



CB9M 565 West 125 Street
 New York, New York 10027
 (212) 864-6200/Fax # 662-7396

COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN
SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

- Scott Stringer
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
- Yvonne Stennett
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, September 5, 2006 at Community Board No.9 Manhattan, 565 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

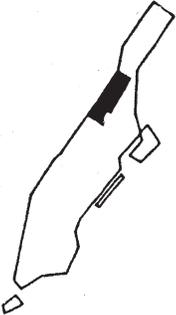
COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
 Ernestine Welch, Co-Chair
 Patricia Lewis

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:
 Georgette Morgan-Thomas
 Cora Gilmore

PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT:
 G. Marilyn Alexander
 Laenoria Conyers
 Watson Hines III
 Ruther Miller

PUBLIC MEMBERS ABSENT:
 Sophie Johnson
 Valda Arbouin

ATTENDANCE:
 Inez H. Woodhouse, Jeanne B. Turner, Edith Drake, Effie Scott, Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration, Matt Bitz, Councilwoman Dickens' Office, William Landers, Bessie Davis, Sylvia Robinson, Carrie Schmitz, Assemblyman O'Donnell's Office, Carmen Perez, Assemblyman Wrights' Office, Dottie Rudolph, Gisele Guerre, Vannisha Taylor, Seniors Helping Seniors, Anita Ross, Herbert Crews



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Co-Chair, Ernestine Welch called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. She thanked and welcomed everyone for coming just after Labor Day.

The Agenda was adopted and the minutes accepted as stated.

Reports:

Carmen Perez, Assemblyman Wrights' Office mentioned that there was a concern about the time. 9:00 A.M. is still considered peak hour by the MTA. Ms. Perez suggested that the bill has to be amended from 9 A.M. and start at 10:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Seniors were concerned about time change and the duration for the bill to be passed from the Assembly. Ms. Perez stated that the Assembly Wright will introduce an energy bill cost for senior especially in the summer time for Air Conditioners.

Carrie Schmitz, Assemblyman O'Donnell's Office introduced herself and had nothing to report to the seniors. There was a concern about the rent increase in our district and wanted know what the Assemblyman is been doing on the housing matters. Ms. Schmitz mentioned that there is a free legal clinic every last Thursday of every month from 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Everyday there is a housing specialist to assist in housing matters.

Matthew Bitz, Councilwoman Dickens' Office mentioned that “has nothing much to report” but attended the DFTA Budget Consults and were successful. He mentioned that housing is a vital concern in the city especially in Harlem. Mentioned that the council will look into policies on Rent Control and affordable housing in Harlem. He will follow-up on seniors request regarding Pharmacy extended hours at large drug stores in the Harlem Area.

Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration stated that a legislative was passed and registration started November 15th, 2005 to May 15th, 2006 administered by Medicare. The second legislation was for Extra Help (Drug Program), which is administered by Social Security Administration to assist seniors to pay for their drugs. The program looked at the beneficiary's income to determine the eligibility. 1.5 Million people qualified in New York City and in New Jersey about 500,000. Official letters were sent to eligible people together with the applications. People who receive Medicaid and Medicare were deemed ineligible. In 2005 Individual with the income of \$14,355.00 and not more than \$10,000.00 in resources will qualify for extra help. Couple with income less than 19,245.00 and not more than \$20,000 in resources will qualify for extra help. All information is available at the Social Security Offices or by calling (800) 722-1213 or at www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp

Old Business:

- (1) Reminder stated that anyone who wants to be a public member of this committee may get an application from Ms. Zita.
- (2) Need to update committee's mailing list.

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New Business:

- (1) Patricia Lewis reported that she attended the Annual Jubilee Day Luncheon of the Harlem Week activities. Among those present were NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Manhattan Borough President, Scott Stringer and other elected officials. Honorees included the oldest female of age 104 and the oldest male age 97. Souvenirs and annual bag of goods etc. were distributed to all present.
- (2) E. Welch distributed knick-knacks and other items from the Harlem Week festivities.
- (3) After discussion, it was agreed that we request the CB#9 Board to send a letter to Lloyd Williams, CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce Inc. requesting seniors desired changes for the annual "Elders Jubilee" luncheon, such as larger space, eliminating seniors length waiting line to enter luncheon site, participation in planning for luncheon etc.

Adjourn:

Next meeting is schedule for October 3, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

PREPARED BY: HLEZIPHI ZITA, COMMUNITY ASSISTANT