



CB9M

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**SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2005**

Hamilton Grange.....Manhattanville Housing
Jackie Robinson.....Wilson Major Morris
Manhattanville Development.....Mannie Wilson Towers

The Seniors Issues Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, December 6th, 2005 at Community Board No.9 Manhattan, 565 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER PRESENT:

Sylvia Robinson, Co-Chair
Ernestine Welch, Acting Co-Chair
Laenoria Conyers
Cora Gilmore

PUBLIC MEMBERS:

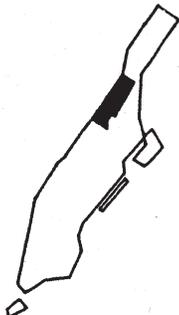
G. Marilyn Alexander (Present)
Herbert Crews (Absent)
Nazarene Robinson (Absent)

ATTENDANCE:

Bessie Davis, Lucille Bordie, Gisele Guerre, Anthony Petillo, Lauren Bluet, Eric Whilby, Valda Arbouin.

Ms. Sylvia Robinson, Co-Chair called the meeting to Order at 10:25 A.M.

The Agenda was adopted and minutes were accepted with necessary corrections.



SENIORS ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

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Ms. G. Marilyn Alexander mentioned that writer Nikki Giovanni wrote a book dedicated to Rosa Parks. She also read a love poem by Nikkie Giovanni.

Acting Co-Chair Welch introduced Mr. Anthony Petillo from Duane Reade and mentioned that a letter was written to Duane Reade regarding a lack of 24-hour service in our community.

Reports:

Mr. Anthony Petillo, Duane Reade Pharmacy, stated that there is a pharmacy shortage due to the length of time that the students have to attend and graduate from college. The Pharmacy program is now 6 years. Duane Reade is waiting for a graduating class from Long Island University and St. John's University to fill the spot. He doesn't promise that there will be a 24-hour service in our community but Duane Reade is working on providing the service in as many communities as possible. The Pharmacy has about 6 24-hour stores in Manhattan. Mr. Petillo cited that he attended several Medicare Part D information workshops and still not clear about the plans and mentioned that there are 58 plans. He advised seniors to contact their insurances for more information. He said that pharmacist would answer questions to their best ability.

Ms. Lauren Bluet, Duane Reade, mentioned that in August Duane Reade started a Home Health Care Program and Medicare, Medicaid and private insurances are accepted. There is a toll free number (888) 363-6965 that you can call to talk to the pharmacist for more information or questions. The following are services provided by the program, home deliveries, Wheelchairs, Scooters, Canes, Walkers, Hospital Beds, and Aids for Daily Living etc. If your insurance does not cover the cost, there is a 10% off for the services.

Old Business:

Ms. Welch mentioned that an inquiry letter was sent to NYCHA regarding the property next to George Bruce Library and did not receive a response yet.

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Concerns:

The postal services at Manhattanville and Hamilton Grange Postal Office have deteriorated and station managers were contacted, but still there are no improvements. At the Manhattanville Post Office the senior window is always closed

Comments:

Ms. Gisele Guerre stated that Beth Israel Hospital was fined 72 Million dollars by the U.S. Attorney, Mr. Garcia for extortion on Medicare.

Announcements:

- (a) The Dept For The Aging is having Medicare Prescription Information Workshops on every Wednesday at Community Board No.9 District office from 1-3 P.M.
- (b) On Thursday, December 8th there is Harlem Tree Lighting outside the State Building.

PREPARED BY: HLEZIPHI ZITA, COMMUNITY ASSISTANT