

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING APRIL 11, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero, Chairman
Joseph Ahlstrom, Excused
Ali Mir Masum
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow
Joseph Bird, Excused
Telee Brown, Excused
Loretta Cauldwell
Anthony Cosentino
Megan Delmar
George Doyle
Claudette Duff
Linda Eskenas
Thomas Ferrie, Excused
Timothy Forsyth
Vickie Fossella
Victoria Gillen
John Guzzo
Celeste Holmes
Sunny Jain
Lisa Lattanzio
Norman Light
Priscilla Marco
John McBeth
Pearl Minsky, Excused Holiday
Mohan Radharkrishn
Friday Ogbewe
Ole Olsen, Leve
Ernest Paige
Catherine Paradiso
Geraldine Parker, Excused
Amy Poirer, Excused
Fran Reali, Excused
Chris Rooney
Marjorie Ryan
James Samuels, Excused
Anthony Scaturi
Nicholas Siclari
George Sona, Excused
Hakan Tale, Excused
George Turner, Excused
Kelly Vilar
Kevin Washington, Excused
Daniel Williams, Excused
Camille Zarrelli
Bob Zion
Nicholas Zvegintzov

GUESTS

Roland Stewart, Rep., Rep. Borough President James Oddo
Jorge Baritan, Rep. Congressman Daniel Donovan
Marci Bishop, Rep. District Attorney Michael McMahon
Troy McGhie, Rep. Councilwoman Debi Rose
Francine Capelli, Rep. Councilman Steven Matteo
Patrick Lewis, Rep. Public Advocate Letita James
Angela Miriezi Olsen, MOA Nicole Malliotakis
Mark Zink, Rep. MOA Matt Titone
Christina DiGiacomo, Rep. Senator Andrew Lanza
Joan Cusack, Director Human Resources Administration
Jermaine Williams, Human Resources Administration
Christine Tumbarello, NYC Parks & Recreation
Anne Foster, Bike NYC
Hannah Peters, City Planning
Michael Morrell, President Westerleigh Improvement Society
Eric Patterson, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Janice Monger, Exec. Director Alice Austen House
Irene Grylec, St. George Resident
Donna Hakim, Bd. of Directors Alice Austen House
Barbara Sanchez, Committee to Save Mount Manresa
Susan Keag, SI Advance

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Coordinator

A Land Use Public Hearing was held prior to the Board Meeting at 6:45 P.M.
There was one item on the agenda as follows:

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 2017-43-BZ, 140 Hendricks Avenue – Application is submitted to construct a new single family detached home, contrary to side-yard and open area regulations.

Mr. Steven Simicich, Esq. representing the application stated that instead of building a smaller house and having the required 8 feet side yard, the applicant is proposing to build a 15 foot house with 5 foot side yards. Many of the homes in the area do not meet the required 8 foot side yard. The area committee reviewed the application and had no opposition.

There was nobody in attendance from the surrounding area.
Public Hearing closed.

Land Use Committee Meeting

Motion made to approve as submitted, motion seconded. There was a brief discussion, roll vote taken of Land Use Committee, vote passed 5-1-1 (1 ineligible)

Chairman Nicholas Siclari called the full Board Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion made and seconded to approve March 2017 Full Board Minutes, motion approved unanimously.

Ms. Lauren Primerano, Park Administrator Ocean Breeze Park spoke about the recreational center on Father Capodanno Blvd.

Ms. Primerano provided numbers of visitors that use the facility, the majority of them are north shore youth.

Ms. Primerano further provided programs, fees etc. for the facility and stated there are always community service opportunities available at the facility.

PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. Kelly Vilar and Ms. Irene Grylec spoke about Cromwell Center and the need for the indoor pool to be on the north shore.

Ms. Janice Monger, Executive Director of the Alice Austen House and Donna Hakim, Board of the Alice Austen House both spoke in favor and the need for the approval of the 15 space parking lot at the Alice Austen House property.

Mr. Troy McGhie gave an update on all happenings that Councilwoman Rose has been working on including the budgetary items that were recently done. Mr. McGhie thanked everyone on behalf of Councilwoman Rose for participating in the budget process. The Councilwoman asked the residents where money should be spent and given to by a voting process.

Ms. Anne Foster, Bike NY spoke of the street closures for the upcoming 5 boro bike race.

Ms. Barbara Sanchez asked the board to support asking the Landmark Commission to landmark St. Mary's Church; it is over 100 years old and is the oldest church in SI.

Public Session closed

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – No report.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – No report.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE – No report.

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

SECRETARY, ANJAIL AMEEN-RICE – Ms. Anjail Ameen-Rice stated the current executive committee is running for their current positions:

Chairman, Nicholas Siclari

First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino

Second Vice-Chairman, Christopher Rooney

Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe

Treasurer, Larry Beslow

Secretary, Anjail Ameen-Rice

Nominations were taken from the floor for each of the Executive Committee positions. None were submitted. Call for Candidate Forms can be submitted up until the start of the May Meeting. Nominations will be taken at the May full Board Meeting.

CHAIRMAN, NICHOLAS SICLARI - Chairman Siclari mentioned a meeting was held with Richmond University Medical Center regarding the new emergency room and hospital bays planned for RUMC. A few people were invited to attend a meeting and did not attend. This is a very important issue and there are going to be a lot of changes coming to the hospital in regards to parking etc. The Chief Executive Officer Daniel Messina will be attending the next West Brighton/St. George Area Committee Meeting on April 18, 2017, 7:30 P.M. at the Walker Park Tennis House, 50 Bard Avenue.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL - Mr. Carroll wished everyone a Happy Passover and Easter.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO - The following application was heard prior to the Board Meeting tonight.

Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 2017-43-BZ, 140 Hendricks Avenue – Application is submitted to construct a new single family detached home, contrary to side-yard and open area regulations.

The area committee had no objection. The Attorney was present at the Land Use Public Hearing; there was nobody in attendance from the public opposed to the application, and the Land Use Committee approved 5-1-1 (1 ineligible).

Motion made and seconded to approve as submitted. Roll call vote taken, vote passed 27-5-0.

TRANSPORTATION, NICHOLAS ZVEGINTZOV – The following two letters were presented for ferry connectivity and car pool on Port Authority bridges as follows:

Honorable Mayor DeBlasio
City Hall
New York City

Dear Mayor DeBlasio:

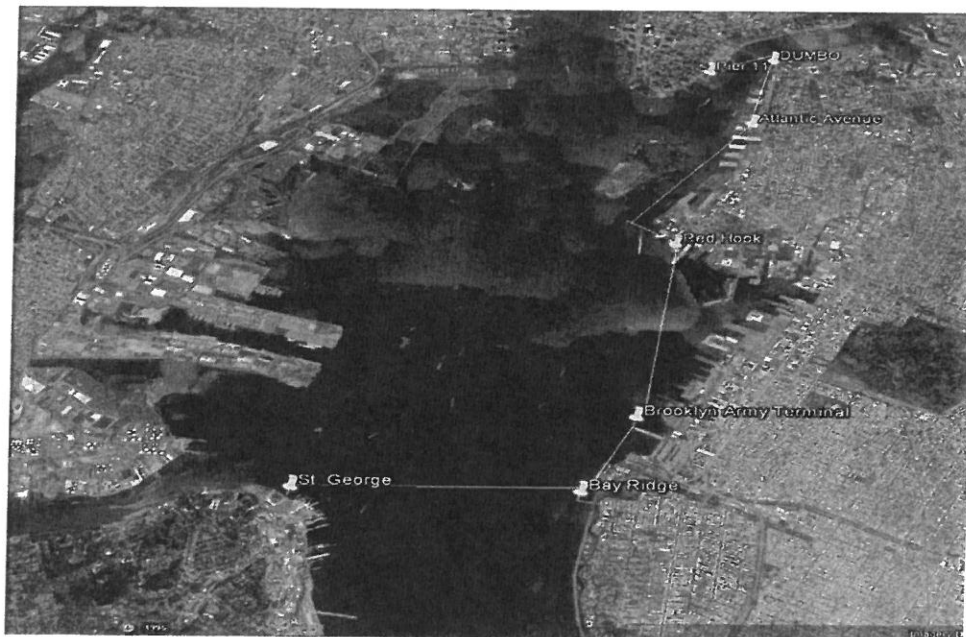
On April 11, 2017 Community Board #1 voted unanimously to request the City's consideration for expanded, truly comprehensive Citywide Ferry service. Our letter is in response to the notable omission of a Staten Island connection under the current program.

Given that the South Brooklyn Route (Wall Street - DUMBO - Atlantic Avenue - Brooklyn Army Terminal - Bay Ridge) will cost the same amount as a subway ride and take less than 10 minutes in transit time, we see it as a feasible and strategically sound request for the City to extend one, final leg of the route to connect Bay Ridge to St. George.

Creating this connector route would provide hundreds of thousands of residents with frequent, affordable service between the North Shore and the Brooklyn Waterfront, access to subways (N/R are a short walk from Bay Ridge), significantly reduce traffic from main commuter points and from the future developments, and provide free, easy transfers to the ferries to Midtown Manhattan.

The \$1+ billion investment by the New York Wheel, Empire Outlets and Lighthouse Point will attract millions of visitors to the North Shore of Staten Island. There will be substantial market demand for alternative forms of transportation to visit and work in the North Shore. This investment, along with the City's commitment to extend ferry service, offers a unique opportunity to reconnect the boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island with ferry service.

The connection between two great boroughs, which are currently separated by a \$15 toll and an hour commute, could be implemented with minimal cost and effort providing incalculable benefits to the residents and economies of Staten Island and Brooklyn.



South Brooklyn – North Shore Ferry Service

Benefits:

- Capital expenditure: Developers in St. George are in the process of negotiating an agreement with NYCEDC to install a ferry dock. Developers have agreed to assume responsibility for the capital expenditure and the maintenance of the facility.
- Traffic: There will be significant demand for Brooklyn and Queens residents to visit the New York Wheel and Empire Outlets. There are limited public transportation options from these boroughs to the North Shore. Many of these visitors will choose to drive, pay the \$15 toll, and add additional pressure to an already over-burdened Staten Island road system. There are currently underutilized parking facilities at both Brooklyn Army terminal and in Red Hook. A park and ride system to the North Shore will save those visitors time and money, while helping relieve traffic congestion.
- Jobs: The recent growth scene in Brooklyn and Manhattan has resulted in the creation of thousands of jobs. Currently, there is no affordable transportation opportunity connecting residents of downtown Staten Island to those job opportunities. Additionally, The New York Wheel, Empire Outlets and Lighthouse Point projects will create thousands of permanent jobs. Under the current situation, these jobs would be physically difficult to access for communities, such as the Red Hook Houses, due to lack of transportation options. A low-cost transportation alternative will give both of these boroughs access to the new jobs.
- Ferry system efficiency: Most of the visitation to the North Shore will be a reverse commute, with travel to the North Shore on mornings and midday, and returning in the evening. This pattern fills seats on the ferry that would otherwise go empty, increasing efficiency and improving the viability of the system. Additionally, there will be significant weekend demand to visit the North Shore benefiting that portion of the service.
- Subsidy: Subsidy for adding St. George to the South Brooklyn route will be comparably limited due to the significant demand, ferry service efficiency, and developer contributions to infrastructure investment. The additional ridership would significantly reduce the subsidy per passenger on the South Brooklyn route.

As always, thank you for your concern and consideration.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Pat Foye, Executive Director
The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
4 World Trade Center
250 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007

Re: Bayonne bridge discontinuance of Carpool plan

Dear Mr. Foye:

At the April 11, 2017 full Board Meeting Community Board 1, which represents approximately 175,000 of 476,015 residents on Staten Island's North Shore voted unanimously on February 20th, 2017, it was announced that the new Bayonne Bridge roadway was opening and "Cashless Tolls" would be in effect. The implementation of cashless tolls would lead to the end of the carpool plan for the Bayonne Bridge. The community was never given any information that this change was coming during the previous NJ/NJ PA meetings held in 2013 at Snug Harbor and then again in May 2014 during the Town Hall meeting held at Port Richmond High School. However, on February 18th, 2017, E-Z Pass sent an email to its customers stating "Please note that the E-Z Pass Carpool Plan will no longer be available at the Bayonne Bridge with the start of the Cashless Tolling beginning February 20th".

The rationale behind making this decision without consulting with the community board is disappointing. In an article published in the Staten Island Advance on February 20th, 2017, it was reported that

“According to the Port Authority, the carpool discount was the least used discount on the Bayonne Bridge last year”.

In terms of Monthly Traffic and Percent of E-Z Pass usage posted on NY/NJ’s website it was reported that vehicles utilizing EZ pass on the Bayonne Bridge were:

2011	3,536,426
2012	3,498,502
2013	3, 440,380
2014	2, 777,823
2015	2,057,674
2016	1,681,408

While these numbers are accurate, the drop in vehicles on the Bayonne Bridge is a direct result of the bridge being closed approximately 16 hours a day, 7 days per week for the past 3 years. Therefore, the conclusion that the carpool was the least utilized program is inaccurate, because, it does not factor in the reduction in vehicle usage based on the closures. However, when we review the statistics between 2011 and 2013, the NY/NJ PA would have come to a more accurate conclusion on the actual utilization

of the program. Additionally, it is our understanding that the new Goethals Bridge will continue to have access to the carpool program due to its current rates of utilization, however, it must be noted that the CB1 – PA Car Pool Bayonne Bridge reason there has been an increase in vehicle usage on the Goethals Bridge is due in part to vehicles being detoured to the Goethals Bridge during the hours that the Bayonne Bridge has been closed.

Based on the 2011-2013 statistics it can also be concluded that there will be an increase in vehicle usage of the Bayonne Bridge as a result of the bridge now being closed less than 16 hours per day as it was prior to the new roadway being completed.

Studies have shown us that carpooling can reduce gas emissions in the air, by encouraging people to travel in one vehicle rather than utilizing multiple vehicles. It can also reduce the financial burden on residents on Staten Island, who are always forced to have to pay a toll to return home.

We are asking that the NY/NJ Port Authority reconsider re-instating the carpool plan on the Bayonne Bridge. This should include some form of an appeal process for existing and new carpool plan enrollees to request reimbursement. We look forward to receiving a response from your agency soon.

Reverse roll call vote taken, vote passed unanimously.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CATHERINE PARADISO – Health and Hospital Corporation will be attending the Stapleton/Clifton/Concord Meeting on April 20, 2017 – 7:30 P.M. at the Central Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street to give an update on the new health center on Vanderbilt Avenue and Bay Street.

PUBLIC SERVICES, SUNNY JAIN – If anyone has any Sanitation issues please send them to Mr. Sunny Jain.

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

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – No report.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO - No report.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

LABOR, JEFFREY MOHLENBROK – No report.

PARKS & RECREATION, MEGAN DELMAR – A motion was made as follows:
Motion was made to not support the construction of a 15 space parking lot on Parks Department Property at the Alice Austen House Museum due to strong community opposition. Motion seconded. A vote was taken by both committee members present. All were in favor with one abstention. The committee

members would like to see the Councilmember reallocate the funds to the Museum for another project to benefit the museum.

Discussion held on the motion.

Roll call vote taken to not support the Alice Austen House parking. Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 18-11-2.

CIVIC, VICTORIA GILLEN – Kudos were given to Ms. Gillen. She ran a fantastic meeting with representatives from Civic Associations explaining how to gain information from nyc.gov.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS, PEARL MINSKY – Ms. Minsky is celebrating Passover and is excused.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE/NEW BRIGHTON, JEFFREY MOHLENBROK, VICKIE FOSSELLA – Minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH/WILLOWBROOK, CAMILLE ZARRELLI, TIMOTHY FORSYTH – Minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 18th – 6:45 at the Walker Park Tennis House, 50 Bard Avenue, prior to the West Brighton/St. George Area Committee Meeting. Department of Design and Construction will be giving a presentation on Clove Road and Victory Blvd.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH/SHORE ACRES, JOHN GUZZO – Minutes of the meeting are in **the packet.**

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, JOHN MCBETH – There was not a quorum at the meeting. An informational report is in the packet.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – There was no meeting.

OLD BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned.