

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 23RD, 2010
AT THE RIVERDALE SENIOR CENTER

PRESENT	AFFILIATION
A. Creaney	Vice Chair, CB 8
T. Durham	CB 8
B. Fettman	CB 8
I. Ladimer	CB 8
Robert Ackerson	Riverdale Senior Services
Nadine Baker	Bon Secours/Schervier
Bayla Butler	BJCC
Gene Fein	Riverdale Senior Services
L. Furman	Riverdale Mental Health Association
Sara Goldberg	
Kathy Gorup	Classic Residence by Hyatt
M. Kaufman	
Judith Schwartz Leeper	Riverdale Senior Services
I. Rosenblatt	Riverdale Senior Center
Arnold Schonfeld	
A. Shatkin	Riverdale Senior Center
Connie Segal	Riverdale AARP
Manfred Segal	Riverdale AARP
Douglas Thomas	Atria Senior Living
R. Wallace	Hebrew Home

Chaired by Vice Chairman Mr. Anthony P. Creaney.

Introduction of those in attendance.

- Riverdale Senior Services host Julia Schwartz-Leeper welcomed us to the senior center and spoke of the many services and programs provided by the center.
- Mrs. Levine announced a census taker will be available for all seniors in the community that needs help filling out the 2010 Census application.
- A link to the Riverdale Senior Center can be found at the CB8 website.
- Mrs. Levine also noted that the biggest threats to senior centers and the programs that they provide is the bending budget cut to the Title 20 Funding.
- All in attendance were encouraged to contact their state elected officials and insist that they leave the Title 20 Budget intact.
- Other members of Riverdale Senior Center spoke of the many programs they are affiliated with at the center, such as introducing seniors to computers, art programs and exhibits, with social activity programs and book groups.

Guest Speaker

- Rev. Nathaniel Dixon of St. Stevens and Marble Hill Community Center was our guest speaker. Rev. Dixon opened the program by playing his saxophone, leading into the centers' Wednesday meal and free concert at 1PM. On the same day of the concert, Rev. Dixon said instrumental music lessons could be had for seniors immediately after and for students after their school day.
- Rev. Dixon also spoke of a head start program in collaboration with Manhattan College. This is a program that helps the residents of Marble Hill (young and old) prepare for college. This program is open to all CB8 residents. More information about these programs will be link to the CB8 website.

Other Agency Reports

1. Mr. Thomas C. Durham, CB8's Housing chair reported how Federal Court finds NYS guilty of how it houses its' mentally challenged patients and residents. Court ruled that institutional style housing should be banned and their residents should be assimilated within and throughout the state's community. This ruling will affect our community directly (if ruling stands) by relocating the 250 residents of the Riverdale Manor located on Broadway at West 254 Street.
2. Mr. Durham also spoke briefly of changes coming in NYCHA and how it will affect the senior population.
3. The Classic Residence by Hyatt Senior Center will be changing its name. Due to the fact the Hyatt Hotel International Group has gone public, the Senior Center will have to divest in the use of Hyatt.
4. AARP and RSC are working on a community Safe Street Program. This program is to help recognize street hazards for our senior residents and correct them. This includes dangerous street crossings and sidewalks that are in disrepair.
5. Riverdale Jewish Center will be distributing Passover food baskets to homebound residents for the upcoming Passover Holiday.
6. Atria had hosted the Legislators Breakfast for the Jewish Leadership Group. They also announced a Care Giver Support Group program that will be held on the third Sunday of every month. They will welcome all other Senior Centers who want to participate in this program.
7. Schervier Center spoke of the proposed cut to Medicare and asked that we petition Congressman Engel for his support in preserving this funding.
8. Schervier's Mr. Dunning is being recognized for his 4,000 hours of volunteer work, our candidate for the community service award.
9. Riverdale Mental Health is celebrating the launch of their new website. More information of the activities that RMH will be having in conjunction with this launch can be found on the CB8 website.

Next Aging Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 27th, 2010 at the Hebrew Home for the Aged.

Meeting Adjourned - Meeting ended at 5PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas C. Durham
Approved by Karen Pesce
Chair, Aging Committee

TCD:db (April 8, 2010)