



FRED R. GUINTA.
CHAIR

DEBRA A. DERRICO
DISTRICT MANAGER

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Community Board 2
BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND

EXECUTIVE SUITES AT THE PARK
900 SOUTH AVENUE, SUITE 28
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10314
PHONE: 718-568-3581
Website: nyc.gov/sicb2

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Full Board Minutes
November 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Joan & Alan Bernikow JCC of Staten Island
1466 Manor Road, Staten Island, NY 10314

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uFEtPKtLVPs>

Chair Fred R. Guinta called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Attendance Roll Call: First Vice Chair Jerry Ruggiero conducted the attendance roll call. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Shawn Abraham, Olu A. Ajayi, Valerie Aliffi-Maroney, Marc Alvarez, Thomas V. Backis, Dr. Deborah Cognata, Benjamin D'Amato, Sandy DiTrapani, Roy J. Garlisi, Andrew Guido, Fred R. Guinta, Gurdev S. Kang, Diane L. McNamara, Dr. Allan B. Perel, Florida Qello, Leutrim Qoku, Dr. Ramanathan Raju, Gerard J. Ruggiero, Dr. Donna Seminara, Joseph Torres, Stephen W. Zaderiko.

Board Members Absent: Igor Baboshkin, Rosanne Clift, Michael Lanza, Steven J. Zboinski.

Staff Present:

Debra A. Derrico, District Manager.

Elected Officials' Representatives Present:

State Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton: Vincent Lepani

State Assembly Member Michael Tannousis: Amalia Kostalasa

City Council Member David Carr: Jordan Hafizi

City Council Member Frank Morano: Jordan Hafizi

Guests:

NYC Police Department Ambassador Jermaine Williams
NYC Department of Parks and Recreation Borough Commissioner Joseph Homes,
New York City Department of Parks and Recreations Chief of Staff Katrina Toal
Luke Nasta, President of Camelot of Staten Island
Diane DiResta
Elizabeth Granatelli
Lisa Acuri
Paul Giordano

Acceptance of the Proposed Agenda.

Chair Guinta called for a motion to accept the proposed agenda. A motion was made and seconded. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Acceptance of the October 21, 2025 Full Board Minutes

Chair Guinta called for a motion to accept the minutes. A motion was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Speakers' Session:

New York City Parks Borough Commissioner Joseph Homesy:

Borough Commissioner Joseph Homesy introduced himself as the newly appointed Parks Borough Commissioner. He also introduced his Chief of Staff, Katrina Toal.

President and CEO of Camelot of Staten Island, Luke Nasta:

Camelot was established in 1971 and provides counseling services to adults, adolescents, and families affected by substance use. The organization will soon open a new ambulatory counseling facility at 97A Lincoln Avenue.

Amalia Kostalasa of State Assembly Member Michael Tannousis' Office:

Amalia Kostalasa provided updates on recent events held by Assembly Member Michael Tannousis. She encouraged residents to contact the office with any issues or concerns.

Vincent Lepani of State Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's Office:

Vincent Lepani provided an update on some upcoming events, as well as the locations and hours of the Senator Scarcella-Spanton's mobile offices.

Public Speakers' Session (Continued):

New York Police Department Ambassador Jermaine Williams:

Jermaine Williams announced that the NYPD has launched Q-teams. Q-teams are responsible for all 311 and non-emergency 911 complaints.

Community Board 2 Member Steve Zaderiko:

Board Member Steven Zaderiko raised several significant concerns impacting both the environment and the local community. He spoke strongly against the overfishing of bunker, also known as menhaden, a critical bait fish that supports nearly all sport-fishing species. Mr. Zaderiko noted that for the past three years, commercial fishing boats from Canada, Virginia, Long Island, and New Jersey have heavily overfished bunker, threatening the stability of the marine ecosystem.

He also criticized a proposed 12% rate increase for Staten Island residents to help fund a natural gas pipeline running from New Jersey to Long Island. According to Mr. Zaderiko, Staten Island will receive no benefit from the project, as the gas will completely bypass the borough, leaving residents to bear the financial burden without access to the resource.

At the state level, Mr. Zaderiko expressed concern that Staten Island is increasingly being used as a parking and storage hub for large trucking operations, which he said degrades quality of life and places additional strain on local infrastructure.

Addressing neighborhood safety issues, Mr. Zaderiko highlighted ongoing speeding problems throughout Lighthouse Hill. He pointed to increased cut-through traffic on Manor Road, Arthur Kill Road, and Richmond Hill Road as contributing factors, and emphasized the need for improved speed enforcement and additional safety measures.

Jordan Hafizi of City Council Members David Carr and Frank Morano's Offices.

Jordan Hafizi read a statement from Council Member Frank Morano announcing that the Council has passed Intro 1250-A, a bill introduced by Council Member David Carr and proudly co-sponsored by Council Member Morano. This law requires every community board, borough board, and advisory body across New York City to post their bylaws online in a format that is searchable, accessible, and easy for the public to find and view. When bylaws are amended or updated, the online posting must be revised within two weeks. Bylaws determine how meetings are conducted, how committees are structured, how officers are selected, and how important decisions are made. District Manager Debra Derrico confirmed that Community Board 2's bylaws are now posted on the Board's website.

Officers' Reports:

Chair: Fred R. Guinta – “I am writing a letter to request Community Board 2’s support for the Verrazzano Bridge Flag Project, a proposal to raise a monumental, weatherproof American Flag atop the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge for America’s 250th anniversary in 2026.”

Treasurer: Roy J. Garlisi - Treasurer reported that the Treasurer's report for the month of October has been completed and is on file at the board office.

Standing Committee Reports:

None

Old Business

None

New Business:

None

Adjournment:

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred R. Guinta, Chair