



FRED R. GUINTA  
CHAIR

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DISTRICT MANAGER

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

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Full Board Minutes

November 19, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

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

[https://youtube.com/live/OH\\_biWQxjPE](https://youtube.com/live/OH_biWQxjPE)

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: Rosanne Clift conducted the attendance roll call. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Shawn Abraham  
Olu A. Ajayi  
Valerie Aliffi-Maroney  
Igor Baboshkin  
Rosanne Clift  
Dr. Donna Cognata via Zoom  
Sandy DiTrapani  
Roy J. Garlisi  
Andrew Guido  
Fred R. Guinta  
Jordan Hafizi  
Gurdev S. Kang  
Dr. Mohammad Khalid  
Michael Lanza  
Dr. Allan B. Perel  
Florida Qello  
Leutrim Qoku  
Gerard J. Ruggiero  
Dr. Ram Raju  
Joseph Torres  
Steven J. Zboinski

Board Members Absent:

Julie Freeman  
Diane L. McNamara  
Mendy Mirocznik  
Dr. Donna Seminara  
Fqirije Shehaj  
Stephen W. Zaderiko

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Staff Present:

Debra A. Derrico, District Manager.

Elected Officials Representatives:

Bill Matarazzo - representing State Senator Andrew Lanza

Paul Matrecano - representing State Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton

Amalia Kostalas - representing State Assembly Member Michael Tannousis

Elected Officials Representatives continued:

Loren Marie Centineo - representing City Council Member David Carr

Marie Carmody- LaFrancesca- representing Staten Island Borough President Fossella (Zoom)

Sophie Selwood - representing Richmond County District Attorney Michael McMahon

Nicole Kaye - representing Richmond County District Attorney Michael McMahon

Guests:

Jennifer Miller - representing the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

Paul Matrecano - representing State Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton

Sophie Selwood - representing Richmond County District Attorney Michael McMahon's

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

Acceptance of the October full board minutes. Chair Giunta called for a motion to accept the minutes. A motion was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Officers' Reports:

Chair: Fred R. Chair – refer to YouTube.

Gerard J. Ruggiero: First Vice Chair

No Report

Rosanne Clift: Second Vice Chair

No Report

Ben D'Amato: Third Vice Chair –

No Report

Shawn Abraham: Secretary

No Report.

Treasurer: Roy J. Garlisi

The October Treasurer's report is accurate and complete. A copy was filed in the board office



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Public Speaker Session:

Jennifer Miller representing the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation provided an update on upcoming events.

- 11/21/2024 - Adult Hike at 11:00 AM at the Latourette Golf Course Club House.
- 11/23/2024 - Sounds of Science at 11:00 AM at the Greenbelt Nature Center.
- 11/23/2024 Staten Island Nature Spotlight Pond Habitat at 11:00 AM at Clove Lakes Park.
- 11/30/2024 Natures Workshop Wreath Making \*\*\*Registration ONLY Event\*\*\* All crafting materials will be provided; (registration opens on 11/20/2024 on <https://www.nycgovparks.org/events>. This event is being held at the Blue Heron Nature Center

Paul Matrecano representing Senator Scarcella-Spanton's office provided an update on upcoming events that the senator is sponsoring.

- 11/21/24 Turkey Giveaway on a first-come, first-served basis at 2:00 PM at Mount Sinai Church, 15 Pike Street, Staten Island NY 10301.

Sophie Selwood representing DA Michael McMahon's office provided brief updates from the courtroom and announced that she was joined by Assistant DA, Nicole Kaye.

- To get started, some updates from the Court Room. Last Wednesday, defendant Jeremiah Luckey pleaded guilty to Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and will face six years in prison, with five-year post-release supervision. Luckey can attribute his upcoming prison sentence to a search conducted by NYPD officers on April 25th of this year. Stopping Luckey at the corner of St. Marks Place and Victory Boulevard, law enforcement officials recovered a loaded 9mm pistol inside the defendant's jacket as well as 11 glassine envelopes of heroin and a plastic capsule of crack cocaine. Thankfully, Luckey was taken into custody before his illegal firearm or illicit narcotics could harm any of our fellow Staten Islanders.
- Recently, Defendant Kern Isaac was sentenced to two to four years behind bars after pleading guilty to Arson in the Fourth Degree this past July. Instilling fear and threatening violence in front of his children, Kern Isaac terrorized his former wife with a wine bottle, demanding payment from her before stealing her car and setting it ablaze on a quiet Rosebank Street last summer. Thankfully, NYPD and FDNY personnel responded immediately, and this dangerous defendant was apprehended less than 48 hours after the harrowing incident.
- Last week, our office proudly hosted our RCDA 6th Annual Educators Breakfast and welcomed hundreds of our borough's principals and school safety agents together to discuss pressing school safety issues affecting our borough. The gathering also serves as an opportunity to hear from our office about resources available to schools with our presentations on cyber safety and anti-bullying, as well as legislative discussions and advocating for changes to our laws to ensure our youth's safety.

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Public Speaker Session continued:

Sophie Selwood representing DA Michael McMahon's office.

- Our office alongside the NYPD will be hosting another Cash for Guns event this Saturday at Mr. Sinai United Christian Church, where attendees can relinquish their firearm safely to a member of the NYPD and receive a \$500 bank card, no questions asked. As we continue in our mission to eradicate gun violence, our office remains ever committed. Since the initiative began under DA McMahon in 2016, we have removed nearly 700 firearms from the streets of Staten Island.

Amalia Kostalas representing State Assembly Member Michael Tannousis office reported the following press statements that AM Tannousis released:

- Clean Slate Act - Governor Hochul and Albany Democrats bear the responsibility for the misguided pro-crime agenda which places the rights of criminals above law-abiding citizens. It sends the wrong message, making it harder for New Yorkers to trust the system, and ensuring those who break the law face fewer consequences. There are already procedures in place to seal a defendant's criminal record. The defendant must apply to a judge who reviews the defendant's history. The Clean Slate Act will do away with the judicial discretion currently required in the application process. This message deceives the public, landlords, and employers while removing consequences from criminals, and therefore making our communities less safe. AM Tannousis will continue to fight for the safety and well-being of our communities, and he will work to repeal this dangerous law, that compromises the public's trust and safety.
- Congestion Pricing - Governor Hochul's cash grab and Congestion Pricing scheme has ultimately revved in favor of her and the MTA rather than protecting the pockets of hard-working New Yorkers who commute to work daily. Ironically, this final decision comes as a political move from Hochul and Albany Democrats before President Trump, a major opponent of the plan, takes office. New York's unaffordability crisis only gets worse while Hochul ignores the issues that damage our state the most. Assembly Member Tannousis called on the Trump Administration to audit the MTA and put a final halt on this unfeasible and senseless plan.
- Assembly Member Michael Tannousis introduced legislation to repeal Congestion Pricing, require a financial audit of the MTA and require that MTA board members reside in one of the five boroughs. AM Tannousis along with several of his colleagues are also plaintiffs in a lawsuit brought forth in Richmond County Supreme Court to stop Congestion Pricing.

Standing Committee Reports:

Aging: Dr. Donna Seminara  
No report.

Capital & Expense Budget Priorities: Roy J. Garlisi  
No report.

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Standing Committee Reports continued:

Environmental Protection & Parks: Stephen Zaderiko & Jordan Hafizi  
No report.

Health Services: Dr. Ram Raju  
No report.

Land Use: Ben D'Amato  
City Planning Application Number N 240154 ZAR, N 240155 ZAR, N 240156 ZAR  
386 Nugent Street, (Aultman Avenue & Dead End) 377 and 388 St. George Road  
Block; 2284, Lot 33 = St. George Road; Lot 34 split into Lots 33-35  
This application seeks (1) Zoning Resolution Section 105-422 authorization of a development, enlargement or site alteration on a Tier II site or portion of a zoning lot having a steep slope or steep slope buffer (2) Zoning Resolution Section 105-431 authorization for modification of lot coverage controls, (3) Zoning Resolution Section 105-434 to authorize modification of requirements for private roads and driveways, to facilitate the development of three new homes at 386 Nugent Street within the Special Natural Area District (NA-1).

Land Use: Ben D'Amato  
City Planning Application Number N 240154 ZAR, N 240155 ZAR, N 240156 ZAR  
386 Nugent Street, (Aultman Avenue & Dead End) 377 and 388 St. George Road  
Land Use Committee Vote on 11/6/2024  
8-In-favor with condition; 0-Opposed; 0-Abstained; 0-Not-entitled  
Condition: Land Use committee members voted to approve the construction of homes at 377 and 388 St. George Road while rejecting the proposed development at 379 St. George Road, located at the rear of the property.  
Full Board Vote on 11/19/2024 - 22-In-favor; 1-Opposed; 0-Abstained; 0-Not-entitled

Law, Legislative Review, & Ethics: Mendy Mirocznik  
Not in Attendance.

Traffic, Transportation, & Public Service: Joseph Torres provided an update on the November 4, 2024 committee meeting.

- Joe reported that there were two items presented at the committee meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The first is the rerouting of the S52 bus which Staten Island University Hospital had asked the MTA to remove from their campus. We were misinformed last month. I mentioned that one feasible option was to place the closest bus stop on Father Capadanno Boulevard which is a 15-minute walk for patients and employees that use public transportation. There was another proposal for Mason Avenue which we were informed initially was not logistically possible, but the MTA did do a few test runs and the bus was able to make a full turn at the end of Mason Avenue and that proposal placed the bus stop at a reasonable distance from the campus. The only compromise is that we would lose a few parking spaces and there is an issue with a curb cut and a fire hydrant. The MTA is working with Northwell so that there's more information to follow.

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Standing Committee Reports continued:

Traffic, Transportation, & Public Service continued: Joseph Torres

It looks as though that should be resolved and the MTA. The MTA is going to initiate a trial run beginning on January 5 and they are going to have supervisors on-site. The MTA will have supervisors on-site to identify any issues that could affect residents or businesses in the area so they can address those issues.

The next item was a presentation that was delivered by the New York City Economic Development Corporation regarding the Travis Avenue Raise Shoreline Project. The big issue that was raised is that this is not a resurfacing, it is a raising of the road which means that there's the movement of water mains, there is a building substructure so unlike resurfacing, that major artery would be completely closed for the entirety of the 19 months that is projected complete this project. One of the slides that was presented identified 12 flooding events on average per year, which total 24 hours of closure per calendar year and the challenge to that is, is it worth 19 months of disruption for 24 hours of disruption per year. The point that was raised which was clarified at a committee meeting two weeks ago is that there is a rate of acceleration so we requested the engineer's report from the EDC to see what the rate of acceleration is because we were just given general information that this road would become impassible in five or ten years, but we need the data to make an informed decision as to how to move forward. We are hoping to receive that very soon because that project is slated to break ground in March. We are also working with the council office. The issue with the FDNY has been resolved.

We are waiting for Emergency Medical Services to accommodate a closure if it were to take place, and on a practical level, there was one question raised at the meeting about the scale of the project in terms of the budget and whether or not local contractors who were qualified to bid on that work were invited to compete for that business and we are looking to advocate for our local vendors. So, over the course of the upcoming weeks, we'll have that information to understand the actual budget and whether or not local contractors will be notified to apply for that work.

Youth Services: Sandy DiTrapani  
No report.

Old Business:  
None

New Business:  
None

Having no further business, Chair Guinta requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and seconded, and the meeting concluded at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Fred R. Guinta, Chair