

# CB 1 panel approves community residences

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Five community residences that will house a total of 12 disabled people got the thumbs-up last night during a public hearing held by Community Board 1's human resources committee.

Four apartments in New Brighton — two in 165 St. Marks Pl. and two in 185 St. Marks Pl. — will be operated by United Cerebral Palsy of New York City (UCP) for six disabled adults. A residence for six disabled people at 100 Vanderbilt Ave., Clifton, will be operated by the state-run Staten Island Development Disabilities Services Office (SIDDSO). All of the facilities will have 24-hour staff.

Five people spoke in favor of the UCP facilities, including the Rev. William Blasingame, rector of St. Paul's Memorial Episcopal Church, Stapleton; two residents in 165 St. Marks Pl., and two women who are the mothers of people slated to live in the apartments.

"I can't fathom any objection whatsoever. I love my UCP friends," said Rev. Blasingame. No one spoke in opposition to the residences.

Thomas E. Tierney, deputy director of SIDDSO, said the two-story house on Vanderbilt Avenue was chosen for a six-bed residence because of its proximity to public transportation.

SIDDSO, based on the campus of the College of Staten Island, has 23 other community residences throughout the Island, according to Jim Stanley, residential coordinator of the agency, which is the local office of the state Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

Nineteen people attended the short meeting, which was held in the board's office in Clifton. There were only two board members at the meeting, two shy of the four needed to make a quorum and hold an official vote for the human resources committee. Absent a quorum, the panel took a consensus vote.

The facilities will go before the board's steering committee, which will meet Oct. 5 in the board's office. The full board will then vote when it meets Oct. 10 at 8 p.m. in All Saints' Episcopal Church, Willowbrook.

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