

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING – MAY 12, 2009 – 8:00 P.M.
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

Anthony Marra, Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Marilyn Averett
Lloyd Bacchus
Larry Beslow
Jeannine Borkowski
Loretta Cauldwell
Ajmal Chaudhry
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle
Linda Eskenas
Grace Ferranti
Timothy Forsyth
Rajiv Gowda, Excused
John Guzzo
Jeanne Hogan
Sunny Jain, Absent
Dominick Lambert, Med. Leave
Lisa Lattanzio
Adena Long
Anthony Marra
Jacob Massaquoi, II
Sheila McGinn
Mary Mitchell, Med. Leave
Friday Ogbewe
John Pabone, Absent
Joseph Pancilla, Absent
Joanne Pentangelo
Terry Player, Leave
Leticia Remauro
Christine Reese
Chris Rooney
Debi Rose
Nicholas Siclari
John Strandberg
Sean Sweeney, excused
Ken Tirado
Harold Wagner
Curt Ward
Mark Washington
George Wonica, Jr., excused
Camille Zarrelli
Richard Zichettello

GUESTS

Marshal Kaminer, SI Buildings Commissioner
Len Garcia-Duran, Director SI City Planning
Ben Margolis, NYC EDC, VP SI Projects
Kate Van Tasel, Sr. Project Manager, Development
Tom Aiello, Rep. Governor Patterson
Victoria Larsen, Rep. Mayor Bloomberg
Jason Razefsky, Rep. BP Molinaro
Julie Levine, Rep. Sen. Lanza
John Solozza, Rep. Sen. Savino
Michael Arvanties, Rep. Sen. Savino
Mark Zink, Rep. MOA Titone
Stanley Mroz, MOA Titone
Jeanette Beck, Rep. Councilman Oddo
Paul Rosenfell, Rep. St. Elizabeth Anne's
Frank Carcaterra, NYC Dept. of Parks & Rec. Mgr.
Jon DelGiorno, Rep. St. Elizabeth Anne's
John Hall, Rep. St. Elizabeth Anne's
P.O. Michael Goodchild, 120th Pct. Community Affairs
Michael Morrell, Pres. Westerleigh Improv. Society
P.O. Elizabeth Santinello, 120 Pct. Community Affairs
Michael Ficara, Westerleigh Improv. Society
Patt Schwimer, Clove Lake Civic Assn.
Phyllis Savarese, Clove Lake Civic Assn.
Dee Vandenberg, SI Taxpayers Assoc.
10 Registered speakers Re. Cromwell Center on File
Approx. 100 guests re: Cromwell Center not signed in

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Associate

Chairman Anthony Marra called the meeting to order at 8:16 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Debi Rose called roll call attendance and announced a quorum was present.

Motion made and seconded to accept April 2009 Board Minutes. Minutes accepted.

Chairman Marra read the guest list of representatives of Elected Officials.

A presentation was given by Mr. Leonard Garcia-Duran, Director of the Staten Island Department of City Planning, Ben Margolis, Vice-President of Staten Island Projects and Ms. Kate Van Tassel, Sr. Project Manger, both from the New York City Economic Development Corporation regarding the North Shore Land Use Transportation Action Plan.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation has selected PB Americas to conduct an in-depth study to ensure that transportation connections, job creation, environmental protection, public access, and other public goals. The study will create a framework that can be used to guide future zoning and development actions by identifying alternative land use scenarios, including the transportation growth patterns on Staten Island, particularly on the North shore and meet the following economic growth objectives.

- Include improved transportation connections, including mass transit and improved roadways for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic
- Incorporate the necessary infrastructure to meet existing and future demand for all users
- Support future reuse of North Shore Right of Way
- Create and retain jobs in the active maritime industry
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas
- Enhance historic residential and commercial neighborhoods
- Provide greater public access to current and future recreational areas.

Community engagement is essential to creating a North Shore Action Plan that leads to meaningful public and private investment, increased opportunity, and a higher quality of life for North Shore communities.

The success of the study will rely upon the input of North Shore residents. In addition, Community and Technical Advisory committees, made up of civic, public, non-profit, and private sector leaders, will help NYCEDC and NYCDPC to reach a broad and diverse group of stakeholders. These committees will also provide guidance on project direction and recommendations throughout the study.

The next round of community engagement will include Advisory Committee and public meetings that will help to refine initial recommendations and rank priorities. A final round of feedback will be scheduled before the production of a final deliverable, projected to be released in fall 2009.

For further information contact northshorestudy@nycedc.com or visit the project website at www.nycedc.com/northshore or you can call 212-618-5765.

Ms. Reva J. Sears, Partnership Coordinator from the Census Bureau and Ms. Marianne Maloney Partnership Specialist also from the Census Bureau stressed the importance of participating in the 2010 Census. It is vital that everyone, even non U.S. citizens fill out the census form. The form has been revised and only has about 10 questions on it. Personal information is not shared with anyone. Job opportunities

are also available on-line at www.census.gov. Money for our schools, hospitals, transportation etc. depends on the numbers from the census.

Mr. Jason Razefsky representing Borough President Molinaro and Ms. AnnMarie Seltzer representing Councilman Kenneth Mitchell said both officials have reached out to Commissioner Paulo regarding the closing of Cromwell Center for repairs. The Borough President along with Councilman Mitchell will be working with Commissioner Paulo to find alternative locations for the patrons who utilize Cromwell Center during the repairs.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Josey, Mr. Watkins, Rev. Victor Brown, Ms. Kathleen Rivera, Ms. Tammy Grier Brown, Mr. Victor Nicholzen, Ms. Katheryn Belgian, Ms. Helen Settles, Rev. Lane and Jeff all spoke about the closing of Cromwell Center for repairs. All expressed the need for alternative locations while Cromwell is being renovated, the need for the center to be completed in a timely manner and to keep the community updated. Teens who spoke had concerns about where they would go. Cromwell keeps them off the streets, keeps them out of trouble. It is their second home and provisions need to be made for alternative locations before Cromwell closes for repairs.

Mr. Ronald Meisels said space is available where the National Lighthouse Museum is to use while Cromwell is being renovated. Mr. Meisels stressed the need to unlock the gates and let the community utilize the Lighthouse Museum site.

Mr. Michael DeRuvo, Architect Montgomery Development Associates explained the current owners purchased the project with approved plans from the previous owners. It was not a self-certified application.

The site was previously developed with two, two-family residences, which were demolished in 2006. 70% of construction is complete for a multi-family building with 12 units. Mr. DeRuvo asked the members of Community Board #1 to support the application for 30-38 Montgomery Avenue.

Dee Vandenberg, President of the Staten Island Tax Payers Coalition supplied the Board with copies of articles from 1986 regarding of cleanups high lead levels from Rossville. It is important that the old Sedutto's site be cleaned up quickly and efficiently.

Theo Dorian, Frizzi Linck and Rama Chorpash spoke against Amethyst House temporarily relocating to St. George in the St. Peter's Convent.

Mr. Michael Arvanties representing Senator Diane Savino requested the Board deny the application for 30-38 Montgomery Avenue. It is a steep slope; it is out of character with the surrounding homes.

Senator Savino has been in touch with all of the agencies to clean-up the lead contamination in Port Richmond and will continue to insure that the appropriate agencies do a through job. In addition the Health Clinic on Port Richmond Avenue is doing free lead testing. Lastly, the Senator will be working with the Borough President and Councilman Mitchell in finding alternate sites to use while Cromwell Center is closed for renovations.

Ms. Ann Marie Seltzer read a statement on behalf of Councilman Kenneth Mitchell asking Community Board #1 to vote against granting the authorizations for 30-38 Montgomery Avenue

and send a clear message to the development community that we will not tolerate any deviation from Hillside Preservation zoning regulations. (Full testimony on file at the Board Office).

PUBLIC SESSION CLOSED

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO – Mr. Accornero read the list of motions. All motions were read discussed and voted on as follows:

Motion to approve Department of City Planning Application Nos. N 070546 ZSR and N 070547 ZSR – proposed special permit to permit an enlargement of the existing St. Elizabeth Ann’s

Nursing Home located at **91 Tompkins Avenue**

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Motion to approve Board of Standards & Appeals Application Nos. 32-09-BZY thru 34-09-BZY, applications submitted to extend the time of construction and obtain Certificate of Occupancy at **122, 124 and 126 Treadwell Avenue** as presented.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Motion to approve Department of City Planning Authorization No. N 090074 ZAR – authorization requested for the construction of a new mixed use building containing commercial and community facility uses within the Special Hillside Preservation District located at **97 Victory Blvd** with the condition that the roof surface be a minimum of white color.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 26-5-1.

Motion to approve Department of City Planning Authorization No. N 080343 ZAR – authorization for a 4-story mixed use building with 2 accessory off-street parking spaces located in the Special Hillside Preservation at **119 Victory Blvd** as presented.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 27-5-1.

Motion to deny Department of City Planning Authorization Nos. N 090139 ZAR and N 090140 ZCR – authorizations to develop in the Special Hillside Preservation District a 12 – unit multi-family building located at **30-38 Montgomery Avenue** with the request that the application be referred back to the Department of City Planning to review the findings and to determine whether or not excessive lot coverage within the special Hillside exists with the structure in its 70% complete condition.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 31-0-1.

Mr. Accornero will prepare a letter to send to the Ms. Amanda Burden, FAICP, Director, Department of City Planning for her to review the Hillside Preservation Text in Staten Island and ask her to give her interpretation of the text insofar as the rights of developers and their rights to develop in regards to underlying zones, limit development in the Hillside Preservation District, etc.

TRANSPORTATION, SEAN SWEENEY – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The following resolution was read, seconded discussed.

Community Board #1 supports the Staten Island Expressway Access Improvement Plan which will use stimulus money to pay for "shovel ready" construction projects, some of which this board has been requesting for two decades. These projects include but are not limited to: The removal of the toll booths at the Verrazano Narrows Bridge plaza, the completion of sound barriers along the Staten Island Expressway, the reconfiguration of west bound Clove Road Exit Ramp, and new exit and entrance ramps in Rosebank and Arrochar.

Furthermore, the Transportation Committee requests that the board offer support to Congressmen Jerrold Nadler and Michael McMahon in their efforts to improve transportation on Staten Island.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES, LISA LATTANZIO – Ms. Lattanzio reported representatives from Amethyst House were in attendance last month regarding the temporary move into St. Peter's Convent. Letters supporting the temporary relocation of Amethyst House were sent to Community Board #1 from Senator Savino, Assemblyman Titone and Councilman Mitchell.

WATERFRONT, CURT WARD – No quorum, no minutes.

PUBLIC SERVICES, LLOYD BACCHUS – The minutes of the meeting are not in the packet. Mr. Bacchus reported on the Post Office on Manor Road. Mr. Bacchus and other members attended a hearing regarding moving the distribution services from Manor Road to Brooklyn. It is more cost effective for the distribution services to be brought to Brooklyn that is basically what the representatives said. Postal workers will not be laid-off, they will be relocated.

YOUTH SERVICES, JOANNE PENTANGELO – No report.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, LETICIA REMAURO – Minutes of the Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting are in the packet.

BUDGET & FIANCE, TERRY PLAYER – No meeting.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, MEGAN DELMAR – Ms. Delmar reported that representatives from Amethyst House attended her meeting as well as the Human Resources Committee Meeting regarding the temporary relocation of Amethyst House to St. Peter's convent. There is going to be security. The clients may not leave the facility without a staff member. The clients are all woman, fully detoxed and and this is their next step into returning into the community. Ms. Delmar reported that letters of support were sent to the Community Board from Senator Savino , Assemblyman Titone and Councilman Mitchell.

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, DEBI ROSE – Ms. Anjail Ameen-Rice announced the minutes are in the packet. Signs were taken down regarding the Lead health hazard in Veterans Park in Port Richmond and Ms. Ameen-Rice questioned why they were taken down.

Mr. Carroll and Ms. Rose reported that there was a very low concentration of lead and arsenic found in Veterans Park. Measures have been taken to further reduce any further contamination from leaking into the ground at the Park.

Mr. Carroll also informed members that the contamination in Veterans Park is from the pesticides used many years ago.

Flyers have been posted in the Port Richmond community and in the local schools in Spanish and English to have their children tested for Lead and the numbers to the Department of Health.

A Public Hearing is being arranged by the Environmental Protection Agency for the Port Richmond Community.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – No quorum.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, KEN TIRADO – No meeting, no report.

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

Secretary Debi Rose read the names and positions of candidates that had previously submitted call for candidate forms. Nominations were then taken from the floor. Each position was read three times. No nominations were submitted from the floor.

CHAIRPERSON - Leticia Remauro -----George Wonica, Jr.

FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON – Anthony Cosentino running unopposed.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON – Christopher Rooney running unopposed.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRPERSON – Friday Ogbewele running unopposed.

TREASURER – Larry Beslow running unopposed.

SECRETARY – Nicolas Siclari running unopposed.

An election will be held at the June 9, 2009 Board Meeting for the position of Chairperson. Each candidate will have three minutes to address the Board. Congratulations were given to the remaining candidates who will assume their positions after the June 9, 2009 Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Accornero made a motion that that a letter be sent to the requesting that Richmond County be exempt from any sales tax increase and asks Boards #2 and #3 to join. No objection to sending the letter.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 P.M.

