Forsyth & Camille Zarrelli** - Happy Mother's Day to all. We had no meeting or minutes. Hopefully in September we will be back to our usual schedule.

**Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth, John Guzzo** - No meeting or minutes. New plan the city has to build new building and houses using only electric. It was brought up in a couple of meetings in the past, the danger this would create in a power failure. The grid itself is already strained. Taking away Fossil Fuel will also be eliminated and moved to electric. The citizens of NYC would be in danger, freezing. 8-12 years ago, nobody had heat because of the power failure. You can't turn on an igniter without electric.

Ms. Fran Reali said she was in an Albany meeting this morning speaking about this. There were elected officials and the SI Group of Realtors along with the NYS Association of Realtors who are opposing this push to go all electric. As quickly as the Governor is trying to move it to go that way. There has to be another plan. We spoke with Assemblyman, Mr. Charles Fall, Assemblyman, Mr. Michael Cusack, Senator Diane Savino and others. They are all likeminded about this. Assemblyman, Charles Fall said it's always good to hear all sides of the story. In this bill it states that a feasibility study has to be done as to whether or not this could work.

Ms. Reali said she wanted to just mention, good cause eviction. It's a very stressful situation. We have the most stringent landlord/tenant issues. Landlords down to two families.

**Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond, John McBeth** - We did have a meeting. Also having a meeting on Tuesday, May 17th with West Brighton/St. George. No minutes. I have the recordings. I have appealed to the members of Mariner's Harbor, Port Richmond, Arlington, Elm Park, to please attend the meetings. Anyone that wants to attend, feel free.

**Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Larry Below** - No meeting, no report.

Mr. Doyle added that next month's Land Use meeting will include 531-545 Bay Street

### **Nominations:**

All Executive Members are running in addition to a nomination for Chair by Anjail Ameen-Rice.

Nominations were taken from the floor and called three times each for Chair, First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair, Third Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. No nominations were taken from the floor. All Nominations for a position on the Executive Committee were closed. There will be an election next month for Chair.

We are going to wait closer to the end of May to see about meeting in person in June.

**Public Services, Sunny Jain** -No report

**Old Business** - Mr. George Doyle asked about DOT's Victoria Carstensen. Will Deautriell said she is still working but will be going on maternity leave. Ms. Carstensen was on the call. Mr. Doyle asked about two outdoor seating restaurants especially J's on the Bay which was hit many times by a truck. Mr. Doyle said the homeless shelters they are putting up on 44 Victory and 119 Tompkins. If we fight hard enough with this new Mayor, maybe he's do away with it. Councilwoman Hanks said there were three schools that will be affected. There are two other schools and a nursing home which will be affected. Chairman Siclari said we can talk to the new Councilwoman. It looks like the deal is done. We can write a letter and ask about the status and if one can be closed. Ms. Crosby said we can send the letter to the mayor as well.

Mr. Vincent Accornero asked DOT about the street widening line on 724, 726 and 728 Richmond Terrace by Lafayette Avenue prior to next month's Land Use Meeting. Mr. Radhakrishna Mohan said we should include City Planning on discussion. Mr. Deautriell of DOT said they will look into it.

Mr. Mohan added that one of the active community members, Jennifer Gray-Brumskine passed away three days ago. She represented the people at Park Hill and other underrepresented people and a member of the Census initiative and the Liberian Community. Can we write a letter for their loss? Chairman Siclari said maybe a future street name. Mr. Telee Brown said she was a big force in our Liberian Community. Thank you for attending the street naming for Little Liberia Way. Mr. Brown also mentioned the storage building on Richmond Terrace. There are too many storage facilities going up. Mr. McBeth said there is a law that went into effect if these storage facilities didn't put their shovel into the ground at a certain time, they would have had to pay more money for taxes, etc. Companies rushed in to take advantage of it.

Mr. Accornero said if you noticed the Society of St. Paul has put their property at the Alba House on 2187 Victory Blvd. between Woolley and Ingram Street. They are selling 4 acres. It's a cautionary tale when Mt. Manresa property was up for sale. I said we really need to identify some of these larger parcels that are housing not for profits or religious organizations. If they decide to sell, the protection that was afforded by them is no longer there. The tax benefit they gained is the cities and community's loss. This one is passed the point of juncture but if there are any other large parcels, it's better to do it prior to them deciding to sell to a developer. Ms. Amy Poirier said they were supposed to go back to the Jesuits. That's an issue being dealt with. Mr. Doyle said they are looking to sell for \$17 million.

Ms. Anjali Amgen-Rice said she thinks there are too many self-storages on Richmond Terrace. Secondly, the Staten Island Ferry Hawks are in effect (on her background for Zoom). I met Frankie on Saturday. Please buy tickets. They are \$15. Support this local team. The management crew are really great people. Tonight, was Port Richmond High School Day. One of the students from the High School sang the Star-Spangled Banner and another student threw out the pitch. Mr. Christopher Campbell

said today they were “two for Tuesday”. Ms. Lisa Lattanzio said their food products are expensive.

Second Vice-Chairman Timothy Forsyth will bring forth the following motion:

**Whereas, as the Staten Island St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee has refused to allow and include Irish cultural LGBTQ groups to march openly in the Parade and display their banners and rainbow symbols, Community Board 1 hereby disapproves such conduct and policy, and upon the said Parade Committee’s continued such refusal, Community Board 1 hereby requests that no public funds be used to support said Parade, to include NYPD and Department of Sanitation services, and further requests that N. Y. C. uniformed employees not be permitted to participate in the Parade in uniform, further that no public school marching bands participate in the Parade, and that this motion, if approved, be formalized as a Resolution and/or formal letter request and sent to all relevant elected officials and N. Y. C. agencies and departments.**

Ms. Caldwell had issues how the motion is written. What happens in other parades when someone is excluded are we going to go through that again also? Last year in May, I sent an article to the Executive Board, New York City Pride Parade bans police, gay officers disheartened. The organizers of NYC’s Pride events said they are banning police and other law enforcement from marching in their huge annual parade until at least 2025. The LGBT police were not happy to be excluded from such parade. There were other exclusions going on in the city talking about public funds. Public Funds are Citywide not North Shore funds. If we were to write such a proposal if any parade has any exclusion, then we can talk about public funds and who should be excluded. I have immediate family members that would be affected by both of these exclusions. We should do this with all parades. If the African parade comes up and somebody is excluded, are we going to bring this up again? I can’t support it the way it is written. Mr. McBeth said he concurs with Ms. Caldwell’s sentiment. Whatever we send forth any city funds that are going to some type of use in city streets should not have these types of exclusions. This is where we start marching down that slippery slope so to speak. Does the KKK want to march at the African Heritage Day Parade? Are we going to allow that? Another way of looking at this any parade that takes place, those parade organizers should have to pay for whatever free service that they generate rather than the city providing those services. I don’t know where this ends. Ms. Claudette Duff said she agrees to the way the letter is written. She also agrees with Loretta. She disagrees with excluded the police from the Gay Pride Parade. She is one of the founders of the Staten Island Pride Center. People shouldn’t be excluded in any way. Ms. Lisa Lattanzio said in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade it’s a religious issue. Mr. McBeth said that goes to the city services supporting a religious event. If that’s what they’re doing. Mr. Robert Holst said as a community board we may be out of our realm here. If the city grants them a permit to have a parade, I don’t know as a community member that I don’t want the sanitation or police department to go do their job and make the community safe while the parade goes on. The city is always going to give that permit because they have a protected right under the 1st Amendment of the United States to have a parade. If the city gives the permit, how do we tell the city they can’t clean up after it. The logic is faulty for the letter. Mr. Timothy Forsyth said he is not allowing the services to happen; we make the parade organizers pay for those services. Ms. Duff

said we all pay taxes, so we are all paying for these parades. Mr. Holst asked what parades are we not going to fund? We can only use tax dollars for parades that we agree with? Mr. John Guzzo said all people should be allowed to march in any parade. If they are going to carry banners or carry things opposing like a Crucifix for example. This is where the organizers of the parade should have the authority to say you can march but you can't carry a bucket of urine or whatever the controversial point is. The people hosting the parade should have that right. Mr. McBeth said permits are not giving out without controls or circumstances specific to the event taking place. There are permits with security, like fire guards that are required. You have to bear the brunt of those costs. Ms. Lillian Lagazzo said she thinks our elected officials are cognizant of and are trying to work year-round to have a cohesive scenario. I don't think this is the way to go with this restriction. In high school bands, kids practice all year long. Ms. Duff said what message are we sending to those kids marching in the parade that are gay? Ms. Lattanzio said they are in uniform, all the same, together, a team. They are not specifically saying who they are. Ms. Duff said that nobody should carry banners then. Mr. Joseph Ahlstrom asked to table this. A vote tonight would be controversial. Chairman Siclari said for Mr. Forsyth modify the motion. Mr. Forsyth said in the interim on Memorial Day, the United States Island Veterans Association is sponsoring a Veterans Memorial Day Parade on Forest Avenue and they welcome every veteran organization to march under any banner that they want. Mr. Anthony Cosentino asked Ms. Duff to put her thoughts on paper and he liked what she said. Send it to Mr. Forsyth.

### **New Business -**

Motion to Adjourn.