

**COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING #1 AGENDA –**

**TUESDAY, December 12th – 6:30 P.M.**

**Wagner College, Foundation Hall, 170 Campus Road (Foundation Parking Lot)**

**SESSION OPENING**

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

**Guest Speaker:** New York State Senator, Jessica Scarcella-Spanton

**PUBLIC SESSION:** George Doyle, Prince Cobbina, Neil Visoky, Mike Morrell, Sgt. Thomas Garguilo.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Nicole Brooks, Project Manager, Parks Department – The Revenue division presenting a design for approval for the outdoor patio at a Parks facility on Staten Island: The Stone House at Clove Lakes Park Vestibule.

---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](mailto:lmaffeo@cb.nyc.gov)

**LAND USE PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA**  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM  
CB1 Board Office, 1 Edgewater Plaza, Room 217

**Land Use Committee**

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

**Board Office**

Joan Cusack, District Manager  
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

**Guests**

Thomas J. Soviero, AIA - Presenter  
Michael Russo, AIA - Presenter  
Peter Crescitelli  
Mr. Lindy  
Lt. Stapleton  
Karina Laferriere

**Non-Board Members**

George Doyle  
Phil Farinacci  
Charles Olson  
Lisa Barbieri

**Presentations:**

1. **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, retaining wall, pool (16 x 32). It is a minor interruption of the steep slope.

**Motion to accept as presented. Vote Unanimous 9-0-0.**

2. **121 Precinct Accessibility Upgrades & Minor Renovations, 970 Richmond Avenue, 10314. Michael Russo, AIA of LiRo Group, NYC.** ADA Compliance Project for NYPD, 121<sup>st</sup> Precinct. Informational only. No vote. Upgrading existing conditions. Entrance to a circular driveway with ramp to main entrance. 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.**

**Community Board 1 Full Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 14th – 6:30 P.M.  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church – 347 Davis Avenue**

**Nicholas Siclari, Chairman**

**Members**

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

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

**Office Staff**

Joan Cusack, District Manager  
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

**Presentations**

**None**

**Guests**

Prince Cobbina, Jermaine Williams, Mary Bullock, Alicia Boyd, Mary Stitchwitch, Peter Rampulla, Agnes McBeth, RCDA, John McBeth, Perveen Agarwal, Mike Morrell, Makeda Campbell, Marie LaFrancesca, Eric Patterson, Cathleen Kenny, Mary & Bob Garnett, Harold Nouvertne, Jessica Vodor, Andrew Dorman, Bruce Lauria, Robert Gibbs, Charlie Olson, George Doyle, Nicholas Ragucci, Agatha Vassallo.

Meeting to Order 6:35 PM

Chairman Nicholas Siclari asked Boy Scout, Nicholas Ragucci to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. All the Veterans for Veteran's Day that just passed were acknowledged and stood up.

Roll Call Attendance, Loretta Cauldwell.

Motion to accept the minutes.

**Public Session, Friday Ogbewe**

Jermaine Williams – NYPD Ambassador for SI. We have 8 ambassadors in total for the other boroughs. Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> Outreach Program for 10-14 year olds. One location is at the ferry at the 120<sup>th</sup> Precinct from 12-6 PM. Other location is at the SI Mall. Be mindful when shopping and putting stuff in your car and going back to shop. People are watching. Be careful out there.

Mary Bullock – It's open season on the banners. Think about your ancestors and who you may want to honor. Third annual tree lighting on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 415 Port Richmond Avenue. Hot chocolate from Café Con Pan. They make a sheet cake that I promise you never tasted one better. Hanukkah Lighting on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at Temple Emanuel, 984 Post Avenue. Lastly, the Staten Island Jazz Festival on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at the St. George Theater. St. George theater is totally refurbished. Happy Holidays.

Perveen Agarwal – Beverage Island, three locations. Construction on Willow Avenue since February 2023. They close the street and have limited access to our business. We employ 23 people. It's getting worse now with the holidays. We are losing business and we may have to lay-off a few employees during the holidays. We need DEP to give us guidance. (This issue was resolved).

Mike Morrell – Westerleigh Civic Group. Landmarks Preservation Commission. 1197 Clove Road, John King Vanderbilt Home. The house is in horrible condition and the owner would like to construct two other houses on the same plot. The board approved of the construction after the owner rebuilt the original landmark home. The other homes would also have to be contextual to the original home. That's the status. I will keep monitoring and report back.

Agatha Vassallo – We serve the LGBTQ+ families with free mental health counseling, HIV testing, youth programming, etc. Located at 66 Willow Avenue. 10305. Willow Avenue is currently a one-way street that has ongoing construction for the past 10 months. Parts of the street and sidewalks have been closed. No projected date of completion. On November 8<sup>th</sup> we were told that there would be no curbside access or driveway access from November 9-17. Many of our participants have mobility issues. They are told to drive the wrong way on a one-way street to navigate. Funding for non-profits come from funding from participation that we need to report back to the state. This is a poor plan that denies access of our resources for our participants. **(Here is what we heard since the meeting: "We are in the roadway trench restoration phase of the project. The underground work (watermain, sanitary & storm sewer) has been completed. The contractor will be providing temporary access to the parking lot of 66 Willow Ave. from Willow Ave. this Friday, November 24, 2023. Access to the parking lot was restricted from the driveway on Willow Ave. only. Vehicles had and continue to have access to the parking lot from Langere St. The end date for the project is December 29, 2023. It is however possible the project will end before then").**

Makeda Campbell – Community Liaison for Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's office - Wanted to introduce herself.

David Pena – Councilwoman Kamillah Hank's office – The election was a week ago and we have been elected for another 2-year term. Thank you. This Saturday, our office is doing multiple turkey give-aways. Locations: Mount Sinai, 382 Jersey Street at 10:00 AM, Brighton Heights Reformed Church at 11:30 AM, Fellowship Baptist Church, 1:00 PM. Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairman Siclari thanked the Board Members for showing up to the area and functional committee meetings. I appreciate what you are all doing.

#### **Officers' Reports**

**First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino** – Last month, we didn't have a budget to present to you. We sent out an email with the budget to everyone. If there are no questions or comments we will do a reverse roll call. Passes unanimously.

Chairman Siclari said the Budget is a like a wish list. We spent a lot of time with it. Other boards have 2-3 items, we had 40 items. Loretta Cauldwell is a great-grandmother again. Congratulations. We will be trying a new place next month, Wagner College.

**Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth** – No report.

**Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe** – I want to commend the area chairs for their due diligence.

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

**Treasurer, Sunny Jain** – Report in packet.

**Chairman, Nicholas Siclari** – We will be trying a new place next month, Wagner College. We will keep trying. St. Mary's is in the center of the North Shore for meetings.

**District Manager, Joan Cusack** - The Budget is done. Thank you for all the help. Thank you to the board members for your support. If you feel something isn't being done correctly, please let us know. Have a great Thanksgiving.

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

1. **191 Edgewater Street**, BSA Cal. No. 2023-36-BZ – Philip L. Rampulla, Principal/Urban Planner presented. A manufacturing-type building, former Wrigley Gum building. Like a Bay Street Landing type of a building. 6-7 stories high. Will be converted into market-rate 2 bedroom condominiums with parking underneath for 33 spots; taking the first floor out for parking. A roof deck and recreation space. Public access through their site to the water. The bumpy street will be repaired. Extra parking across the street, 190 Edgewater Street as a parking garage. Rear of the building, waterside, there will be a Kayak launch. Sprinkler System & fire hydrant. The Land Use Committee voted yes unanimously 9-0-0.

There was a discussion.

Robert Holst said the building is zoned for manufacturing. They are asking for a variance on that zoning so they can put private residences there. Nothing about affordable housing. Market-rate apartments and the developer gets the profit. If you said there is no chance manufacturing is coming back to the U.S. but it is coming back. The federal government and state is putting money behind it. Chips, infrastructure, etc. These are jobs for the middle class. Before we sign off on changing manufacturing to a residence, what do we as a community get in return for that?

Lillian Lagazzo said we are getting something back for that. This is a beautiful waterfront. We have plenty of affordable housing coming into our area. This gives families who are starting out the ability to buy a piece of property. We are accommodating the community of various levels of income. We should be able to own something to pass along to our kids. It will also be enhanced for the community and be positive for the community. John Guzzo said we have tried to have this property developed for many years. This building has been vacant for close to 100 years. We'd like to see something there. I've been saying for years that manufacturing is coming back and I am for it but that part of Rosebank couldn't handle manufacturing anyway. We can't handle when Alice Austen has a party which is 25 cars. I am on the Land Use Committee and voted in favor of this plan. Selina Grey said she thinks what Robert Holst is

proposing is a good idea. Why not have the developer hire some young people from the high school to give them experience. Another speaker asked if we are asking for union workers? Catherine Schiavone said she agrees with Lillian Lagazzo on the home ownership. I'm tired of my friends moving away to New Jersey, Florida, South Carolina, People want to own on Staten Island. Joseph Bird said we should be pro-development on this issue, nobody else is interested and we need these sites developed. Peter Lisi said plenty of times we see a community get nothing. We could put our youth to work. If we deny this building it may stop more development. This building is here 100 years since 1919. If you want to approve with the caveat that it facilitates their own union training for youth, etc. Chairman Siclari said when the Empire Outlets was being built we asked for a labor agreement with local hires with training the kids out of high schools. Everything the Community Board does is advisory only. When we start something and it gets done, like Empire Outlets, we did our job. George Turner said buildings go through a life cycle and it's very rare if a building has a second and third life. This building is obsolete for a manufacturing use. It can have a second life as a residential use. The area will be cleaned up, street fixed, with access from the road to the shoreline. John Guzzo said the lot line is on the street and there would be no way they can have truck deliveries as a building for manufacturing. Peter Rampulla from Rampulla Associates Architects. I am a Land Use Specialist. In 2006 this building was seeking a variance for similar. Not sure why it didn't go through but it was approved for residential back then.

**Full Board Motion to approve 191 Edgewater Street provided the owner has a Project Labor Agreement with local hiring.**

**Full Board Vote: 29-1-0**

2. **180 Campus Road** – Single family home with an illegal extension on the house. Steven Simicich, Esq. ([steven@slg.law](mailto:steven@slg.law)), Managing Partner, SL Law Group – for the applicant Jesus Rivera. Special Hillside Preservation District – Horizontal enlargement to a single-family home. Interior work. Enlargement of the garage and the room above the garage. Deck is not part of this proposal, but it is falling apart.

**Motion: To approve enlargement structurally sound and to include the deck made structurally sound/rebuilt entirely. Land Use Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Ab**

**Full Board Vote – Passes Unanimously, 30-0-0.**

**Waterfront, Joe Ahlstrom** – Minutes are in the packet. I'm happy with the comments about the waterfront. The waterfront is coming back with the Esplanade, they'll be a lot going on. It will be a lot of opportunity for a lot of people. Thank you for the letter for the Ferry to Brooklyn. Hopefully that will get done.

**Public Services, Sunny Jain** - Leaves picked up on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>. It should be put in paper lawn bags or clear plastic or a labeled bin with a secured lid. I'm sure there will be further dates. For snow, we mentioned last year to have the plows come down on both sides of the street. As far as the homeless shelter, they will be assigning security chiefs. As soon as we get the names we will have a meeting with them and meet regularly. There were sidewalk issues but they are cleaning it up.

**Youth Services, Kathleen Coen & Mohan Radhakrishna** – Minutes are in the packet. Our next meeting is on November 29<sup>th</sup>. We are having the Staten Island Parks Department Youth Coordinator speak about a Robotics Program after school in park facilities. There are other programs for after school also. There will be another speaker about lowering the voting age.

**Transportation, Nicholas Zvegintzov** – No meeting. Nick is under the weather. Chairman Siclari said the fast ferry schedule has changed from three boats to two boats. As long as they keep running for Staten Island.

**Small Business & Non-Profit Committee, Jaclyn Tacoronte** – November meeting was canceled. SIEDC will have 12 properties that will be presented to the community to bid on. There's funding to do an assessment of that. NYC Small Business BID is offering a support team. If you have a building and have questions, there's a direct line to them. If you're a small business with city contracts, they will combine three websites launching by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Website and App. WorkForce 1 will be doing marketing and social media sessions in January for free. On the non-profit side, three things are happening. Non-profit Staten Island is hosting a giving Tuesday on November 16<sup>th</sup> social media session. It's free but you do need to register. Campus Institute's Annual Gala on November 29<sup>th</sup>. NYC Digital Media Center launching the third module, the Podcast which begins the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January. I teach along with several instructors podcasting, video-editing, online radio programming. Right now the students are completing their Maker Park Radio, the only radio program on Staten Island. In January, podcasting that will be hosted with the instructor, MC Milk who is part of HipHop. If you know any High School students interested it's for free. We have a 16 seat limit. Next meeting is Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> (which was canceled).

**Labor, Robert Holst** –

**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** – The Parks Department wants to do a presentation. They are reconstructing the vestibule at Stone House on Clove Road. I suggested they come before the West Brighton Area Committee. We can have a joint meeting with Parks at that location. (Parks is presenting at our next Full Board meeting on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>).

**Health & Human Services, Fran Reali** – Fran Reali is excused.

**West New Brighton/St. George Committee, Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino** – Report in the packet. Parks Committee asked for a letter of support for Tot Playground construction in Mahoney Park. Letter is in the packet. The park serves 2-5 year olds. Project is .23 acres. \$1.93 million dollars. ADA Accessibility, shaded areas with trees, swings, seating, etc. Reverse roll call. It passes unanimously.

**Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh – Timothy Forsyth** – No meeting, no minutes. We will meet tomorrow night at Safari Realty, 6:30 PM.

**Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth/Shore Acres – John Guzzo** – No meeting, no minutes. We spoke in the past about having Ad-Hoc meetings regarding these battery operated sites from Con Edison. Corrected, the Wrigley's building closed down in 1949, not 1919.

**Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond/Elm Park/Arlington, Selina Grey & Dora Berksteiner** – We had our first meeting. No minutes. The next meeting will be on 11/27/23. It is virtual. We are actively looking for a place.

**Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Peter Lisi** – We meet on the third Thursday of the month at the Stapleton Library at 6:30 PM. Illegally parked tractor trailers were finally removed on Front Street. 520 Bay Street, the sidewalk shed is removed finally. In front of El Patron. Tappn Park has a new construction fence around the building. Getting a brand-new building. Double parking on Broad Street between Targee and Tompkins Avenue, the NYPD is still on it. Liquor license renewal, Latin Grooves Bar. There are some situations there but there was an agreement between the owner and the complainants that there will be time to address the situation and comply with the complaints. 15 Hudson Street, Safe Horizons for Children, there are adults there. We want a status on the Hungerford School on Tompkins Avenue. We want it a school again. Family Dollar and check cashing on Broad Street and Canal, Sanitation issues are being worked on. Also request to Sanitation to clean Broad Street.

**Old Business** – None.

**New Business** – None.

Chairman wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Motion to adjourn – 7:47 PM





## **Staten Island Community Board 1**

1 Edgewater Plaza, Suite 217, Staten Island, NY 10305

Tel: 718.981.6900 - Fax: 718.720.1342

Chairman: Nicholas Siclari

District Manager: Joan Cusack

### **Community Board 1 Staten Island**

### **Clifton, Concord, Stapleton Area Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 6:30 PM, Stapleton Library, 132 Canal Street.

**Attendance:**

Peter Lisi  
Miriam Arnold  
Jeremy Heyler  
Kelly Yim  
Jeannine Kelly  
Peter Botros  
Alex Levin  
Eric Levin  
Basamat Hamdan  
Diana Switaj  
Munro Johnson

Previous meeting minutes were accepted.

**Open Agenda Items:**

Tapen Park: Prostitutes and drug use in and around Park, public urination, Request rep. Meth Clinic on Canal St to attend a future meeting. 15 Hudson St run by safe horizons suppose to be a domestic violence housing for women and children only, but men are also housed. Status of what Hungerford School on Tompkins Avenue will become. Status on unopened Family Dollar & closed check cashing buildings on Broad St & Canal St. Sanitation issues of garbage and dirty conditions on Broad St between Bay St & Van Duzer St. Trinity Christ Assembly Church on Grey St & Hudson St vehicles double and triple parking during funerals and services, causing traffic congestion.

New Liquor License:  
The Blue Pearl  
37 Navy Pier Court  
Staten Island, NY 10304

No community objections, APPLICATION IS APPROVED

New Liquor License:  
Caffeinated New Yorker Cafe, Inc  
523 Bay Street,  
Staten Island, NY 10304

No community objections, APPLICATION IS APPROVED

Representatives from NYC Economic Development Corporation presented and expanded on the Stapleton Waterfront section of the North Shore Action Plan.

**Notifications:**

NYC OTI proposed "5G" utility pole attachment on Victory Blvd, between Monroe Ave and Van Duzer St & on Beach St, between Van Duzer St and Jackson St.

**New Business:**

Urby residents complained about loud noise throughout the night at the construction site of NYC Dock Builders project. DOT & EDC was notified.

Complaint about NYC Parks department unnecessarily driving vehicles through the Stapleton waterfront park forcing walking pedestrians to move to the side.

12 person fight on Sunday morning at El Patron located at 520 Bay Street.

Meeting Adjourned.

# **West/New Brighton Committee Meeting**

## **LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, November 21, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**RUMC**

### **MEETING AGENDA**

#### **Presentations:**

Jessica Maldonado, LMSW and Jenny Pisani, MEd. from IlluminArt Productions did a presentation about hate crimes on Staten Island.

Their aim was to get a perspective from community members on what we have seen and heard within our local communities regarding things like stigma, microaggressions, stereotypes, and systemic racism as well as suggestions for solutions that could help cultivate a better, more inclusive and equitable society where people listen to each other more openly and have empathy for others in our community.

Jessica Baker Vodoor, President & CEO of Sung Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden is asking for the community's support to save their community composting program. She is asking for a letter of support urging Mayor Adams not to eliminate the program. She is also asking community members to sign their Petition by going to [grownyc.com](https://grownyc.com).

Jessica also discussed Staten Island North Shore Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and its possible environmental impact on Snug Harbor.

**Liquor Licenses Invited & Attending:**

Julian Gaxholli from Beso attended the meeting, spoke about his restaurant, and answered questions. His license renewal was approved unanimously.

The owner of WEM Japanese Cuisine was present and his license renewal also approved unanimously.

Bota & Morelos Deli did not show.

Announcements:

Jessica Baker Vodoor announced that Snug Harbor will be holding their Indoor Artisan Market (Holiday Hop), Saturday, December 2, 11am – 4pm.

NEXT LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING: December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

LOCATION: RUMC Sipp Auditorium

NEXT COMMUNITY BOARD #1 MEETING December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 -  
LOCATION: TBA

Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino

Area Committee Co-Chair

West/New Brighton & St. George Area Committee.



## **Staten Island Community Board 1**

1 Edgewater Plaza, Suite 217, Staten Island, NY 10305

Tel: 718.981.6900 - Fax: 718.720.1342

**Chairman: Nicholas Siclari**

**District Manager: Joan Cusack**

### **Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth/Shore Acres Area Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 – 6:30 PM

Board Office, 1 Edgewater Plaza, Room 217

#### **Board Members**

John Guzzo, Chair

Anthony Sgarlato

Alina Nevradakis

Cindy Salzillo

Charlie Olson, Non-Board Member

#### **Guest**

Paul Sorocco

Fr. Hank Tuell

John DeRoss

Meeting began 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

- Discussion on the Canterbury House
- December 9<sup>th</sup> Tree Lighting at Coast Guard Station.
- Illegal rentals – Address to follow. More police presence.
- Better Lighting on Tompkins Avenue and Bay Street.

John Guzzo, Rosebank Chair

**Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond/Graniteville/Elm Park/Alrington/etc.  
Area Committee Meeting**

**Monday, November 27, 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:**

Odette Wilkens Present & General Council:  
Wired Broadband Inc.  
Simon B - Resident  
Rev. Frazier – Resident  
Jasmin Robinson – Resident and District Leader  
(61)

**Non Board Voting Members**

Mary Bullock - Present  
Everett Wattlely – Present  
Mario Buonviaggio – Absent  
Charlene Burke - Absent

Meeting Commenced at 7:10 pm. A quorum was not present. The meeting consisted primarily of general discussion.

**Agenda**

1. Old business – None
2. New business - None
3. Announcement – Christmas Tree lightings:
  - a. Port Richmond North Shore Alliance & Christian Construction Host: Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> : 7 PM: 415 Port Richmond Ave.
  - b. Hanukkah Menorah Lighting: Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> : 7 PM: 984 Post Ave
  - c. Assemblyman Sam Pirozzolo: Dec 1<sup>st</sup> : 6 PM: 2090 Victory Blvd.
  - d. Sanitation Leaves Pick-up: Sunday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>. Also, brown bags for the leaves are being given for free at 1000 Richmond Terr.
  - e. NYC Restaurant Week: Jan. 16, 2024 – Feb. 4, 2024
4. Liquor License Renewal Applications
  - a. Sakai Ramen: 965 Richmond Ave – No represented showed- No v ote taken
  - b. Café Con Pan Bakery: 137 Port Richmond Ave – No rep showed – No vote taken

**INTERNAL**

## 5. Liquor License New Applications

### a. Reyes Deli Mexicana: 196 Port Richmond Ave.

Alicia Reyes who was on the call had a young man acting as her interpreter.

Unfortunately, the young man name was not recorded for our records. Ms. Reyes is seeking a license to sell beer. The deli includes a full restaurant for a sit down dining option. Ms. Reyes asked the board for our support in recommending the liquor license. The request was met with concerns and question. Jasmine Robinson who lives in the Port Richmond community was concerned that with the current issues of people fighting in the streets which is often ensued by over indolence of alcohol consumption. Everett Wattlely, who also lives in the Port Richmond community had questions and concerns about how Ms. Reyes propose to ensure that the violence and the public intoxication would not occur in or around her store. After a lengthy discussion a vote was taken although we did not have a quorum.

- Selina Grey – Voted No
- Dora Berksteiner – Abstained
- Everett Wattlely – No; (non-board voting member)
- Mary Bullock – Abstained (non-board voting member)

Please note, Ms. Reyes lawyer Neil Visoky joined the meeting just before the meeting was to end. Mr. Visoky stated that he was called by his client regarding the board not supporting the license. Mr. Visoky apologized for not being able to join us at the start of the meeting, but he had a conflict in his schedule. He wanted to know if there was anyway the vote could be reconsider at next months area CB1 area meeting. After a vigorous discussion around why the vote went the way it did, it was shared that the concern was for the current problems surrounding the unruly behavior and intoxication that continues to plague that area. Selina, told Mr. Visoky that we would take the matter up with the CB 1 office for further guidance.

## 6. Open Discussion

### a. Odette Wilkins President & General Council of Wired Broadband Inc.

[Owilkens@wiredbroadband.org](mailto:Owilkens@wiredbroadband.org) 646.939.6855. Spoke about the historical preservation review process regarding the 117 5G towers that are slated to go up in various Staten Island CB1 communities. Ms. Wilkins asked that the board to review the reference guide she provided on the process on preserving historical districts from 5G tower, and how we can send comments to SHIPO voicing our concerns. Ms. Wilkens has offered to assist us with the process if needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Submitted by

Dora Berksteiner CB1 Area Co-Chairperson

INTERNAL

***Community Board 1***

***Youth Services Committee***

***Minutes of Meeting November 29, 2023***

Present: Radhakrishna Mohan, Tony Scutari, Steven Williams, Jacklyn Tacorante and Katheleen Coen.  
Non-CB1 Board Members present included Alfred Kurland, Dana Vitolo and Robert Regan.

The meeting, held via Zoom, began at 5:30. Ms. Dana Vitolo, the Staten Island Youth Coordinator of NYC Parks, addressed the variety of programs offered for Youth in Community Board 1 at McDonalds Playground, Faber Facility, Walker Park and The Greenbelt. NYC Parks is currently running a team to participate in the Lego First Robotics competition. Enrollment is ongoing, but the team has already begun to meet, so those interested should act quickly.

Mr. Al Kurland spoke about his efforts to lower the voting age to 16. He believes that such a measure would foster a sense of community engagement and promote a lifelong sense of responsibility in young people.

Mr. Scutari and Mr. Regan commented that the former Cromwell Center was a tremendous resource for young people and expressed hope that a facility of that sort can be brought back to the North Shore.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katheleen Coen



## Treasurer's Report - FY 2024 December 2023

<u>CODE</u>	<u>ALLOCATED TO 6/30/23</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
100 Supplies	\$1,595.00 – \$90.99	\$ 1,504.01
101 Printing Expense	200.00	200.00
110 Food & Forage	1,150.00	1,150.00
117 Postage	200.00	200.00
199 Data Process Suppl.	450.00	450.00
300 General Equip.	50.00	50.00
314 Office Furniture	140.00	140.00
315 Office Equipment	250.00	250.00
332 Data Process Equip.	294.00	294.00
337 Book Subscriptions	100.00	100.00
400 Contractual Svces.	1,500.00	1,500.00
40B Communication (Paid by OTI for our telephone bills – not our budget spending money)	(3,013.00)	(3,013.00)
403 Office Services	150.00	150.00
412 Equipment Rental	\$3,470.00-\$997.77	2,472.23
451 Carfare	0	0
452 Special Event	0	0
622 Contractor	0	0
700 Chase Imprest Fund (Money for Imprest Checks only- not our budget spending money)	500.00	500.00
TOTAL:	\$10,049-\$1,088.76	\$ 8,960.24

PLEASE NOTE: EACH CODE IS TRANSFERABLE TO OTHER CODES AS LONG AS THE TOTAL ALLOCATION IS THE SAME.

SUNNY JAIN, CB1 TREASURER

ENCUMBERED FOR FY2024 CONTRACTS

**Staten Island Community Board 1 Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Grymes Hill/Westerleigh/Willowbrook  
Area Committee Meeting**

November 15, 2023 Wednesday 6:30 PM at Safari Realty, 1958 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY

**Committee Attendance:**

Timothy Forsyth	CB1 Area Co-Chair
Sunny Jain	CB1 Member
Andrew Dorman	CB1 Member
Michael Morrell, Westerleigh Improvement Society (WIS)	Past President

Excused: Joseph Ahlstrom, Fran Reali, others status unknown.

**Public:**

Six concerned residents of Quinlan Avenue.  
Fava Restaurant Owners — Liquor License Renewal

***Called to Order 6:35 pm***

A quorum was not present. Liquor License Renewal applicant the Fava Restaurant owners with location 2009 Victory Boulevard, hours 1100 AM to 10 PM, no complaints, no objections. Unable to make a Motion as no quorum, but those Committee Members present recommend approval.

**Westerleigh Improvement Society:** Mike Morrell stated that no updates from his Society.

**Under New Business:**

Six concerned neighbors on Quinlan Avenue stated problems with house constructions at 97 and 99 Quinlan Avenue and 109/111/113/115 Perry Avenue, requesting that the Land Use Committee look into and contact Borough DOB Office regarding. They stated they will contact CB1 Office directly with documentation.

In closing we again extended our appreciation and thanks to Fran Reali & Frank Reali for hosting the meeting space for this Area Committee Meeting.

Meeting adjourned 6:50 pm.

## **Staten Island Community Board 1**

Transportation Committee

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

Virtual Report of December 12, 2023

### **Motion for the Board**

#### **Comment by SI CB1 on the North Shore BRT Draft Environmental Statement**

File at <https://new.mta.info/project/staten-island-north-shore-bus-rapid-transit> by December 22, 2023.

Also send to Mayor and Councilmember, State electeds, US Representative.

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Staten Island Community Board 1 had already commented on the *Final Scoping Document* on June 11, 2019, and finds that its objections have not been met in the October 2023 *Staten Island North Shore BRT DEIS*, and re-states and extends them here.

CB1 supports the North Shore BRT to enhance community development and reduce existing commute times.

CB1 urges the MTA to collaborate with City, State, and US Government to complete the design for terminating the BRT in the existing SIRT station at St. George. This design was improperly ignored in the DEIS.

The proposed routing into the bus terminal via Richmond Terrace is absolutely unacceptable for multiple reasons: Increasing instead of decreasing transit times, eliminating parking, bus stops, and bike lane, adding to traffic obstruction, and retarding circulation instead of easing it.

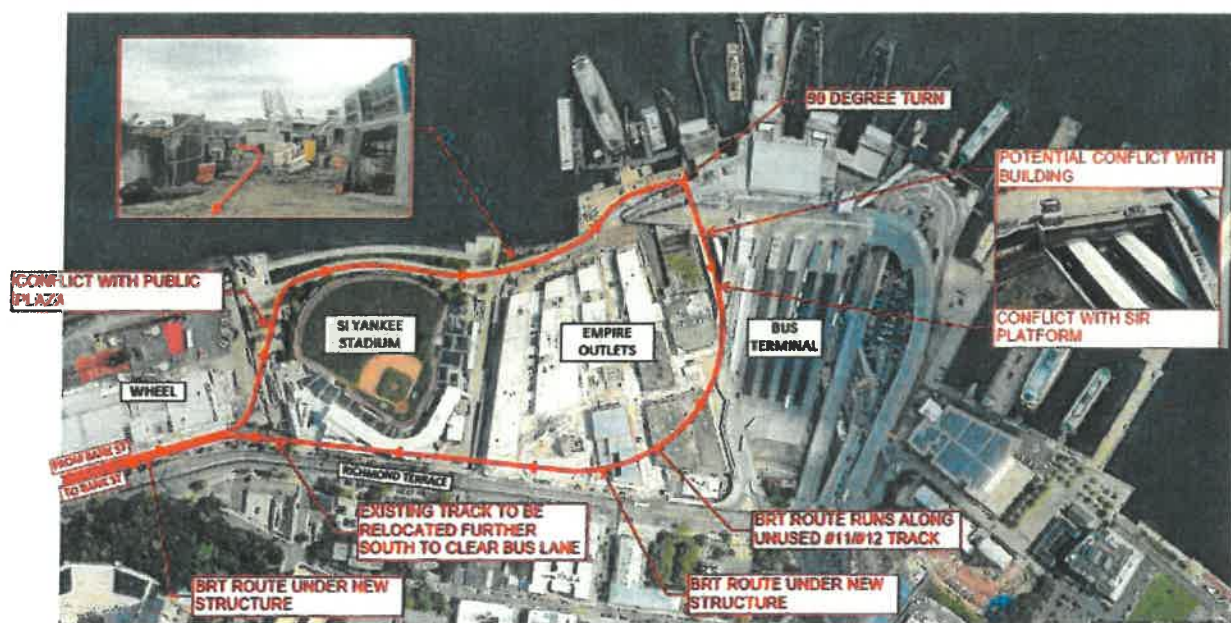
The DEIS seeks to support the on-street routing by releasing *Appendix B: St. George Terminal Access Evaluation*. Its entire analysis is: 'Based on the initial review conducted as part of this screening effort and in consultation with New York City Department of Transportation, it was determined that an alignment that travelled beneath the Ferry Terminal and its associated retail corridor was not considered feasible primarily due to

security restrictions and to a lesser extent the inability to relocate critical equipment.' ( p. 33)

The EIS is required to examine all the impacts of the design decisions by objective criteria. The unsupported opinion of a Department at any level of government is inadequate to establish security impacts. Marine Security implications of the BRT terminal station options should have been examined according to the Marine Security standards set up by the US Department of Homeland Security and with the support of USDHS staff.

In particular the impacts of each individual option 2, 3, and 4 should have been examined individually since they are not equivalent in their impacts. For example, Option 2 has its station approaches and its platforms and staging areas outside the existing MarSec perimeter with a less than 20' corridor between them to be assessed for Marine Security (Fig 6, p. 14.)

Figure 6 - Option 2



(Appendix B St George Access Evaluation-27.jpg)

Options 2, 3, and 4 must be assessed to complete the EIS, and selection including them needs to be considered in order to avoid adverse environmental impacts and costs of the alternative on-street routes.

In Option 2, we recommend making the terminal loop in the anti-clockwise direction. This will avoid conflicts with driving on the right.

The on-street segment from Nicholas St. to the entrance to the Ferry Terminal, comprising six lanes of traffic (seven at several turning lanes), presents multiple problems:

- Increasing instead of decreasing transit times.
- Eliminating parking, bus stops, and bike lane.
- Eliminating 250 parking spaces from Nicholas Street to the Ferry Terminal will create parking hardships for individuals (especially the handicapped) and burdens to businesses that depend on Richmond Terrace's street parking for patrons.
- Decreasing amenity by presenting a traffic wall between the waterfront esplanade / Ferry Terminal and Staten Island's civic center / 'downtown'.
- Blocking entrance to Borough Hall, the County Building, the 120 Precinct, Family Court, the Ballpark, and the Empire Outlets.
- Blocking automobile entrance to both commercial parking garages.
- Presenting a traffic wall to passengers moving from Staten Island's civic center to and from the Ferry Terminal.

The cost analysis of 'preferred' alternative does not impute the going-forward costs of the degraded transportation environment, especially street access to SI's most-traveled transportation node, thus under-costing this alternative.

The DEIS dismisses these costs: 'Significant adverse impacts are anticipated to traffic movements at 19 different intersections during one or more analyzed time periods. Significant adverse impacts are anticipated at two sidewalk locations. Approximately 250 on-street parking spaces along Richmond Terrace between Bay Street and Nicholas Street would be eliminated to accommodate the proposed busway (except for the 90-degree parking on Richmond Terrace associated the NYPD 120th Precinct); however, off-street parking would have capacity to accommodate the on-street shortfall.' (p. E-16)

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Nicholas Zvegintzov, Chair