

**SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Ernestine Welch, Chair, **Present**  
Cora Gilmore, **Present**  
Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, **Present**  
Donitra Clemens, **Excused**

**OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT**

Gwendolyn Nichelson  
Joseph Gonzalez, Hamilton Grange Post Office  
Florence M. Rice  
Miranda Murray  
Sarah Martin, Grant House's Tenants Assoc.  
Norma Gomez, Jackie Robinson Senior Ctr.  
Lucille Bordie  
Kenneth Boyd  
Alfreda Summers  
Vickie Gholson  
Gina Addo  
Yvonne L. Hazel

**PUBLIC MEMBERS:**

G. Marilyn Alexander, **Excused**  
Wanda Capan, **Present**  
Laenoria Conyers, **Excused**  
Bessie Davis, **Present**  
Ruther Miller, **Present**  
Sophie Johnson, **Present**  
Virginia Lee, **Excused**  
Ruth Lewis, **Present**  
Dothe Rudolph, **Present**  
Inez Woodhouse, **Present**  
Vannisha Taylor, **Present**

The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10027

Chair Ernestine Welch called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M.

Agenda and minutes were adopted with any necessary corrections or additions.

**Reports:**

**Hamilton Grange Post Office Update:**

- Joseph Gonzalez, Acting Manager gave an update that the post office has lost 6 billion dollars in 2009 and continue to loose money due to that most people are using the internet. This has caused the post office to cut down on services in order to stay open. He advised that mail which is incorrectly place in a box should be given back to the mail person or deposited in a slot mail box if the building has one. To eliminate long lines he will place two staff members on overtime but has to be approved by the supervisor; will follow-up on the senior bench (chairs), post office relocation, Saturday services being cut, etc. He indicated that will attend the April meeting to respond to questions raised; check the possibility of replacing the stamp machine(s).

## **SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Page 2. Tuesday, March 2, 2010**

### **Jackie Robinson Senior Center reported on the following:**

- Norma Gomez reported that due to city's 1.5 million budget cuts – had to revise the center's budget.
- Assist seniors in applying for Medicaid and free cell phone services from Safelink.
- Seniors can apply for Food and Nutrition Program; to qualify you must be 60 years old and over, provide a picture identification and proof of income.

**Florence Rice, Founder of Tenants and Landlords Reconciliation**, stated that the Verizon Technology Center has been moved to 22 East 128<sup>th</sup> Street and it is managed by the Urban League. The Con Edison Payment Center is moving to 124<sup>th</sup> Street and the Tenants and Landlord Reconciliation program is not in operation due to lack of funds.

### **Old Business:**

- Sarah Martin, Grant Houses Tenant's Association, reported that the Senior Garden Ad-Hoc Committee is awaiting a response from Director Margarita Lopez, New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Greening Program after meeting with the Horticultural Society of New York which is providing technical support to the project.

### **Suggestions:**

- Senior with a complaint of Landlord Harassment was referred to a housing attorney - 140 West 140<sup>th</sup> Street
- Budget Request FY2011 to support Tenants and Landlords Reconciliation to obtain funds from the city.

### **Announcement:**

- Sarah Martin announced that WEACT is providing a bus from the State Building, 163 West 125<sup>th</sup> to attend the MTA Public Hearing, at Fashion Institute of Technology, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 4 P.M. – 9 P.M. (which is inconvenience for seniors.

**Adjournment:** 12:30 P.M.

**Note:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at the George Bruce Library

**Prepared by:** Hleziphi Zita, Community Assistant