

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

**MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 2008
AT THE METHODIST CHURCH HOME FOR THE AGED**

PRESENT

Karen Pesce
Robert G. Abbott
Anthony Creaney
Beverly Fettman
Irving Ladimer
Joseph Facciola
Marc Minick
Marlene Procino
Jane Reilly
Jacob Rosenberg
Francis Savage

AFFILIATION

Committee Chairperson, CB#8
CB #8
CB #8, Committee Vice Chair
CB #8
CB #8
DFTA
Riverdale YM-YWHA
Methodist Church Home
Park Gardens, LTHHCP
Riverdale YM/YWHA

1. Minutes of previous meeting reviewed and accepted as submitted.
2. Joe Facciola, Department for the Aging: the RFP for senior services provides for a 3 year contract with option to renew. Programs being eliminated/reduced due to duplication by other agencies including social adult day services, crime victim assistance. Medicaid funding isn't available for social/medical models of adult day services. An identified concern was that, with the elimination of adult day services at the Riverdale Senior Center, those clients will be without a program for at least 6 months when funding ends December, 2008. The RFP allows submitting agencies to increase their programs in innovative ways; submission date is 1/23/09. Funding levels are at \$500,000 and \$1 million.
3. Irving Ladimer was thanked by the committee for the tremendous amount of research he did on the impact of the Senior Center RFP, including discussion with Assemblyman Dinowitz and City Council member Koppell. He identified many shortcomings of the RFP including identification of a systematic evaluation process. (Joe reported that an independent accounting firm audited data program usage.) There is no documentation that the restructuring is meant to save money. Transportation is important for utilization, especially for evening programs. He advised reconsideration and revision of the DFTA RFP. Moved by B. Fettman, seconded by Creaney to submit a resolution to DFTA. Supported by all attendees with recusement for cause by Riverdale YM/YWHA representatives.
4. Bob Abbott, Library Project to increase seniors' usage: a joint meeting of Library and Cultural Affairs/Aging is proposed for January, 2009. Riverdale YM/YWHA was volunteered as a possible site, inviting agencies serving the senior population. Partnership with libraries is an aspect of DFTA RFP.

5. Agency/Individual Reports

- a. Park Gardens Long Term Home Health Care Program: clients are being accepted.
- b. B. Fettman: attended focus meeting with MTA to identify problems with Access-A-Ride, including inefficient usage of vehicles which are larger than necessary and dispatched from a distant location for short, local trips. She has suggested voucher system utilizing local cabs. (note: Traffic/Transportation Committee will have Access-A-Ride representative at December, 2008 meeting).
- c. F. Savage: her firm provides financial planning for seniors.
- d. A. Creaney: changes in Medicare options for drug/insurance coverage must be made by 12/31/08.
- e. K. Pesce: Ready New York brochures for seniors and people with disabilities are available FREE, readyny@oem.nyc.gov

Community Service Society is recruiting adults 55 years + to counsel low wage individuals and families; training provided (212) 614-5500. HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) is accessed by calling 311.

NO DECEMBER MEETING

Submitted by:

Karen Pesce
Chairperson
Aging Committee