

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING MARCH 10, 2015 – 8:00 P.M.

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

Anthony Cosentino, Interim Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow
Andrew Blancero
Telee Brown
Loretta Cauldwell
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle
Linda Eskenas
Thomas Ferrie, Absent
Victoria Gillen, Excused
Christopher Bradford Greene
John Guzzo
Robert Honor
Sunny Jain
John Keiser, Absent
Lisa Lattanzio
Norman Light
Priscilla Marco
John McBeth
Pearl Minsky
Jeffrey Mohlenbrok
Friday Ogbewe
Ole Olsen, Leave
Ernest Paige
Catherine Paradiso
Francine Reali
Christopher Rooney
Marjorie Ryan
James Samuels
George Sona
Nicholas Siclari
George Turner
Kelly Villar
Daniel Williams
Camille Zarrelli
Nicholas Zvegintzov

GUESTS

Charles Fall, Rep. Mayor Bill deBlasio
Kevin Elkins, Rep. Comptroller Scott Stringer
Jenny Fischman, Rep. Public Advocate Letitia James
Jason Razefsky, Rep. BP James Oddo
Marie Carmody- LA Francesca, Rep. BP James Oddo
Lorraine Scanni, Rep. Councilman Steve Matteo
Tom Feeney, Rep. MOA Matt Titone
Joan Cusack, Executive Director Human Resources Admin.
Jermaine Williams, HRA OCSE
Trevor Alexander, HRA, Child Support
Michael Schnall, NYC Parks Department
Kathleen Sforza, Northfield Community Local Development Corp.
Sharon Pope, Bike NYC
Michael Morrell, President Westerleigh Improvement Society
Julie Semente, NYS Nurses Association
Georgette Lakeman, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Eric Patterson, Westerleigh Improvement Society
Bob Zion St. George Civic Association
Neil Berry, SICPP
Roseanne Alkhatib, UFT
Indhira Castro, Mayor's Office Domestic Violence
Susan Fowler, City Harvest

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Associate

A Land Use Public Hearing was held at 7:00 P.M. prior to the Board Meeting.

The following applications were heard, discussed and voted on as follows:

1. Board of Standards & Appeals Application Nos. 5-15 BZ and 6-15-A Application submitted to construct a single family detached home located partially within the bed of a mapped street at 123 North St. Austin's Place.

Presentation for the construction of a single family detached home on a corner zoning lot bounded by Davis Avenue and St. Austin's Place north. The lot is vacant and is 23 feet wide by 295 feet deep a total of 2,359 square feet of zoning lot. The street is mapped at 60 feet wide but only paved 26 feet. The street is a one way street. The proposal is to build a 1,590 square foot single family detached home that encroaches within the widening area along St. Austin's Place north. Since the front yard does not meet the R3X requirement of 10 feet an accompanying BZ case is also filed to request a variance in the reduction of the front yard requirement. There are no plans to widen the street.

Motion made, seconded and approved by the Land Use Committee 7-1-1 with the condition if the City decides to widen the street, the applicant will absorb the cost of the widening at 123 St. Austin's Place.

2. Department of City Planning Application No. 150092 ZAR – Authorization to construct a two-family residence with less than 75 percent of the floor area of one dwelling unit at 110 and 114 dwelling Willowbrook Road.

Presentation was made to allow authorizations to allow the construction of a two detached two-family residence with less than 75% of the floor area of one home on each 110 and one on 114 Willowbrook Road. The design of both of the homes give the appearance of an attached building and, each dwelling unit has a perimeter wall with windows facing a side-yard.

Motion made seconded and voted to approve by Land Use Committee 8-1-0 as submitted.

3. City Planning – Authorization for restoration to facilitate removal of DOB violations for work done contrary to the provisions of the Special Hillside Preservation District at 57 Willis Avenue. The work performed was done through professionally self-certified. The five homes area substantially complete, but no temporary for final certificates of occupancy have been issued. There are numerous building violations on the development specifically zoning violations, and construction done on the property contrary to Special Hillside Preservation District and group parking regulations.

It is proposed to restore the property and reduce the building number. Current house numbers 51 & 49 tax lots 10 & 11 will be combined into one building and one tax lot. The combined home will be hose number 51 tax lot 10. This will reduce the development size from five one-family homes to four one-family homes.

Motion made, seconded and approved by Land Use Committee 8-1-0 as submitted.

Chairwoman Leticia Remauro called the meeting to order at 8:10 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call attendance taken, quorum present.

Motion made and seconded and approved to accept February 2015 Board Minutes.

Public Session

Ms. Sharon Pope, Bike NYC spoke of Community Bike Education Centers in the 5 Boroughs. There are classes for all ages and different levels of cycling. There are also programs which offer free helmets, bike maintenance etc. For more information contact Ms. Pope at 212-870-2080 spope@bike.nyc or you can visit the website at www.bike.nyc

Ms. Roseanne Alkhatib from the UFT asked the members to write a letter to Governor Cuomo send written communication to New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to remove the stipulations that he put on the funds NYC public schools won in a lawsuit in 2006. (A draft letter is on file at the Board Office)

Mr. Jermain Williams spoke of the new Linc Program: Living in Communities (LINC) is a limited rental assistance program for low-income families and single adults living in homeless or domestic violence shelters. Priority will be given to households that have lived in shelters the longest. The general public and shelter residents cannot apply to this rent subsidy program. People who are eligible will be referred to the program by the Department of Homeless Services. Shelter residents can contact their shelter's housing specialist or case manager with any questions. Fact Sheets are available for LINC clients and for interested landlords and brokers. If you are a landlord or broker, you can submit an apartment available for rent to the LINC Program.

IDNYC is the new, *free* identification card for all New York City residents, which gives all of us the opportunity to show who we are—New Yorkers. As a government-issued photo identification card, IDNYC secures the peace of mind and access to City services that come from having recognized identification. IDNYC benefits every city resident, including the most vulnerable communities—the homeless, youth, the elderly, undocumented immigrants, the formerly incarcerated and others who may have difficulty obtaining other government-issued ID.

IDNYC cardholders can access services and programs offered by the City as well as by businesses. IDNYC helps enhance public safety, by serving as a recognized ID for interacting with NYPD. It also helps New Yorkers gain access to all City buildings that provide services to the public and is accepted as a form of identification for accessing numerous City programs and services. IDNYC also provides a dynamic series of benefits to cardholders, including a free one-year membership at many of the City's leading museums, zoos, concert halls, and botanical gardens.

Mr. Trevor Alexander, Department of Family Services spoke of child support services that were available – handbooks were available. For further information please contact Mr. Alexander at Trevor.Alexander@dfa.state.ny.us

Ms. Jenny Fischman, representing Public Advocate Scott Stringer spoke of a new proposal to enact into state law in regards to financial advisors disclosures. For further information you can contact Ms. Fischman at Jfischman@publicadvocate.nyc.gov

Mr. John McBeth spoke of a March on March 21, 2015 “Youth for Justice” and voter registration from Targee Street to Borough Hall.

Ms. Indhira Castro, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence spoke of a program offered on Staten Island – the Staten Island DVRT which **seeks** to reduce the incidence of homicide by providing rapid response to high risk cases of intimate partner violence. DVRT facilitates interagency coordination and collaboration and creates individualized action plans to quickly and effectively meet the service and safety needs of clients.

Mr. Andrew Blancero spoke of the Master Composter Certificate Course offered at Snug Harbor. For further information please contact Mr. Blancero at Ablancero@snug-harbor.org

Ms. Susan Fowler, City Harvest gave an update on SICSA and the Mobile Markets. For further information please contact Ms. Fowler at sfowler@cityharvest.org.

Ms. Catherine Sfroza, Northfield LDC spoke about the Port Richmond Showcase Workshop and the Federal Flood Insurance & rezoning of flood areas.

Public Session Closed

Presentations:

Mr. Michael Porte, Waterfront Alliance spoke about Waterfront Edge Guidelines which includes green design elements in developments that occur along the waterfront.

Mr. Henry Thompson, Chief Executive Officer Community Health Center of Richmond located at 235 Port Richmond Avenue spoke of health services offered.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – The Budget & Finance report will be given under Functional Committees.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – No report.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE – No report.

SECRETARY, NICHOLAS SICLARI – No report.

TREASURER, LARRY BESLOW – The report is in the packet.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL – On Thursday at 6:30 P.M. at the Walker Park Tennis House, 50 Bard Avenue there will be a meeting regarding the advancement of Heritage Park.

INTERIM CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – Mr. Cosentino read the guest list and welcomed everyone for attending the meeting.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO - A Land Use Public Hearing was held prior to the meeting tonight. The following applications were presented, discussed and voted on as follows:

Board of Standards & Appeals Application Nos. 5-15 BZ and 6-15-A Application submitted to construct a single family detached home located partially within the bed of a mapped street at 123 North St. Austin's Place.

Motion made and seconded with the condition if the City decides to widen the street, the applicant will absorb the cost of the widening at 123 St. Austin's Place

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 32-0-0.

Department of City Planning Application No. 150092 ZAR – Authorization to construct a two-family residence with less than 75 percent of the floor area of one dwelling unit at 110 and 114 dwelling Willowbrook Road.

Motion made and seconded to approve as submitted.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 29-2-0.

City Planning – Authorization for restoration to facilitate removal of DOB violations for work done contrary to the provisions of the Special Hillside Preservation District at 57 Willis Avenue.

The work performed was done through professionally self-certified. The five homes area substantially complete, but no temporary or final certificates of occupancy have been issued. There are numerous building violations on the development specifically zoning violations, and construction done on the property contrary to Special Hillside Preservation District and group parking regulations.

Motion made and seconded to approve as submitted.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 29-0-1.

HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES, CATHERINE PARADISO – No report.

LABOR, NICHOLAS SICLARI – The minutes were mistakenly left out of the packet. They will be included in the packet next month.

WATERFRONT, OLE OLSEN – No meeting, no report. The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. at the Lighthouse Museum, 5 Bay Street.

PUBLIC SERVICES, SUNNY JAIN – The Parks Department made a presentation on Grandview Playground at the Public Services Meeting which was held prior to the Board Meeting.

YOUTH SERVICES, KELLY VILAR – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, PRISCILLA MARCO – No report.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – Mr. Cosentino read the response to the Mayor's Budget FY'2015 as follows:

Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Re: Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Response

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

Community Board #1 has been a vocal advocate for the redevelopment of the North Shore Waterfront.

More than 15 years ago, we asked that the New York City Economic Development Corporation locate the National Lighthouse Museum at the former Coast Guard Base adjacent to the Ferry Terminal. Years later, we supported the additional development of the site by Triangle Equities.

We requested and supported the release of the RFP for the former Homeport which is now being developed by Iron State Development Corporation.

We supported the release of the Stapleton Municipal Parking Lot to be developed as The Rail, a multi-story, residential building with a retail base.

We supported the St. George rezoning to allow our new court houses to be constructed as well as new mixed use development that will increase amenities and residential units to bring new life to St. George.

We supported the release of the RFEI by NYC EDC which will result in the construction of the New York Wheel and requested that the RFEI include a retail component and connectivity to Bay Street which will result in Empire Outlets. These two projects will see tens of millions of tourist dollars being spent on the north shore of Staten Island each and every year.

We have also been an advocate for Smart Light technology to be installed along high volume traffic corridors – an idea that was originally proposed by then Borough President James Molinaro.

Community Board #1 takes its responsibility as a “planning” board very seriously which is why we strongly urge you to fund the following requested budget items which will support the aforementioned North Shore projects.

Replace Cromwell Center over Lyons Pool- Since 1934 the Cromwell Recreation Center has been the locus of recreational activities for tens of thousands of young people and adults alike because of the caliber of the facility and the central and easily accessed location which included several indoor basketball courts, a boxing ring, fitness areas and a variety of multipurpose rooms for afterschool programming. This was a "vitally necessary" community resource that needs to be restored said Senators Charles Schumer and Kristen Gillebrand in their plea to FEMA to reconsider their decision to partially fund this restoration. We ask that the NYC Parks Department add the Rebuilding of the Cromwell Center as desired by the community over Lyons Pool to its Capital Budget as a fully funded project. It has been over 2 years since its complete destruction and as the largest and most well attended parks facility in the entire Borough of Staten Island, the lack of its existence has greatly diminished recreational resources and opportunity for not only the North Shore community but the entire Borough as well.

Move District 1 Garage from Victory Boulevard and Jersey Street to Fresh Kill Landfill - Community Board #1 believes that it is imperative to move the District 1 Sanitation Garage from Victory Boulevard and Jersey Street to the Fresh Kills Landfill. The rezoning of St. George and the \$1 billion dollars in private investment along the waterfront has sparked investor interest in the area. Your plan to rezone the Bay Street corridor will cause increased investor interest. Moving the District 1 Sanitation Garage will help to bring investment into Staten Island's most blighted neighborhood providing jobs, amenities and services along the Victory Boulevard corridor which connects the waterfront to the interior of Staten Island. Community Board #1 asks that you support our request to fund this project so that we can continue to see investment on the north shore.

Increase the Borough of Staten Island's Baseline Budget for the Department of Parks and Recreation- Community Board No. 1 has consistently asked for a baseline budget of \$100 million be applied to the budget of the Department of Parks and Recreation on Staten Island. This request is driven by the need to obviate dealing with the constant response of seeking councilmanic or Borough Presidential funds for items that should be handled through the normal City Agency borough distribution, thus depriving the BP and the Council of funding other needed items.

Fund a Professional Study of the Circulation of the Public Areas of the St. George Ferry Terminal to Provide Visitors Easy Access to Lighthouse Point and The Waterfront Beyond – Community Board #1 has been a strong proponent of correcting the circulation of the St. George Ferry Terminal and the Ferry Maintenance Facility. We are asking you to fund a professional study that will help to create a walkway to provide visitors with a safe and visually attractive path from the ferry to Lighthouse Point. Currently, visitors must traverse a dingy, dark walkway that leads them through a dangerous parking lot and a series of fenced off, “regular work” areas in order to connect with Lighthouse Point – a \$250 million privately funded project, the success of which will depend heavily on its retail component. The Staten Island Ferry is an icon known around the world. Similar to Grand Central Station, the Staten Island Ferry should provide visitors with a world class experience when they traverse the property – not only within the terminal but any space which is open to the public. For the projects adjacent to the terminal to be truly successful, visitors must be visually drawn to them. This will require a reconfiguration of the Kiss and Ride and the Ferry Maintenance Facility Parking lot. Funding a professional circulation study is the first step in what will ultimately make the difference in the success of Lighthouse Point, Navy Pier and other waterfront projects south of the St. George Ferry Terminal.

Funding for the Creation of a Greenway Trail to Connect the Pedestrians, Cyclists and Rapid Transit to the Projects Along the Waterfront – In order for the \$1 billion dollars in private investment projects along the waterfront to be successful (ie: Navy Pier by Iron State, Lighthouse Pointe by Triangle Equities, Empire Outlets by BFC and The New York Wheel by Rich Marin) pedestrians, cyclists and rapid transit must be able to access them from the St. George Ferry which is a central point of arrival. Several years ago, Community Board #1 created and introduced a phased outline for such a trail from Ft. Wadsworth to the Bayonne Bridge which we titled the “The North Shore Waterfront Greenway Trail.” Three phases of the trail – Blissenbach Marina Park (now Heritage Park) and the plazas at Van Pelt and Van Name Avenues – have already been funded. We now ask you to support our request to fund a study to create a comprehensive plan for the rest of the trail so that visitors coming off the ferry can easily access the above mentioned projects either by foot, bicycle or bus, (which is the only type of mass people mover capable of traversing the increased deck height of the Bayonne Bridge). It is clear that these new waterfront projects have already brought more visitors to our shores – even before they have been completed. It only makes sense for government to provide the infrastructure necessary to access these projects NOW, while the area is under construction. If we wait to begin construction of sidewalks, pave roads and restore shoreline until AFTER the projects have been completed, we will be retarding the visitor experience which can have negative long term effects to all of the projects and those that may come in the future. If you support our request to fund the West Brighton/Richmond Terrace BOA, it could assist with the study in certain critical areas.

Construct a Promenade to Protect Against Storm Surge and to Provide Public Waterfront Access Between Lighthouse Point and Fort Wadsworth - Community Board #1 believes funding a promenade to harden and protect the coastline and provide public waterfront access in front of Bay Street Landing, Shore Acres, Alice Austen House Beach, Buono Beach and other areas susceptible to flooding (whether privately or publicly owned) is important to ensure that both commercial and residential properties can quickly recover following a major storm. Community Board #1 asks that you support our request to create a plan for the hardening of the shoreline in order to protect both established and future projects in the area.

Improve the Infrastructure Along Major Corridors in Preparation of Growing Business and Residential Population - Community Board #1 is requesting infrastructure improvements to both the street and

sewer grid along major corridors such as Bay Street, Forest Avenue, Port Richmond Avenue, Richmond Terrace and

Victory Boulevard to be able to absorb the impact of increased use due to the construction of the above mentioned projects.

We respectfully request your support so that together we can plan for the future success of the North Shore.

Mr. Blancero and Mr. Green said there were a few typos that needed to be corrected. A request was made that the Greenway Trail be extended to the Goethals Bridge by Linda Eskenas and, lastly Nice Zvegintzov asked that we include ½ hour ferry service.

It was noted that there were typos and would be corrected. The Mayor's response was directed to our Capital and Budget Requests submitted.

TRANSPORTATION, RICHARD ZICHETTELO - No report.

SUB COMMITTEE, LANDMARKS, and NICHOLAS ZVEGINTZOV – No report.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, ANJAIL AMEEN-RICE – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – A joint meeting was held with the St. George/West New Brighton Area Committee regarding the Mayor's new affordable housing plan. The minutes are included in the packet.

WEST NEW BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, LORETTA CAULDWELL - A joint meeting was held with the St. George/West New Brighton Area Committee regarding the Mayor's new affordable housing plan. The minutes are included in the packet.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, CAMILLE ZARRELLI, TIMOTHY FORSYTH - The minutes of the meeting are included in the packet.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH, JOHN GUZZO – The minutes of the meeting are included in the packet.

Election of Chairperson: Mr. Nicholas Siclari, Secretary, cast one vote for Priscilla Marco as Chairwoman. Congratulations to Ms. Marco.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned.