

**Community Board 1 Full Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.
In Person, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 347 Davis Avenue.**

Nicholas Siclari, Chairman

Members

Joe Ahlstrom
Michelle Akyempong
Arguello, Tatiana
Berksteiner, Dora
Berksteiner, Doreen
Joseph Bird, ex
Allison Brown, ex
Telee Brown
Christopher Campbell
Loretta Cauldwell
Andre Ciprut, ab
Kathleen Coen
Christopher Corbo, ab
Anthony Cosentino
Claudette Duff
Samir Farag
Timothy Forsyth
Selina Grey
John Guzzo, ab
Robert Holst
Linda Huff, ab
Sunny Jain, ex
Linda Juarbe, ex

Lillian Lagazzo
Peter Lisi
Ali Lula
David McGoy, ab
Nicole Meyers, ab
Mohan Radhakrishna
Alina Nevradakis, ab
Friday Ogbewe, ex
Ernest Paige, ab
Francine Reali, ab
Joshua Renta
Cindy Salzillo
Catherine Schiavone
Anthony Scutari
Anthony Sgarlato, ex
Sean Sheil
Nicholas Siclari
Jaclyn Tacoronte
George Turner
Steven Williams, ex

Office Staff

Joan Cusack, District Manager
Linda Maffeo, Community Coordinator

Guests:

Jackie Stoll, Terry Troia, Mark Anderson, Tanisha Litrell, Cathleen Kenny for Sam Pirozzolo's office, Catie Iannitto, George Todorovic, Rasika Deosthali, Cheryl Nadeau, Joy Rosmapion-Meyer, Robert Meyer, Russell Kaminsky, Charlie Olson, Ralph Fortunato, Jermaine Williams, Elena Brady, Frank Graniero, F. Marra, RV Augusty, Lindy Peter Crescitelli, Agnes McBeth, Prince Cobbina, Charles Roland, Roseann Caruana, Victoria Carstensen, Nicholas Pettinati. DOT.

Meeting called to order: 6:30 PM

Chairman Nicholas Siclari said this is the last Full Board Meeting before the summer break with refreshments to follow. Moment of silence for our transportation chair who we sadly lost, Nicholas Zvegintzov. Nicholas Z. was so passionate about transportation and cared about this community. We had many talks on the phone and emails on how he wanted to make the North Shore of Staten Island a better place. There will be a memorial and a Zoom when his remains go back to England.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Timothy Forsyth.

Public Session – Friday Ogbewe

Marie LaFrancesca, BP Vito Fossella's office: All the members who are up for reappointment from the BP's office and Councilwoman Hank's office have all been reappointed and thank you for continuing to serve.

A few CB meetings including CB1, City of Yes mentioned that BP Fossella was in favor of portions of the City of Yes including the ADU's. This is to true and City Planning has since apologized that it was inaccurate. BP Fossella has said that the City of Yes Proposal does not make sense for Staten Island. "Our community and neighborhoods are

quite different from other parts of NYC." He said, want to keep the character of our neighborhoods. "The elimination of parking requirements will be detrimental to Staten Island if we wish to preserve what we currently have". We understand the text amendment will not prevent parking being included for this development plan. We saw this before growth management on Staten Island. Many areas suffer from a severe lack of parking. This change will increase an already acute problem. Transit-oriented development is also an issue. DCP has mentioned that they are not changing the zoning of our communities. "This approach is essentially a zoning change by allowing 3-5 story apartment buildings within a ½ mile of the Staten Island railway, the text amendment would be changing entire neighborhoods. A person's home is their greatest financial asset and to add apartment buildings next to 1-2 family homes will not only change the landscape of our neighborhoods but will diminish quality of life and property values for people who have saved many years to purchase their own little piece of the American Dream." Marie LaFrancesca said she grew up across from the Staten Island railway, the Dongan Hills train station. "My mom still lives there. My parents bought this house 55 years ago. To imagine my moms two story house being dwarfed by 5 story buildings is just absolutely crazy. The Staten Island railway, I call the little engine that could, is just a straight line". She went on to say, they lived across from the Staten Island railway. Both her parents drove to work because they both worked in New Jersey. "When I went to College it was in the City so I was able to take the train, ferry, train while my brother had to drive to St. John's". He would have had to take the train, ferry and bus. "It's just not realistic for people". "Our doctors or dentists were not along the railway lines and we needed cars to maintain our daily lives". "Our schools not along the railway". She went on to say she drives her kids to school because again not along the railway. In Riverdale in the Bronx where my son goes to college, there were signs that said, "Say No to the City of Yes". "There are communities that feel the same way". Thank you.

Cathleen Kenny, Assemblyman, Sam Pirozollo's office: He applauds the Governor's pause on Congestion Pricing. The work now pivots that it stays "dead" and does not get brought back to life following the election. Sam will not support raising taxes on New Yorkers nor on businesses to make up for the MTA budget shortfall. "We must audit every penny taken in and spent by the MTA and address fair evasion ¾'s of a billion dollars per year before even thinking about shifting the burden onto taxpayers." Sam will be hosting a Second Annual Family Fun Day on Wednesday, August 21st at Willowbrook Park 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Enter on Richmond Avenue and Eaton Place. A day of free and fun activities, giveaways and community resources. We anticipate the carousel will be working and free rides for the kids. If your organization wants to setup a table, please call our office and ask for Lisa. Have a great summer and see you in September.

Mark Anderson, Westerleigh Improvement Society: City of Yes – Economic. Our elected officials all voted no. There is no affordable housing in this proposal. It's all market rate and the "numbers don't jive". We lost 600,000 people in this city in the last three years so where is the housing shortage. The housing availability and supply has kept pace in the last 60 years. In the Village paper, there looks like there is a million available housing units right now. In the last few meetings with DCP, I asked them how many people currently live on the North Shore? It's about 170,000 people. How many people could live here if we built with our current zoning. I haven't gotten an answer because they know what the answer is. The answer is about 4x the amount of people we have now. How many would live here as a result of the City of Yes? That would be x2. So we are looking at the potential of 5-8x the amount of people. We need to say no to the City of Yes. Anything else would be a yes. We should say no with a referendum to follow-up. Thank you.

Jackie Stoll, Executive Director of Project Hospitality: Born and raised on Staten Island and with PH for 12 years. It has been a respected part of the SI Community for over 40 years caring for our neighbors. I'm here to address issues with community relations concerning our Homeless Drop-In Center at 150 Richmond Terrace. Homelessness is not just a lack of housing. It's lacking stability, safety, and a sense of belonging. Each individual has a unique story and set of circumstances. We need to address this issue with a multi-faceted approach with resources, knowledge and compassion. We understand the impact our clients and services can have on the neighborhood. Jackie said they are working hard to address any incidents happening and have been meeting regularly with our neighbors diagonally across the street from our drop-in center at 36 Hamilton Avenue. We hired additionally security, a security consultant and added cameras and lighting. We work closely with the NYPD and our elected officials. Project Hospitality has exceed our housing goals for FY24. Moving more than 250 individuals into housing this year. The incidents at this site have decreased 25% since last quarter. Unfortunately not everyone is ready to accept the assistance and often are the ones who need help the most. We continue to advocate for them. We need your assistance in resolving the scaffolding issue at 51 Stuyvesant Place. I recently learned that lighting has been added under the scaffolding. The removal of the scaffolding would help prevent congregating at the site. PH will be joining the St. George Civic Association at their Resource Fair in June. Please invite us to other events so we can share our services with the community. Thank you.

Ralph Fortunato, Resident of St. George: Here tonight on behalf of the residents near 36 Hamilton Avenue, Project Hospitality's Drop-In Center. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of PH in their unwavering commitment providing services to those in need. I am here to talk about 150 Richmond Terrace. Thirteen months ago, while addressing this board, Terry Troia acknowledged the issues stemming from this Drop-In Center, its impact on the neighborhood and promised to address them such as public urination, indecency, noise pollution, loitering, trespassing, harassment and client neglect. These issues have not been minimized. PH has canceled monthly meetings we've had since September 2022. Meetings they committed to when they submitted their contract with DSS. We meet with DSS virtually at quarterly meetings. DSS has lacked empathy with the neighbors and destroyed transparency and communication with the community and PH. PH and DSS have displaced behaviors of "Not In My Backyard" in support of operating the facility in a residential area. They degrade St. George as a Homeless ridden neighborhood as residents should already be acquainted with their disruptions of their quality of life. Some of the clients of the facility have also engaged with us with drug use in the center and lack of accessible bathrooms. With these circumstances, we have lost faith in PH and their operations in the neighborhood. We are calling for PH to fulfill their contractual pledge they made by restarting the monthly meetings in person with the community and engaging with the community to improve the neighborhood. We are calling on the community board to address these quality of life issues in our neighborhood. PH and DSS have several actions they can take to mitigate these issues. Providing 24 hour external security and moving their client entrance to Richmond Terrace aligned with the facilities address of 150 Richmond Terrace. They continue to site funding issues as not to implement these measures. Given the false hope and empty promises, the organizations track record of failure to the neighbors at Central Avenue and Hamilton Avenue, we have a lack of confidence in PH's leadership to be good neighbors. Thank you.

Reverend Terry Troia: We have a housing crisis in the City of New York and Staten Island. 1.4% housing vacancy rate which is very low and means rents are going up. People who are disabled and getting a \$1,000 a month check are having trouble keeping housing. Low wage workers who support our economy can't find housing. Home health-aides, teachers' aides, starting civil services workers, teachers themselves, restaurant and retail personnel have a hard time maintaining their apartments on Staten Island with rising rents. A 50 year old woman taking care of her mother who then goes to assisted living, loses the apartment and is now homeless. These cases go on and on. We need more affordable housing on Staten Island.

R.V. Augusty, Vice President for the St. George Civic Association: Recycling of their reading glasses or sunglasses in good condition having both arms. So far, I have collected 57 glasses for the Lions International. They recycle the lens and clean them up and give to people less fortunate and keep them out of the landfill. You can go to JAG.org or email St. George Civic Association.

Catie Ferrara-Iannito, DCP: Thank you to Community Board 1 for approaching the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity Proposal with patience and thoughtfulness over the last several months. We have had two productive discussions with the Land Use Committee on specific elements of the proposal and the feedback you want to give with the vote to the DCP with the housing needs we are facing on Staten Island with keeping the special characteristics of the North Shore.

George Todorovic, DCP: Tonight is the end of the referral process. We want to recap the top three topics that had the most questions.

Parking Flexibility: Rigid parking mandates need to be updated. Give property owners more flexibility, We acknowledge that this is a bold idea. This idea came from hundreds of other cities. NYC is behind the curve. Milwaukee, Buffalo, St. Louis, Houston, the entire State of Connecticut, etc. and many more. These places have already cut the red tape to provide parking flexibility for property owners and has had positive results. ADU's where homeowners can add small units to their property. 1% of homeowners in Minneapolis have an ADU. Charlottesville, Virginia it's 2% and in Princeton, NJ, the town has received 38 applications for ADU's over 4 years. There are size limits and not everyone has the size or the money to do this. TOD, transit oriented development, new housing located closer to the SIR for people who prefer to take public transit or don't have a car. We heard concerns earlier that there will be apartment buildings across a 1 mile geography with the BP's office saying this was an issue. We went into GIS, Geographic Information Systems, looked at the data. Out of the 4,000 properties 3% of the parcels within 1/2 mile of SIR can be built because of the restrictions. Wide street, 5,000 square feet of lot area. If you have those, you can make a 5 story building. Consider all the proposals. Only 1 of the 4 types of ADU's would be appropriate in these neighborhoods on SI.

Jermaine Williams, NYPD Ambassador for SI: E-commerce exchange zones. NYPD have cameras around their precincts. If you know anyone that is trying to sell a bike, car or where cash is going to be exchanged and they don't feel safe, this is the safest place to do it. If someone is doing something illegally they will not want to have the exchange in that location.

July 16th Harmony Day, free food, music, entertainment. Clove Lake Park from 10AM to 2PM. National Night Out. First Tuesday of August. All four of our precincts come together at Midland Beach from 4PM to 8PM with food, drinks, entertainment, services, information. Come out and enjoy our wonderful beach. We have a community link with flyers with a QR code to get all my information. We handle chronic concerns that are multi-agency, counterfeit vending, derelict and abandoned vehicles. If the vehicle is parked seven days, that's for the NYPD, but if the vehicle is there 6-7 months please get in touch with me. Illegal smoke shops, mobile car washes. They need a permit to do that and we will investigate. Happy Father's Day.

Ruben Sibri, State Comptrollers' office: Economic snapshot of the North Shore. In 6 years, data about immigration, population change, business growth, etc. June 21st at 12PM at the Main Hall at Snug Harbor.

Mario Buonviaggio, Vice President of Port Richmond North Shore Alliance: This is my 11th year with the Community Board. This is the best year we've had with the CB and local Area Committee. I brought some Empanadas from San Jeronimo for tonight's last meeting. Rosann Caruana, Borough Commissioner told us over 200 tons of debris were removed. We caught an illegal dumper with two trunk loads of debris at the entrance where sanitation was going in and out removing the 200 tons. These are residents that live 1,000 feet away and don't deserve to keep their privacy. They live at 22 Bayonne Court. This was a stressful issue between elected officials, EDC, Civics, etc. They received a \$1,000 fine. Letters were sent out to all their neighbors on these individuals. Another note, I listed to the Land Use Meeting sent to me by video afterward. An Attorney for Community Health Action described the Port Richmond Community as destitute and poor and other unkind words. His name is Frederick Becker. "You sir have no clue on what is going on in Port Richmond". For Henry Thompson, the CEO for Community Health Action, piggybacking on not so nice words. The guy has three facilities which are ghost buildings and served a very few people in Port Richmond who says we have no cars and nobody drives. From DMV, there is an average of 4 vehicles per household. Cost of housing are going 15-35% above the ask. Currently there are new businesses coming to Port Richmond Avenue. For them to say we need a medical facility with limited parking, they are not following community and health. When a tree on their property is hitting a house next door and we as the civic group have to take care of it for free with our own community partner. When you have employees of Community Health Action smoking cigarettes and vaping in front of their facility and throwing the butts on the sidewalk and streets which our employee maintains 6 days a week. They don't follow the philosophy of their business but wants exemptions. People in the Land Use Committee did not correct them. I would never use this attorney.

Nina Salerno, Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's office: Congestion Pricing - Significant win for Governor Hochul and our constituents. The people of Staten Island are my priorities which is why I fought against this from the moment it was first announced. Five free mammogram events. Next on is June 30th at the South Beach Houses. Shredding Event on June 26th with DA McMahon. 36 bills passed on the Senate floor that were introduced by Senator Spanton. 16 were veteran-related bills, 8 were public safety related, 4 were labor related and 2 were public health related.

Agnes McBeth, DA McMahon's office: Hosting a Shredding Event with Senator Scarcella-Spanton's office. These shred events reduce identity theft. On Monday, the DA along with the Port Authority announced that \$10 million dollars have been provided to enhance license plate readers. All of our bridge crossing will now have enhanced license plate readers. Car thefts on Staten Island have dramatically decreased since the installation of these LPR's on the Goethals but of course with NYPD also. These LPR's will help with kidnapping, and following those who commit other crimes in our borough. When the DA was at the Port Authority on Monday, viewing the camera footage, there were flashes on license plates for toll violators for thousands of dollars, suspended licenses. On the Goethals Bridge, there is a permanent reader. On the Outerbridge and Bayonne, there are mobile readers with permanent fixtures taking place in July.

Gabriella Vallerio, Planning Division of the City Council: Your feedback on the City of Yes is very important. We heard from all boroughs and worked to modify to get it where you wanted.

End of Public Session

Roll Call by Loretta Cauldwell with a Quorum.

Chairman Nicholas Siclari asked if anyone wants to fill the ballot if you didn't last meeting. Introduced Russell and Allison Kaminsky who want to bring awareness of Kidney Disease.

Russell Kaminsky. My wife has been a lifelong resident of Staten Island and I've been here for 20 years. We want to raise awareness of 37 million Americans have some form of kidney disease with 90% not being aware of it. It is the 9th leading cause of death in this country. 1 out of 3 adults have some sort of kidney malfunction. It affects Americans of color three times more. There are currently 750,000 people near death in this country with this issue. 100,000 are waiting for a life-saving kidney. We all have two and a person can live a full life with one. All it takes is a simple swab test of your saliva to see if you can donate. Two companies, Renewal in Brooklyn and Kidneys for Communities. They help people like me with 14% kidney function try and attract a donor. If you are lucky enough to get an organ from someone who passed, it can last 7-10 years. With a live donor, 15-20 years. I'm a 60 year old man with 4 amazing kids. My kidney disease is hereditary and my children are showing signs of it already so they can't donate. I'm grateful that Nick was able to help me bring awareness to this. These companies help offset the financial burden. My health insurance company pays for my surgery and that of the donor. The company offsets the travel cost, lodging and any lost wages, childcare/pet care. Flyers are available with a QR code. Thank you.

Chairman Nick said, A couple of months ago, Claudette came to us looking for a grant for the House for the Blind. We have a Forum here. People are in need. I know Allison a long time. Spread the word.

Motion to accept the minutes in the packet. Tony Scutari and seconded by another board member.

Presentations:

Andrew J. Barbieri Ferry Memorial

Roseann Caruana, DOT Commissioner: This has been an emotional Work in Progress for the victims of the Barbieri crash. We wanted a place to provide solace, and a way they can memorialize their family members. We met with the families and they all seem to be on board with the design. We have a family member here tonight, Lisa.

Nicholas Pettinati, DOT Deputy Director of Urban Design: We put a lot of time and effort in this sensitive subject. On October 15, 2003, the ferry crashed and tragically 10 people were killed. 11 then later died from injuries sustained. After the crash the Barbieri was back in service in 2004. There was a memorial plaque dedicated and installed on the ferry and every year the families were able to go on the boat for a ceremony at the anniversary, ring the bell and pay their respects. The Barbieri has since been retired from service which made us think how can we continue to honor the lives lost in a permanent way. We wanted a place that was accessible for the families without stairs since many are now older. We also wanted a site that was proximate to where the location happened. A landscaped area, with the plaque and the bell. We have an informational site which includes maritime operational safety since the crash. West presented this to the Public Design Commission and are looking for feedback from the Community Board. We will be ready for this October anniversary.

Chairman Nick said he used to take that boat at 3, 3:30 PM everyday. I had my first knee surgery playing tennis so I was out and watching that whole scene unfold. Fate deals you a strange hand. We will have a letter of support for this memorial which passes unanimously by the board.

Officers' Reports:

First Vice-Chairman, Anthony Cosentino: No report.

Second Vice-Chairman, Timothy Forsyth: No report.

Third Vice-Chairman, Friday Ogbewe: Excused.

Secretary, Loretta Cauldwell: At this time I would like to cast one vote for each of the positions of our Chair Nicholas Siclari, First Vice-Chair, Anthony Cosentino, Second Vice Chairman, Timothy Forsyth, Third Vice Chairman,

Congratulations everyone. Nicholas Siclari casts one vote for Secretary, Loretta Cauldwell. Congratulations to Loretta.

Treasurer, Sunny Jain: Excused.

Chairman, Nicholas Siclari: We had a long Land Use Meeting. I don't understand why the land use meeting is 3 hours long and this meeting is 2 hours long. When you have two resolutions where the simplest one is usually the correct one, "Occam's Razor". You're not there to help the guy or change anything, you are there to evaluate the presentation and say yes or no which is the role of the community board. I don't care what the Borough President or City Council thinks, they look to us for our opinion. There is something wrong when a meeting lasts until 9:30PM.

District Manager, Joan Cusack: No Microphone.

Functional Committee Reports:

Land Use, George Turner: Any City of Yes for Housing questions? Some people like some of the things and some like others things. We should pick what's best for the community and not what's best for us personally. I think the ADU's may be a good idea for "grandma". I don't see these ADU's all over Staten Island. There are restrictions and guidelines. The other issue was the Healthcare Facility in Port Richmond. The attorney they brought in discussing that nobody in Port Richmond has cars. We did question him and said everyone has cars. The positive was there will be a well needed Healthcare Facility over there giving them back several parking spots but not a lot. They were required by zoning to have 62 and we gave them back 20. The consensus of the committee was okay with that. We don't know much about the company that would be running it. We can add provisions.

Health Facility in Port Richmond – Motion to approve Healthcare Facility at 17 Grove Avenue:

Vote: 17 yes, 8 No, 2 abstentions – Motion Passed.

City of Yes for Housing: Mandatory Inclusionary housing question. Right now you have it at the Bay Street Corridor where rezoning took place. If a developer decides to build that kind of building, they will get those advantages to give it back to the community in that regard. There are restrictions on the building. It has to fit in with zoning and units will be available for all areas of income. DCP and DOB are working hand in hand. These rules have been in the zoning for decades with a set of requirements by DOB to enforce. It has to comply with DCP. Question: When 14 people died in basement apartments during Hurricane Sandy, how can this even be considered legalizing basement and other dwellings? When this is already into the law, the budget bill removed all these increases to the FAR, the tax benefits to the builders, what's the point if it is already done? First of all, you are allowed to live in a basement. You're not allowed to live in a cellar. Basements are not allowed in our flood areas. The proposal is a zoning text amendment. We are proposing to edit some zoning that's in place. There would be a "relaxation" of options in the zone you have now.

Motion: To approve the City of Yes for Housing as presented and No to deny.

Vote: 1 Yes, 24 No, 2 Abstentions.

Waterfront Joe Ahlstrom – Nick Z was instrumental in helping the Waterfront Committee and will be missed.

P.S. 59 The Harbor View School, where Joshua Renta's kids attend. He is calling for a Junior High School and spoke with the Principal. She wrote a nice letter. We want to forward this letter to the Board of Education and Elected Officials that we would like a Maritime Junior High School here on Staten Island which will feed into the Harbor School on Governor's Island and hopefully to Kings Point and SUNY Maritime.

Motion for a Maritime High School on Staten Island

Vote: Motion passes unanimously.

2nd letter for Staten Island Kayak. They want access to the water. Timothy Forsyth raised questions regarding the water being near commercial zoning. There are fishing piers in Tottenville, Pleasant Plains and South Beach recreational facilities. We need them on the North Shore. We did have a fishing pier at Pier One. It should be regulated. We are putting it to EDC to give us access to the water to throw lines and access boats.

Timothy Forsyth: My professional opinion on both safety issues and waterway safety issues, the upper bay of NY Harbor is not a recreational body of water but a commercial body of water with a major shipping channel that goes through and Stapleton Anchorage is immediately adjacent to this area. They are asking EDC for a boat launch. How will this be supervised, where is the insurance? It has currents up to 2-3 knots. This is a hazard to large vessels. It's not a playground. There will be a program for fresh kills kayaking. Perhaps the Parks Department should look for a recreational area. There are public launches in Great Kills Harbor and one at Lemon Creek. The company says they provide low-cost kayaking tours. Somebody apparently is making money on this. Where is the liability insurance? Who will be responsible? Also access will send flood waters to that area. Joe Ahlstrom thanked Timothy but said he disagreed. Places such as Singapore have these accesses. The Waterfront Committee passed this unanimously.

Motion to allow access to the water with a launch

Reverse roll call with two opposing. Passes.

Public Services, Sunny Jain – Excused.

Youth Services, Katherine Coen & Mohan Radhakrishna. – Report in the packet.

Rules & Legislative Affairs, Anthony Cosentino & Timothy Forsyth – No meeting.

Budget & Finance, Anthony Cosentino – No Meeting.

Transportation: Joseph Bird may take over as Chair in light of Nick Z's passing.

Small Business & Non-Profit, Jaclyn Tacoronte: No meeting.

Labor, Robert Holst – No meeting.

District Manager, Joan Cusack: Announced sad news about Siyda Williams. She was a fantastic board member Marie LaFrancesca said she passed away. We know she had been sick and she had a hard time getting to the meetings but she did. Moment of silence for her.

Parks & Recreation, Anthony Cosentino – Two letters of support for reconstructions of playgrounds. First one is the Skyline Playground in New Brighton. We have an addendum to that. New Brighton Civic requests to change the name to the original name, Cottage Hill, New Brighton Park.

Reverse Roll Call – Passes with 1 ineligible.

Letter for Corporal Thompson Playground Reconstruction.

Reverse Roll Call – Passes with 1 ineligible.

Cultural Affairs - Anthony Sgarlato – Excused. Chairman Nick said he is doing a terrific job.

Health and Human Services, Fran Reali - Absent

West Brighton/St. George, Claudette Duff & Anthony Cosentino – Report in the packet.

Silver Lake/Sunnyside/Westerleigh, Timothy Forsyth - No meeting.

Rosebank/Fort Wadsworth, John Guzzo – Absent.

Mariner's Harbor/Port Richmond/Elm Park, Selina Grey & Dora Berksteiner – Report in the packet. Chairman Nick said they are doing a terrific job.

Clifton/Concord/Stapleton, Peter Lisi- Liquor License for Caffeinated New Yorker Café, 523 Bay Street. They are adding an outdoor area. No objections. El Patron Restaurant and Lounge, 520 Bay Street. No objections. New Stapleton Waterfront Infrastructure Project conducting emergency watermain work for DEP on Front Street. Derelict vehicles on Targee and Broad Street. And derelict vehicles in front of the Stapleton Library. They are finally doing the Historic Townhall building. Stapleton is becoming the "Where to Go Restaurant area". Come check them out. New restaurant called Blue Pearl, 37 Navy Pier Court. There is Seppe Pizza and Bay Street and Broad Street, Sri Lankan Buffet called Lakruwana Restaurant. Great food.

NYC Open Streets, Stapleton Saturdays. One of the best open streets in the boroughs. June through September, 12noon to 5PM, on Water Street between Beach and Canal Streets next to Tappan Park. Art stations, games and fun activities. National Lighthouse Museum offers boat tours of light houses and harbor views. Next tour is June 16, July 14, and a few through August. Go to lighthousemuseum.org.

114th Travis 4th of July Parade (I will be the MC). The oldest Independence celebration in the United States. Thursday, July 4th at 12 PM.

Michael Arvenitis, Councilmember Hanks' office: The Kayak/Boat Launch would be a concession to pay for the Esplanade which is 20 acres of open space from Pier One Lighthouse to where Edgewater meets Front Street. There are fish cleaning stations already in the plan with several fish spots. We hope to answer some of the issues that were raised. It is an active fishing site.

City of Yes for Housing. There were three parts. Economic Opportunity was voted against from Councilmember Hanks. She referenced the work of the Civics and Community Board. Modifications were made but didn't go far enough. I will take back to her your vote on the Housing piece. Kamillah Hanks came out of Van Duzer Civic, ran historic Tappan Park. She joined with Councilmen Borelli and Carr and there was a delegation against that. The completion date for Village Hall is end of the calendar year of 2025.

\$20 million renovating the Port Richmond Library. The Mayors' office, \$58 million in cuts. Councilmembers, Carr and Hanks are pushing back very hard. We want that money restored for staffing. Feel free to write letters. Hoping to get a tour real soon.

Old Business –

New Business –

Motion to Adjourn – 8:46 pm