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CB9M
16-18 Old Broadway
New York, New York 10027
(212) 864-6200/Fax # 662-7396

COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Ernestine Welch, Chair, **Present**
Tiffany Alston, **Present**
Cora Gilmore, **Present**
Anthony Fletcher, **Present**

PUBLIC MEMBERS:
G. Marilyn Alexander, **Excused**
Wanda Capan, **Present**
Laenoria Conyers, **Present**
Bessie Davis, **Present**
Ruther Miller, **Present**
Virginia Lee, **Excused**
Inez Woodhouse, **Present**
Dothe Rudolph, **Excused**

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT
Rev. Morgan-Thomas, Chair of CB9M
Gwendolyn Nichelson
Florence Rice
Gisele Guerre
Gail Brown
Katherine Chen, City College of New York
Valerie Sainvil, City College of New York
Quentin Fletcher
Joyce Garrett
Iretha Fletcher
Ginia Addo
Eril Kuo
Scott Wright
Kenneth Boyd
Carol Small, Hamilton Grange Library

The meeting was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

The agenda was adopted as stated and there were no September minutes due to pressing time sensitive projects at the board office but will be provided in October.

Announcement:

- October 15th the Harvest Festival will be held at Creek Park from 2-6 p.m.
- On October 4 through 8 the African Burial Ground's 20th Anniversary Commemoration

Update:
Senior Reading Garden:

- Sarah Martin, President of Grants Tenant Association reported that Mr. Bennaton from NYCHA greening department stated that funds have been cut in his department; he requested to meet with the senior garden ad-hoc committee next week to finalize the project and planting.

Chair of Manhattan Community Board No. 9

- Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas stated that the Board will continue to support the Senior Garden project in memory of Sadie Winslow.
- Spoke with Chairs of Health, Uniform Services and Senior Issues Committees to have a joint forum and invitees' Police; Sanitation; and Medical professionals (e.g. doctors; nurses; social workers, etc.) to participate in this event.
- It is vital that medical professionals be educated on how to fill out the MQ11 form.
- Request Major Morris Senior Center to be used for the forum.
- Health; Intergenerational and jobs are on top of the agenda as Chair of CB9M.
- Request Columbia University Employment Center to show its roster re: Employment in our district.
- Seniors need transportation to be able to participate in events.

Reports:
Columbia University Shuttle Services:

- Scott Wright and Erik Kuo confirmed that the Columbia University Shuttle Services is free for the elderly and disabled.
- The Shuttle Services runs from Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- It stops at Columbia University Medical Center, Harlem Hospital, West 125th, 116th , and 96th Streets
- All riders must present a valid identification upon boarding the bus (e.g. Medicare Insurance Card; Access-A-Ride ID Card)
- A map and schedule for the Shuttle was distributed and can be access through the website at www.columbia.edu/transportation.

Hamilton Grange Library:

- Carol Small stated that on October 25th is the grand opening ceremony for the New Teen Space from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
- October 25th there will be all day events (e.g. baby lapsit; music; poetry, etc.)
- All were invited to attend the event and visit the library
- Looking for volunteers and can be contacted by calling (212) 926-2147 or in person 503 West 145th Street.

George Bruce Library:

- Tiffany Alston reported several upcoming events that are happening at the library
  a. October 6th at 11:30 a.m. Money Matters "**Living on a Fixed Income" by Jay Steven** - learn to stretch your income by setting priorities, establishing a budget, planning and saving.

b. October 13th at 11:30 a.m. The Secret Life of Money "**Design Composition, and Covert Facts by Harley Spiller** – shares knowledge of the history of paper money in the Unites State of America.
c. October 22nd at 2:00 p.m. **A Glass Buffalo** a music group dedicated to blur the line between written and improvised new music.
d. See attached

Community Activist:

- Florence Rice reported that Con Edison is replacing tellers with machines.
- Teller Services will be terminated and seniors have been forced to use electronic services to pay bills.
- Con Edison has to be stopped not to eliminate the Tellers Service.

Action Item:

- It was agreed to write a letter to Con Edison re: Teller Services

Suggestions:

- Columbia University to contact the Dept. of Transportation to request signs to be posted on the shuttle stops.
- AARP opened a new computer lab to help seniors who are for employment.
- Invite City College and AARP
- Check City College Live Stream on Education (NBC)

Adjournment: 1:00 P.M.

The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2011, George Bruce Library

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate