

Date 6-18-14

Meeting called to order at 6:37PM

Minutes and Agenda Adopted at 6:39PM

Attendees:

Board members: Padmore John, Monica Dula, Catharine Abate, Feruze Zeko, Barabara Marshall, Carole Singleton

Community Members: Preston Stahly, Giovanni Puello, Martin Smith, July Merino

Public members: None

- Carole Singleton gave a presentation on CERT – Community Emergency Response Team. The presentation was given to provide committee members an example of the benefits and the work involved in becoming a CERT team member. CERT team members provide a community response to an emergency as well as learn valuable information on preparing for an emergency. Caroline demonstrated items necessary for preparing a go bag, and indicated that there are very few CB9 board members that are active. The Health Committee is looking to submit applications to become trained in the CERT program. The Health Committee also recommends that members of the general board also consider training to become better versed in preparing for an emergency.
- With representatives from State Senator Espaillat and Boro. President Brewer, we discussed the next steps to address the Air Quality Monitoring system at River Bank State Park. 1) The Health Committee will pursue accessing technical assistance in producing a summary report of the reports provided by DEP. This technical assistance will be sought through in-kind support from the Columbia CBA and WHDC. 2) the Health committee will pursue contacts at the Attorney General's office and other legal assistance to determine what is available from a legal matter to make the DEP respond to the violations that have been denoted. These violations stem from a review of the report provided by DEP which indicates that the monitors are still not properly calibrated, that the same vendor is being used, and that very little has changed to address the issue concerning the air monitoring at Riverbank. Health committee members will be conducting a meeting with the elected officials and will also be participating in a tour of the facility to determine the full problems that are occurring at Riverbank. This invitation was submitted by DEP.
- Larvicide is being undertaken by both Riverbank and the DEP at standing pools of water. There remains some contention for some puddles of water that are located in-front of the salt shed. Neither DEP nor Riverbank is claiming this area, and neither are conducting larvicide of these puddles.

The Health Committee have contacted DOHMH vector control. They have indicated they are prepared to conduct hand-held limited mosquito control procedures which will include limited spraying and conduct testing in the vicinity of mosquitoes to determine if they are carriers of West Nile Virus. This is currently under way. They have also recommended that to fully address this problem, residents voicing their concern to 311 of a mosquito problem will further allow greater mosquito control activity in the area.

- The Health Committee is targeting the date of Saturday Sept. 13th for its Health Fair/Forum, with a back-to-school theme. This will be done in conjunction with St. Luke's hospital and will be located in the vicinity of the hospital on 113th st. Preparations and methods of getting the word out are being finalized, including a flyer. The Health Committee has also approached Walgreens/Duane Reade to provide support including conducting flu shots and other screenings. Walgreens has agreed and will also provide other give-aways.
- The Health Committee discussed the District Needs for FY2016. Rodent control, support for libraries and afterschool, childcare for working mothers and augmenting community member sidewalk garden.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20