



Manhattan Community Board 9

Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville and Morningside Heights

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016

Committee Members

Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair **Excused**

Anthony Fletcher, **Present**; Martin; Ernestine Welch, **Present**; Wallace, **Present**

Public Members

G. Wanda Capan, **Excused**; Laenoria Conyers, **Present**; Inez Woodhouse, **Excused**; Cora Gilmore, **Present**; Ruther Miller, **Excused**; Lillian Doctor, **Present**; Nazareen Robinson, **Excused**

Other Attendees: Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration; Verna Arthur, DFTA; Lee A. Bonanno; Ameenah Muhammad; Gail Branham; Sheena Fox; Anne Burley; Ann Payne; Diane Jones, USPS; Nicole Winksfield, USPS; Michael Berger, USPS

The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Anthony Fletcher called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m., and gave a short synopsis of the rally against the Manhattanville Post Office January 5th, 2016, which Senator Bill Perkins and Assemblyman Keith Wright attended.

The Agenda was adopted as it is and minutes were accepted with any necessary corrections.

Concerns from the Senior Issues Committee and Community Manhattanville Post Office:

- A senior window has been removed
- Preferred senior/disabled seating has been reduced
- Lengthy waiting time in lines
- Professional courtesy
- Painting and lighting in the lobby
- Misplaced of mail
- Serious high management turn-over

Update:

United States Postal Services:

The representatives of the United States Postal Services addressed concerns regarding the Manhattanville Post Office. Mr. Michael Berger, Area Manager of the uptown hub stated the following:

- Management is not in control of staff retention, the removal and replacement of managers is decided by the post master.

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- A senior/disabled window has been removed to implement a new system of having a lobby director to assist seniors and disabled by directing them to any open window to improve service.
- The USPS is looking at ways to improve services and limiting customers waiting in long lines.
- Encouraged seniors to utilize self-service machines in the lobby to avoid waiting on line.
- No assistant manager but Manhattanville has 6 supervisors on site.

Action:

A motion was adopted re: removing a senior window and implement a new system of having a lobby director who will direct seniors and disabled to any open window at any given time throughout the day.

Old Business:

Martin Wallace a committee member stated that the committee is still in dialogue with Access-A-Ride and will be acting as a liaison for seniors and will bring the issue on Thursday at the Uniformed Services and Transportation Committee.

Suggestions:

- Invite members of CB9 Uniformed Services and Transportation, Access-A-Ride and the MTA to the senior issues committee to address Access-A-Ride issues.
- Martin Wallace will facilitate the meeting with agencies involved with Access-A-Ride
- Request Access-A-Ride to find a location uptown for their customers to attend their recertification interviews instead of going downtown.

Announcements:

- Manhattan Community Board No. 9 will hold a Public Hearing on Mayor de Blasio's Preliminary Budget FY2017, Wednesday 10th, 2016 at Manhattan Community Board No. 9 district office, 18 old Broadway, @ 6:30 p.m.
- There will be a discussion to start a Vision Zero Task Force and plans to hold a Vision Zero Forum for the Community.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Note: The next meeting is Tuesday, March 1, 2016, George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th St

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate