

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 FULL BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2010 – 8:00 P.M.
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

Leticia Remauro, Chairwoman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow, Excused
Jeannine Borkowski
Marilyn Maria Brown
Arthur Cappabianca
Loretta Cauldwell
Ajmal Chaudhry, Leave
Anthony Cosentino
George Doyle
Linda Eskenas
Grace Ferranti, Leave
Timothy Forsyth
John Guzzo
Jeanne Hogan
Sunny Jain
Wilma Jones, Absent
Dominick Lambert, Med. Leave
Lisa Lattanzio
Priscilla Marco
Vincent Mecca
Jeffrey Mohlenbrok
Friday Ogbewe
John Pabone
Ernest Paige
Leticia Remauro
Chris Rooney
Majorie Ryan
Richard Salhaney
Nicholas Siclari
George Sona
John Strandberg, Absent
Sean Sweeney
Ken Tirado
Harold Wagner, Board Business
Curt Ward, Excused
Mark Washington, Excused
George Wonica, Jr.
Camille Zarrelli
Richard Zichettello

GUESTS

Jeanette Beck, Rep. Councilman Oddo
Julie Levine, Rep. Senator Lanza
Ulysses Grosso, Workforce 1
Robert Myers, NYS Business Solutions
Scott Lambdin, St. George Library
Michael Morrell, Pres. Westerleigh
Improvement Society
Peter Lisi, Paramount
Susan Fowler, City Harvest
Lee Norsworthy
Ed Addaman
Rich Murray
Eric Patterson
John Diorio, Owner of Wild Goose
Tim Kuhn
Erin Cousins
Fran Cudriazza
Rich Murray, Marriage Equality NY
Olivia Sweeney, Youth Comm. Member

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Associate
Anne Marie Alyone, Office Intern
Tytianna Fonville, Office Intern

Chairwoman Leticia Remauro called the meeting to order at 8:07 P.M.

Ms. Olivia Sweeney, who serves on the Youth Committee lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

If anyone has children, know of youth that would like to serve on the Youth Committee, they should speak to the Youth Chairwoman, Marilyn Brown. We have quite a few youth on the committee; it's fabulous to have them involved.

Roll call attendance taken, quorum present.

Ms. Linda Eskenas made a motion to accept November 2010 Board Minutes, Mr. Arthur Cappabianca seconded them motion. Motion passed.

Chairwoman Remauro announced three new Board Members have been appointed to the board, George Sona, Ernest Paige and Vincent Mecca.

Guest List was read.

Chairwoman Remauro asked Friday Ogbewele to start the Public Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Robert Myers, NYC Business Solutions spoke of the no cost services that are provided by the NYC Business Solutions including providing small business loans and creating more jobs for Staten Islanders. For further information you can call 718-285-8406 or e-mail Mr. Myers at romyers@sbs.nyc.gov.

Mr. Peter Lisi stated he is a Stapleton resident and a business owner. Mr. Lisi continued to say he has seen a lot of good things and is seeing a lot of bad things happening. He asked that members do not be stool pigeons for the public officials that appointed them and vote on issues before them for the community. If a person is not on an Elected Official List or a large contributor the Elected Officials does not help or fight for them. The first word of this Board is Community, Mr. Lisi thanked the people on this board that work for the community.

Mr. Rich Murray spoke in favor of Marriage Equality in New York. Mr. Murray previously addressed the Human Services Committee and would like the Board's support in reintroducing legislation to approve same sex marriages

Mr. Michael Morrell, President of the Westerleigh Improvement Society asked Community Board #1 to approve a Street renaming for former Board Member, Daniel Rieu and former member of the Westerleigh Improvement Society. Mr. Rieu worked very hard for many years to improve the quality of life for the community.

Mr. Ed Addaman complained of businesses leaving multiple flyers, menus etc. in mailboxes, , in doors, on the stoop which sometimes blows away causing debris on lawns, sidewalks etc. seniors need to exert themselves to pick up the debris or flyers

menus etc. left in front of their home, and, if you are away, shows that the home is vacant.

Ms. Louise Milano spoke opposing the closing and relocation of entrance and exit ramps in the Staten Island Access Improvement Plan claiming it is going to increase the already congested traffic on the service road

Arthur Cappabianca complained of the nativity scene being removed from the Ferry Terminal.

Eric Patterson requested bike lanes on Richmond Terrace in West Brighton.

Mr. John Diorio, Owner of the Wild Goose, spoke of changes that are being made to the establishment making it a more of a restaurant.

Mr. John Guzzo expressed concern that removal of the entrance ramps and the new entrance and exit ramps are going to cause more traffic on the residential streets in Rosebank and hurt the businesses on the service road.

PUBLIC SESSION CLOSED

Chairwoman Remauro responded to the Public Speakers as follows: Thank you Mr. Robert Myers, NYC Business Solutions, for the services your office provides and providing no cost services and small business loans to local businesses and to the community; with respect to Mr. Lisi, this Board operates for the community, we have done and accomplished many things, never has any member done the bidding for an elected official.

Mr. Rich Murray, we will have the Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee look into Marriage Equality since the law needs to be changed and ask of you to submit in writing exactly how you want the law to read.

Mr. Morrell, Community Board #1 has received the request to have an honorary street name sign for former Board Member and community activist Daniel Rieu, the request is being reviewed and a letter will be sent.

Mr. Patterson, this Board as approved an esplanade that would run the north shore that would include a bike lane, all along Richmond Terrace on the waterfront and, we have requested a bike lane along Richmond Terrace in West Brighton.

Lastly, the Staten Island Expressway Access Improvement Plan has been reviewed by this Board many years ago, and has been going on a monthly basis to the Rosebank Area Committee, power point presentations, drawings, plans have been shown to the Civic Association, it is on- line for review and, the Power Point can be e-mailed to anyone who wished to receive it through the board Office. The plans show that not only will there be less traffic on the service road there will be less volume on the Staten Island Expressway, changes are not going to be made to the placements of the entrance and exit ramps on the Staten Island Expressway.

OFFICERS REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – Wished everyone a happy holiday and stated we have reinstated the Sunshine Club, the money collected each month enables the board to send a small gift if member is in the hospital, passing of family member etc.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – Mr. Rooney wished everyone a Happy Holiday and New Year. Mr. Rooney read the following motion which has previously supported but needs to be a done in a formal resolution and vote for Borough Board:

Resolution to approve:

Whereas: New York Container Terminal (NYCT) is the largest industrial employer on Staten Island currently supporting 555 full-time jobs

Whereas: In order to stay in business, NYCT must expand operations to accommodate new larger ships that are currently replacing the smaller fleet

Whereas: This expansion will create 310 new jobs bringing NYCT's total payroll to \$185 million during these hard economic times

Whereas: NYCT will clean and use an existing Brownfield site for this expansion

Whereas: NYCT will remediate this highly contaminated waterfront with a history of pollution going back to 1874 and remove contaminants such as lead, chromium, and DDT from the community

Whereas: NYCT will also create a 15 acre waterfront park at a cost of \$26 million at Arlington Marsh ensuring full public access

Be it resolved that the Community Board supports this port expansion, Brownfield remediation and park creation.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE – Mr. Ogbewele wished everyone a Happy Holiday and New Year as well.

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

SECRETARY, NICOLAS SICLARI – Mr. Siclari "ditto".

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL – Mr. Carroll introduced the new Interns in the Community Board #1 office from Curtis High School, law program, Annemarie Alayon and Tytianna Fonville, who are both seniors and college bound. Mr. Carroll wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Mr. Cosentino thanked Youth Chair Marilyn Brown for creating “book a buck” for the children on the north shore. We are continuing to collecting money for the book a buck club has and is continuing to collect money to insure every child on the north shore has a book to read.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO – The committee met prior to the Board Meeting tonight.

An application was submitted to request a variance to permit residential use in an M1-1 district – the proposal is to construct 3, two-family detaches homes, three stories in height at 59, 63 and 67 Fillmore Street.

In reviewing the financial figures submitted it was determined inaccurate and, the applicant was invited but did not attend.

The following motion was made, seconded and voted on as follows:
Community Board #1 disapproves Board of Standards and Application Nos. -197-199 10BZ due to the misrepresentation of the economic hardship submitted in the feasibility Study alternate development plan which proposes 2 residential buildings, further, the applicant does not presuppose a rezoning to R3A as opposed to R3X when neither zoning designation has been proposed, nor is there any recognition of the adjacent Special Hillside Preservation District.

(An illustration was provided to the Board of Standards & Appeals of the cost differences etc.).

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed to deny the application unanimously.

The Land Use Committee reviewed the Greenway motion. The following motion was read, seconded and voted on as follows:

Motion To Designate The North Shore Greenway in the Department of City Planning's Comprehensive Waterfront Plan - Vision 2020

Whereas: The Greenway Committee, a sub-committee of the Waterfront Committee of Community Board I in Staten Island, undertook a year long study of the waterfront running from the St. George Ferry Terminal to the Goethals Bridge; and,

Whereas: The result of the study was a recommendation for the development of a 7.7 mile Greenway Trail that would provide safe, continuous, pedestrian, bicycle and rail or trolley access along or near the waterfront with areas designated as public park space where ever possible; and,

Whereas: City Planning issued a report in 1988 called "The North Shore Esplanade: A Plan for Waterfront Public Access" which proposed a policy to be applied to public and private properties with a goal of obtaining a continuous waterfront esplanade from Fort Wadsworth to Snug Harbor and that plan was incorporated into the overall city-wide Waterfront Plan in 1992 and the current Department of City Planning update; and,

Whereas: The entire stretch between Fort Wadsworth to the Goethals Bridge is rich in history and if preserved for pedestrian/ bicycle/rail/trolley will provide enormous economic, environmental, and cultural benefits to Staten Island and New York City; and,

Whereas: Included along this waterfront stretch is : the Staten Island Ferry, one of New York City's greatest tourist attractions that brings 2 million tourists a year to Staten Island; Fort Wadsworth, Alice Austen House, Buono Beach Park, the Home Port, Cromwell Center, Pier 1, The SI 9/11 Memorial, the North Shore Waterfront Park (former Blissenbach Marina), Snug Harbor, the Sacred Sites of West Brighton (Lenape Indian, Revolutionary & Civil War, Literary sites etc.), Shooters Island Bird Sanctuary, Historic NYC Landmarks, Mariners Marsh, and other notable places,

Be it hereby resolved that Community Board I in Staten Island requests that the above mentioned stretch of waterfront on or near waterfront property running from Fort Wadsworth to the Goethals Bridge and including the southern side of Richmond Terrace, be designated as the North Shore Greenway Trail and that the North Shore Greenway Trail be included in the Department of City Planning's new Comprehensive Waterfront Plan Vision 2020 in Reach 22 and in Reach 18.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – No Report.

WATERFRONT, CURT WARD – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

HUMAN SERVICES/PUBLIC SERVICES, LISA LATTANZIO, SUNNY JAIN – Ms. Lattanzio will meet with the Rules Committee to discuss proposed Legislation for Marriage Equality which has been addressed at the committee for prior two months.

TRANSPORTATION, JEANNE HOGAN – The committee did not meet in November; the committee will not meet in December due to the holidays.

LABOR, NICHOLAS SICLARI – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

YOUTH SERVICES, MARILYN MARIA BROWN – Everyone was thanked for donating to “Give a kid a Book”. We are still collecting money if anyone wants to continue to donate. Happy Holidays.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BELSOW – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The committee will meet on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at the Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street.

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, SEAN SWEENEY – The committee will meet on December 21, 2010 at the Wild Goose, 530 Forest Avenue to discuss the changes they are making in their business.

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, ANJAIL AMEEN-RICE – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The committee will meet December 21, 2010 – 7:00 P.M. at 250 Park Avenue.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, KEN TIRADO – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. There will be no meeting the month of December.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH, JOHN GUZZO – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. There will be no meeting for the month of December.

Please check the website for the month of December to see what committees will be meeting due to the holidays.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tirado thanked everyone for the abundance of toys for the annual Santa visit to RUMC. Leftover toys will be given to the Family Life Center for their disbursement to underprivileged children. All elves are welcome to attend on Thursday, December 16, 2010 – meet in the lobby at 7:00 P.M.

Chairwoman Remauro asked everyone to stay, enjoy some food and beverage in honor of the holiday season.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.