



FRED R. GUINTA,
CHAIR

DEBRA A. DERRICO
DISTRICT MANAGER

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

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Regular Monthly Meeting of the Full Board Minutes
Tuesday, October 15, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.
Joan & Alan Bernikow JCC of Staten Island
1466 Manor Road, Staten Island, NY 10314
<https://youtube.com/live/HxcZNe-8SaI>

The regular monthly meeting of the Full Board was held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Joan & Alan Bernikow JCC of Staten Island, 1466 Manor Road, Staten Island, NY 10314.

Chair Fred R. Guinta opened the meeting at 7:05 P.M. with the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Second Vice Chair Rosanne Clift called the roll. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Shawn Abraham, Olu A. Ajayi, Igor Baboshkin, Rosanne Clift, Dr. Deborah Cognata on Zoom, Sandy DiTrapani, Julie Freeman, Roy J. Garlisi, Andrew Guido, Fred R. Guinta, Jordan Hafizi, Dr. Mohammad Khalid, Diane L. McNamara, Leutrim Qoku, Dr. Ram Raju, Gerard J. Ruggiero Dr. Donna Seminara, Joseph Torres, Steven J. Zboinski.

Board Members Absent: Valerie Aliffi-Maroney, Marc Alvarez, Ben D'Amato, Gurdev S. Kang, Michael Lanza, Mendy Mirocchnik, Dr. Allan B. Perel, Florida Qello, Fiqiriye Shehaj, Stephen W. Zaderiko.

Staff Present: Debra A. Derrico, District Manager.

Elected Officials' Representatives:

Bill Matarazzo for State Senator Andrew Lanza
Paul Matrecano for State Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton
Amalia Kostalas for State Assembly Member Michael Tannousis
Loren Centineo for City Council Member David Carr
Marie Carmody-LaFrancesca for Borough President Vito Fossella
Ryan Crimmins for RC District Attorney Michael McMahon
Jermaine Williams, SI Ambassador for NYPD

Guests:

Tara Das, Assistant Vice President of Government & Community Relations for New York City Economic Development Corporation.
Diana Switaj for New York City Economic Development Corporation.
Kenya Smith for New York City Economic Development Corporation
Marvin Pissot for New York City Economic Development Corporation
Anisa Bekteshi for New York City Department of Transportation
Marvin Pigott & Chris Scotti for Stantec

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Guests continued:

Kenya Smith for New York City Economic Development Corporation
Marvin Pissot for New York City Economic Development Corporation
Anisa Bekteshi for New York City Department of Transportation
Nicholas Gibson & Nicholas Gibson for Hunter Roberts
Jonathan Malihan for SI Workforce 1 Industrial & Transportation Career Center
Jennifer Miller for New York City Department of Parks and Recreation
Mat Malinowski & Daniel Indictor for Midland Civic Association
Tom Backis, resident of Staten Island

Public Speaker Session:

- Jermaine Williams Ambassador for SI NYPD announced that the NYPD is hosting their annual baby shower and it is free for all, a trunk or treat, and thanked Senator Jessica Scarcell-Spanton for donating \$8,000 to the NYPD for Argus Cameras.
- Amalia Kostalas for Assembly Member Michael Tannousis' office announced the date for the Oakwood Beach cleanup.
- Nick Robbins for Assembly Member Sam Pirozzolo announced the date for a fire safety training and free smoke detector installations, and an upcoming free paper shredding event.
- Jonathan Malihan spoke about programs offered at SI Workforce 1 Industrial & Transportation Career Center. The Center offers business courses, business planning, legal assistance, navigating government, financing, hiring, training, and incentives.
- Ryan Crimmins of District Attorney McMahon's office reported on the annual domestic violence walk that took place on October 5th, a domestic violence case, and raise the age.
- Karina, a new Assistance DA in DA McMahon's office introduced herself
- Jennifer Miller from New York City Department of Parks and Recreation gave a few quick updates on upcoming events, and the Vital Parks forum.
- Amal from Assembly Member Michael Tannousis' office reported on the upcoming Oakwood Beach cleanup in partnership with NYC H2O, Council Member David Carr and Council Member Joseph Borelli, and the Hurricane Relief Fund sponsored by Borough President Vito Fossella, .
- Bill Matarazzo of Senator Andrew Lanza's office reported that the senator is hosting his annual senior information fair on Friday October 25th.

Acceptance of the Agenda: Chair Guinta called for a motion to accept the agenda. Motion was made and seconded. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Acceptance of the September 17, 2024 Full Board Minutes: Chair Guinta called for a motion to accept the Minutes. Motion was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Presentation by Tara Das, Assistant Vice President of Government & Community Relations at New York City Economic Development Corporation presented updated plans regarding the Travis Avenue Raise Shoreline Project.

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Presentation continued:

- The work will raise an approximately 1,000-foot section of Travis Avenue that runs through the William T. Davis Wildlife Refuge.
- Construction will begin in March. Travis Avenue will be fully closed between Victory Boulevard and Mulberry Avenue for anywhere between 15 and 18 months. The 15 to 18-month project timeline is based on crews working a standard during the morning and evening rush hours.
- While the road is closed, most traffic in the area will be detoured through Richmond Avenue and Victory Boulevard.
- The NYC Department of Transportation will extend the northbound left turn lane from Richmond Avenue onto Signs Road to ease congestion. A temporary fire lane will be added at Victory Boulevard between Travis Avenue and Signs Road to prevent delays in the emergency response time.
- NYPD enforcement agents will be posted at chokepoints along the detour to keep traffic flowing.
- According to NYC EDC, Travis Avenue flooded an average of 12 times a year, for around two hours a day, between 2014 and 2021.

Officers' Reports:

Chair - Fred R. Guinta: Social Security raise is in the works.

First Vice-Chair: Gerard J. Ruggiero – No report.

Second Vice-Chair: Rosanne Clift – No report.

Third Vice-Chair: Ben D'Amato – Absent

Secretary: Shawn Abraham – No report.

Treasurer's Report: Roy J. Garlisi – The Treasurer's report is on file at the board office.

Standing Committee Reports:

Traffic, Transportation & Public Service: Joe Torres, Chair – reported that the folks from NYC EDC presented the Travis Avenue Raise Shoreline project. Joe also reported that the Meredith Avenue bus depot was originally constructed when the Charleston Depot was under construction 15 years ago and it was constructed as a stop gap measure, but it has remained in service and now it's slated to close. The community board was asked to write a letter of support to have that Depot remain open. It does currently employ over a 100 employees that would be displaced to the other three depots on Staten Island, as well as rerouting 30 buses. 80 buses are actually serviced through that Depot. So unless we receive any convincing objection, our intention is to issue that letter of support. Does anyone feel strongly in favor or opposed to issuing that letter of support to have the Meredith station remain open board members? There was no opposition.

Public Service: Joe Torres reported that the committee reviewed the following applications for licensure:

Adult Retail Dispensary – Proposed application for licensure with the NYS Office of Cannabis Management for an Adult Retail Dispensary at 2059 Richmond Avenue to be called "The Flowery."

Board Members' Vote: 3-In Favor; 16-Opposed; 0- Abstained; 0-Not Entitled

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Public Service continued:

New Liquor License Application for a full on-premises liquor license for an establishment to be named Arka Bar & Grill, Inc. at 628 Midland Avenue (10306)
Board Members' Vote: 18-In Favor; 1-Opposed; 0-Abstained; 0-Not Entitled

Aging: Dr. Donna Seminara reported that the 2024 Medicare open enrollment period starts today October 15th and runs through December 7th during this time period. All Medicare eligible persons can review and change coverage.

Capital & Expense Budget: Roy J. Garlisi – No report.
Health Services: Dr. Ramanathan Raju – No report.
Youth Services: Simone DiTrapani – No report.
Environmental Protection and Parks: Stephen W. Zaderiko– No report.
Law, Legislative Review & Ethics: Mendy Mirocznik – No report.
Land Use: Ben D'Amato – No report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Motion to adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred R. Guinta, Chair