

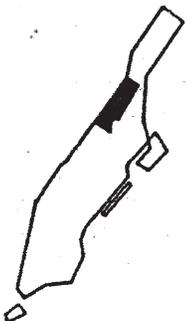
**CB9M**565 West 125 Street
New York, New York 10027
(212) 864-6200/Fax # 662-7396**COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN**Scott Stringer
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District Manager**SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008****Committee Members in Attendance:** Ernestine Welch, Chair; Cora Gilmore; Georgiette Morgan-Thomas.**Public Members in Attendance:** G. Marilyn Alexander, Laenoria Conyers, Inez Woodhouse.**Public Members Excused:** Sophie Johnson; Ruther J. Miller; Viola Rhods; Herbert Crews.**Members Attendance:** Lucille Boddie, Bessie Davis, Ruth Lewis, Amsterdam Adult Day Health Care Program, Elizabeth Ortiz, St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital, Carmen Perez, Keith Wrights' Office, Dothe Rudolph, Shirley Saxton, Wanda L. Capan, Anita Ross, Sarah Martin, Grant Residents Association, Gisele Guerre, Antoinette Emevers, Visions, Verna Arthur, DFTA.The meeting was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M. and thanked everyone for coming and stated that we are honored to have Verna Arthur from the Department For The Aging (DFTA).

The Agenda was adopted as stated and there were no November minutes due to shortage of staff but will be available next month.

Reports:**Verna Arthur, Department For The Aging** stated that due to the fact that request for proposals for Senior Centers are in a process her presentation will be limited. Stated few statistics and based on them DFTA needed to modernize Senior Centers especially programs that are provided. There are three components of the Modernization Plan:

- ◆ **Case Management**
- ◆ **Home Delivery Meals**
- ◆ **Senior Centers Programs**

She stated that she is not aware of any Senior Centers being closed but stated that DFTA runs 329 Senior Centers throughout the five boroughs. Senior Centers offer free meals and recreational programs; the median age that attends these centers is 75 years and 66% are females; 49% live alone. The modernization plan is to attract and maintain senior centers; 44% of city
SERVING HAMILTON HEIGHTS/MANHATTANVILLE & MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS

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senior centers are under utilized and declining since 1998. The following are proposed plans
Senior Centers:

Smaller Senior Centers:

- ◆ Allocated budget is \$500,000 and
- ◆ Provide educational services; health services –
- ◆ The minimum is to provide about a minimum of three senior services per day – recreational and educational programs.
- ◆ Allowed 225 – 310 to be funded.

Multi-Services Senior Center – HUB

- ◆ Allocated budget is 1 million
- ◆ Provide multitude of health services and educational services
- ◆ 10 – 25 Centers will be funded

DFTA is collaborating with a library in the Bronx on library card drive that would allow staff members to come to senior center and provide information and also seniors attend events at the library.

Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration read an article from Newsday paper December 2, 2008 **Cushion for debtors** (see attached) Encouraged seniors to speak-up when they don't understand why their social security is being reduced due to overpayment.

Announcements:

- Review Committee goals for 2008 – 2009, submit additions or deletion.
- 12/2/08 - 10 A.M – RFP Bidders meeting at NYU.
- 12/308 – 7P.M. – 9 P.M. – Goddard Riverside Community Center.
- 12/8/08 – 10 A.M. City Council Budget Hearing (NYCHA) AT City Hall – All urged to attend
- Urged to file application for CB#9 Board Membership

Suggestions:

- Seek Transportation or free Transportation for Seniors to attend DFTA's Public Hearings.
- Plan specific CB#9 Senior Issues Committee Annual Event.
- Continue poetry Readings on Monthly Committee meeting agendas.
- Start Committee meeting with opening prayer (It was pointed out that this is considered conflict with Individual Rights and alternative is silent prayer reference of each individual.)
- Publish "specials" for local super markets and monitor food prices.

Ernestine Welch, Chair thanked everyone and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

Note: Next meeting Tuesday, January 6, 2009, George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th St

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Assistant