

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 – 7:30 P.M.

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero, Chairman
Ali Mir Masum
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow
Joseph Bird, Excused
Andrew Blanco, Excused
Telee Brown, Absent
Celeste Bute-Holmes
Loretta Cauldwell
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle, Excused
Linda Eskenas
Thomas Ferrie, Absent
Timothy Forsyth
Victoria Fossella
Victoria Gillen
Christopher Greene
John Guzzo
Robert Honor
Sunny Jain
Lisa Lattanzio
Norman Light
Priscilla Marco
John McBeth
Pearl Minsky
Jeffrey Mohlenbrok
Friday Ogbewe
Ole Olsen, Leave
Ernest Paige
Catherine Paradiso
Geraldine Parker, Absent
Fran Reali, Excused
Chris Rooney
Marjorie Ryan
James Samuels
Varun Sanyal, Absent
George Sona, Absent
Nicholas Siclari
George Turner
Kelly Vilar
Kevin Washington
Daniel Williams
Camille Zarrelli, Excused
Nicholas Zvegintzov

GUESTS

Deputy Inspector Robert Bocchino, Commander 120th Pct.
Roland Stewart, Rep. BP James Oddo
Troy McGhie, Rep. Councilwoman Debi Rose
Lorraine Scanni, Rep. Councilman Steven Matteo
Tom Feeney, Rep. MOA Matt Titone
Jenny Fischman, Rep. Public Advocate Letita James
Brandon Patterson, Rep. Senator Diane Savino
Joan Cusack, Director Human Resources Administration
Susan Fowler, City Harvest
Detective Quania Rios, 120th Pct. Community Affairs
Robert Gibbs, Stapleton Library
Chris Lee, Port Authority NY/NJ
Michael Morrell, President Westerleigh Improvement Society
Georgetta Lakeman, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Eric Patterson, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Beryl Thurman, President North Shore Waterfront Conservancy
Sharon Pope, BikeNYC
Donna Mazella, Youth Committee Member
Tony Arcome, NYC Parks & Recreation Manager
Joe Polimeni, Joe Broadways
Neil Berry, BBC
Peter Lisi, SI Paramount
George & Dana Cusick, Manor Road
Richmond Bradshaw, Grandview Avenue
Barbara Sanchez, Committee to Save Mt. Manresa
Virginia Sherry, SI Advance
George Smith
Debra Grant, Heberton Avenue

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Associate

A Land Use Public Hearing was held prior to the Board Meeting. There were 2 applications on the agenda as follows:

1. Board of Standards & Appeals Application, Nos. 128-15-BZ thru 130-15-BZ – 680, 682 & 684 Van Duzer Street, corner of Broad and Van Duzer Streets – Application to construct 3 attached 1-family dwellings and waive 1 front yard requirement – homes will front on Van Duzer Street. (these 3 homes also require City Planning Authorizations which are under review with City Planning)

Mr. Simich, representing the applicant explained the application is to construct a new 2 story residential building with 3 dwelling units, 6 accessory off-street parking spaces. The subject side is steeply sloped vacant corner lot measuring 14,775 square feet in area and is zoned R2.

Mr. Daniel Remine and John Garcia, Serpentine Arts & Nature Common spoke of the severe flooding that occurs from the top of Howard Avenue down the Hill to Van Duzer and Broad Streets. There is Serpentine Rock which, when disturbed releases asbestos into the air.

Mr. Accornero reviewed the 5 findings and it was determined that the applicant did not meet the all of the 5 findings.

2. Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 189-09-BZ – 3067 Richmond Terrace – re-open and amend the variance originally granted for Use Group 4 Mosque and Sunday school to permit minor changes to the interior layout. The application also seeks an extension of time to complete construction which expired on May 10, 2015.

Mr. Michael Nacmines representing the applicant explained the basement was flooded from Hurricane Sandy and plans needed to be revised to accommodate the damage.

The changes are as follows:

Basement: Replace the boiler; add a screening partition by the bathroom and closed stair access to bathroom, relocate the elevator machine room.

First Floor: Install handicap's men's bathroom access and closed stair access to the bathroom; install handicap women's bathroom access; add a mechanical room; add elevator machine room.

Second Floor: Add a mechanical room; add a bathroom screening partition and close the stair access to the bathroom

Third Floor: Add a drinking fountain and close the stair access to the bathroom

Fourth Floor: Relocate hall partitions and add a drinking fountain.

The application was approved in May of 2011 by the Board of Standards & Appeals which expired in May of 2015. The applicant is requesting an extension of two years.

There were no objections from the members of the board or community.

The following motions were made at the Land Use Committee and approved and will be brought before the full board this evening:

Board of Standards & Appeals Application, Nos. 128-15-BZ thru 130-15-BZ – 680, 682 & 684 Van Duzer Street, corner of Broad and Van Duzer Streets – Application to construct 3 attached 1-family dwellings and waive 1 front yard requirement – homes will front on Van Duzer Street. (These 3 homes also require City Planning Authorizations which are under review with City Planning)

Whereas, there are substantial concerns by the community regarding flooding in this immediate area and the impact any development would have, and;

Whereas, the variance if granted would alter the essential character of this neighborhood underlying R2 zoning, and;

Whereas, this proposal is beyond the minimal necessary to afford relief,

Be it hereby resolved that CB#1 opposes BSA Application Nos. 129-15-BZ-130-15-BZ.

In addition a letter will be sent to DEP requesting corrective measures for the flooding.

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 189-09-BZ – 3067 Richmond Terrace – re-open and amend the variance originally granted for Use Group 4 Mosque and Sunday school to permit minor changes to the interior layout. The application also seeks an extension of time to complete construction which expired on May 10, 2015.

Approve BSA Application No. 189-09-BZ, application as submitted.

FULL BOARD MEETING

Chairman Nicholas Siclari called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Anjail Ameen-Rice took roll call attendance, quorum present.

Chairman Siclari asked Board Members and all in attendance to think of people/organizations in the community that deserve to be recognized for the work they do in the community. Every month at the Board Meeting the Board will recognize someone with a certificate of recognition.

This month I am proud to honor Mr. Ed Calla from Calla Karate which teaches its students to be the best they can be in all aspects of Life.

Chairman Siclari introduced Mr. Ed and Mary Calla:

Mr. Calla thanked the Board and explained that Calla Karate is a family owned and operated dojo on Staten Island. They have designed the school to provide a warm and inviting atmosphere. We believe that when you walk in the door – there will be no doubt that this is the school for you! A husband and wife team that understand the importance of ethics and values and being parents we understand the need for trust and compassion.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

1. To provide the finest instruction in the mental, physical & character building aspects of the martial arts.
2. To provide personal instruction in every class.

3. To provide the best professional facilities in the area.

4. To create an environment that gives each individual the opportunity to pursue and achieve a greater level of success and freedom.

Kyoshi Eddie Calla brings his extensive *traditional* martial arts training in Goju Ryu and Japanese JuJutsu to *modern* society. Being taught by the great Grand Master Peter Siringano, Sr. and Sensei's Alan & Glenn Nieves, Kyoshi Eddie is able to pass down his extensive knowledge of the arts to his instructors and students.

It is the goal to create a safe, nurturing environment that is welcoming to every student. The classes are innovative, enjoyable and effective! Building self-esteem, confidence, physical and emotional well-being is a priority.

Sensei Mary Calla and the Calla Karate Instructor team continue their physical and academic training which enables us to provide you with the utmost learning experience!

With over 30 years of martial arts experience we are able to offer the highest level of Karate and JuJutsu instruction available on Staten Island.

Deputy Inspector Robert Bocchino spoke of a new program which was introduced in Manhattan and is being brought to the 120th Pct. the first week of October. The program will have the same police officers' patrolling the area. The officers' will have cell phones which community leaders, participants, etc. will have direct contact with the officers to report any illegal activity, quality of life crimes etc.

Mr. Chris Lee, Senior External Relations Manager for The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey spoke gave an update on the Bayonne Bridge, residential assistance programs available to the residents such as exterminating services, car wash certificates, liter removal, lawn inspections, dirt removal power washing, and pool water/Testing. The Port Authority was also providing residents that lived in certain zones of the Bayonne Bridge with two window air conditioning units up to \$500; the agency also was going to reimbursement for new filters at the start of each summer season for the duration of the construction work.

Ms. Georgetta Lakeman spoke of upcoming events that were occurring at Westerleigh Park as well as volunteer opportunities for students for community service every Saturday. For more details contact westerleighpark@aol.com

Ms. Sharon Pope, Bike NYC spoke of programs available through Bike NYC, such as learn to ride, street safety cases, bicycling basics, street skills class, and much more. For more information go to www.bike.nyc

Mr. John McBeth, Occupy the Block thanked all the members, NYPD and Councilwoman Debi Rose for their participation in patrolling the areas.

Loretta Cauldwell, spoke about the Staten Island Business Outreach Center (formerly West Brighton LDC) is having a Tekamorphosis Expo, Staten Island's First Technology Exposition

that is free and open to the public. It is an all-day event at the Staaten. Borough President James Oddo is the keynote Speaker at the Lunch. For more information: Tekamorphosis.com or call 718-612-0687.

Ms. Donna Mazella, a non-board member of the Youth Committee asked the Board to support the motion that was being brought by the Youth Committee tonight.

Mr. Joe Kurtz from the New York City Parks Department spoke of volunteer opportunities to map street trees around Snug Harbor. For more information contact Mr. Kurtz at 347-991-0975 or e-mail him at Joseph.Kurtz@parks.nyc.gov

Ms. Susan Fowler, City Harvest spoke about the mobile food market in Stapleton behind 75 Hill Street in the tennis courts every 1st Tuesday and 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Everyone who participates at the Stapleton Houses Senior Center or live in the zip codes of 10301, 10304, 10305 or 10310 are eligible to participate. For more info call 866-444-0244 or visit cityharvet.org

Ms. Barbara Sanchez, the Committee to Save Mt. Manresa spoke of all the demolition that has occurred on the property at Mt. Manresa and asked for a meeting with the Land Use Committee to go over the pending rezoning application that Paul Graziano and the Committee have been working on for Rosebank and Stapleton.

Mr. Richmond Bradshaw Jr. spoke about how he used to go to Cromwell everyday afterschool, it kept him off the streets and out of trouble. It is important that Cromwell be rebuilt on the Waterfront.

Mr. Robert Gibbs of the Stapleton Library spoke of a project they are working on “Stapleton Speaks” Our neighborhood Oral History project. To hear stories already recorded go to the website at orallhistory.nypl.org. If you lived, worked or loved Stapleton, you have a story contact Rosa, Rob or Andrew at 718-929-0427 or stapleton.nypl.org. A calendar was also given out for the month of September for the programs happening at the Stapleton Library.

Ms. Carinda Longueira spoke of a new group recently formed, Staten Island Citizens.

Jenny Fischman, representative for Public Advocate Letita James had a handout of what the Public Advocate has been doing.

Mr. Joe Polemeni thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to open Broadway Joe’s in Mariner’s Harbor with no incidents and, have been working with the community. Mr. Polemeni and a partner has bought the Full Cup on Van Duzer Street. He would like the chance to open up at that location.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino– There will be a Budget Public Hearing in October for Capital and Expense requests for Fiscal Year 2017. Area Committee chairs should ask their committee members for items to be requested.

Second Vice-Chairman, Christopher Rooney – No report.

Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewele – No report.

Secretary, Anjail Ameen-Rice – No report.

Treasurer, Larry Beslow – No report.

Chairman, Nicholas Siclari – Chairman Siclari welcomed everyone back from the summer break. The committee assignment lists for the area and functional committees were e-mailed out to all board members and are included in the packet. If any member has a conflict and needs to change committees, wants to serve on a second committee please speak to me. Chairman Siclari looks forward to working with everyone this year.

District Manager, Joseph Carroll - Mr. Carroll welcomed everyone back. There will be a street dedication on Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 2:00 P.M. at Harbor Road and Forest Avenue for a longtime Board Member, Executive Committee Member, Dominick Lambert. All are invited to attend.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO – The following motions were presented, discussed and voted on as follows:

Board of Standards & Appeals Application, Nos. 128-15-BZ thru 130-15-BZ – 680, 682 & 684 Van Duzer Street, corner of Broad and Van Duzer Streets – Application to construct 3 attached 1-family dwellings and waive 1 front yard requirement – homes will front on Van Duzer Street. (these 3 homes also require City Planning Authorizations which are under review with City Planning)

Whereas, there are substantial concerns by the community regarding flooding in this immediate area and the impact any development would have, and;

Whereas, the variance if granted would alter the essential character of this neighborhood underlying R2 zoning, and;

Whereas, this proposal is beyond the minimal necessary to afford relief,

Be it hereby resolved that CB#1 opposes BSA Application Nos. 129-15-BZ-130-15-BZ.

In addition a letter will be sent to DEP requesting corrective measures for the flooding.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed to oppose 30-0-0.

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 189-09-BZ – 3067 Richmond Terrace – re-open and amend the variance originally granted for Use Group 4 Mosque and Sunday school to permit minor changes to the interior layout. The application also seeks an extension of time to complete construction which expired on May 10, 2015.

Approve BSA Application No. 189-09-BZ, application as submitted.

Roll call vote taken vote passed 29-0-0 (1 ineligible)

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – Ms. Paradiso said there was no meeting. She asked everyone to keep our Board Member Fran Reali in their thoughts and prayers as she is dealing with a difficult health situation. In addition, Ms. Paradiso reminded everyone of the dinner for One Heart at a Time Dinner on October 20, 2015 at the Staaten.

LABOR, JEFFREY MOHLENBROK – If anyone has any labor related items, please let Mr. Mohlenbrok know.

WATERFRONT, LORETTA CAULDWELL – No report. The meeting will be held on October 22, 2015 at the Board Office.

Ms. Priscilla Marco asked that the meetings be held at the Lighthouse Museum. It was mentioned that Triangular Equities is going to be starting construction and that there will be limited access to the location.

PUBLIC SERVICES, SUNNY JAIN - No report. If anyone has any issues for the Public Services Committee please let Mr. Jain know.

PARKS & RECREATION, MEGAN DELMAR – No meeting, no report.

YOUTH SERVICES, KELLY VILAR – Minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The following resolution was presented to the Board:

Community Board No. 1 Staten Island has adopted **Fiscal Year 2017 North Shore Youth Agenda**. This agenda will focus our youth committee, community board and community at large on garnering and developing support for the following issues which are key to the improvement of government and private resources needed to improve quality of life for children and youth on Staten Island's north shore.

These issues will positively impact youth in need and improve quality of public education, crime and drug activity, economic development, healthcare, recreation-sports, and arts for all children and youth on the north shore. CB #1 lists the following as priorities for the North Shore:

1. **Build More Public Schools In the CB #1 District---Particularly Middle Schools and High Schools**
 - a. The Waterfront and newly defined Special Zoning Districts along the North Shore will be growing at a rapid rate over the next 24+ months. Our schools currently don't support the population of the neighborhoods, as it is. This residential growth is occurring in all categories: new construction, existing

industrial buildings being converted to residential, abandoned 2008 construction revitalized & occupied, sales of stagnant property rising.

- b. The School Construction Authority's present 2015-2019 Five Year Plan is already in effect and only solving an addition of 300+ seats to Curtis HS which is already overcrowded by over 700 students. We need to act now to be heard and included in the upcoming 2020-2024 Five Year Plan, which essential is already being drafted.
- c. It is estimated by NYC Planning and the American Community Survey that the North Shore is the district with highest volume in its youth population with more than estimated 60,000 youth ages 0 to 24 years old
- d. North Shore has the highest rate of youth dropping out of school and the lowest promotion and graduate rates than any other part of the borough says Community Service Society's study on Education and Employment Characteristics of Staten Island's Young Adults (ages 18-24 years old)
- e. CB #1 is the Staten Island district with high increases in current population growth and high projections for growth because of economic development projects occurring in the district.

2. Rebuild Cromwell Recreation Center on the Waterfront

- a. It was the only and largest public recreation facility available for all children and families in St. George nearest viable and easily accessed public transportation
- b. It was the only recreation center or facility that attracted visitors from other boroughs where city and state wide basketball tournaments were held. If developed could be a major NYC facility.
- c. The window for opportunity to obtain funding and political will for this project may dwindle as the development of the waterfront on St. George is being claimed and ground breakings all about this area
- d. Finally, the building of Cromwell on the waterfront would be the only free public access non-commercial recreation facility in the entire north shore waterfront development plan

3. Districtwide Opportunities for Youth (Middle and High School Aged Youth) To Participate In Organized Sports

- a. The building of character, teamwork, leadership and learning how to compete can be found in activities as simple as baseball. Yet the opportunities for free or low cost organized sports is limited leaving disenfranchised youth on Staten Island without options. There is a huge opportunity being missed here to teach young people these valuable life skills.
- b. Sports activities contribute to a healthier lifestyle and encourage exercise. The New York State Health Departments Vital Statistics says that Staten Island's north shore is considered a "hotspot for disease burdened Medicaid". It has highest rates on the island of youth with asthma, diabetes and hypertension....all of which are preventable and/or treatable ailments that can subside with proper nutrition and exercise.

4. Creation/Expansion of Viable Youth Leadership Development Opportunities

- a. Tomorrow's leaders are amongst our youth. Young people need to practice and develop as leaders. Staten Island has few leadership development model programs that engage youth in learning how to be leaders in their own communities.
- b. Opening the door for their future... Opportunities to have a young person have a personal stake in shaping their future is priceless. More emphasis needs to be made on Staten Island to develop youth leaders in every facet of neighborhood life... churches, schools, civic groups, businesses, community organizations and

government.

- c. A disproportionate number of Staten Island's north shore mainstay organizations such as churches, civic groups, and community organizations are led by adults 50 and older. This tells us that more leadership development needs to be encouraged and must begin in the middle and high school years.

Development and Expansion of Youth Employment Opportunities

- d. No economic development plan is ever good if it does not include pathways to viable employment and employable young workers. The North Shore Young adult population 18-24 years old have the highest rate of unemployment than all Staten Islanders according to Report on Employment for youth 18-24 years completed by Community Service Society.
- e. Without the experiences of world of work, we contribute to failing welfare systems, dependency and the development of more youth living in poverty. So we need to encourage the development of job, career and entrepreneurial readiness.

5. Expansion of Opportunities for Performance and Visual Arts for Youth in and out of the school system

- a. A recent report released by the City of New York's Comptroller's office in April 2014 revealed that arts education in New York City has significantly declined over the last decade, with 28 percent of New York City schools possessing not even one full time certified arts teacher. In Staten Island's North Shore this statistic includes: PS 14, PS 16, PS 20, PS 29, PS 31, PS 44, PS 46, PS 48, PS 57, PS 74, PS 78 and Concord High School.
- b. In 2012 a report by the National Endowment of the Arts conducted a study that discovered that arts education increases academic outcomes for low income students. Research showed that students with consistent arts education had "higher GPA's than students with low levels of arts engagement; enrolled at higher rates in competitive and four-year colleges than low-arts engaged students; and were three times more likely than arts- poor peers to earn a bachelor's degree" (City of New York, Office of the Comptroller, 2014).

Final Note on the FY 2017 North Shore Youth Agenda

This agenda is notwithstanding the targeted needs in other areas involving for preschool and elementary school youth, foster care, special needs children, LGBTQ youth, special education, juvenile justice or child health and welfare for example. However, this is an urgent call, preventive and forward thinking agenda that seeks to align our community's youth with resources that provide a road to a better quality of life, good citizenship and independence.

The North Shore Youth Agenda 2017 will provide our community with a platform on which to build support from local leaders, elected officials, service providers, educators, parents and youth to influence the FY 2017 New York City Budget Process and any other legislative or government entity related to these issues on federal, state or private industry levels.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, CHRISTOPHER GREENE - There has been no updates for our letter which we sent in May to support of Int. No. 732, a Local Law to amend the New York City Charter in relation to making urban planning professionals available to Community Boards.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – The report is under the First Vice-Chairman report.

TRANSPORTATION, NICHOLAS ZVEGINTZOV - The CB1 Transportation Committee will generally meet 7:30 p.m. Monday of the 3rd week of the month at the CB1 office in Edgewater Plaza.

Monday September 21 2015, 7:30 p.m.: No meeting, planning only

Monday October 19, 2015, 7:30 p.m.: NYC Transit Staten Island Bus Service Study, briefing to Transportation Committee

Monday November 16 2015: No meeting, Chair will be away

Monday December 21 2015: No meeting, Christmas

Monday January 18 2016, 7:30 p.m.: Plan for traffic and access on the North Shore, given new intensive developments (attractions, shopping, hotels, residential)

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, ANJAIL AMEEN-RICE – The June minutes are in the packet. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at 250 Park Avenue.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – No meeting. The committee meets the third Thursday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at 59 Wright Street.

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE/NEW BRIGHTON, JEFF MOHLENBROK, VICKIE FOSSELLA – No meeting. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Walker Park Tennis House, 50 Bard Avenue.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, TIMOTHY FORSYTH, CAMILLE ZARRELLI – No meeting. The committee meets the third Wednesday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Silver Lake Tennis House, Hart Blvd. & Revere Street.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH/SHORE ACRES, JOHN GUZZO - No meeting. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 at Mt. Carmel Hall, 36 Amity Street. The Committee will discuss changing Fillmore and Brown Place to a one-way.

Old Business

New Business

Meeting adjourned.

