



**BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND  
COMMUNITY BOARD #3**

**1243 Woodrow Road - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

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**Health & Human Services Committee  
Public Hearing Report**

**DATE:** May 6, 2025

**TIME:** 6:30 PM

**Committee Members Present**

Thomas Barlotta, *Chairman of the Board*

Diane Peruggia, *Chair*

Claire Atalla

Vincent Bonomi

Harold Kozak

Dennis McKeon

Paul Sanders

**Committee Members Absent**

Patricia Conway

Frank Fontaino

Jessica Francese

William Marco

Naeem Sheikh

**Staff**

Stacey Wertheim, *Interim District Manager*

Susan LaForgia, *Community Coordinator*

**Guests**

Steven Clohessy, Team Chief, Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)

Elaine Zarkewiez, C.E.R.T.

John Dixon, C.E.R.T.

John Burke, C.E.R.T.

Christine Burke, C.E.R.T.

Ed Arale, C.E.R.T.

Boy Scouts Troup 41

Area Residents

**Public Contact** - None

**Agenda**

Steven Clohessy, Team Chief of **C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team)** explained the role it plays in emergency situations. C.E.R.T. is an active neighborhood and community-based volunteer team committed to: Inform and educate their neighbors about disaster preparedness; Assist public safety agencies and local community boards with public events; Respond to local disasters in accordance with CERT protocols and support emergency personnel upon their arrival; Assist agencies in managing spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site; and participate in community outreach opportunities.

C.E.R.T. has been on Staten Island for 22 years. It started in Port Richmond, hence the name. They meet twice a month in Aspen Knolls. The commitment is 25 hours a year. They need new recruits. They operate solely on contributions.

Team members are also:

NASAR Certified - National Association of Search and Rescue  
HAM Radio Operators  
Trained in CPR, AED, and Narcan administration

**Contact C.E.R.T.**

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917.597.2718

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**Old Business** - None

**New Business** –

Where-to-Turn distributed 150 prom dresses, and they have another 125 left. If anyone needs gently used prom dresses for free, please visit Where-to-Turn.

**Announcements** -

On May 28th at Fort Wadsworth, Animal Care Centers of NYC will distribute pet food at the Blue-Star families' food pantry for military personnel and veterans. Five hundred pounds of pet food will be available, free to anyone in need.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Peruggia, Chairperson