

**COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX  
MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE LIBRARIES & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND THE  
AGING COMMITTEE'S  
MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 14, 2009**

**Present**

**Affiliation**

Robert G. Abbott	Committee Chair, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee
Karen Pesce	Committee Chair, Aging Committee
Thomas C. Durham	CB #8
Beverly Fettman	CB #8
Maria Khury	CB #8
Irving Ladimer	CB #8
Bridget Maybury	CB #8
Aya Keefe	Rep. G. Oliver Koppell
Irving Abramowitz	
Liana Acevedo	Jerome Park Library Branch
Michael Alvarez	Bronx Library Network
Bella Bader	
Rebecca L. Barbier	Riverdale Branch NYPL
Suzanne Bell	
M. Bergmann	
Irwin Cohen	
Selma Cohen	
John D'Angio	
Helene Dele	
Joseph Facciola	NYC Department for the Aging
Ed Friedman	Bronx Council of the Arts
Rafaela Gutierrez	
Horace H. Harrison	Van Cortlandt Branch NYPL
Megan James	Riverdale Press
Rhoda Kauffman	
Mae Kalus	
Sue Lobel	Classic Residence by Hyatt
David Malby	
Sandra Marais	Hebrew Home at Riverdale
Deborah Messina	Hebrew Home at Riverdale
Jennifer Newmann	JASA
Robert Pincus	
Jane Reilly	Park Gardens, LGHHCP
Walter T. Roonin	
Bessie Thompson	
Faye Williams	Riverdale Senior Center
Sharon Wolfe	JASA, Van Cortlandt Senior Center

1. Welcome to guests by Chairs Abbott and Pesce.
2. Bob Bellinger, Associate Manager of the New York Public Library (NYPL): the libraries want to be flexible and responsive to changing needs. People can often have thirty years of "un-retirement" and the NYPL wants to be part of those years, serving in a meaningful way. Our linked libraries are Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island.

3. Michael Alvarez, Chief Librarian of the Bronx Library Center: mature adults need "gym for the brain" including mental exercise, physically challenging leisure activities, mastering a skill, including learning to play a musical instrument.
4. Brigid Cahalan, Older Adults Services Specialist:  
Services for visually impaired: Magic software to enlarge printed material on computer screen; JAWS software for the blind which reads printed words out loud; Lifelinks for those who use sign language which translates signing to/from verbal.

Homebound: books by mail.

Classes: computer skills, ESL and literacy programs, performances; training in leading book discussion groups.

Volunteer opportunities:

Website, nypl.org, allows on-line renewal of books on loan or by phone 24 hours a day; community information; notification of availability of requested materials.

Purpose Prize is given for creative ideas (details from your local librarian).

Book download to MP3 Player.

5. Discussion: Senior Centers could do weekly trips to local branch libraries to meet transportation needs of more frail. Training in specialized computer programs, i.e. QuickBooks, could be offered. Library staff could do outreach to area Senior Centers by visiting and presenting on a regular basis.
6. Wii: an interactive computer sports game was demonstrated. Participation can be in standing, sitting and requires some arm mobility.

Submitted by,

Karen Pesce  
Chairperson  
Aging Committee

KP:db