

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING #1 AGENDA –

TUESDAY, October 10th – 6:30 P.M.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 347 Davis Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10310

SESSION OPENING

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

New members will be sworn in by Marie LaFrancesca of the Borough President's Office.

PUBLIC SESSION: Agnes McBeth, David Pena, George Doyle, Zhana Krot, Jermaine Williams, Mary Bullock, Mario Buonviaggio, Prince Cobbina, Alice Dow, Michael Harwood, Rhonda Hogan-Brock, Kelly Yim, Eileen Harrington.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Samuel Clarke, NYC DSS – WIN Presentation**
2. **Diana Switaj and Munro Johnson, NYCEDC & Antoun Sawires of the Office of Councilmember Hanks - North Shore Action Plan with Q&A.**
3. **Peter Lisi – Update CBI Website**

---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, 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 Scutari

---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, September 12th – 6:30 P.M.
Salem Church, 634 Clove Road**

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

Members

Joe Ahlstrom
Arguello, Tatiana
Berksteiner, Dora
Berksteiner, Doreen
Joseph Bird
Allison Brown
Telee Brown Ab
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 Ab
Linda Huff
Vincent Innocente
Sunny Jain
Linda Juarbe

Lillian Lagazzo
Peter Lisi
Ali Lula
David McGoy Ex
Mohan Radhakrishna
Friday Ogbewe
Ernest Paige Ab
Francine Reali
Joshua Renta
Catherine Schiavone Ex
Anthony Scutari Ab
Anthony Sgarlato
Sean Sheil Ex
Nicholas Siclari
Jaclyn Tacoronte
George Turner
Siyda Williams Ab
Steven Williams Ex
Nicholas Zvegintzov

Office Staff

Joan Cusack, District Manager
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

Guests

Assemblyman, Sam Pirozzolo Speaker, Cathleen Kenny, Assemblyman, Sam Pirozzolo's office, Makeda Campbell, Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's Office, Agnes McBeth, RCDA, Marie Carmody-LaFrancesca, BP Vito Fossella's Office, David Pena, Councilmember, Kamillah Hank's Office, Ousmane Diallo, Assemblyman, Charles Fall's Office, Roseann Caruana, DOT Commissioner, Prince Cobbina, Jermaine Williams, Nicole Brooks, Stephen Spataro, Michael Morrell, Dolores A. Brennan-Prichard, Will Deautriell, Mary Bullock, John McBeth, George Doyle, Eric Patterson, Andrew Dorman, Charlie Olson, Eric Leven, Maria Smart, Peter Levine, Greta McLain, Terry Troia, Jessica Gorman, SI Advance, **David Mandel, Community Liaison Percent for Art Presentation**, Teresa Tokarska, Shanelle Monroe..

Meeting to Order 6:35 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Siclari introduced Assemblyman, Sam Pirozzolo.

Assemblyman Sam Pirozzolo talked about the Hungerford School with migrants. He toured the school before and went back again after the migrants were there. I was threatened with an ethics violation because I took pictures. If you see something horrible, you are not allowed to "blow the whistle". The place was not suitable. The Commissioner of Emergency Management said that St. John's Villa was not deemed habitable for these migrants but they felt because we don't have any choice they were okay now. Article 28 allows the city to bypass any type of community board regulation. There are a lot of rumors out there. That's part of the problem. Snug Harbor, The Armory, The Christmas Tree Shop, etc. We called for a special meeting. The Governor cannot spend state money putting migrants in schools, hotels, community shelters, etc. and we are trying to restrict that. I was told The Armory is not being used for migrants today and they will not be in the future. I was told it was a headquarters for NYC Emissions. Was told it was off the table but we were told that about St. John's Villa too.

Question: As far as the protests, every elected official was at St. John's Villa but not at the three shelters that we have in the North Shore. AM Pirozzolo said I can't choose who has a rally and who doesn't.

Question: Right to shelter requirements/laws - how is your office leading the legislative charge? How are you adjusting those laws?

AM Pirozzolo said during 1979-1983, the Koch administration who was sued because of a homeless man in the Bowery. There was a consent agreement. NYC with the coalition of the homeless came to an agreement that they would provide shelter for every homeless man who went through a certain criteria and there were no limits on that. That is a consent decree. It's a private agreement between two organizations instead of going to a trial. This includes homeless women. We can't change that. Mayor Adams can say he doesn't want to provide this. They can then sue to get it changed.

Statement: NYC & NYS are not working together on this.

AM Pirozzolo said we would like to get every dollar from the Federal Government and the state be audited by the comptrollers' office to see how the money is being spent. We would like to have migrants registered in NYC to make sure their backgrounds are legitimate, etc. It is not a state issue at the moment. The state sets the law and the city gets to do whatever they want within the guidelines of the state. It's between the Mayor and the Coalition of the Homeless.

AM Pirozzolo said that if you want a rally you have to organize it yourself and the elected officials will show up.

Question about the green spaces on Staten Island. We are trying to save them from overdevelopment. One in community board #1 is the Serpentine Commons and there are 120 more throughout SI. These spaces are mainly not privately-owned and we would like representatives to look at them. They are owned by DOT, DCP, DEP and DEC. Keep these areas a green space. We have a video of 20 minutes we would like to send you.

AM Pirozzolo talked about Battery Energy Storage Facilities - they are popping up all over the place. I just saw an article that the city planning commission is taking away the authority from the community boards on these sites. It's a big Tesla battery. When electricity is less expensive, they want to charge these batteries. When electricity costs a lot and there is a strain on the grid, they want to sell it back to the cities or municipalities for more money. Not one coal plant or energy plant will be closed. There is a large site planned for Travis on Victory Blvd. That is slated for a 650 Megawatt electricity battery site. There is a site on Virginia Avenue that is supposed to be the largest in the city. This site is over 50 times bigger than that. They want to get two personnel 24/7 to monitor it. The city of New York, as of right, has given their permission to these battery companies without planning or community board approval to open battery sites wherever they want. They can do it on the ground in residential areas and on tops of buildings. I say there are two types, those that are on fire and those that are not on fire yet. They create their own oxygen and you cannot put them out. Just recently in Warwick, NY, there were two independent battery site fires that we learned they cannot put water on them. The water becomes toxic and poisons the ground. If they put water and it becomes electrified, that is a problem for firefighters. The standard procedure is to watch them burn until they die out. How do we organize this fight?

Question: A resident who lives across the street from the Con Edison Lithium Ion battery storage system. We were all unaware in our residential community. We saw an email in June 2023 about the Fox Hills energy storage system and the smart grid. It never mentioned about this being a Lithium Ion battery storage system. The many benefits were elaborated but the whole truth was not told. The SI Advance had an article days before this was put up. We want answers to the questions that we have. What safety procedures are in place? Will Con Ed and the FDNY meet with us to give us some reassurances?

AM Pirozzolo said to give his office a call with these issues.

Marie LaFrancesca swore in and welcomed two new board members, Dora Berksteiner and Doreen Berksteiner.

Chairman Siclari welcomed the new members.

Roll Call & Attendance

Chairman Siclari introduced Roseann Caruana, DOT Commissioner to the meeting.

Public Session

David Pena – Office of Councilmember Kamillah Hank's Office – During the summer, we helped with a \$2.2 million dollar donation to Walker Park. We've been having extensive conversations with the Parks Department about Green Space throughout all our Parks on the North Shore. We gave out over 1,000 backpacks to students going back to school. We are in constant communication with the DOE. We opened several streets events in partnership with DOT. We are trying to revitalize the Waterfront. We will be announcing a large investment to the North Shore. Any questions, please reach out to our office.

Nicole Brooks – Project Manager for the North Shore of the Parks Department – Corporal Thompson Track & Field is now reopened which has been closed since the Spring. It's a brand new track and turf field. Borough President Fossella and Councilwoman Hanks have allocated funding for a playground and basketball courts to be reconstructed at Walker Park. On Sunday, we are having Raptorfest at Schmul Park in Fresh Kills from noon to 3:00 PM. Urban Park Ranger will be there with Falcons, Hawks, Owls and more.

Agnes McBeth – Community Liaison for DA McMahon – Today is his birthday! We had a busy summer. RCDA partnered with the Borough Presidents office and the NYPD to crack down on illegal smoke shops. This is a quality of life issue. Many of these shops are targeting young people with advertising, marketing and packaging. We are prosecuting landlords who are knowingly renting out to these businesses for illegal smoke shops. In addition, the DA, BP and local leaders have begun a Staten Island Fentanyl Task Force. Last year, 100,000 Americans died of a substance overdose. 146 of them died on Staten Island. Since the DA took office in 2016, 838 of our neighbors lost their lives to drug overdose. This is a big problem in our city and in Staten Island. 80% of those cases had Fentanyl poisoning. My only sister died of a Fentanyl overdose in 2021. We have to eradicate it. Fund the entities that are on the front lines fighting against it. On October 1st, we have our Second Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk/Roll Gathering at Willowbrook Park. I will send the flyer. As the Education Liaison, now that school is back in session, I will start my annual efforts with workshops against bullying, anti-drug workshop, to schools, students, parents, teachers and communities.

Jermaine Williams – Community Outreach Liaison/Community Affairs Bureau/NYPD - Sales Force Program about Quality of Life Concerns. Agencies involved such as Homelessness, Smoke Shops, Trucks overnight parking, etc. Getting stuff done is a collaborative effort. We are a partnership with the Community Board.

Stephen Spataro – Commanding Officer, 120th Precinct - I started at the 120 Precinct with an Internship. Now I'm back at the 120 Precinct. My grandfather, father, brother were all at the 120 Precinct. It is home for us. Four Freedoms by FDR, paintings by Norman Rockwell. One of the freedoms, Freedom of Speech. There is an unbearded Abraham Lincoln in modern clothes standing up at a Town Hall meeting. Community Board meetings are where the "rubber meets the road". We also have community council meetings, I encourage everyone to go. They are the fourth Wednesday of the month. When I first came to the precinct we were up 40% in major index crime. We are down in police officers. We have a Mobile Field Force on foot. Officers from other boroughs. They are supplementing all of our hotspots. Park Hill, Stapleton, New Brighton and West Brighton. They are engaging with the community. Now we are up 25%. The last month we have 0 shootings, 0 homicides, felony assaults are down. Cars are being stolen to commit robberies. Lock your doors and take the keys out of the car. If you have a Kia or Hyundai, they are easily stolen. You can go to your dealership and they can help with a mechanism. Scams are up. Get a call that your relative has been arrested, send Apple Giftcards. They are using AI voices to mimic family members voices. Overall crime is treading in the right direction with added resources.

There were a few questions without the microphone. If a speaker wants to be heard, they must use the microphone.

We haven't seen a lot of crime associated with the migrant shelter. People drinking, urinating in public, they received summons. We can't address people who are not breaking laws. Loitering is not illegal. Some e-bikes do not require registration.

We don't issue summons if someone is making a delivery or dropping off the elderly, etc. Double-parking for a few seconds doesn't have to be enforced.

Question: Chicken store by 1958 Victory Blvd. that is opened until 3:00 AM. Parties in the parking lot, loud cars, mess left over, etc.

The 120th Precinct will pay a visit to the store and ask for their cooperation with cleaning up their parking lot. It's their responsibility.

Prince Cobbina – CCRB (Civilian Complaint Review Board) – Monthly Public Board Meeting here on Staten Island, tomorrow, September 13 at the Jersey Street JCC Center, 71 Jersey Street, 6:30 PM. Hybrid meeting, in person and virtual. Community comes out to share their concerns like what needs to be done and what's being done.

Teresa Tokarska – Provider Liaison/Community Coordinator for SI with the NYC Department of Health. We are expanding with our family home visits initiative. We want to connect with community organizations, pre-natal clinics and providers for pregnant and parenting families. There is a baby shower coming up on October 14th with the NYPD 120th Precinct. My colleague Shanelle Monroe is here to say we are trying to promote wellness to families.

Peter Levine – Port Richmond Library Renovation Update – By May/June 2024, we should be open. We have a bulletin showing where the project is at. We have a muralist who was hired through the Percent for Art Program where they put art in public places. We will have a mural placed at the Port Richmond Library. She is calling it a paint party at the Veterans Park on October 21st from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It starts off as a paint-by-numbers and then the artist finishes the mural. The artist is Greta McClain. We also have NYPL After School. There will be 5 North Shore branches offering homework help. St. George, Stapleton, Todt Hill/Westerleigh, West New Brighton and Mariner's Harbor Libraries. Thank you for supporting your libraries.

Mary Bullock – Port Richmond Strong – The holidays are coming up. Consider getting a Veteran's Banner for someone in your family who made tonight possible. Information on our website: PortRichmondStrong.com/Veterans. You can read the biographies of our 80+ veterans. People who had ordinary lives which are totally extraordinary. Wonderful stories. I hope you can add your family story to that.

George Doyle – I had spoken to Joe Carroll, Lisa Crosby, former Community Coordinator and Chairman Siclari, a year and a half ago about honoring someone that gave everything to the community. Without his help or compassion for this community board by giving his Zoom site for us to meet. I asked for him to be honored and so far it hasn't been done (A certificate to honor him has been sent to John McBeth following this meeting). In Land Use we are going to her about carbonation. One caught fire and smoked in Warwick, NY. 6 months ago, a car (Tesla) driving on the Brooklyn Bridge caught fire. It had to burn for 4 hours. City Planning says they are safe but they are putting them in residential areas and in gas stations. I have recommended they be put in Commercial zones. They put one at Caddell Dry Dock which is fine.

Makeda Campbell – Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's office – My first time here. We do mobile offices just to be present to the community. We are partnering with the SI DA's office with a Scam Prevention Presentation on Thursday, September 28th, 11:00 AM at New Lane, Older Adults Center.

Roseann Caruana, Commissioner of DOT – The ferry contract has been approved. It took too many years for these workers to be rewarded for the good work that they do. We put the boulders in front of St. Paul's Church. We put an all-way stop on Cebra Avenue. We are putting all-way stops on Westervelt at St. Mark's and Nicholas, Louis Street and Howard Avenue. Safety improvements on Corson by Victory Blvd. Someone was killed there over the summer. A traffic signal has been approved for Victory & Corson where the dangerous slip is. Also a signal on Bay Street & Water Street where someone was killed last year.

PRESENTATIONS:

David Mandel, Community Liaison for Percent for Art, Department of Cultural Affairs - Update about the Mary Cali Dalton Recreational Facility located at 6 Victory Blvd. The two artists Miguel Braceli and Risa Puno that were selected are here. They are wonderful and talented and looking forward to sharing the design. I was told we like to table this for further down to a committee meeting. Then they will go to the Design Commission to get approval for their conceptual design and then to the fabrication/installation phase. It's a long process. Miguel is working with the outside of the building while Risa will activate the interior lobby. We ask the community board for a letter of support as we go to the Public Design Commission.

Chairman Siclari said let's build the building first.

Officers' Reports

First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino – No report. Welcome back.

Chairman Siclari said we're going to start the Sunshine Club.

Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth – No report. Welcome back.

Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe – No report.

Secretary, Loretta Caldwell – No report. I want to welcome the new members.

Treasurer, Sunny Jain – The report is in the package.

Chairman, Nicholas Siclari – Welcome aboard new board members. Thank you for your service. A hockey coach said if you're 10 minutes early, you're late. Everyone has to be here on time. New members don't have to vote for the Land Use items, you can abstain. You will have your Area Committee Meetings and sometime in the near future pick a Functional Committee.

District Manager, Joan Cusack – Keep those calls and emails coming in. Sometimes we have the right answer and sometimes it's an answer you don't want to hear but you will get an answer. I will listen to your story. I'm excited about the new members. Welcome and look at the committee lists and we really need your help. Thank you for joining the board.

Land Use, George Turner – We had an informal discussion about the battery sites. There are issues out there we don't understand and we asked for more information on that. We didn't vote on it. CB2 also asked for more information.

1. **Vanderbilt Avenue** - Convenience store/gas station. We recommended it be accepted but didn't vote on it due to not having a Quorum. **Motion to accept Vanderbilt as presented. Passed 25 yes, 1 no, 5 Abstentions, 0 Ineligible.**
2. **541-545 Bay Street** – Big building. They want to swap their original zoning and be included with the Bay Street Corridor Zoning. They want additional floor area. They will cut the building back about 20 feet and line it up with the new building next door. 27 additional apartments of which 25 would be affordable housing. Parking would increase from 29 to 42 spots. We recommend to accept this and Councilwoman Hanks is behind this as well. **Motion to accept as presented. Passed 24 yes, 3 no, 5 abstentions, 0 ineligible.**
3. **Carbon Neutrality – City of Yes** – We waived our right to review and comment. (Chairman Siclari explained that we get a Land Use and have 90 days to comment. Then it goes to City Council, to Borough President, Borough Board and then for a vote. They jumped ahead for us to comment on it. It is very obtuse and confusing. It had too many issues on one item.)
Motion to accept as presented. 2 Yes, 24 No, 5 abstentions.

Waterfront, Joe Ahlstrom – Welcoming Joshua Renta, Ferry Captain and student at Maritime. I asked at the Town Hall Meeting if the contract would be solved at the Ferry. He did (Mayor Adams) take care of it. I appreciate what he did after 13 years. I asked him to come to the Waterfront and I just got a call that he will be coming to visit the National Light House Museum and Pier 1. We will ask about Mary Cali Dalton also. The Waterfront in Manhattan and Brooklyn is beautiful. It's our turn. He will be with the EDC, just waiting for a date. Waterfront Committee Meeting will be on 9/26/23 at the Board Office, 1 Edgewater Plaza, Room 217.

Chairman Siclari said the next mission is the school bus drivers.

Public Services, Sunny Jain – Spoke without a microphone.

Rules & Legislative Affairs, Timothy Forsyth – Spoke without a microphone.

Youth Services – Kathleen Coen & Mohan Radhakrishna – Mohan spoke without a microphone. Chairman Siclari said thank you for taking on this role as co-chairs.

Budget & Finance, Anthony Cosentino – No microphone. Chairman Siclari said that Tony does a great job with the Budget. We've submitted the same thing for the last 15 years and we get back that it needs a further study. It's a thankless job.

Transportation, Nicholas Zvegintzov – Spoke without a microphone.

Small Business & Non-Profit Committee, Jaclyn Tacoronte – In July, SIEDC hosted an advisory meeting. I attended with Joan Cusack. Held at the St. George Theater, there was a list of properties presented. We advocated for properties under the 5-10 square foot for small businesses and nonprofits. The attendees were Claudette Duff, Peter Lisi, Christopher Campbell and Joan Cusack. In terms of the failed BID formation for the St. George District, we have reached out to Governor Hochol's officeto reallocate the \$1.9 million to form two separate entities. One for the St. George proposed Business Improvement District and one for the Stapleton Business Improvement District. This would fund up to 2 years for both of these businesses without imposing additional taxes for small businesses/nonprofits and the tenants that are there. Next week, September 21st is the auction for Empire Outlets. We are looking for MWBE's for estate, the Comptrollers' office will be hosting. If anyone knows any certified MWBE's or ones that are trying to get certified, please reach out. Chairman Siclari said Jaclyn took over a brand new committee and hit the ground running and doing a terrific job.

Labor, Robert Holst – Not present tonight. Chairman Siclari said he will be discussing the latest school strike with him.

Parks Committee, Anthony Cosentino – No meeting.

Cultural Affairs Committee, Anthony Scutari – No meeting.

Health & Human Services, Fran Reali – No meeting. Looking for a co-chair. I will have a meeting in October. Welcome to the new members.

West New Brighton/St. George Committee, Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino – Claudette said they met in June. We discussed the problem on Richmond Terrace with the Homeless and the Project Hospitality Drop-In Center. We are planning a walk through to see what's really going on there. I brought up at the Mayor's Town Hall that we need more supportive housing for people with mental illness and substance use issues. We have a meeting next week, 9/19/23 at RUMC, Sipp Auditorium. We hope to see you there.

Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh – Timothy Forsyth – Meeting next Wednesday, 9/20/23 at Fran Reali's office. Chairman Siclari thanked Fran for the use of her office. Normally our areas are in the Park Houses, Walker Park, etc. but the Parks Department won't let us in the house because there's no one there at night.

Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth/Shore Acres – John Guzzo – Chairman Siclari asked when there will be a meeting for the other members. John spoke about the Con Edison tower. If anything were to happen, we would lose the entire sub-station. We don't hear about it because it's As-of-Right. We may need an Ad-Hoc Committee for this or meet with CB2&3 because they will be placed all over Staten Island. John spoke about the migrants in the North Shore. We are the dumping ground. Scooters are up and down Tompkins Avenue with no control. Meeting next Tuesday, 9/19/23 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 7:00 PM.

Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond/Elm Park/Arlington – In need of a chair. Chairman Siclari asked Selina Grey & Dora Bersteiner, new members and they were interested in being co-chairs. First meeting will be in October.

Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Peter Lisi – Was able to hear him without the microphone. Meetings will be in the Stapleton Library. Last meeting, we asked for recruitment of new non-board members. Waterfront revitalization was discussed and was also discussed at the Waterfront Committee meeting. Complaints about tractor-trailer trucks parked along Front Street with prostitution and drugs. High crime at Stapleton Park and NYPD increased patrols. Parks Department needs to do the same. First time in NYC, Methadone Clinic across the street from Tappan Park. Issue about migrants at Vanderbilt Avenue loitering and increase of scooters. Double parking issues on Broad Street from Tompkins Avenue to Targee Street. It has been addressed by the NYPD and we appreciate that.

Chairman Siclari said when he came on the board 10 years ago, board meeting used to be until 10:30 – 10:45 PM. I just want to do our business and let's go. We can be efficient and quick. 8:30 PM should be our end time. The most effective way is Joan Cusack & Linda Maffeo in the Board Office.

Old Business – Lillian Lagazzo said we need parking spaces on the Dalton site. We have not heard anything back. Chairman Siclari said EDC called before the meeting and there will be a big announcement in the next week or two regarding the entire Waterfront. There is no plan or time table.

New Business – Jermaine Williams wanted to give his cell number out to the new members. There will be a baby shower at the YMCA on October 14th at 651 Broadway.

Motion to adjourn – 8:39 PM.

Treasurer's Report - FY 2024 October 2023

<u>CODE</u>	<u>ALLOCATED TO 6/30/23</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
100 Supplies	\$1,595.00 – \$40.00	\$ 1,555.00
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-\$438	3,032.00
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-\$478	\$ 9,571.00

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

LAND USE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 6:30 PM
CB1 Board Office, 1 Edgewater Plaza, Room 217

Attendance

Land Use Committee Members

George Turner, Chair
Nicholas Siclari, Ex-Officio – Excused
Loretta Cauldwell
Anthony Cosentino
John Guzzo
Lillian Lagazzo
Peter Lisi
Friday Ogbewe
George Doyle – Non-Board Member
Phil Farinacci – Non-Board Member

Guests

Ron Vittorio/Timothy Vittorio– 1197 Clove Rd.
Thomas Soviero – 90 Marion Avenue
Randy Lee
Charlie Olsen
Lisa Barbieri

CB #1 Office Staff

Joan Cusack, District Manager
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

1. 1197 Clove Road, Staten Island, NY 10301 – Ron Vittorio, Architect will be presenting – Proposed development of the John King Vanderbilt House; a Landmark structure. This request is on behalf of the Landmark Preservation Commission who is reviewing the application for the development of (2) new buildings (one-family residences) located on the Landmark site.

Motion to approve proposal as presented if the original property is restored to its proper standards before the rest of the project is done.

Passed unanimously, 9-0-0

2. 90 Marion Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10304 – Thomas Soviero, Architect from Rogers Calvanico Group will be presenting. Seeking Special Hillside Preservation District authorization of a development, enlargement or site alteration on a steep slope or steep slope buffer pursuant to ZR Section 119-311 on a Tier 1 site to facilitate a site alteration consisting of (2) 8'-6" x 18'-0" off street residence at 90 Marion Avenue (Block 586, Lot 26) in the Stapleton neighborhood of Staten Island Community District 1.

Motion to approve proposal as presented.

Passed unanimously, 9-0-0

George Turner, Land Use Chair

1. Land Use Motions to be Presented at the October 10, 2023 Full Board Meeting. George Turner, Chair

1197 Clove Road, Staten Island, NY 10301 – Ron Vittorio, Architect presented at our Land Use Committee Meeting – Proposed development of the John King Vanderbilt House; a Landmark structure. This request is on behalf of the Landmark Preservation Commission who is reviewing the application for the development of (2) new buildings (one-family residences) located on the Landmark site.

Motion to approve proposal as presented if the original property is restored to its proper standards before the rest of the project is done.

Vote passed Land Use Committee unanimously, 9-0-0

90 Marion Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10304 – Thomas Soviero, Architect from Rogers Calvanico Group presented at our Land Use Committee Meeting. Seeking Special Hillside Preservation District authorization of a development, enlargement or site alteration on a steep slope or steep slope buffer pursuant to ZR Section 119-311 on a Tier 1 site to facilitate a site alteration consisting of (2) 8'-6" x 18'-0" off street residence at 90 Marion Avenue (Block 586, Lot 26) in the Stapleton neighborhood of Staten Island Community District 1.

Motion to approve proposal as presented.

Vote passed Land Use Committee unanimously, 9-0-0

2. Clifton/Concord/Stapleton Committee Chair, Peter Lisi:

Motion to Accept Changes to the Community Board #1 Website:

(Updated to CB1 Website)

About Staten Island Community Board 1

Welcome to Community Board #1 in Staten Island. Throughout this Web site you will find information about the communities we cover and the officials who serve it. You will also have an opportunity to understand the many attractions that make the North Shore of Staten Island so wonderful within the neighborhoods of Arlington, Castleton Corners, Clifton-Concord, Fox Hills, Graniteville, Grymes Hill, Mariner's Harbor, New Brighton, West New Brighton, Park Hill, Port Richmond, Rosebank, Shore Acres, Silver Lake, Snug Harbor, Stapleton, St. George, Tompkinsville, and Westerleigh.

The North Shore is Staten Island's oldest and most densely populated area, as well as the most economically and ethnically diverse section of Staten Island. Explore all the natural splendor and fun activities that this beautiful borough has to offer.

Important landmarks and points of interest located on the North Shore include the [Staten Island Ferry](#), [Staten Island Borough Hall](#), [Alice Austen House](#), [Fort Wadsworth](#), [St. George Coast Guard Station](#), [Sailors' Snug Harbor](#), [The New York Chinese Scholar's Garden](#), [Staten Island Ferry Hawks Stadium](#), [National Lighthouse Museum](#), [Garibaldi Memorial](#), [Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences](#), the [Staten Island Zoo](#), [St. George Theatre](#), [Staten Island Children's Museum](#), [Silver Lake Park](#), [Clove Lakes Park](#) and its public [golf course](#).

[The New York City Police Department](#) patrols the area in two separate precincts, the 120th Precinct in the eastern half and the 121st in the western half.

If action is what you seek, you can hit the ice at the War Memorial Rink at Clove Lakes Park or shoot hoops at one of the many New York City Parks, proving Staten Island is really a borough of Parks.

Are you a sports fan? Have tea at Walker Park while playing cricket or root, root, root for the home team at Staten Island Ferry Hawks stadium overlooking the New York Harbor.

Learn about history by visiting the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum to find out who really invented the phone or head down to the Alice Austen House to view the works of one of America's first female photographers. Share The Smithsonian Collections at Snug Harbor. Learn about the history of New York Harbor at the John Noble Museum. Learn all you ever wanted to know about every creature that ever lived on Staten Island at the Staten Island Museum.

If you are the outdoor type, you can fish along the North Shore Esplanade or at Private Buono Beach, watch Peregrine falcons at Allison Pond, or herons and deer on Shooters Island. Take a paddle boat around Clove Lakes or a kayak into the harbor from Mariner's Marsh.

Are you a history buff? Then visit the birthplace of the United States Coast Guard at the National Lighthouse Museum or learn about early New York history by viewing the Murals at Staten Island Borough Hall.

If art is your bag, then immerse yourself in a masterpiece of American Folk Art at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and visit Art On The Terrace. Shop and dine across New York City's Fifth and Best Borough and entertain yourself with a live concert at the Historic St. George Theater.

Get in touch with your inner child at the Staten Island Children's Museum or feed a llama at the Staten Island Zoo.

For the seafarer in you, simply take a free boat ride on the Staten Island Ferry, a world famous tourist attraction that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

There are a million stories visiting the greatest city in the world, so make sure there's a story of your own right here on the North Shore of Staten Island.

Message from the District Manager
(Needs to be updated)

Members

Community Board 1 in Staten Island is a body of individuals who understand the importance of community participation at a volunteer level. Our offices, located at 1 Edgewater Plaza, Room 217, are open to the public from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

If you visit us here you will find information on: sanitation schedules, transportation, voter registration, City budget, City health care initiatives, and much more.

~~Since Covid, our regular monthly meetings have been virtual. We will update here when we resume to meeting in person and where. They are held every second Tuesday of the month.~~
(Members need to be updated)

Statement of Needs/Budget

(Needs to be updated)

Functional Committees

(Needs to be updated)

Area Committees

(Needs to be updated)

- 3. Motion from Waterfront to support a letter from CB#1 for a Fast Ferry.**
Joe Ahlstrom, Waterfront Chair

West/New Brighton/St. George Area Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 19th 2023, 7:00 PM. RUMC

MEETING AGENDA

Presentations:

1. **David Mandel – Community Liaison for Percent for Art: Artwork Conceptual Design Presentation for Mary Cali Dalton Recreation Center, 6 Victory Blvd, SI, NY 10301.**

Artist #1: Miguel Braceli

Miguel Braceli is an interdisciplinary artist focused on participatory art projects in public space; working at the intersection of performance, architecture, and social practices; exploring geopolitical and local conflicts. Most of these projects have been large-scale works developed in Latin America, Europe, and the United States. He has led educational projects with institutions such as Documenta Fifteen, the Bronx Museum of Arts, the MUAC-UNAM with Hemispheric Institute NY, Matadero Madrid, among others. He has participated in residences and programs such as Skowhegan School of Painting (2022), AIM Bronx Museum Fellow (2022), Art Omi (2021), McColl Center for Art (2020). His most recent Fullbright Scholar (2020-2019), and Young Artist Award of the Principality of Asturias (2018). In 2021, he founded La Escuela together with the non-profit Siemens Stiftung International, a platform for collective learning and making public spaces.

Artist #2: Risa Puno

Risa Puno is a NYC-Based Sculpture and Installation Artist who has exhibited with national and international organizations, including: The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Onassis USA, El Museo del Barrio, NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation, New Children's Museum in San Diego, CA, and Science Gallery in Dublin, Ireland. Puno is the recipient of multiple awards and residencies, including FIGMENT's first ever Interactive Artist of the Year. She was selected by Creative Time as their inaugural Open Call winner and her resulting project, The Privilege of Escape, won Most Innovative Immersive Experience in the 2019 Immersion Awards. Puno's art has been featured in major media outlets, including The New York Times, NPR, The New Yorker, and The Boston Globe. Puno studied art and medicine at Brown University and earned her MFA from New York University.

The presentation(s) covered the conceptual designs for the two public artworks being commissioned. They are requesting a letter of support for the artwork.

2. Nicholas Zvegintzov

He gave a short presentation of plans for the North Shore Waterfront.

He spoke about Staten Island North Action Plan: A generational investment to bring high-quality open spaces, waterfront connections, jobs, and commercial space to the Staten Island North Shore community. This \$400 million public waterfront investment will create twenty acres of continuous waterfront access.



3. Liquor Licenses Invited & Attending:

465 Bard or Forest Avenue Staten Island, NY - looking for a letter of support to be approved for smoke shop license. Motion was made and passed by members to send a letter of None Support.

Representative, Sal Himani attended the meeting on behalf of River Dock Cafe Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY: Liquor License approved.

Pier 76 - No one Showed up – No issues reported.

Community members express concern about Shakers on Richmond Terrace getting Liquor license with all the criminal activities that are going on at location (shooting, stabbing, fights).

Brighton Bagels, 843 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, NY, 10310. No one showed up. No issues reported.

Funky Monkey, 1205 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10310. Owner - Thomas DeGati attended the meeting and Liquor license was approved.

Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse, Nori Sushi Shop, 55 Richmond Terrace, Bldg. D, Space 422, Staten Island, NY 10301. No one showed up.

Green Empire Wellness, LLC, 465 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301. No one showed up.

4. Old Business:

5. New Business:

Member was concerned about Corner of Forrest & Sharon vacant building - use to be Captial One Bank - area is not clean and something needs to be done about this location.

Announcements:

NEXT MEETINGS:

LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING, October 17, 2023, RUMC, 355 Bard Ave. Sipp Auditorium, 6:30 PM

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 MEETING, October 10th, 2023, St. Mary's Church, 347 Davis Avenue, 6:30 PM

Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino

Area Committee Co-Chair

West/New Brighton & St. George Area Committee.

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

September 20, 2023 Wednesday 6:30 PM at Safari Realty, 1958 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY

Committee Attendance:

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

Public:

Tom Marchasiello	Sunnyside resident, Member of Clove Lakes Civic Association
Steven Noss	Liquor License Applicant Rep
Crystal Montalvo	CSI Continuing Education

Called to Order 6:35 pm

A quorum was present. Liquor License applicant Steven Noss for the Noss Vent Rowan LLC for their new establishment located on Forest Avenue, south side between Sharon Avenue and Oakwood Avenue at site of former Liberty Tavern. Plans to be open seven days a week, until 4 AM as needed, full kitchen to serve food, party room, live music inside, use of sidewalk and rear patio if permitted, bouncer on weekends, not catering to younger crowd. The current site has been closed for the last few years since the pandemic. The applicant previously ran Rusty's Tavern down Forest Avenue by Elizabeth Street and states has made over \$100,000.00 investment so far in this new venture. Motion made to recommend approval, seconded and passed unanimously.

Crystal Montalvo from CSI Continuing Education programs, presented on their Options program and the Creative Exchange and Life Skills Program. Options is for adults 55 and over, series of courses, no credits, no homework or assignments, \$30-\$35 fee to enroll as subsidized by CSI, late registration is still ongoing, scholarships available, started at the former Richmond College 40 years ago, modeled to build up the community and expose older adults to varied topics. The Creative Exchange and Life Skills Program is for developmentally disabled adults, evening programs, also started at former Richmond College some 35 years ago, and unique to CSI. They were invited to next Full Board Meeting and will bring materials.

Westerleigh Improvement Society: Mike Morrell stated that there are serious concerns regarding the proposed Starbucks drive-through site on Victory Boulevard and Wheeler Avenue, and is requesting the developer/architect to present the plans and the NYC DOT Borough Office to review and address, as may need widening and re-marking of lanes on Victory Blvd., and changes to traffic signals. Mike expressed kudos to the DOT for ongoing street repaving in Westerleigh.

Under New Business

Tom Marchasiello (cell 347-526-0364), Sunnyside resident, expressed concerns regarding traffic and illegal parking on Victory Boulevard at Manor Road, especially the north side where there is at least one posted No Stopping sign. Requests increased enforcement. Additional signage. He provided photographs. We all concurred that this intersection is an ongoing CB1 concern and refer to our Transportation Committee. We asked him to follow up with the Clove Lakes Civic Association folks to attend our meetings if still a viable organization.

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 7:10 pm.

Community Board 1 Staten Island

Clifton, Concord, Stapleton Area Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 21, 2023, 6:30 PM, Stapleton Library, 132 Canal Street.

Attendance:

Community Board Members:

Peter Lisi, Chair - Present
Joseph Bird - Absent
Omar Ferreira - Absent
Friday Ogbewe - Absent
George Turner - Absent

Non Board Voting Members:

Miriam Arnold - Present
Dorothy Brown - Present

Guests Present:

Richard Giambrone
Heidi Reese
Carol Cappillo
Melinda Lamar
Roy Pulickal
Phoebe Blue
Jeannine Kelly - Stapleton Library
Kelly Yim - Stapleton Library

Minutes:

Meeting held at new meeting place; Stapleton Library, 132 Canal St.

Meetings will be held at this location every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Minutes from June 21, 2023 were reviewed and approved.

Priority to recruit new area committee members and non voting board members who live/work inside area committee community.

Floor open to public for issues:

NYPD successful cleared illegally parked tractor trailer trucks on Front Street across from MTA Clifton Station and a few derelict cars remain and need to be removed.

Community complaints were lodge about 68 Canal Street and bars on and around Bay St, between Canal St & Broad St regarding crowds gathering outside past 3:30 AM, fighting, being loud and negatively affecting the surrounding communities quality of life. (Referred to NYPD)

Also people loitering out side, corners of Thompson St, Broad St and Bay St.

Loitering outside 21 Broad St, operating as an unlicensed bar with front gate closed.

Cars being broken into and car windows smashed on Brunell St.

Prostitutes and drug use late at night in and around Tappan Park is an ongoing issue, including public urination inside Tappan Park during broad daylight.

Request a representative to attend a future area committee meeting from Methadone Clinic on Canal St across from Tappan Park.

Tappan Park in need of increased patrol by both NYPD & NYC Parks Enforcement.

Sidewalk shed at 520 Bay St still needs to be removed.

Double parking on Broad St between Targee St and Tompkins Ave is still an issue.

Bus riders waiting at bus stops on Bay St & Broad St have seen increased harassment and criminal activity while waiting at bus stops and there's a need for increased NYPD & MTA presence.

Liquor License Renewal

The Coup, 379 Van Duzer Street Staten Island, NY 10304 - owner present

No objections and recommendation to approve.

Liquor License Renewal

Vinum LLC, 704 Bay Street, Staten Island, NY 10304 Owner unable to attend and will be inviting to attend a future meeting.

No objections and recommendation to approve.

Notification from Sken Service Corp, 175 Zoe Street Apt 6P, Staten Island, NY 10305 Re; demolition of house and garage at 227 Oder Ave, Block 2887 Lot 23, Staten Island, NY 10304.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 25 PM

Waterfront Committee Meeting
September 26, 2023
NYC Ferry presentation

CB 1 I will not be able to attend the meeting on October 10 due to teaching obligation. I picked Monday night for a class but as luck would have it due to Monday being a holiday we are operating under Monday schedule at SUNY Maritime this Tuesday.

We had a productive meeting with Ms. Tara Das from EDC on Tuesday 9/26 at Board Office. I have enclosed the power point she showed and her take on meeting. Several attendees expressed a desire for the ferry to stop in Brooklyn and we made that opinion known to her along with concerns about the current ferry. More than 1 stop on Staten Island does not seem possible at this time however stops in Sunset Park or Bay Ridge will be considered. Clearly the ferry is operating in the red and they are trying to increase current ridership which seems to be occurring. With current fiscal crisis, this may not be possible but we will keep asking. I pointed out to her at meeting and via email connecting Staten Island to Sunset Park/BAT will increase ridership at both sites.

Here is her response and contract additions with Horn blower

Hi Captain Ahlstrom,

Please find the press release about the new contract [here](#) that outlines the changes that will be coming onboard, pun intended. Summarizing those changes below:

- Free Wi-Fi onboard all ferries
- Accessibility upgrades to improve onboard and land-side schedule and stop information
- Better real-time passenger information including landing wait time estimates and onboard seat and bike spot availability
- Expanded language services in-app and on the website

Please find attached the deck we used. Note that I've also added some statistics that we did not have in the slides previously but may be helpful for conversations.

As mentioned, we have shared our notes and the CB's requests internally and will let you know what the timeline is for Wi-Fi-onboard the ferries as soon as that is available; Wi-Fi on-board is a key part of the new contract that we're excited about.

Tara Das

Senior Project Manager, Government & Community Relations
NYCEDC

The Waterfront Committee unanimously approved recommendation to connect Staten Island with Brooklyn for the NYC Ferries. Letter will be distributed at meeting and I encourage your support

Joseph Ahlstrom (Chair)
Waterfront Committee CB 1

September 28, 2023

Mr Andrew Kimball
President & CEO, New York City Economic Development Corporation
One Liberty Street
New York, NY, 10006

Dear Mr Kimball,

We applaud the gains the NYC Ferry system has made since its inception in 2017 and are excited about this newest mode of public transit in our city. However, we are concerned that the St. George route only connects Staten Island to Manhattan.

With piers and terminals in place, we believe *now* is the time to implement a fast NYC Ferry route connecting Staten Island and the Bay Ridge waterfront. Although separated by only a narrow channel of water, the growing and diverse communities on Staten Island's North Shore and Southwest Brooklyn are a world apart in our current Manhattan-centered transit system, with one-way travel from St George to Bay Ridge involving an approximately 90-minute bus ride with a transfer, or a 90-minute ferry and subway or bicycle ride.

The 2020 census confirms that Staten Island's population is rapidly growing, and development and commuting patterns are changing fast. With the recent upzoning of the Bay Street corridor, the upcoming completion of Lighthouse Point, work on phase 2 of the Urby complex, and the impending opening of the women's shelter at 44 Victory Blvd, downtown Staten Island is at the center of that growth. We urgently need a fast, affordable ferry service between Staten Island and Brooklyn to combat climate change, increase access to good jobs, and support sustainable development and connections between our communities.

Existing demand for fast and affordable ferry service between Staten Island and South Brooklyn will only surge as congestion pricing causes drivers to seek other commuting methods. Implementing fast ferry service between Staten Island and South Brooklyn will help meet that demand while supporting the City's ambitious congestion pricing goals.

Fast, low-emission, and resilient transit options will help protect our city as we face the climate crisis. As traffic on bridges and tunnels [increases](#) – with alarming implications for congestion, pollution, and climate emissions – the Verrazzano Bridge must not be the only connection between two boroughs with a combined 3.2 million people.

A fast and low-cost ferry between the city's vital working waterfronts will improve access to the kinds of good-paying green jobs in renewable energy, transportation, and manufacturing that we need to nurture and rapidly expand in our region while supporting economic growth in the interconnected economies in South Brooklyn and Staten Island.

We appreciate your support of public transit and look forward to working with you to implement an exciting new travel option to strengthen our economy and connect our communities.

Sincerely,

State Senator Jessica Scarcella Spanton
District 23

Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Gardens
Jessica Vodoor, President and CEO

Staten Island Children's Museum
Dina Rosenthal, Executive Director

New Brighton Citizen's Committee
Lindy Crescitelli, President

Brooklyn Greenway Initiative
Hunter Armstrong, Executive Director

Bike South Brooklyn
John Tomac, President

Bay Ridge Environmental Group
Daniel Loud, President

Get Women Cycling
Angela Azzolino, Founder

Bay Ridge Community Development Center
Bibi Esahack, Executive Director

Staten Island Urban Center
Kelly Villar, Founder and CEO

Staten Island Ferry Rider's Committee
Theo Dorian, Chair

Staten Island Therapeutic Gardens
Sarah Blas, Founder

Staten Island Community Board 1

Transportation Committee

Joseph Bird, Christopher Campbell, Katheleen Coen, Anthony Cosentino, Radhakrishna Mohan, Catherine Schiavone, Sean Sheil, Siyda Williams

Chair: Nicholas Zvegintzov

Virtual Report of October 10, 2023

Meetings

No meetings in September.

No meetings scheduled for October.

The Borough Commissioner

The SI BC Roseann Caruana attended our last Full Board Meeting on September 12 and reported many of the items in our Committee report in person, and with added broad insight into some of the DOT's neighborhood plans. (On the Committee we mostly get narrower insight when individuals come to us with problems.)

She highlighted new STOP sign controls on St. Marks Pl and Westervelt Ave in St. George, and the troublesome stretch of St. Pauls Avenue at Cebra Ave, Beach St, and Occident Ave.

Case study: Crystal Ave. (current situation)

The report of June 13, 2023 explained the project to get traffic calming on a narrow residential block of Crystal Ave. south of Watchogue Rd.

A 'study' was promised.

It is still 'active': Case Number DOT-600603-R0Q1, General Topic Speed Hump.

Transportation Alternatives' Richmond Terrace project

Transportation Alternatives, the NYC non-profit 'advocating for innovative transportation policies, improvements in traffic safety, and increased access to the street for people walking, biking, and riding public transit', has a long-term project for studying Richmond Terrace from the point of view of residents: using neighborhood meetings and events, investigative walk-

throughs, and a canny knowledge of how to stimulate the NYCDOT. (A good model for citizen action.)



Their third Richmond Terrace walk will be a Sunday, October 22, 6 - 8 PM 'Richmond Terrace Spooky Street Scan: New Brighton', from Tysen St to York Ave and back (1.2 miles). 'Everybody will be provided with lights. Costumes are encouraged!' But it will have a serious purpose, to investigate safety and amenity along an industrial waterfront past a mix of warehouses, light industry, and historic residences. 'Together with local elected officials and city agency representatives, we'll identify ways to make the long blighted corridor a safer, more welcoming, and dignified community space.'

Some of their recent Study Cases with NYC DOT:

Traffic Calming

Between Port Richmond Ave and Jewett Ave -- DOT-614363-Z4Y9

Between Broadway and Van Street -- DOT-614366-K0Y5

Improved Lighting

The bend between Van Street and Broadway -- DOT-614344-C1Z1

The old North Shore Rail underpass by Heberton -- DOT-614352-P7Y1

The intersection of Alaska Street and Richmond Terrace -- DOT-614349-F1V3

Crosswalks with a pedestrian traffic signal

Outside the entrance to Heritage Park- DOT-614355-G5G2

Or upgrading the crossing at Alaska St if the entrance to Heritage Park isn't deemed eligible - DOT-614362-F1C5

Nicholas Zvegintzov, Chair