

## **Committee for Concerns of the Aging**

**Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

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**Committee Members:** Mary Anderson, Fern Herzberg, Yosef Kalinsky.

**Members Absent:** Eleazar Bueno and Domingo Estevez.

**Members of the Public:** Ann McCosh, Constanca Fenneras, Ruth Greaves, Imogene Hooker, Miguel Valrio, Euferiu Fesiason, Carlos Julio, Iris Rodriguez, Norma Santaliz, Beleni Cestereo, Yialel Casta, Milton Perez, Felil Veros, Miguel Clezas, Thelma Jackson, Eduardo Suariz, Rafaela Jemez, Maria Sadie, and Margarita Zera.

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Meeting called to order by Chairperson Mary Anderson at 10:40am, followed by committee members introducing themselves to the attendees. Today's meeting was held at STAR Senior Center (650 W. 187<sup>th</sup> Street).

- Unfortunately the guest presenter – Mitchel Harris, director of 'Safe at Home' was not able to attend the meeting
- Mary (in English) and Fern (in Spanish) went on to explain the role of the community board and its many committees and responsibilities. This week was particularly interesting in displaying collaboration amongst committees in that we had a meeting about a topic that involved four different committees discussing a single topic.
- We then opened up to hearing questions and concerns from the community members.
  - What do we do if we have a complaint? First call 311; then contact us through the district manager. We are able to connect to city agencies and expedite certain issues. For example there was a large puddle at the entrance of an access-a-ride pick up location making it difficult for people to enter and exit. We worked together with agencies towards a solution.
  - A few attendees raised issues related to homeless people and dog poop on the sidewalks.
  - Busses (M3, 4, 7) not running on time and stopping mid-route. Fern – if bus stops mid-route you can stay on the bus and demand that the driver take you to your destination later on the route.
  - Some questions related to rent controlled apartments and possibility of moving to a lower floor for those not able to climb up the stairs were raised and responded to.
  - The issue of smelling pot in building hallways was also raised.
- Natalie Espino from the Borough President's office introduced herself and reminded us that the uptown BP office is located on 125<sup>th</sup> Street and that she is available for the community.
- Ruth Greaves gave a short presentation about her work with 'Caring Professionals'

Meeting adjourned at 11:45am