

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 22ND, 2013

Meeting was held at the Riverdale YM-YWHA and was called to order at 1:30pm.

The following were in attendance: Andrew Cohen, Beverly Fettman, Marvin Goodman Irving Ladimer, Robert Press, Robert Ackerson, Lisa Daub, Beverly Zelkowf, Jennifer Firestone, Marion Clutchker, Aaron Goldman, Neil Robins, Susan Chasky, Alvin Shatkin, Sharon Asherman, Vicki Matalon,

The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Sharon Asherman and Vicki Matalon gave a presentation on the status, services and programs offered to seniors at the Riverdale YM/YWHA. The Riverdale YM/YWHA recently entered into a new contract with the City of New York to continue providing services. There is a new emphasis on providing social services including regular phone calls to home bound seniors and programs for seniors suffering from Parkinson's disease. In addition, there are new opportunities for health and wellness; these include exercise programs and diet. The Riverdale YM/YWHA recently hired a new chef and the Glatt Kosher lunch program is receiving high praise. The Riverdale YM/YWHA also offers opportunities to learn how to use computers. There has been an expansion of the Social Adult day program and they are currently serving 18 people in the program. The Riverdale YM/YWHA has partnered with the Y in Washington Heights to enhance services to Seniors in Bronx Community Board 8. Marvin Goodman asked about having a nurse come to the center on a regular basis to monitor the members. The Riverdale YM/YWHA had a nurse in the past and Riverdale Senior Services currently has a nurse come to the center at regular intervals. Sharon thought this was a good suggestion and would see if it was viable for the Riverdale YM/YWHA.

We discussed the Department for the Aging's interest in expanding the "Innovative Senior Center" program.

Vicki Matalon, the program director at the Riverdale YM/YWHA, spoke about some of the ongoing programs such as writing, painting, aqua aerobics, computer classes, trips and intergenerational programs.

Irving Ladimer reported on the first meeting of the Senior Safety sub-committee that was formed at the November meeting and we discussed possible speakers for a future meeting on protecting seniors from scams.

Andrew Cohen reported on interest from Bronx Community Board 7 Senior Services Committee on having a joint meeting and the idea was endorsed by the Committee.

The Board Office was trying to arrange for someone from the New York City Department for the Aging to come to the February meeting.

A brief discussion on Access-a-Ride was held and it decided that we needed more time to have a substantive conversation and it was agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting. Beverly Fettman pointed out how vital Access-a-Ride is and that we should try to emphasize ways to improve the program and not just complain.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.

Andrew Cohen
Chair
Aging Committee