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COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN

**SENIORS ISSUES COMMITTEE
 MINUTES
 TUESDAY JANUARY 6, 2004**

C. Virginia Fields
 President, Borough of Manhattan

J. Reyes-Montblanc
 Chair

Carolyn R. Thompson
 First Vice-Chair

Patricia Jones
 Second Vice-Chair

Theodore Kovaleff
 Secretary

Ramona Jennett
 Assistant Secretary

Barbara Marshall
 Treasurer

Carlotta Damanda
 Assistant Treasurer

Lawrence T. McClean
 District Manager

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

The Seniors Issues Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2004 at Community Board No.9 Manhattan, 565 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER PRESENT:

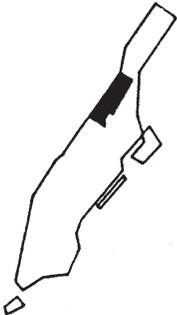
*Sylvia Robinson, Co-Chair
 Laenoria Conyers
 Cora Gilmore (Excused)
 Ernestine Welch,
 Sadie Winslow- Co-Chair*

ATTENDANCE:

*G. Marilyn Alexander, Inez Woodhouse, Herbert Crews, Gisele Guerre,
 Effie Scott, Jeannette Floyd, Helen Thomas, Rosalie Bynum, Bessie Davis,
 Edith C. Drake, V. Jones, Inez Woodhouse,*

Ms. Sadie Winslow the Co-Chair called the meeting to Order at 10:25 A.M. and introduced the new Chair of Community Board No. 9 Manhattan Mr. Jordi Reyes-Montblanc.

The Chair, Mr. Reyes-Montblanc said happy New Year and hope everybody had a happy one. He mentioned that he sent out a letter to Committee Chair and Co-Chairs of Committees to be proactive and not only to be active. Mr. Reyes-Montblanc stated that the Seniors Committee is very active and mentioned that there are other communities within



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Community Board. The Community Board should represent the entire community. He also mentioned that it is essential that the Chairs should be asserted and strengthened. He extended his openness to the public can be contacted anytime.

Ms. Sylvia Robinson, Co-Chair stated that all should introduce themselves.

Mr. Marilyn Alexander wanted to make a public comment and mentioned that she was away in California to visit his son and the grandson invited her to the **Grandparent's Day** and the English Teacher read the "**Hugh Langston Poem.**"

The Agenda was adopted and the minutes were accepted with the following corrections. **Ms. Betsy Davis** graduated from the **Citizen's Police Department** December 2003. **Ms. Winslow** mentioned that the minutes should be mailed out to seniors before the meeting.

Mr. Lawrence McClean stated that the minutes are mailed out to **Committee Co-Chairs** only this has been a procedure due to budgetary constrain.

Suggestion:

There is a need to reach out to the parent of African Americans to bring children out for activities in the community e.g. **Christmas Party, Youth Day, etc.** There is a huge representation of **Hispanic Families.** The information or flyers should be mailed out to **Community Outreach Organizations** that deal with children and youth.

Acknowledgement:

The Seniors Committee sends their "**Thanks and Appreciation**" to the **30th Precinct** for hosting the **Seniors Christmas Party** and also extended their appreciation to the **26th Precinct** for hosting the **Children's Christmas Party.**

Old Business:

Mr. Herbert Crews mentioned that there are couple of things that need to be address i.e. **The Drug Chains, Duane Reade, Rite-Aide and CVS** need

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to be invited to the Seniors Committee meeting and address the following issues:

- [1] Over pricing of drugs.
- [2] The 24 hour service.

Mr. Crews gave an update on transportation and read a resolution that was passed by the Seniors Issues Committee, November 18th, 1997.

Attached is the resolution. Mr. Crews stated that elected officials should be continuously pressured on the issue of transportation.

Mr. Jim Kanaski, Director of Lott Assisted Living Residence stated the Lott Assisted Living Residence is located at 1261 Fifth Avenue at 108th Street overlooking Central Park. The program is regulated by the State of New York and 80% is covered by a combination of Medicaid and SSI and 20% self paid. The Residence consists of 127 efficiency apartments. The cost of the apartments ranges from \$800 to \$1000. Each apartment has a bedroom, kitchen and a private bathroom that's wheelchair accessible. The facility provides services to assist people in activities of daily living i.e. transportation, preparation of meals, showering, grooming and administration of medication. There is a full time private physician on site and 18 hours seven days a week Visiting Nurses. In terms of recreation the facility has a bus that takes residence to malls, restaurants, etc. Regarding spiritual services all dominations are represented.

Future Goals:

- (1) Outreach to all Senior Centers in Community Board No. 9 increase attendance.
- (2) Continue advocacy for free transportation for seniors.
- (3) Continue to advocate for extended drug store hours in the area and for better services.
- (4) Recommend outside Committee meetings.

Announcement:

Ms. Winslow stated that the Riverside Church is hosting music for seniors on Thursday, January 8th starting at 2:00 P.M.

Ms. Robinson mentioned that the service at the Manhattan Post Office has improved greatly.

PREPARED BY: HLEZIPHI ZITA, COMMUNITY ASSISTANT