

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING MAY 12, 2020 VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero, Absent
Joseph Ahlstrom
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow
Joseph Bird
Telee Brown, Absent
Sandy Carles, Excused
Loretta Caudwell
Anastasia Ciluffo, Excused
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle
Claudette Duff, Absent
Linda Eskenas
Timothy Forsyth, Absent
John Guzzo, Absent
Celeste Holmes, Absent
Sunny Jain
Lisa Lattanzio
Norman Light
Ali Mir Masum
John McBeth
Pearl Minsky, Excused
Friday Ogbewe
Ole Olsen
Ernest Paige
Christopher Rooney, Excused
Anthony Scutari
Nicholas Siclari
George Sona, Excused
George Turner, Absent
Kevin Washington
Daniel Williams, Absent
Steven Williams, Absent
Camille Zarrelli
Nicholas Zvegintzov

GUESTS

Hon. Nicole Malliotakis, MOA
Hon. Charles Fall, MOA
Edward Jackson, Rep. CAU, Mayor DeBlasio, CAU
Setonji Agosa, Rep. MOA Fall
Elena Brady, Rep. Councilman Matteo
Hon. Debi Rose, Councilwoman
Christine Johnson, Chief of Staff Councilwoman Rose
Troy McGhie, Rep. Councilwoman Rose
Stephen Caruso, Sanitation Supervisor
Donald DeRosa, Rep. Comptroller Stringer
Lisa Thompson, Rep. District Attorney McMahon
Joan Cusack, Executive Director Dept. of Social Services
Jermaine Williams, Dept. of Social Services
Jahi Rose, Community Outreach Civilian Complaint
Review Board
Frank Fontana, Dept. of Buildings
Leticia Remauro, Downtown SI Alliance
Mario Buonviaggio, Port Richmond Strong
Sarah Gowell, Bay Street Landing
Ernie Stiletto
Sam Schiff
Priscilla Marco, Pres. Van Duzer Civic Association
Nicole Brooks, Dept. of Parks & Recreation
Robert Gibbs, NYPL, St. George
Mary Bullock, Port Richmond Strong
John Garcia, Van Duzer Civic Association

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Coordinator
Linda Maffeo, Community Associate

Chairman Nicholas Siclari called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Secretary Loretta Cauldwell took roll call attendance, quorum present.

Motion to accept February Full Board Minutes, motion seconded and accepted.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis stated there are 400,000 unemployment cases pending, and 1.6 million claims in New York. if anyone needs any help to call her office - 718-987-9197.

The Assemblywoman has also been working with food pantries throughout Staten Island. On May 14th from 1-3 there will be a drive-by food drive at Holy Family Church, 366 Watchogue Road. If anyone needs assistance with food, they can reach her office, one family that she spoke to received rotten food, she had words with the Mayor's Office to resolve the issues and insure nobody else would receive rotten food. Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis thanked the J.C.C., Project Hospitality and Catholic Charities, they have all been fantastic.

Tomorrow night the Assemblywoman will be holding a Facebook Town Hall Meeting with three Doctors on Staten Island to discuss the Corona Virus. This is a very stressful time if anyone needs emotional support, they can contact the emotional support hotline 1-800-863-9314.

Absentee Ballots can be obtained through her office for the June 23rd primary -718-987-9197.

Assemblyman Charles Fall mentioned if you are getting calls that you do not recognize you need to pick up the phone if you have applied for unemployment benefits or any other state related benefits. Many workers are working from home using their home phones. The Department of Labor for Unemployment benefits will ask three questions: First and Last Name, Date applied for benefits and last four of your social security number. If you need assistance you can contact the Assemblyman's Office -718-442-9932.

Hand sanitizer, masks, gloves can also be obtained through Assemblyman's Fall Office.

Over the weekend his office gave out 370 meals in Park Hill. Tomorrow we will cover the West Brighton area. This is in partnership with the Muslim Officer's Society, Expressway Collision, Project Hospitality and the Mayor's Office.

Summer Youth has been suspended – The Assemblyman is trying to make the case to the City to put the City Campaign Finance Board on hold, we need to prioritize and give that money to summer youth.

Councilwoman Debi Rose hoped that all have been maintaining social distancing. We are planning to open up some streets for social distancing - Front Street has been closed. The Mayor, DOT and NYPD did not ask for any input what streets should be closed. Front Street is not the best location – we are looking at other streets to close. Front Street will be open this weekend.

NYC has been doing distributions masks. They have been giving out masks at Clove Lakes Park, the Big Park Mariners Harbor and Corporal Thompson Park. Masks are also being distributed through her office. 718-556-7370.

You can access food at any Grab and Go sites at all schools. They supply two meals, breakfast and lunch you can bring home for anyone that lives in your household. This is available in all schools. Seniors can have meals delivered by calling 311 or you can call her office.

We need more testing sites; we have the Goethals Center on Vanderbilt Avenue which is a walk-in no appointment necessary. Two more sites have been added, Mt. Sinai Christian Church and Family Life Center, we are trying to get more antibody testing sites.

We have a fact sheet in our office with important phone numbers and websites with resources. We have an attorney if anyone is in need of legal help, again get in touch with her office at 718-556-7370.

Councilwoman Debi Rose thanked Assemblyman Fall for speaking earlier and for trying to save the Summer Youth Employment Program. The City is in really bad shape, we are in an 8-Billion-dollar deficit. All City Agencies are taking a 10% cut. Youth programs took a 100% cut. There is no programming for youth at all this summer. Councilwoman Rose urged CB#1 to write a letter to restore the program.

If you have not filled out the census, please do. Ask family friends if they have filled it out.

Questions were asked and answered to all of the Elected Officials.

PUBLIC SESSION

Donald DeRosa from Comptroller Stringer's Office reported there is an 8.7 Billion Dollar deficit in the City. The Mayor is waiting for Federal Aid. The Comptroller has been very vocal. The Council is going to have to make some tough decisions in the coming months.

Lisa Thompson representing District Attorney McMahon reported that a nurse was suspended at Staten Island University Hospital for using a Covid-19 patients credit card, she was charged with Grand Larceny. She was arraigned and due back in court in September.

A man and woman lost their lives to a shooting in Mariners Harbor, she was pregnant the person is in custody.

The District Attorney's Office is up and running, we most are working remotely. You can reach out to us for anything.

Priscilla Marco President of the Van Duzer Civic Association mentioned they had a zoom meeting with the Congressman and the Public Administrator.

The Van Duzer Civic Association plans to have a Park Hill Therapeutic Garden to help the community grow their own food. Donations are needed for plants and volunteers are needed. Mr. Carroll suggested Ms. Marco reach out to Virginia Sherry with the SI Plant Society.

Mary Bullock representing Port Richmond Strong said they have been battling toxic development, graffiti vandals etc. in the north shore area. February 27th was their last meeting. Mr. Kahn a Port Richmond Deli owner and grocer lost his life to Covid-19 he will be missed.

Mr. Jermaine Williams from the Department of Social Services stated that New Yorkers have been very strong. It is important we all be sympathetic to people in need. Every Tuesday the Commissioner has a conference call that is open to the public. There is a program for a one-shot deal to pay tenants rent if they are having difficulty. You can apply for EBT cards and SNAP benefits online. Visit the Department of Social Services for information on all programs available.

Leticia Remauro - Update for SI Downtown Alliance spoke of The Department of Environmental Remediation report at 44 Victory Blvd. which is intended Homeless Shelter. It's a bad location, not the right location. Permanent housing is the right thing. Mayor has moved thousands of people from shelters to hotels. Have until May 27th to send comments to the Commissioner for Environmental Remediation. info@sidowntownalliance. The site is contaminated. Petroleum related VOC's. NYS Dept. of help. It cannot be mitigated. The soil vapor samples cannot be mitigated. Projects closed for less contamination. It is not a site to put women and children. They cannot plant any vegetables there. Find a proper site for permanent housing. Nobody should be living there with children. Reached out to the Elected Officials and Councilwoman Rose. We need as many letters as possible. Please email letters to schawla@dep.nyc.gov.

Mr. Jahi Rose from the Civilian Complaint Review Board which is separate from NYPD stated that you can report police misconduct. The Board accepts complaints and holds investigations. You can contact 311. Presentations are given in schools and places of worship by the CCRB. The CCRB will be having a public board meeting, May 13th where the discussion will be the Staten Island NYPD. Registration and password are required. You can check the CCRB website or contact the Community Board #1 office for the link to register.

Mr. Steven Caruso, Sanitation Supervisor stated that there have been some service changes. Residents have been understanding. Special waste item sites have been closed. No longer picking up curbside e-waste. Organics collection is suspended until July 2021. The Daytime shift is no starting at 5:00 A.M. Tickets are still being issued with an additional level of discretion. Some questions were asked and answered.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO - Mr. Cosentino sent condolences to all that have lost someone.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, TIMOTHY FORSYTH – No report, stay safe.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE – No report.

TREASURER, LARRY BESLOW – The report was e-mailed to all members. A copy can be obtained from the Board Office.

SECRETARY, LORETTA CAULDWELL – Ms. Cauldwell asked if there were any objections to sending a letter to the Mayor and to the Office of Management and Budget to restore the Summer Youth Employment Program. There were no objections to sending the letter.

Ms. Cauldwell asked if there were any objections to sending letters to the Mayor, Elected Officials and Environmental Remediation stating that 44 Victory Blvd. is not a safe place to place homeless or anybody. Soil contamination, toxic, never be able for a garden at location etc. There was no objection to sending the letter.

CHAIRMAN, NICHOLAS SICLARI – Chairman Nicholas Siclari thanked everyone for their patience with holding a remote meeting. Hoped everyone is well and staying safe.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL – Mr. Carroll and Ms. Cauldwell met with Chief Cory, the Borough Commander. Two issues the PD is battling with speeding. Going 90 miles an hour. Car theft on SI has increased. Most of the thefts are from cars that are not locked, and keys left in them.

Construction projects have been canceled. North Shore Esplanade, Waterfront Park, P.S.72 Playground. Library and expansion of roadways.

NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITIONS

The current Executive Committee Members all have previously submitted their names. Nominations were taken from the floor for each position called 3 times each.

Loretta...Any nominations on the floor for chair (3x). This position is now closed.

Anthony Cosentino for First Vice Chair. - Any nominations? There being none. This position is now closed.

Timothy Forsyth - 2nd Vice Chair. This position is closed.

Friday 3rd Vice Chair. This position is closed.

Treasurer - Larry Below. This position is now closed.

Nick - Loretta Cauldwell, Secretary. This position is now closed.

Old business

New business

Anjail - Just want to acknowledge students from CSI who are on here...they are learning about community.