

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING #1 AGENDA –
TUESDAY, January 9th – 6:30 P.M.
Virtual on Zoom

SESSION OPENING

Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Roll Call Attendance, Acceptance of Minutes, Public Session

PUBLIC SESSION: David Pena, Nick Robbins, Agnes McBeth, Anthony Scutari, Mary Bullock

---First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino

---Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth

---Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe

---Secretary, Loretta Cauldwell

---Treasurer, Sunny Jain

---Chairman, Nicholas Siclari

--- District Manager, Joan Cusack

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

---Land Use, George Turner

---Waterfront, Joseph Ahlstrom

---Public Services, Sunny Jain

---Youth Services, Kathleen Coen & Mohan Radhakrishna

---Rules & Legislative Affairs, Anthony Cosentino & Timothy Forsyth

---Budget & Finance, Anthony Cosentino

---Transportation, Nicholas Zvegintzov

---Small Business & Non-Profit Committee, Jaclyn Tacoronte

AD HOC COMMITTEE

---Labor, Robert Holst

---Parks & Recreation, Anthony Cosentino

---Cultural Affairs, Anthony Sgarlato

---Health and Human Services, Fran Reali

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

---West Brighton/St. George, Claudette Duff, Anthony Cosentino

---Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh/Willowbrook, Timothy Forsyth

---Rosebank/Ft. Wadsworth/Shore Acres, John Guzzo

---Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond/Elm Park/Arlington, Selina Grey & Dora Berksteiner

---Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Peter Lisi

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call or e-mail Loretta Cauldwell or the Board Office **prior** to the meeting at [1-718-981-6900](tel:1-718-981-6900)/Linda Maffeo - lmaffeo@cb.nyc.gov

**Community Board 1 Full Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 12th – 6:30 P.M.
Wagner College – Foundation Hall**

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

Members

Joe Ahlstrom
Michelle Akyempong
Arguello, Tatiana
Berksteiner, Dora, ex
Berksteiner, Doreen, ab
Joseph Bird, ex
Allison Brown, ex
Telee Brown, ab
Christopher Campbell
Loretta Cauldwell
Andre Ciprut
Kathleen Coen
Christopher Corbo, ab
Anthony Cosentino, ex
Claudette Duff
Samir Farag
Omar Ferriera, ab
Timothy Forsyth
Selina Grey
John Guzzo, ab
Robert Holst
Linda Huff
Sunny Jain
Linda Juarbe, ab

Lillian Lagazzo
Peter Lisi
Ali Lula
David McGoy, ex
Nicole Meyers, ab
Mohan Radhakrishna, ex
Alina Nevradakis
Friday Ogbewe
Ernest Paige, ab
Francine Reali, ex
Joshua Renta
Cindy Salzillo, ex
Catherine Schiavone
Anthony Scutari
Anthony Sgarlato
Sean Sheil, ex
Nicholas Siclari
Jaclyn Tacoronte, ex
George Turner
Siya Williams, ab
Steven Williams
Nicholas Zvegintzov

Office Staff

Joan Cusack, District Manager
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

Guests

Guest Speaker, New York State Senator, Jessica Scarcella-Spanton, Makeda Campbell, Presentation by Nicole Brooks, Parks Dept., Anthony Macari, Dino Theodoropoulos from Zyscovich Architects.

Mike Arvanites, Kamillah Hanks office, Elena Brady, Councilman, David Carr's office, Cathleen Kenny for Sam Pirozzolo, Sgt. Thomas Garguilo, 120 Precinct, Prince Cobbina, Jermaine Williams, Agnes McBeth, RCDA, John McBeth, Andrew Dorman, Reginal Prendergass, George Doyle, Prince Cobbina, Neil Visoky, Mike Morrell, Joseph Pozzolano, Peter Botras, Anthony Macari, Kat Cognata, Thomas Carroll, Rome Austin, Raquel Alston, William Araya, Annmarie Calitri, Charlie Olson, Bruce Lauria, Ousmane Diallo.

Meeting to Order 6:35 PM – Robert Holst led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Nicholas Siclari thanked everyone. We are trying new venues. We thank Wagner College for letting us use this venue.

Public Session, Friday Ogbewe

George Doyle – For those of us living in NYC, we have been charged surcharges by the MTA for many years. It goes to our utility and telephone bills. With this congestion pricing coming, will our surcharges on our bills go away? The Mayor says he has no say in the matter on Congestion Pricing which is false. He has representatives sitting on the MTA board that voted for congestion pricing. Only one person voted against it and that was the man from Suffolk County. We have elected officials that do not come before us to give us what is happening in the city council. We had Jay O'Donovan and Mary Codd Council people from the North Shore. Mike McMahon, Jenny Mitchell, all came to our meetings. They came to tell us what bills were pending in the city council. State elected Charles Fall or a

representative gives us information. Diane Savino used to come. Our new Senator, Jessica Scarcella-Spanton is here and she is a wonderful person who I have met a few times. We have a city council person who does nothing. She knows we are against these battery storage units in residential areas and yet they are being put up. It could be put in industrial and manufacturing areas. Caddell Dry Dock is one.

Prince Cobbina – Outreach Coordinator of the CCRB. It's a city agency that is independent of the NYPD. We investigate misconduct. Allegations of abuse of force, authority, offensive language, etc. Earlier this year, our chair talked about budget cuts. Our executive director went to the city council to talk about some bills.

Bill number Int [0938-2023](#) which is sponsored by Speaker Adams. If passed, will grant the agency direct access to NYPD Body worn camera footage.

In addition to a Resolution 541 which calls on New York legislators to give CCRB access to sealed records. Consequently, there are two bills that are currently with the State Legislator that refer to the agency being exempt from sealing statutes, which are bill number A370 sponsored by Assemblymember Cruz and bill number S06267 sponsored by Senator Bailey.

Youth Advisory Council Class of 2024 application. Go to NYC.GOV/CCRB. The annual report is out on complaints. We don't get many for Staten Island.

Chairman Nick Siclari introduced NYS Senator, Jessica Scarcella-Spanton. She has a Port Richmond Strong Tree-Lighting after this.

Guest Speaker: NYS Senator, Jessica Scarcella-Spanton – Thank you for having me. My team is here. Makeda Campbell is here. She is here very often. I can't believe it's been a year since we were sworn in. We have accomplished a lot. We received \$26 million dollars in additional funding for the Verrazzano Residents Discount. The MTA was imposing an increase in tolls. In order to keep it what it was, we had to find this additional money. Another proposal we were able to stop is speed cameras on the Verrazzano Bridge. I was worried about people slamming on their brakes. I'm not happy with the congestion pricing either. \$15 is extremely expensive for people. We have the argument that Staten Islanders are already paying their fair share by crossing the Verrazzano Bridge. We have legislation that would exempt Staten Island residents, it's going to be hard to pass, we are already getting pushback. The lawsuit that New Jersey is taking place in will be helpful as well. Not just an economic issue but environmental as well. This historic nature of the Fresh Kills Landfill which affected our air quality greatly. It's now a beautiful park. According to the Environmental Impact Study required by the MTA, our air pollution especially in Port Richmond are expected to increase. All of the Staten Island Delegation and myself fought really hard to get the \$12 million dollars we deserved from the Opioid Settlement. Originally, that was going through H&H Hospitals which we don't have. We all came together as a delegation and worked it out and we will get our fair share for that. I grew up here and lost many friends due to overdoses. I'm beyond 10 right now. Just had a neighbor overdose. Every generation has a big thing that impacts them. You have the Vietnam generation. We are the Opioid generation. Safety legislation has come up. We work closely with our retail stores. Everyone has their deli that they go to. Mine is Three B's on Forest Avenue. One night I went in and an older gentleman who works there had a black eye. He was assaulted at his workplace, they robbed the cash register. We have legislation that would make that a Class D Felony to assault a retail worker. It's similar to if you assaulted a police officer or a firefighter. Now we are bringing it to Utility workers and bus drivers. We want to always protect our workers. We received \$50 million dollars for the DA's offices across NYC. We want to engage with the community and have many mobile offices. Today we had one at Rab's Bowling Alley at 11:30 AM on a Tuesday morning and it was packed. They were presented with an Empire Award. Any issues you can come to our mobile unit. I have a wonderful staff.

Q&A

Q -Joshua Renta – Will ferry workers be protected? – A - Senator Spanton congratulated the Ferry workers for their new contract and said yes, she will look into it and she feels all workers deserve this protection.

Q - Joe Ahlstrom - St. John's University status and a traffic light at the entrance. A- At next weeks meeting we will know more about what is happening there. I know there's a camp that goes there every summer. We heard education facility, housing, etc. As far as the traffic light and speed bump option, we will speak with DOT.

Q – Claudette Duff – Disabled senior with no money on Medicaid. The state came and evaluated her and gave her 1-1/2 hour a day aide. Obviously something has changed. A – That is a big issue. Who is going to work for 1-1/2 hours

a day. Also going from round the clock care to 1-1/2 hours is shocking. Give me the information and we will look into it. We just got off our Senate Retreat which is a conference for 10 hours per day. Home Care and Aging in Place were two things that came up. We need to figure out what's missing. My landlords in their 90's were able to live and die in their home and my grandmother had round the clock care in her home.

Q – Nicholas Zvegintzov – I have a motion for the North Shore BRT Environmental Impact Statement and we will submit a comment. We are urging the electives to support it and turning the buses around in the railway station. A – I worry about the 120 Precinct and the double-parked lanes. I think there are ways to get around that and fix it. We have to look at these vacant train stations on Staten Island by the Empire Outlets. I didn't survive working for the MTA. But we will surely do our part.

Q – Between Clove Road and Todt Hill Road, along the expressway. Trees there with the houses and one of them is mine. Trees are dead and falling down. A few years ago, one fell on my house. In Clove Lakes Park also. A – Senator Spanton said Makeda and I have become tree specialists. We had a Trantor Place situation with the sidewalk. Some said the city had jurisdiction, then Port Authority, etc. We got those agencies on a Zoom call and forced them to take accountability. Right now we are dealing with a private lot.

Q – George Doyle – Following up on Nicholas Zvegintzov BRT. Study done by Don Lambert, late board member. He was for getting the North Shore Right of Way, from the ferry to Howland Hook. There was a study. This is not directed at you or Charles Fall. The electeds in this City, State and Federal governments seem to forget that they do not work for the Democratic party, Republican Party or anybody else. They work for us. We are the ones that you are supposed to come to and that is not happening. We are not asked our opinion and when we give it, it's put aside like what Kamillah Hanks did with the generators. A – I would be happy to have a conversation with my colleagues. We all work together. We like to get more involved with people. "The Squeaky Wheel gets the Grease". So many issues come across our desk. No way can we be perfect. Chairman Nick Siclari stated that it's great Makeda has been here every month.

Senator Spanton talked about Veterans Homeland Security and Military Affairs. We have a Veterans Nonprofit Capital Project. Grant information Zoom on January 9th. Applications will be on April 19th. The Veterans' NonProfit Capital Project, vnep@dasny.org. We are also collecting toys for a Toy Drive. You can drop off toys at 36 Richmond Terrace, Suite 112. Due by December 20th. Thank you. Have a wonderful Holiday.

Public Session - Continued

Neil Visoky, Esq. – I represent the applicant for the Reyes Mexicana Deli, 196 Port Richmond Avenue Liquor License Application. I wasn't able to get on the Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond Zoom meeting until late. My client speaks Spanish and had an interpreter representing her. In order to sell beer you must have a good sized menu and a full-service kitchen which they have (see handout). Hours of operation are 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM. The place has been open for two years. The committee members had some concerns. I recommend to all my clients to take an Alcohol Training Awareness Program given by the State.

Michael Morrell – Update on a motion that the board passed at the October meeting concerning 1197 Clove Road. The John King Vanderbilt House which is an individual landmark on Staten Island. The issue was passed to the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Was scheduled to be heard last month but was postponed until today. It was again postponed. The board voted that before any action was taken to the grounds, the Landmark home must be restored first. I will keep you posted on what the commission says.

Michael Arvanitis – Councilmember Kamillah Hanks office – Henderson Avenue, repaving and removed the speed bumps. Speed bumps are being replaced. Call our office with any issues, 718-556-7370. Want to acknowledge Peter Lisi. We had a great Tappan Park Tree Lighting. Then a Rosebank Tree Lighting. Tonight I have a Port Richmond Tree Lighting.

Roll Call/Attendance – Loretta Cauldwell – We have a quorum.

Motion to accept the minutes in the packet. Motion accepted.

PRESENTATION:

The Revenue division presenting a design for approval for the outdoor patio at the Parks Facility on Staten Island. The Stone House at Clove Lakes Park Vestibule.

Nicole Brooks, Parks Dept., Anthony Macari, Dino Theodoropoulos from Zyscovich Architects.

Anthony Macari, Director of Architectural Development – Modern pergola prefabricated structure that will be on the lakeside (back). Original structure was built in 1983 as a boathouse. Over the years, it was expanded, changed to food service and several canopies and awnings were added. In 2014, a tent was constructed. That has been there until last year until it had fallen into disrepair. In 2022, we selected a new operator, Peter Botros, for a new 20-year license term. The building is being renovated including replacing this tent. He will also be installing a new vestibule in the front. A new ADA exterior ramp that will take you to the lower patio. Inside, new restrooms with a new ADA restroom.

Dino Theodoropoulos – Project Manager. Presentation shows aerial views. We are trying to maximize the views of the lake with a glass enclosure on all three sides. The glass along the lake opens 2/3rds of the way. He spoke about the ramp and materials. The roof of the pergola opens completely. Also a glass roof on the vestibule portion. The aluminum pergola is the same footprint as the tent structure it replaced and as close to the edge of the water as possible. A wood railing on the entire shoreline. Insulated glass on the top and either side of the vestibule. Parks has reviewed this and we approved it. It will be submitted on Friday to the Design Commission and we seek the boards support.

Q&A

Q - Resident from the Fountains. Haven't the leases been 10 years in the past and not 20 years which you stated. A- We can go to 20-years.

Q – George Doyle - Why wasn't this brought before the Land Use Committee of Board 1? A- We were told to come to the Full Board. Chairman Siclari said it is just for a letter of support.

Lillian Lagazzo said she wanted to thank them for making this investment into the community.

Reverse Roll Call passed unanimously. Letter of Support will be written (has been sent out the day after this meeting).

Officers' Reports

First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino – Excused.

Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth – No report.

Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe – No report.

Secretary, Loretta Cauldwell – No report. I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

Treasurer, Sunny Jain – Excused.

Chairman Siclari – We are trying all new venues. Thank you to Wagner College for having us. AV system is State of the Art here. We will bounce around until we find a “home”. St. Mary's is the heart of our district and most convenient. I want to thank you for coming and wish you a great Holiday Season.

District Manager, Joan Cusack - Thank you for coming here. I know it was more of a challenge. I want to make sure nobody in this room especially our board members are concerned about the work that we do in the office with our elected officials especially our Councilmember, Kamillah Hanks. She has been wonderful to us. I will call her and she will call me right back. She has had a wonderful meeting with the Borough President and all the leaders about the towers. Her office explained it to us exactly how we can understand them. Everyone is entitled to their opinion but I want to make sure that none of you feel that this is happening in our office. We have great relationships with the Borough President, Assembly persons, and with the little piece that David Carr has, he is always paying attention to

us. With Sam Pirozzolo, it's been a wonderful relationship. I wish you a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and see you next year.

Land Use, George Turner – We had two applications this month.

1. **121 Precinct Accessibility Upgrades & Minor Renovations, 970 Richmond Avenue, 10314. Michael Russo, AIA of LiRo Group, NYC.** ADA Compliance Project for NYPD, 121st Precinct. Informational only. No vote. Upgrading existing conditions. Entrance to a circular driveway with ramp to main entrance. One thing that came up was the money they are spending on it due to it's a relatively new building. Discussion regarding the long ramp with where a drop-off point would be for a wheelchair for example.

Suggestion: Recommendation to put external elevator for 1 wheelchair at a time from roundabout up to entrance way. (A letter went out the next day of the meeting).

2. **76 Cedarcliff Road, Thomas J. Soviero, AIA, NCARB, Roger Calvanico Group.** Attached is a copy of an application (N 230265 ZAR and N 230266 ZAR) pursuant to Zoning Resolution Sections 119-311 to authorize development, enlargement, or site alteration on a steep slope or steep slope buffer and 119-316 for modification of grading controls to facilitate enlargement of existing residential home at 76 Cedarcliff Road (Block 618, Lot 377) within the Special Hillside Preservation District (HS). Mr. Soviero made a presentation with three poster boards. The area was previously approved for two houses which are now not being built. Discussion on trees in which not many will be touched at all, retaining wall, pool (16 x 32). It is a minor interruption of the steep slope.

Q&A – Robert Holst asked how is the extent of effect on the hill is determined? Every month something comes up on that slope and we seem to allow it. There are effects of cutting into the hill over and over. We are just going by what they say. A- They are small effects. They go through a review of City Planning and then Buildings Department. They have a governing oversee on these things. It goes through several layers of approval by competent engineers.

Motion to accept as presented. Land Use Vote Unanimous 9-0-0. Full Board vote passes unanimously, 24-0-0 (submitted to the portal).

Waterfront, Joe Ahlstrom – Met on November 28th. The MTA was present. SI Rapid Transit Environmental Impact Statement – Power Point was given out. We learned about the Public Comment Session has been extended to December 22nd. Several concerns were voiced at the meeting. We are concerned with parking on Richmond Terrace. We would like to see that bus route pass through where the wheel is now. The second area is Snug Harbor. It has to raise 14 feet above the street level which would block the view from Snug Harbor of the Kill Van Kull. They insured us there would be plexiglass or something see through. This will be discussed. We are concerned about the Maritime Impact Study with Atlantic Salt, Deli, gas station, etc. and how it would affect them. It was brought up to use the rail route in the same way, shape or form. They were very responsive to our questions at the meeting. We are in the planning stages. Nicholas Zvegintzov did a great job with this proposal. I will support it as well as most of the Waterfront Committee members. No meeting in December and will reconvene in January. We wish you a very Happy Holiday Season.

Chairman Siclari thanked Joe Ahlstrom for a terrific job.

Public Services, Sunny Jain - Excused. Attending another meeting.

Youth Services, Kathleen Coen & Mohan Radhakrishna – Kathleen Coen said the committee met and had an excellent presentation from a representative of the Parks Department who is responsible for Youth Services. A variety of programs the Parks Department offers. A presentation from Mr. Al Kurland who spoke about his advocacy for lowering the voting age to 16 years old. There is no meeting in December. On behalf of Mohan and myself, enjoy your holidays.

Chairman Siclari thanked Kathleen and Mohan for doing a terrific job. The youth is our future.

Sergeant Thomas Garguilo – Neighborhood Coordinator for the 120 Precinct. I supervise 16 members in all districts of the 120. I also assist with the youth coordinators and the schools as well. I am in constant contact with Joan Cusack with emails. We cover 10-1/2 miles. We have an issue with migrants who are harassing people at the Home

Depot. We have two new coordinators, Russo and Roda. Home Depot is working with us side by side. We went in and talked with the migrants and asked them to leave. If we come back and they are still there, they get a citation for trespassing. Also, Park Hill area, 17 Bowen. Abandoned building with squatters. I work with the DA's office. We are setting up something with Buildings and the FDNY to alleviate this issue. The building should be closed soon marked condemned. Bay Street and Victory Blvd. has a lot of issues on drug use. At the Civics meetings they talked about the steps by 66 Victory Blvd. We did a lot of community work helped by Jermaine Williams. Officer Russo issued a citation to someone urinating in public. The person ran, we gave chase and he was arrested with a loaded firearm in his waistband. Another individual was threatening patrons near the barber shop with a knife. One of my officers, Officer Castellano removed the knife. Front Street another problem area. We had a build a block meeting by Urby who has an ongoing drug issue inside the building. That lead to an arrest from a robbery. It's a lot of good work being done. I will give you my work cell phone number, 917-376-2234. For any issue. I also work with Rosanne Caruana at DOT.

Q&A

George Doyle said you all did a wonderful job on Front Street with the trailers but they keep coming back. Parked overnight for a week. A – Please keep on letting us know about it and we will monitor it. Loretta Cauldwell asked for the Build a Block meeting schedule. Go to NYPD.gov for the schedule.

Transportation, Nicholas Zvegintzov – I and Joe Ahlstrom briefed the Senator. Making a motion to make comments on the EIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the BRT. We are for the BRT and the electives need to solve this question of where the buses terminate. Years ago they decided that the ferry didn't want the buses in there and that needs to be changed. This can be redesigned. We have until December 22nd to put comments on the Draft EIS. In my report there is a site to go on to add other things. Lillian Lagazzo stated the elimination of 250 parking spaces from Nicholas Street through the Ferry terminal will have a severe impact for local businesses. If that can be mentioned and negotiated.

Motion to send this letter. Reverse Roll Call. Passes unanimously.

Small Business & Non-Profit Committee, Jaclyn Tacoronte – Excused.

Labor, Robert Holst – No meeting or report.

Rules & Legislative Affairs, Anthony Cosentino & Timothy Forsyth – The NYS Liquor Authority has a new rule for all committee chairs. If you are applying for a new liquor license, you must serve food and until the time of closing, otherwise you're in violation. On the renewals, they are grandfathered in.

Budget & Finance, Anthony Cosentino – Anthony Cosentino said he had a meeting with the office staff for about 3 hours. We have the Expense Budget for up to \$30,000 and the Capital Budget for beyond that amount. We had a great meeting with a lot of input. It was supposed to be presented tonight but there was an administrative snag with the city so instead it will be presented to next months full board meeting.

Parks Committee, Anthony Cosentino – Excused.

Health & Human Services, Fran Real – Excused.

West New Brighton/St. George Committee, Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino – Claudette Duff – Meeting November 21st. Minutes in the packet. Wish everyone a Happy Holiday.

Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh – Timothy Forsyth – I don't see the minutes in the packet. I emailed them on November 16th. We had a meeting on November 15th. We did not have a quorum nor could we access our meeting site. We held the meeting outside. One liquor license application for Fava Restaurant on Victory Blvd. No objections. A cannabis distributor didn't show up. Mike Morrell gave us an update on the Westerleigh Improvement Society which is tonight. Residents with concerns regarding a house construction on Quinlan Avenue. We referred them to the Board Land Use Committee. No meeting this month.

Chairman Siclari said the area committees are doing a terrific job. As the weather gets rougher and you have a minimal agenda, we'll have access to either Webex or Zoom.

Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth/Shore Acres – John Guzzo – Anthony Sgarlato said there was a meeting and minutes are in the packet. Main issue was the lighting on Bay Street and Tompkins Avenue.

Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond/Elm Park/Arlington, Selina Grey & Dora Berksteiner – Selina Grey said they met on November 27th. No quorum. There was a presentation for new liquor license applications. There were two renewal applications. I know there is a representative for Reyes Mexicana Deli at 196 Port Richmond Avenue. There are concerns from the community of people who live there. Mr. Reyes is seeking a license to sell beer. It is a restaurant with sit-down dining. There is a lot of fighting in the streets, ensued by the consumption of alcohol. How will we deal with these issues in Port Richmond? The representative Neil Visoky, Esq. got on the call late. The representative there was not able to explain or give a solution on how to combat this in the community with a lot of bars. This would only exacerbate the conditions. Also, a discussion with Odette Wilkens, President and General Council for Wired Broadband. There is 117 5G towers slated for the North Shore. Our next meeting is December 18th. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Chairman Siclari asked for a recommendation for Reyes Mexicana because we have a limited time to comment. Ms. Grey said the recommendation was no. Mr. Visoky said they only want to stay open until 10 or 11:00 PM. They are serving a lot of food and have been open two years. There should be no concern. I'm not representing a bar owner but a business owner. My personal opinion is they are going to get the license from the SLA. Mr. Visoky said he is a retired lieutenant and closed down 750 locations over 12 years with the NYPD. This is a low level concern that this place wants to sell beer. Selina Grey said if all the other places around them are selling beer, this is why there is increased uptick of violence, crime, robberies in that community. A lot of it is attributed to alcohol. It's not getting addressed. More alcohol on top of a already growing problem. Mr. Visoky said it seems that I will not get a favorable answer for any other place that wants to sell alcohol. District Manager, Joan Cusack said no that's not the case. Each one is individually vetted. It depends on where they are and if the area is inundated with so many areas like in Port Richmond. This is just a recommendation from us. Many times they allow other locations that we can't understand why they get through and other staples of the community get turned down. This is why they go before the area committee. That area knows best. Better than the full board about what is going on in their community and how they would like to handle it. It's not an attack on you or your client. You have a lot of clients and you do a very good job. We have spoken many times. The SLA will probably pass it. The 500 foot rule does not apply to selling beer. Only to selling full alcohol. Claudette Duff said I was on that Port Richmond Committee and still have property in that community. There is a problem with alcohol and the behavior in that community for some time. If your client came up with some type of plan to make sure the problem is not accelerated. Maybe another translator can talk about that.

Chairman Siclari said besides the SLA now we have the dispensaries coming. We are going to need guidelines for that. DM Joan Cusack said we have been trying to get in touch with OCM to have them come speak with us with no response. After the recommendations from the area committees we have to submit a letter on the OCM website.

Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Peter Lisi – We meet the third Thursday of the month. We had some problems with Tappan Park. The Parks Department is on it along with the NYPD. We will stay on top of that. Issue with Domestic Violence Housing Unit. Reaching out to them. We would like to know the status of the Hungerford School on Tompkins Avenue. The unopened Family Dollar and closed check cashing on Broad Street. Sanitation issues, garbage conditions on Broad Street between Bay and Van Duzer Sts. Sanitation took care of it but now it's dirty again. Two liquor licenses were approved. The Blue Pearl at 37 Navy Pier Court. The owner has multiple businesses and it looks like a very nice place. Another new place, Caffeinated New Yorker café at 523 Bay Street. We had a representative from New York City Economic Development Corporation present the Stapleton Waterfront North Shore Action Plan. The first time all our elected officials put together a plan collaboratively. There was a notification for a 5G Utility Pole attachment on Victory Blvd between Monroe Avenue and Van Duzer Street and Beach Street between Van Duzer Street and Jackson Street. Urby residents complained about loud noise throughout the night at a construction site on the waterfront. It was the dock builders. DOT and EDC were on it immediately thanks to Joan and Linda communicating that. There was an allegation of a 12 person fight on Sunday morning on Bay Street. We will change the minutes for that.

Old Business – None/ New Business – None/Motion to adjourn – 8:19 PM

Everyone have a wonderful Holiday!

LAND USE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Virtual on Zoom

Land Use Committee

Nicholas Siclari, Ex. Officio, Chairman
George Turner, AIA, Chair
Loretta Cauldwell
Anthony Cosentino
John Guzzo – Ab.
Lillian Lagazzo
Peter Lisi
Friday Ogbewe
Michelle Akyempong
Nicole Meyers – Ab.

Non-Board Members

George Doyle
Phil Farinacci
Charles Olson
Lisa Barbieri

Board Office

Joan Cusack, District Manager
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

Guests

Kari Bailey, DCP Presenter
George Todorovic, DCP Presenter
Jen Gravel, DCP Presenter
Rasika Deosthali, DCP
Ryan Hung, AIA, Presenter
Antoinette Donegan
Joseph Pozzolano
Steven Williams, CB1
Krystal Heffney
Lindy Peter Crescitelli
Deborah Derrico, CB2
Robert Holst, CB1

Presentations:

1. **27 Wetmore Road** – Mr. Ryan Hung, AIA - Special Hillside Preservation District (SHPD) – N240057ZAR submitted by Lap Ku pursuant to Zoning Resolution Section 119-311 to facilitate legalization of a horizontal enlargement and construction of an inground pool, wood deck, and screened porch, Block 630, Lot 71) within the Special Hillside Preservation District is available on DCP's Zoning Application Portal (ZAP) at the following link:

<http://zpa.planning.nyc.gov/projects/2023R0214>.

Mr. Ryan Hung spoke about 27 Wetmore Road. It is a private 1 family property built in the early 1990's. Over the years, alterations were done but the records are lost. Homeowner wants to do the necessary repairs to use this as their primary residence and move in. House is presently vacant.

DOB brought up issues within the Special Hillside Preservation District regarding exterior elements not pertinent to the repairs. They are seeking authorization to keep exterior elements such as outdoor pool, deck & patio. Removing these structures would disturb the site. It's obvious from the photos, the exterior needs repair.

Q&A – Looks like structures were built without a permit. Would maybe need a reconsideration to keep any of the structures. The owners have been trying to get DOB to issue a violation to address this appropriately. There has been no initiative whether or not this is done legally or illegally due to how old this property is and whether it's grandfathered. The homeowner will remove structures if it's illegal. The fact that there is plumbing on the structure, you'll have issues with DOB. If something is built without a

permit, it needs to be put in its prior state. "These people bought it knowing this existed." "ignorance is not a defense". "The law is the law". It was mentioned by the Land Use Chair that they don't need our opinion. It is up to City Planning & Department of Buildings. DCP said they would send us larger projects in the future. Only a small portion is on the steep slope. DCP said they send applications such as City Planning, BSA, LPC and PDC. Mr. Hung said we are coming to you to do everything we can to get this rectified.

Motion: Send a letter of no objection as long as City Planning & Department of Buildings approves and brings it up to code.

Vote passed unanimously.

2. **City of Yes – Economic Opportunity** – Kari Bailey, DCP - Growing jobs and small businesses with more flexible Zoning. How does zoning affect businesses in NYC neighborhoods? Goals? Reactivate storefronts, simplify district types, enable more small-scale production, urban culture, life sciences, etc. Foster vibrant neighborhoods and create opportunities for local businesses to open.

Community Boards in all boroughs that voted - 13 in favor and 19 oppose. Three components to the City of Yes. Carbon Neutrality, Economic Opportunity and Housing (coming in the Spring). Where can I open? What can I do in my space? Where can I expand? Goals: Business growth, boost growing industries, more business friendly streetscapes, and create new opportunities for businesses to open. October 30, 2023 – 1,107 page document was sent by DCP.

Q&A – How will you keep ADA in effect in these proposals? Type of businesses going in the upper floors? Yes, ADA compliance will remain in these proposals which is a Federal Law we have to comply with. Upper floors will feature retail and commercial but no manufacturing or industrial. Question about fire safety. FDNY safeguards stay the same with the building and fire code with additional safeguards on the upper floors. Why come to us when these proposals will go through anyway? For example, Carbon Neutrality. 8 City Council members voted no and 43 voted in favor.

Deborah Derrico of CB2 said they didn't take a position yet. January 26th is their presentation. It's a very complex text amendment. Who will regulate these? There will be a storefront on every corner.

Joan Cusack, District Manager said we at CB1 are more commercial than other areas such as CB 2&3.

There was a concern if a business wants to expand, will CB1 hear it first or will they all be As-of-Right?

No vote at Land Use Meeting.

Vote is due by February 2024. Worksheets were sent out to all board members. Vote on all 18 proposals. Fill out whether you Support/Do Not Support or Requested Modification and send back to the CB1 office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM

Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond/Graniteville/Elm Park/Arlington/etc.

Area Committee Meeting

Monday, December 18 2023 – 7:00PM –Teams Meeting

Attendance:

Community Board Members:

Selina Grey Area Co- Chair – present
Dora Berksteiner Area Co-Chair –Present
Telee Brown - Absent
Michelle Akyempong - Absent

Guests/Affiliation:

Jasmin Robinson –Resident and District Leader
(61)
Kiesha Walcott: Guest
Liz Morgan Resident
Ellen @ABC License Chinese New Star
Derek Chen Cajun Resturant Forest LLC
Jason Price: Guest

Non Board Voting Members

Mary Bullock - Present
Everett Wattlely – Present
Mario Buonviaggio - Present

Meeting Commenced at 7:05 pm. A quorum was present. The meeting consisted primarily of general discussion.

Agenda

1. Old business – None
2. New business - DOT New Traffic Lights
Approved Traffic Signal Locations
 - 1.Forest Ave and Eunice Pl
 - 2.Forest Ave and Greenleaf Ave
 - 3.Bay St and Water St
 - 4.Victory Blvd and Woodstock Ave
 - 5.Richmond Terr and Faber St
 - 6.Van Name Ave. and Walker St
 - 7.Willowbrook Rd and Gloria Ct
 - 8.Victory Blvd and Hodges Pl
 - 9.South Ave and Arlington Pl

INTERNAL

3. **Demolition/New Building Permit Notices:** 242 Grandview Ave, Block 1257 Lot 81, SI, NY 10303

Announcements

4. NYC Parks Life Guard Recruitment
5. Van Hailin Staten Island = Taxi Limousine Commission Mobile Outreach Unit. December 15, 2023
6. NYC Dept. of Veterans Services hosting a Toy Drive December 20, 2023. 4 PM 1 Centre St. NY, NY 10007. Suite 2213.

7. Liquor License Renewal Applications

- a. Port Richmond Emporium, 350 Port Richmond Ave, 10302
- b. Cajun Restaurant Forest LLC, 1756 Forest Ave, Store A-1, SI, NY 10302
- c. Milek Olympic Grill, 1637 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10302
- d. Miyabi II Asian Fusion, 1348 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10302
- e. China New Star Restaurant, 1640 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10302
- f. Bagel Land, 1841 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10303

8. Liquor License New Applications

- a. Port Richmond Emporium currently holds a liquor license, however, the owners lawyer shared that they will be allowing the current license to expire and reapply for a new license. Concerns from those who live in the community were expressed and shared that this establishment is problematic in that the patrons loiter outside the of the venue, often leading them to leave liquor bottles on the sidewalk, urinating on private property and fights. Mario, Liz Morgan, Everett Wattley and Jasmin Robinson who all live in close proximity of the establishment shared with the lawyer and the owner that this is a quality of life and safety issue. A vote was taken for the renewal.
 - Selina Grey – No
 - Dora Berksteiner – No
 - Everett Wattley – No; (non-board voting member)
 - Mary Bullock – No (non-board voting member)
 - Mario Buonviaggio - No (non-board voting membe)

9. Cajun Restaurant Forest LLC, 1756 Forest Ave, Store A-1, SI, NY 10302. Vote for renewal:

- a. Selina Grey – Yes
- b. Dora Berksteiner – Yes
- c. Everett Wattley – Yes (non-board voting member)
- d. Mary Bullock – Yes (non-board voting member)

INTERNAL

- e. Mario Buonviaggio - Yes (non-board voting membe)
10. Miyabi II Asian Fusion, 1348 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10302 Vote for renewal:
- a. Selina Grey – Yes
 - b. Dora Berksteiner – Yes
 - c. Everett Wattlely – Yes (non-board voting member)
 - d. Mary Bullock – Yes (non-board voting member)
 - e. Mario Buonviaggio - Yes (non-board voting membe)
11. China New Star Restaurant 1640 Forest Ave 10302: Vote for renewal:
- a. Selena Grey – Yes
 - b. Dora Berksteiner – Yes
 - c. Everett Wattlely – Yes (non-board voting member)
 - d. Mary Bullock – Yes (non-board voting member)
 - e. Mario Buonviaggio – Yes (non-board voting member)
12. Because both Milek Olympic Grill, 1637 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10302 and Bagel Land, 1841 Forest Ave, SI, NY 10303 did not show, no vote was taken.
13. Open Discussion
- a. Mario Buonviaggio of Port Richmond Strong reported that the Port Richmond Christmas Tree Lighting was huge success. Hundreds of people attended. The had to shut down Port Richmond Ave. They had a food truck and the children had a great time.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05pm

Submitted by
Dora Berksteiner CB1 Area Co-Chairperson

INTERNAL

Staten Island Community Board 1

Transportation Committee

Joseph Bird, Christopher Campbell, Katheleen Coen, Anthony Cosentino, Radhakrishna Mohan, Charlie Olson, Josh Renta, Catherine Schiavone, Sean Sheil, Siyda Williams
Chair: Nicholas Zvegintzov

Report of January 9, 2024

New members

The TC welcomes:

Josh Renta (member of the Board)

Charlie Olson (non-member)

Next meeting Zoom Monday, January 22, 2024, 6-7:30 p.m

Next Transportation Committee meeting Monday, January 22, 2024, 6-7:30 p.m.

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88398636411?pwd=dWM1R1RqTzQrQUovRDV3VEEx5UUVadz09>

Subject: Daylighting

Agenda:

- 'Daylighting' (keeping one parking space empty at intersections) is mandated by NY State Law *.
- Applications in our District.

Witnesses (invited): NYC DOT, NYPD, Open Plans (organization)

* <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/VAT/1202>

§ 1202. Stopping, standing or parking prohibited in specified places.

'(a) Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or when in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control device, no person shall: ...

2. Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers: ...

b. Within twenty feet of a cross walk at an intersection, unless a different distance is indicated by official signs, markings or parking meters.'

Motion passed by the Board

On December 12 the Board passed unanimously the motion proposed by the Transportation Committee to support the North Shore Bus Rapid Transit, a dedicated grade-separated right-of-way approximately 5.4 miles long from Arlington to St. George, vastly accelerating bus routes along the north and west shores. The resolution was inserted into the comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and sent to electeds.

It emphasized solving the problem of loading and unloading the buses in the SIRT train station, avoiding contention on Richmond Terrace.

Nicholas Zvegintzov, Chair