

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 BOARD MEETING APRIL 8, 2008 – 8:00 P.M.
CLOVE LAKES HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER, 25 FANNING ST.

Sean Sweeney, Chairman

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
 Anjail Ameen-Rice, Excused
 Michael Arvanites
 Lloyd Bacchus
 Larry Beslow
 Loretta Cauldwell, Excused
 Ajmal Chaudhry
 Anthony Cosentino
 Megan Delmar
 George Doyle
 Linda Eskensas
 Timothy Forsyth, Excused
 Grace Ferranti
 Rajiv Gowda, Excused
 John Guzzo
 Jeanne Hogan
 Sunny Jain
 Wilma Jones
 Dominick Lambert
 Lisa Lattanzio
 Adena Long
 Anthony Marra, Excused
 David Martin, Military Leave
 Jacob Massaquoi, III, In 9:00 P.M.
 Sheila McGinn
 Mary Mitchell
 Friday Ogbewe
 Joseph Pancila
 JoAnn Pentangelo
 Terry Player
 Leticia Remauro
 Christopher Rooney
 Debi Rose
 Nicholas Siclari
 Sean Sweeney
 Ken Tirado
 John Vitucci
 Harold Wagner
 Curt Ward
 Mark Washington
 George Wonica, Jr.
 Camille Zarrelli
 Richard Zichettello

GUESTS

Victoria Larsen, Rep. Mayor Bloomberg
 Megan Devereaux, Rep. B.P. Molinaro
 Jason Razefsky, Rep. B.P. Molinaro
 Priscilla Marco, Rep. Sen. Savino
 Annette Hernandez, Rep. Comptroller's Office
 Ann Clinton, Rep. MOA Hyer-Spencer
 Mark Zink, Rep. MOA Titone
 Stu Brenker, Rep. MOA Cusick
 William Taitt, Rep. Councilman McMahon
 Jacqueline Monterosso, Rep. Councilman Oddo
 Frank Carcaterra, NYC Parks Manager
 Steve Horvath, St. George Library
 Scott Lambdin, St. George Library
 Michael Morrell, Pres. Westerleigh Improv. Soc.
 Joe Ficara, Westerleigh Improvement Society
 Patt Schwimer, Clove Lake Civic Assn.
 Phyllis Savarese, Clove Lake Civic Assn.
 Kiawana Rich, S.I. Advance
 Phillip Rampulla, LLP, St. Peter's Boys H.S.
 Glen Cutrona, A.I.A., 130 Montgomery Ave.
 Chris Beatty, Gordon Place
 Kevin Branciforte, Clinton Avenue

OFFICE STAFF

Joseph Carroll, District Manager
 Lisa Crosby, Community Associate

Chairman Sean Sweeney welcomed everyone to the Community Board #1 full Board Meeting.

Mr. George Wonica, Jr. said, “something does not feel right”. Mr. Wonica proceeded to bring our prestigious and ever humorous oldest living Board Member Dominick Lambert up to the front of the room with his fellow executive committee members. “Now that is how it should be”. Mr. Lambert commanded his former Third Vice-Chairpersons position.”

Mr. Lambert said “it is nice to see every single one of you all at one time.” As usual, Mr. Lambert proceeded with his always-comical one-man show. Mr. Lambert introduced his son, Al Lambert and his daughter, Jackie Rehak.

Chairman Sweeney thanked all the Board Members who helped in securing tonight’s Board Meeting in Clove Lakes Health & Rehabilitation Center, Debi Rose, Lisa Lattanzio, Larry Beslow, Vincent Accornero, John Guzzo and everyone for coming.

Chairman Sweeney said, “Dominick suffered a stroke about a year ago. He was here in Clove Lakes undergoing rehabilitation, until they threw him out and he went into Egers. It was not long after being at Egers when I went to see him, and by the way there were two nurses with him at all times. An order of protection was issued by the nurses of Egers against Dominick. Dominick is now back here at Clove Lakes. There is now a bidding war for Dominick between Egers and Clove Lakes as to where he should be staying. It is great to be here and a special thank you to Clove Lakes Health & Rehabilitation Center for allowing us to hold our meeting with our special board member and dear friend, Dominick Lambert.”

Chairman Sweeney announced “board business will be put aside for a little while as we fully acknowledge and try to embarrass our dear friend, Dominick.

Ms. Megan Devereaux, representing Borough President Molinaro presented Mr. Lambert with gifts with the theme of Staten Island, a Staten Island t-shirt, Staten Island video, Staten Island pen and pencil and Staten Island magazine. The Borough President sends his very best and he wished you well and thanks you for your dedication to Staten Island.

Chairman Sweeney thanked Ms. Victoria Larsen and Mayor Bloomberg for allowing Community Board #1 to hold tonight’s board meeting outside of the Community Board #1 area.

Ms. Victoria Larsen, representative to Mayor Bloomberg, Priscilla Marco, representing Senator Savino and William Taitt, representing Councilman McMahon all sent the regrets of their representatives for not being able to attend tonight’s meeting. All expressed their appreciation and best wishes for Mr. Lambert’s commitment for serving on Community Board #1.

The Meeting was called to order at 8:23 P.M.

Mr. Lambert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Camille Zarrelli took roll call attendance.

A quorum was present.

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

FIRST VICE-CHAIRWOMAN, SHEILA MCGINN – Ms. McGinn asked the members to read paragraph 6 of the Steering Committee Minutes in regard to Fort Place. Mr. Vitucci will be reporting on the Fort Place issue under the Second Vice-Chairman’s report. Mr. Wonica is missing from the attendance of the Mariners Harbor Area Committee Meeting, he was present.

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, JOHN VITUCCI - Mr. Vitucci attended the St. George Civic Association Meeting regarding housing mentally unstable people at Fort Place. A few years ago, Community Board #1 held a hearing in the St. George Theater. We have been following the issue very closely. Mr. Dan Marotta is handling the legal issues with the proposal. “It is great to see Dominick.”

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, GEORGE WONICA, Jr. – Mr. Wonica previously gave his seat for this meeting to former Third Vice-Chairman and Board Member, Dominick Lambert who said “ I already said what I had to say.”

SECRETARY, CAMILLE ZARRELLI – Ms. Zarrelli announced the “Call for Candidates” forms are in every board members packet. If anyone does not have one, there are forms available tonight. Anyone who wishes to run for a position please fill out the form and return it to the Board Office. The forms must be received by the May Board Meeting. At the May Board Meeting nominations will be taken from the floor. Voting will take place at the June Board Meeting.

Ms. Zarrelli thanked all members who have not been able to make meetings who e-mailed the Board Office. As previously mentioned, if you are unable to make a meeting you should e-mail the Board Office at sicb1@si.r.com

CHAIRMAN, SEAN SWEENEY – Mr. Sweeney reported all of the seats on the executive committee are open. If you would like to run please submit the “Call for Candidate” form that is in our packet.

Mr. Vitucci is the Community Board #1 led person on the Fort Place issue. In the packet are minutes from a joint Transportation/Silver Lake/Westerleigh Hearing which was held at St. Theresa’s. Mr. Ed Burke, Deputy Borough President was in attendance. There were many questions regarding what could be done about the traffic, especially at Manor Road and Victory Blvd. Mr. Burke went back to Borough President Molinaro with the information from the meeting. At the Borough Board Meeting a presentation was given regarding the Manor Road and Victory Blvd. street widening. Some minor improvements are being made. There are plans for two supermarkets, Met Food and Key Food at that location. Updates will be provided as they are received. A letter is going to be sent to the Borough President thanking him for responding to our call to ease traffic congestion in the area of Victory Blvd. Blvd. between Jewett and Slosson Avenue.

In every packet is information for Block Parties. The rules have changed. You must apply at least 75 days prior to the date you are applying for the permit.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSEPH CARROLL – Mr. Carroll welcomed Mr. Lambert and his family and said it was great to have him at the Board Meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Philip Rampulla of Rampulla Associates Architects, explained the proposal is to construct a horizontal and vertical addition to the existing gymnasium. The 5,300 square footprint of the addition will be in the area of the existing parking lot. The addition will consist of a total floor area of 7,702 square feet, which since 1,030 square feet of the existing gymnasium will be demolished, will result in a net increase in floor area of 6,672 square feet. The existing 12,650 square foot parking lot will also be refurbished with new paving, a new delineation of thirty-four parking spaces, four of which will be handicapped parking. A new second curb cut will also be added. The parking lot is for staff only and pick-up and drop-off of students. No trees are to be removed or topography to be changed under this development. The site contains 167 existing trees which equals 574 tree credits.

Mr. Rampulla attended an informational meeting held by St. Peter's Boys High School. The majority of the meeting was about the prior application for the football field.

Mr. Rampulla attended the St. George Area Committee Meeting and the Land Use Public Hearing. Both Committees approved the application.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

HUMAN RESOURCES, LISA LATTANZIO – The minutes of last month's meeting are available for distribution by Ms. Lattanzio.

Ms. Rose asked everyone to attend a very important Health Public Hearing on April 24, 2008, 7:00 P.M. at Mt. Sinai Church, 15 Pike Street.

Ms. Rose explained there is a citywide task force that was put in place to look at community health planning and to do a health needs assessment. The hearing will focus on how we might address the health needs of undocumented residents, accessibility of health care to the under privileged population and the health care system.

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

PUBLIC SERVICES, LLOYD BACCHUS – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The Public Services Committee will be meeting on April 21, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Board Office.

YOUTH SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE, LARRY BESLOW – Mr. Beslow announced Summer Youth Employment Applications and working papers are available online at www.nyc.gov/dyvd. The Youth Employment Program is for youths ages 14-21.

Mr. Doyle inquired about students becoming members of the Youth Committee. The City Charter mandates that students are members of the Youth Committee.

Chairman Sweeney informed Mr. Doyle that this Board has been reaching out to the high schools for students to become members. Last month, the conflict resolution team of Susan Wagner High School attended the Board Meeting; your grandson is a member of that team. At the St. Peter's meeting last week, I spoke to the Principal, John Fodera

who mentioned there is a government youth group at St. Peter's. I have spoken to the principal of Port Richmond High School. There is a government class there as well. Ms. Marilyn Averett will speak to the principal of Curtis High School. The Borough President has a junior ambassador anti-bias committee, a student from every high school on Staten Island sits on the committee, and we are encouraging them to join the youth committee. Mr. Sweeney reiterated we are doing our very best to get youth to join the youth committee.

SANITATION GARAGE SITING COMMITTEE, ANTHONY COSENTINO – Mr. Cosentino reported a meeting was held at Brighton Heights Reformed Church last week which was attended by elected official representatives, representatives from the Department of Sanitation, residents of Brook Street, Rev. Terry Troia and members of the St. George Civic Association. Complaints were received about the garage and about the garbage trucks on Brook Street.

A joint meeting is scheduled for the Transportation Committee and the Sanitation Garage Siting Committee on April 22, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. at the Board Office. Mr. Cosentino urged everyone to attend.

The new district 1 garage has been pushed back again due to budget cuts until 2012. Design for the garage will not commence until 2011.

Mr. Accornero said when he first came on this Board 20 years they were looking to relocate the Sanitation District 1 Garage. It is now 20 years later and we are still hearing the same answers. The money continues to be put in the budget and then it is pulled. Mr. Accornero asked that Commissioner Doherty be invited to the next Board Meeting.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, LETICIA REMAURO – Ms. Remauro reported the minutes are in the packet. The Rules Committee is working on a possible zoning text amendment. We as a committee have been speaking with the Borough President's Office, Councilman McMahon's Office and City Planning. We would like to mandate that variances for bulk or buildings in a special district require building to green standards. I would like to thank the Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee, the Borough President's Office, Councilman McMahon's Office and City Planning. We have not come to an agreement of the language as of yet.

Next month proposed by-law changes will be read. The Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee have been addressing the area of elections and special elections and the area of the Standing Operating Procedures. All the Area Chairs in attendance at the Steering Committee looked at the map of the boundaries. There was no muss or fuss over the boundaries. At the next Rules Committee Meeting we will be putting them into streets for each area committee. Anyone who is familiar with the by-laws is encouraged to come to the next Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting. The by-laws would be voted on at the September Board Meeting. It will be read at the next Board Meeting, comments will be accepted. The comments will be discussed at the May Rules & Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting. The change will be read again at the June Board Meeting and voted on in September.

The Community Board #1 website has been under a test address. We will be making a public notification sometime next week. “I want to take a moment to the people who have worked tirelessly, weekends and nights. It took about seven weeks to develop the site. Marilyn Averett, Ken Tirado, Chris Rooney, Joseph Carroll, Sean Sweeney, The Mayors Office, Victoria Larsen, The Borough President’s Office, Mike Falco for the photographs. Thank you to everyone.”

BUDGET & FINANCE, TERRY PLAYER – No report.

LAND USE, CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – Mr. Sweeney announced that Marilyn Averett and Mark Washington have been appointed to the Land Use Committee.

The following motions were read:

MOTION

To demand allocation of 5% of the HHC budget for Staten Island’s hospitals from the Capital Budget; demand a seat on the hospital board’s of Staten Island University Hospital, north, Richmond University Medical Center and Bayley Seton and create a Tri-Board Task Force.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

MOTION

Motion to approve Department of City Planning Application No. N 080231ZAR – 130 Montgomery Avenue, application to authorize a four-story mixed-use office and residential building in the Special Hillside Preservation District.

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

MOTION

Motion to approve Department of City Planning Application No. N 080270ZAR – 200 Clinton Avenue, application to authorize expansion of the existing gymnasium building in the Special Hillside Preservation District. (St. Peter’s Boys High School).

Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Mr. Rooney reported a presentation was given by the developer of Liberty Towers for two 20-story apartment buildings with retail space on the ground level. There was no formal application. No vote was taken. When a certified application is received we will vote on the application.

The next Land Use Public Hearing is scheduled for May 5, 2008, 8:00 P.M. at the Board Office. If the Liberty Towers application is received we will hear the application. Two Board of Standards & Appeals Applications have been received: 1) A physical fitness center at 591 Forest Avenue and 2) and a 90-foot non-accessory radio tower at 1126 Richmond Avenue on the property of Baron Hirsch Cemetery.

A presentation for the St. George Court Complex will be presented at the St. George/West Brighton Area Committee Meeting on April 10, 2008 at 8:00 P.M. at the Silver Lake Tennis House. It will be presented again at the May 5, 2008 Land Use Committee Meeting.

The New York City Department of City Planning is holding a public presentation on the St. George Special District on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at the St. George Theatre from 7:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. Flyers are in the packet.

Mr. Doyle asked why the presentation and discussion on Liberty Towers was not reported in the Land use Committee Minutes.

Chairman Sweeney and Ms. Remauro both confirmed there was a meeting and a presentation was made. The presentation did not need to be reported because there was not and still is not a certified application and no action was taken. What was presented at the Land Use Public Hearing may not be what is in the certified application. When the certified application is received and a Land Use Public Hearing is held minutes will be done.

Mr. Doyle argued that a presentation was made at a Land Use Public Hearing, a discussion was held on the presentation, it should have been included in the minutes.

Ms. Remauro reiterated since there was no action taken because there was no certified application it does not need to be reported on.

Chairman Sweeney said an addendum of the Land Use Minutes will be e-mailed out tomorrow.

Chairman Sweeney asked every chairperson to include in the minutes the attendance. The attendance should indicate the members of the committee, non-board members, members of the board who attended the meeting and guests. If another committee now looks at the minutes, they can see who voted.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, KEN TIRADO – The Minutes of the meeting are in the packet. The Department of Design & Construction gave a presentation regarding the Clove Road Sewer Project.

Frank Carcaterra, NYC Parks Manager attended the area meeting because of some residents who would like to be able to allow hours in Silver Lake Park for off-leash dogs.

Minutes are in the packet of the joint Transportation and Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh Area Committee Meeting. The Borough President is looking at ways to improve the intersection of Manor Road and Victory Blvd. by the Manor Road Post Office.

The Manor Road Post Office held a meeting regarding improvements and future improvements they plan to make in response to the prior meeting CB1 held for the residents of Raymond Avenue.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH/SHORE ACRES, JOHN GUZZO – Mr. Guzzo asked that a letter be sent again to Hon. Janelle Hyer-Spencer for her help in having the S.I. Downtown Council signs removed from the Rosebank, Fort Wadsworth and Shore Acres area. We have requested on several occasions to have them removed. “We were told they would be taken down, they are still there.”

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, MEGAN DELMAR – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet. Ms. Delmar reminded everyone about the meeting the Department of City Planning is holding on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. at the St. George Theater for the St. George Special District. There is a flyer in everyone's packet.

A presentation will be given at the West Brighton/St. George Meeting for the courthouse, which is to be sited at the St. George Municipal Parking lot.

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, DEBI ROSE – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet thanks to Ms. McGinn who chaired the meeting. Ms. Rose reminded everyone to attend the Health Forum on April 24, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at Mt. Sinai Church.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – The attendance will be forwarded to the Board Office. There was no quorum, no meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Sweeney announced that letters were sent to all the Civic Organizations on the north shore asking if they want their e-mail to be listed on Community Board #1's website. The Westerleigh Improvement Society, the Clove Lake Civic Association, the Staten Island Civic Association, the Mosel Avenue Civic Association, the North Shore Waterfront Conservancy and the Mariners Harbor Civic Association have responded.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Accornero inquired about the motions that were brought to the Steering Committee Meeting by the Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee Meeting in regards to the review of how the Department of Health reviews health code violations and to have DOH at least hear health code violations on S.I. once a week.

Ms. McGinn responded letters went out because there was not a quorum present at the Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee Meeting.

Mr. Accornero requests a joint meeting be held with the Mariners Harbor/Port Richmond Area Committee and the Public Services Committee.

Mr. Accornero said there was a press release by Congressman Fossella reaching out to the MTA to locate some administrative offices at the Teleport.

Mr. Accornero made a motion to support the Congressman and request the MTA locate some administrative offices at the Teleport. In addition a request asking Borough Board support the concept as well.

Mr. Arvanites said in his opinion the MTA will never site here on Staten Island.

Mr. Accornero said we have asked other agencies to site offices on Staten Island such as the Department of Information Technology and the Health Department. City and State Agencies should start siting offices on Staten Island. Staten Island residents have to travel to other boroughs to go to work and often times for city services.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed 34-0-3.

Ms. Lattanzio read the following motion which should have been heard under the Human Resources Report.

MOTION

To demand allocation of 5% of the HHC Capital budget for Staten Island's hospitals and to demand a seat on the hospital board's of Staten Island University Hospital, Richmond University Medical Center and Bayley Seton and create a Tri-Board Task Force.

Mr. Player announced a request for 5% of the HHC budget has been the number one priority of Community Board #1 for several years.

Reverse roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 P.M.