

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 BOARD MEETING, JUNE 10, 2008 – 8:00 P.M.
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

MEMBERS

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

GUESTS

Hon. Michael McMahon
Len Garcia-Duran, Director, Dept. of City Planning
James Miraglia, Dept. of City Planning
Victoria Larsen, Rep. Mayor Bloomberg
Jason Razefsky, Rep. B.P. Molinaro
Julie Firestone, Rep. Sen. Lanza
Annette Hernandez, Comptroller's Office
Ann Clinton, Rep. MOA Janelle Hyer-Spencer
Mark Zink, Rep. MOA Titone
William Taite, Rep. Councilman McMahon
Jeanette Beck, Rep. Councilman Oddo
Kyoko Wells, New York Public Library
Michael Morrell, Pres. Westeleigh Improvement Soc.
Joseph Ficara, Westerleigh Improvement Society
Theo Dorian, Pres. St. George Civic Assn.
Robert Gaudioso, Rep. DOITT, NYCWiiN Tower,
Jessica Kratz, Greenbelt Recreation Center
Beatrix Reinhardt, College of S.I. , Photography Program
Gaetano Donatantonio, Rep. 149 Highland Avenue
William Robertson, St. George Civic Assn.
John Kilcullen, St. George Civic Assn.
Marisa Parish, Mariners Harbor Library Project
Bob Bellinger, Mariners Harbor Library Project
Anne Asher, Mariners Harbor Library Project
Ann Torriani, Mariners Harbor Library Project
Lorenzo Pagnavaend, Mariners Harbor Library Project
Phyllis Savarese, Clove Lake Civic Assn.
Patt Schwimer, Clove Lake Civic Assn
Wilfredo Ramos, Madan Court
Dorothy Flores, Madan Court
Olga Gonzalez, Marc Street
Judith Gomez, Madan Court

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
Anne Bruns, Assistant District Manager
Lisa Crosby, Community Associate
Joanna Duffy, Community Assistant

Chairman Sean Sweeney called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Camille Zarrelli took roll call attendance.

Motion made and seconded to accept May 2008 Board Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

FIRST VICE-CHAIRWOMAN, SHEILA MCGINN – Motions will be brought forth from the Land Use and Transportation Committees.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, JOHN VITUCCI – Mr. Vitucci announced the Human Resources and the West Brighton/St. George Area Committee will be holding a meeting on June 17, 2008, 7:00 P.M. at the Silver Lake Tennis House. Representatives from St. Vincent's Medical Center will be attending the meeting to discuss their proposal to house 59 persons recovering from mental illness at 78 Fort Place. On a personal note, "I have been offered a staff position from Councilman McMahon as his Counsel, I am waiting to hear from my law firm that there is no conflict. Therefore, I am not running for my current position and concede the position to Ms. Leticia Remauro."

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, GEORGE WONICA, JR. – Mr. Wonica thanked all the members for their efforts throughout the year and urged all the Chairpersons to listen to the community. The area committees are the first line of communication for the residents.

SECRETARY, CAMILLE ZARRELLI – The Secretary's Year-End Report is in the packet. It is not completed. Almost all of the Chairpersons have not submitted Pending Matters. The Land Use Motions need to be added and the attendance records. Any Board Member who would like a completed copy please e-mail or call Ms. Zarrelli or the Board Office. The report can be e-mailed or mailed to any member who would like a copy. Ms. Zarrelli has a copy of the attendance available for review; please see her after the meeting.

TREASURER – The report is in the packet.

CHAIRMAN, SEAN SWEENEY – Chairman Sweeney welcomed Larry Beslow back. Mr. Beslow had knee surgery. Mr. Joseph Pancila is in the hospital having heart surgery. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL – "The Mayor has opened an environmental remediation office at the Mayor's office. It has been very frustrating trying to obtain money for environmental projects. The Field of Dreams in Mariners Harbor was turned into a park in the Dinkins Administration and to this day is still not usable. We are hopeful with this new office Mayor Bloomberg has opened will allow the Field of Dreams and other areas that need remediation to be completed and usable.

"A few months ago, Mr. George Anthony came to our Board Meeting with his students from the Susan Wagner Conflict Resolution Team. Mr. Anthony was unable to join us tonight but wanted to thank Chairman Sweeney for serving as Chairman of Community Board #1 and asked me to read the following statement:"

"Sean Sweeney ... What you see is what you get. You see a guy who arrives with his sleeves rolled up and work to do. He is a no excuse kind of individual... We are a better community because of individuals like Sean. We have benefited because Sean has done his best to make

us think as a team. It is not always about winning the argument but understanding why we may differ in our approach and how we may gain if we work together. Thanks Sean. Your leadership has set the tone...you have led by example!"

Ms. Marisa Parish, Bob Bellinger, Anne Asher, Anna Torriani and Lorenzo Pagnavaend showed the design for the state of the art new Mariners Harbor Library. The library will be located on South Avenue.

The property is 16,000 square feet and the building will be 9, 5000 square feet. There will be outdoor space with all of the existing trees preserved. The building will be very transparent and open. A community space will be available.

Mr. Leonard Garcia-Duran and Mr. James Miraglia gave a power point presentation for the Special St. George District.

The Department of City Planning, working with a broad spectrum of community stakeholders, neighborhood residents and local elected officials, has developed a comprehensive planning and rezoning strategy to foster and frame future development in St. George, the transit hub and civic center of Staten Island.

The proposal goals are:

- to build upon St. George's existing strengths as a civic center, neighborhood and transit hub by providing rules that will bolster a thriving, pedestrian-friendly, business and residence district;
- to establish zoning regulations that facilitate continuous ground floor retail and the critical mass needed to attract a broader mix of uses;
- to require a tall, slender building form that reflects its hillside topography and maintains waterfront vistas;
- to encourage the reinvestment and reuse of vacant office buildings;
- to accommodate an appropriate level of off-street parking while reducing its visual impact.

You can see the full power point presentation by logging on to nyc.gov and under City Agencies click City Planning. A copy of the proposal is available in the Board Office.

Residential parking would increase to provide off-street parking for new residents, one space per apartment and would prohibit the subdivision of zoning lots to waive residential parking requirements.

A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules to have Councilman McMahon and representatives of Elected Officials address the Board.

Councilman McMahon thanked all of the members, civic leaders and representatives for serving their community.

Councilman McMahon presented Chairman Sweeney with a proclamation for his dedication and hard work serving the Staten Island Community.

Ms. Victoria Larsen presented Chairman Sweeney with a letter from Mayor Michael Bloomberg congratulating and thanking him for his service to the community as Chairman of Community Board #1, businessman and community leader.

“On a personal note, Ms. Larsen thanked Sean for always being around and helping whenever asked. Whenever you asked Sean to do anything, he would always be there for you. You will be missed as Chairman of Community Board #1. “

Julie Firestone representing Senator Andrew Lanza sent his regrets that he was unable to attend the Board Meeting. “The Senator wanted me to extend his gratitude for serving as Chairman of Community Board #1. The Senator will be forwarding you a proclamation.”

Chairman Sweeney thanked everyone for their kind words.

PUBLIC SESSION

Robert Gaudio, Rep. DOITT, NYCWiN Tower from Northrop Grumman has attended Mr. Gaudio explained as per the request of CB1 he has attended the Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee Meeting on May 21, 2008. His offices sent out the notices to that meeting. The Board of Standards & Appeals requires notices must be sent out only of the Board of Standards & Appeals Hearing, which was held on June 3, 2008, 1:30 at 40 Rector Street and was continued. The notice was sent to all homeowners in a 400 ft. radius of the NYCWiN Tower as soon as the date was calendared by the Board of Standards & Appeals for the first hearing.

Presentations were given at the April 16, 2008 Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee Meeting, the May 5, 2008 Land Use Committee Meeting, the full Board Meeting on May 13, 2008. As previously stated it was presented at the May 21, 2008 Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee for the second time and again at the June Land Use Committee Meeting.

The proposal is to build a 90-foot non-accessory radio tower at 1126 Richmond Avenue (Baron Hirsch Cemetery) which will look like a flagpole. The tower is part of the NYCWiN towers which will provide critical, real-time secure information to the City’s first responders where and when they need it.

The Land Use Committee asked Mr. Gaudio to look at the site of the new 121st Police Precinct for the placement of the tower. Mr. Gaudio provided a notarized site analysis that the site of the new 121st Police Precinct adjacent to Baron Hirsch Cemetery on Richmond Avenue is not feasible due to a gap in service. The precinct is too far to the North and too close to their existing site at 351 Walker Street. Likewise, the location of the Staten Island Hotel (and the properties in that immediate area) is located too close to our sites located to the south. Finally, the Teleport is located too far to the Southwest to cover the community and is actually located past the location of the adjacent site required to cover the community to the south.

Ms. Margaret Flores and Ms. Dorothy Flores both spoke opposing the placement of the 90-foot radio tower at Baron Hirsch Cemetery. The residents expressed opposition claiming the tower will decrease their property value, relatives who have family buried in

the cemetery do not know the tower is to be placed and the concern of the long-term health effects of having a tower so close to their homes.

Ms. Jessica Kratz from the New York City Parks Department, Greenbelt spoke of summer programs at the greenbelt. Summer Day Camp is available for children and teens. For more information, call 718-667-7475 or log on to www.sigreenbelt.org.

Ms. Beatrix Reinhardt from the College of Staten Island spoke of a project the photography students will be undertaking. The students will be taking pictures in the Stapleton area. Ms. Reinhardt asked for the residents and community for their help. If they see the students taking pictures and has any historic knowledge of the area, please enlighten the students.

Mr. Gaetano Donatantonio of Land Planning & Engineering representing the owners of 149 Highland Avenue showed drawings of the current home and the home with the proposed changes. The proposal is to enlarge the existing upper story or attic level into a full second floor. Increase the footprint of the existing building and provide off-street parking for two cars to meet minimum parking requirements for a one-family residence, by excavating a portion of the existing steep slope.

There is a garage that must be accessed through an easement that is no longer easily accessible.

The West Brighton/St. George Area Committee recommended the drive be paved in a light color. The plans were changed to a light color and showed as such.

Mr. Donatantonio explained there are no parking signs from 7:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. on the side of the street where the home is.

Mr. William Robertson a Hamilton Avenue resident and St. George Civic Association member submitted written testimony that is on file at the Board Office regarding lack of information and notification on the liberty towers application and asked that the approval given for the project by CB1 be rescinded.

Mr. John Kilcullen a resident and member of the St. George Civic Association requested some changes be made to the Special St. George District. The recommendations of the St. George Civic Association are on file at the Board Office.

Mr. Theo Dorian President of the St. George Civic Association mentioned the statement given two months ago by John Luisi who said that the St. George Civic Association is in favor of the Liberty Towers Application was in correct. The St. George Civic Association did not take a position on the Liberty Towers Application.

Mr. Dorian reiterated that the St. George Civic Association supports the Special St. George District in concept and recommends changes be made to the application such as: Changes should be phased in over time; expanding the “no tower zones” change of the maximum length of any side of a tower and base height; controlling sites impacted by rezoning (soft sites); impact of other planned development and school seat requirements. The full recommendations of the changes to be made are on file at the Board Office.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – Motion made, seconded and approved unanimously to suspend the rules since the Executive Committee did not review the motions, which are to be brought forward from the Land Use committee and the Transportation committee as follows:

1. Motion to approve Board of Standards & Appeals Cal. No. 32-08-BZ for a special permit for a 90-foot non-accessory radio tower as part of DOITT NYCWiN Network at 1126 Richmond Avenue with the conditions that DOITT conduct a 5 year health study regarding the effects of the tower on the surrounding community and that no other use beside NYCWiN be allowed on the tower.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 29-5-0 (1 ineligible).

2. Motion to approve City Planning Application Nos. N 080425 ZRR and N 080426 ZMR to establish a Special St. George District with the condition that the Department of City Planning maintain parking requirements of 10 parking spaces for 4,500 square feet in addition to their proposed amendment of 25 spaces for 10,000 square feet. The roofs of the buildings should be planted and where that cannot be achieved, the roofs should be of material light in color.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 26-0-0.

3. Motion to approve City Planning Application No. N 080323 ZAR, 12 Willis Avenue since these modifications allows the majority of steep slope to be preserved.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 34-1-0.

4. Motion to deny application No.080180 ZAR, 50 Taft Avenue due to the exceptional steep slope modification.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 35-1-0.

5. Motion to approve City Planning Application No. N 080304 ZAR, 149 Highland Avenue with the condition that the builder uses a light color product on the driveway to eliminate light effect.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed 29-6-0.

TRANSPORTATION, ANTHONY MARRA – Mr. Marra read the following motion:

Motion to support the position of the Borough President in opposition of the current plan submitted by the Parks Department for Fresh Kills Park specifically the plans dealing with the proposed roadway placement and construction at the Park.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed 34-0-0 (2 ineligible).

The Sweet 16's attended the Transportation meeting and are still complaining of the lack of communication that exists between their committee and Community Board 1.

WATERFRONT, CURT WARD – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. Mr. Ward thanked the Board for approving the letter of support to the New York City Economic Development Corporation for the Cromwell Center proposal provided that the

letter includes a request for parking signage for the boat ramp area (No Standing except while loading/unloading), and additional signage that Limits Parking to Four Hour interims to dissuade commuter parking in the area as the existing parking spaces are reduced by half in the proposal.

HUMAN RESOURCES, LISA LATTANZIO – Ms. Lattanzio thanked Ms. Joanne Pentangelo for chairing the joint Human Resources and Youth Committee Meeting last month and for submitting the minutes.

YOUTH SERVICES, LARRY BESLOW – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet thanks to Joanne Pentangelo who chaired the meeting.

PUBLIC SERVICES, LLOYD BACCHUS – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

BUDGET & FINANCE, TERRY PLAYER – District Budget Consultations were held last week jointly with Community Boards 2 and 3.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS – Ms. Remauro asked all members to look at the Community Board #1 By-Laws and Standing Operating Procedures. All of the changes are noted in the packet. Full copies of the changes are on file at the Board Office.

**Motion made to accept all of the Community Board #1 By-Laws and Standing Operating Procedures changes,
Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.**

SANITATION GARAGE SITING COMMITTEE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – A copy of the answers to the questions which were posed to the Sanitation Committee from the meeting which was held on April 28, 2008 are in the packet.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH/WILLOWBROOK, KEN TIRADO – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. Several neighbors are complaining of the sound level from the night work being done on Clove Road. Mr. Richard Dyrack, Community liaison for DDC is looking into the allegations of loud obscenities of the crew along with the noise of the actual work. Questions were raised about sound-deadening technology and general sound mitigation for the Clove Road sewer project.

Mr. Tirado passed around the room the Borough President's plan for Manor Road and Victory Blvd. A copy is at the Board office for review.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH/SHORE ACRES, JOHN GUZZO – The minutes of the April and May Meeting are in the packet.

PORT RICHMOND/MARINERS HARBOR, DEBI ROSE – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – Mr. Beslow thanked Mr. Wagner for chairing the meeting and submitting the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Curt Ward requested a letter be sent strongly opposing Chancellor Klein's decision to rescind the Community Education Council and Community Board #1's recommendation to name the school on Regis Drive after Charles Langere.

Ms. Marilyn Averett requested a letter be sent to the 120 Pct. Supporting the African Heritage Parade, which will be held in October. The Parade Permit is being held at the 120Pct. A request is to have the Parade march on Bay Street from Tappen Park to the Richmond County Ballpark.

Ms. Marilyn Averett requested a letter be sent to the First Central Baptist Church at 117 Wright Street in support of the formation of a Charter School on the north shore to be named the Gerard Carter Charter School.

The following candidates submitted their names to run for Executive Committee positions. Each candidate spoke for three minutes.

CHAIRMAN

ANTHONY MARRA – ran unopposed. Congratulations Chairman Marra.

FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Sheila McGinn – 17 votes - Anthony Cosentino – 20 votes. Congratulations to Anthony Cosentino.

SECOND VICE CHAIRPERSON

Leticia Remauro - Congratulations Leticia Remauro.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

George Wonica, Jr. – 18 votes Friday Ogbewele – 19 votes. Congratulations Friday Ogbewele

TREASURER

Megan Delmar – 18 votes - Larry Beslow – 19 votes. Congratulations Larry Beslow.

SECRETARY

Camille Zarrelli – 17 votes. – Debi Rose – 20 votes. Congratulations Debi Rose.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

