

CB3 OKs group home in Great Kills

Faces little opposition

By TRACEY PORPORA
ADVANCE SOUTH SHORE BUREAU

In an air of calm, Community Board 3 last night approved a state-run group home sited for Great Kills — a setting that contrasted with the angry protests expressed by residents at a meeting last week.

Members voted 36 to 3 in favor of the plan, despite last Tuesday's public meeting hosted by the human resources committee at

which irate residents vehemently opposed the group home to be located at 931 Armstrong Ave.

Fearing further protests from the residents, board officials had several police officers in attendance. But there was little opposition expressed from the more than 50 people who came to the full board meeting at Staten Island University Hospital, Prince's Bay.

Proposed by the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Service Office (SIDDSO) — the local agency of the state office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) — the home is for eight develop-

mentally disabled adults ranging in age from 21 to 40.

Joann Loporcaro McMahon, who has a 24-year-old brother with epilepsy currently living in a Bay Terrace group home, spoke in favor of the Armstrong Avenue facility.

"My mother searched high and low for a place comfortable for him ... he came from the South Shore," she said. "The group home teaches him how to do the laundry, make his bed — things we take for granted."

Countering comments made by residents at

Page 1 of 2