

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 – 8:00 P.M.
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2329 VICTORY BLVD.

MEMBERS

Vincent Accornero
Anjail Ameen-Rice
Larry Beslow
Jeannine Borkowski
Marilyn Brown
Arthur Cappabianca
Loretta Cauldwell
Ajmal Chaudhry
Anthony Cosentino
Steven Douglas
George Doyle
Linda Eskenas
Grace Ferranti, Med. Leave
Timothy Forsyth, Excused
John Guzzo, Excused
Jeanne Hogan, Excused
Sunny Jain, Excused
Wilma Jones
Timothy Kuhn
Lisa Lattanzio
Vincent Mecca, Excused
Jeffrey Mohlenbrok
Friday Ogbewe
John Pabone, Excused
Ernest Paige, Excused
Vincent Pompa
Fran Reali
Leticia Remauro
Chris Rooney
Marjorie Ryan
Richard Salhaney, Excused
Nicholas Siclari, Excused
George Sona
John Strandberg
Sean Sweeney
Ken Tirado
Harold Wagner
Curt Ward
George Wonica, Jr.
Camille Zarrelli
Richard Zichettello

GUESTS

Michael Bryantsev, Rep. B.P. Molinaro
Julie Levine, Rep. Sen. Lanza
Michael O'Brien, Rep. Sen. Savino
Chris Johnson, Rep. Councilwoman Rose
Jeanette Beck, Rep. Councilman Oddo
Mark Zink, Rep. MOA Titone
Lynn Kelly, CEO Snug Harbor
P.O. Frank Kelly, 120th Pct.
Michael Morrell, Pres. Westerleigh Improv. Society
Maryanne McGowan, Pres. Clove Lake Civic Assn.
Ulysses Grosso, Workforce 1
Denise Lakeman, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Eric Patterson, Friends of Westerleigh Park
Bob Zion, St. George Civic Assn.
Camille Sandberg, 1544 Victory Blvd.
Kathryn Sandberg, re: 1544 Victory Blvd.
Searl and City Selmon, Bay Street Landing resident
John Garcia, HOA H020011
Randi Pinus Aliotta, Clove Lake area resident
Chirs Biatty, St. George resident
Tracey Iovino, Bay Street Landing resident
Maryellen Tully, Bay Street Landing resident
Ben Caref, Bay Street Landing resident
Peter Lisi, 560 Bay Street
Marsha Russell, Bay Street Landing resident
Sarah Gowell, Bay Street Landing resident
Chris Hellstron, Director of development Greenbelt Conservancy
Crystal Vera, Project Hospitality
Charles Kitts, Port Richmond resident
Noreen Ursonomma, Re: Clove Lake resident
Michael Reiser, SI Paper Challenge

A Land Use Public Hearing was held prior to the Board Meeting re:

1. Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 74-11-BZ Application for a variance to re-establish and permit office use (Use Group 6b) for an existing one story community facility located at 1058 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, in an R3-2 Zoning District.

Mr. James Chin, representing the applicant stated the property is located on the south east corner at the intersection of Forest Avenue and Manor Road. It is currently occupied by Eden II. The application is to re-establish and permit office use such as: offices for lawyers, insurance brokers, architects, engineers, real estate brokers, financial advisors, travel agency, and mortgage broker.

Motion made and seconded to approve application as submitted. Roll call vote taken. Vote passed unanimously.

Members of the Clove Lake Civic Association and Clove Lake community brought up concerns of 1540 and 1536 Victory Blvd. The medical offices bought the adjacent property and wants to put a parking lot for the medical offices. Trees are being cleared, as of right and, the house is going to be demolished. The Clove Lake Civic Association stated "the area is not zoned for a parking lot."

Mr. Accornero stated the Buildings Commissioner and the Department of Transportation Commissioner will be invited to the Silver Lake/Sunnyside Area Committee Meeting on September 21, 2011 – 7:30 at the Silver Lake Tennis House to address the concerns of the community.

Chair Leticia Remauro called the meeting to order at 8:04 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call attendance taken. Quorum present.

Chairwoman Remauro read the list of attended guests and Elected Officials representatives that were present.

Ms. Crystal Vera from Project Hospitality spoke of public Health Interventions against obesity and heart disease.

Staten Island consumption of high fat foods has contributed to the borough's staggering obesity and heart disease statistics. Approximately 65% of our residents are clinically obese, and we have the highest heart disease death rate in N.Y.C, exceeding the other 4 borough's rates by 17%.

This community health intervention uses a three-pronged approach to 1) educate residents on the effects of overconsumption of SSBs and high-fat milk, and share diet changes that can reduce their risks of obesity and heart disease; 2) encourage decision-makers to consider policy changes at their institution or organization; and 3) work with residents to advocate for small environmental changes in a local grocery retailer to increase accessibility to healthier beverage options.

Mr. John Garcia, former President of the Van Duzer Street Civic Association. There are inadequate sewer systems all across Staten Island. The Flooding-infrastructural needs have to be addressed, it is substandard. Not only during the hurricane but during heavy rains, Van Duzer Street is constantly flooded, the homes that abut Van Duzer Street are getting water. This is unacceptable.

Mr. Charles Kitts, Port Richmond spoke about the necessity to clean up the hazardous material that is still in Veteran's Park. Port Richmond is a community with lots of children that should be able to go enjoy the park. Mr. Kitts further spoke about the improved safety and less crimes on Port Richmond Avenue.

Ms. Camille Sandberg spoke a proposed parking lot at 1540 Victory Blvd. The Doctor's Office at 1534 Victory owns the property and is trying to put a parking lot. Trees are being cleared and, the house at 1534 will soon be demolished. The area is not zoned for a parking lot.

Noreen Ursomanno recently encountered a flasher in Clove Lakes Park; she was followed and then flashed. She had no cell phone service to call the police and, it took her 20 minutes to get to the park house to report the incident. Later in the week she heard other women speaking of a similar incident and when hearing the description learned that it was a different man. Call boxes should be installed in the park and additional security should be present.

Ms. Randi Pincus Aliotta also spoke of the flasher and the need for security in Clove Lakes Park.

Mr. Michael Rieser spoke of the Staten Island Paper Challenge. We are coming to the home stretch. It is imperative that Community Board #1 residents step up their paper recycling, if, they would like to win a cash prize for a park on the Community Board #1 area. Mr. Reiser is available to attend any Civic, Cub Scout etc. meetings to try to increase paper recycling.

Mr. Ken Tirado spoke of events in October; there is going to be the first Richmond County Craft Beer Festival, with local Brewers in attendance at the Richmond County Savings Bank Ball field on Saturday, October 22, 2011. Many events are being held in October please speak to Mr. Ken Tirado to get details of all of the events.

Ben Caref, President of Bay Street Landing spoke of a number of muggings and thefts that have occurred on Pier 1, the Merchant Marine Plaza and the walkway from the Ferry Terminal to Bay Street Landing. There needs to be more security and increased lighting at those locations.

Mr. Peter Lisi spoke of big problems at I.S. 49. in Stapleton. The Community Board should get involved they can stop the fights and crimes that happens in and around the school. Mr. Lisi asked why there was not a Stapleton Meeting in September. Larry Beslow, Chairman of the Stapleton Area Committee said a meeting would be held this

Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 7:30 at the Central Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street.

Ms. Lynn Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of Snug Harbor spoke of many upcoming events at Snug Harbor. Invited everyone to come and enjoy the grounds of Snug Harbor. You can receive the Snug Harbor Newsletter via e-mail and events. Visit the website see what is happening there. The Italian Festival is being held at Snug Harbor on October 15, 2011. Website: snug-harbor.org

The main priorities of Snug Harbor are:

Campus-wide Signage Program – historical, way-finding and building signage

Snug Harbor Heritage Farm – ongoing planting, maintenance, education programs etc

Pier revitalization – (this is probably more long term – over 5-7 years); revitalization and maintenance

Chairwoman Remauro thanked Ms. Kelly for attending and informed the members every month we will be asking different cultural institutions to speak at the meetings. We need to start exploring ways for the tourists to get off of the ferry, go visit the cultural institutions, restaurants and local businesses.

PUBLIC SESSION CLOSED

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, ANTHONY COSENTINO – Budget Public Hearings for FY' 2012-2013 will be held the first week in November either on the 5th or 6th. E-mails will be going out. All Chairpersons are members of this committee. All Board Members, Civic Associations community residents are invited to attend.

SECOND VICE-CHRISTOPHER ROONEY – Mr. Rooney welcomed everyone back from summer break and, mentioned he is Community Board #1's representative at Snug Harbor and attends their monthly meetings.

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN, FRIDAY OGBEWELE – No report.

SECRETARY, NICHOLAS SICLARI – No report.

TREASURER, LARRY BESLOW – The Treasurer's report is in the packet.

CHAIRWOMAN, LETICIA REMAURO – Chairwoman Remauro welcomed everyone back from summer break. Ms. Remauro mentioned all of the Area Chairpersons received 311 reports via e-mail over the summer. We will be using this as part of our budget requests for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. These are documented complaints in your area. The Budget and Land Use are the most important roles of the Community

Boards. Please speak to your neighbors, associations, and ask at the area committee meetings for the budget requests and bring them to the Budget Public Hearing in October.

An RFEI has been sent by the NYCEDC for the parking lot adjacent to the Richmond County Savings Bank Bellfield. This could be very beneficial to the waterfront, to local businesses and the community.

SI350 was a big success at the waterfront, many vendors and community residents came out to celebrate Staten Island's 350th Birthday.

We need to find ways to entice the tourists off the boat to come and see what is on Staten Island, with events like the SI350 celebration and getting viable businesses, tourists' attractions, by the waterfront with the RFEI it could mean increased revenue to local businesses and viable residency on the Island.

Chairwoman Remauro asked for the Board's support in requesting Congressman Grimm put into Legislation making September 11 a National Holiday. A letter with all of the members signatures would be addressed to the Congressman.

Unanimously approved to send a letter with all of the members signatures to make 9/11 a National Holiday.

DISTRICT MANAGER, JOSPEH CARROLL – Mr. Carroll welcomed everyone back and announced on September 11, 2011 at Postcards on the St. George Esplanade the Borough President will be holding a ceremony at 6:30 P.M. If you are interested in attending, please call the Board Office.

Kudos were given to Richmond University Medical Center for their wonderful work during Hurricane Irene. Richmond University Medical Center cared for patients evacuated from both sites of Staten Island University Hospital.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAND USE, VINCENT ACCORNERO - Board of Standards & Appeals Application No. 74-11-BZ Application for a variance to re-establish and permit office use (Use Group 6b) for an existing one story community facility located at 1058 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, in an R3-2 Zoning District.

The property is on the corner of Forest Avenue and Manor Road. It is currently occupied by Eden II. The application is to re-establish and permit office use such as: offices for lawyers, insurance brokers, architects, engineers, real estate brokers, financial advisors, travel agency, and mortgage broker.

Motion made and seconded to approve the application as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC SERVICES AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUNNY JAIN AND LISA LATTANZIO – The minutes of the June Meeting are in the packet.

YOUTH SERVICES, MARILYN MARIE BROWN – Books have been delivered to the Board Office to be sent to the schools. When the new interns from Curtis High School arrive at the Board Office they will send out the books to the schools.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, PRISCILLA MARCO – No meeting, no report. The Rules Committee will meet as needed.

BUDGET & FINANCE, ANTHONY COSENTINO - The Budget Public Hearing will be held the first Wednesday or Thursday in October, a notice will go out via e-mail shortly.

WATERFRONT, CURT WARD – The Greenway Committee will meet at 7:00 P.M.; the Waterfront Committee will meet at 7:30 P.M. at the Bay Street Landing Community Room. Representatives from the Siphon Project will be attending to give an update on the project. Chairwoman Remauro mentioned a task force (sub-committee) will be set up for the RFEI for the property next to the Richmond County Ballfield. Anyone interested in being a part of the committee should speak to Chairwoman Remauro.

TRANSPORTATION, JEANNE HOGAN – Transportation will meet as needed, prior to the Board Meeting.

AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

MARINERS HARBOR/PORT RICHMOND, ANJAIL AMEEN-RICE – The minutes of the meeting are in the packet.

SILVER LAKE/SUNNYSIDE/WESTERLEIGH, KEN TIRADO – No report.

ROSEBANK/FT. WADSWORTH/SHORE ACRES, JOHN GUZZO - No report.

CLIFTON/CONCORD/STAPLETON, LARRY BESLOW – The committee will be meeting this Thursday, 7:30 P.M. at the Central Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street.

WEST BRIGHTON/ST. GEORGE, LORETTA CAULDWELL – No report.

Old Business
New Business

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 P.M.

