

**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, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010

Scott Stringer  
President, Borough of Manhattan

Larry English, Esq.  
Chair

Carolyn R. Thompson  
First Vice-Chair

Charles Cooper, Jr.  
Second Vice-Chair

Anthony Fletcher  
Treasurer

Diane Wilson  
Assistant Treasurer

Theodore Kovaleff  
Secretary

Jane Arrendell  
Assistant Secretary

Eutha Prince  
District Manager

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:****Ernestine Welch, Chair, Present****Excused****Cora Gilmore, Present****Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Present****OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT**

Miranda Murray, George Bruce Library

Emilo Perez, M.D., St. Luke's Roosevelt

Florence M. Rice, Tenant's &amp; Landlord Rec.

Donita Hammock, Major Morris Senior Center

Norma Gomez, Jackie Robinson Senior Center

Zonia Bucknoz, Hamilton Grange Senior Center

Thaddeus Krupo, Morningside Heights Library

Sarah Martin, Grant Houses Tenants Association

Diana Coleman, New York Urban League

**PUBLIC MEMBERS:**

G. Marilyn Alexander,

Wanda Capan, **Excused**Laenoria Conyers, **Present**Bessie Davis, **Excused**Ruther Miller, **Absent**Virginia Lee, **Present**

Ruth Lewis, Dir. of

Amsterdam Adult Day

Care, **Excused**Inez Woodhouse, **Present**Vanisha Taylor, **Excused**Nazarene Robinson, **Present**Dothe Rudolph, **Present**

The meeting was held on Tuesday, September 7, 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 11:00 A.M. and stated that due to the library change of operation hours the meeting normal hour (10) had to be changed to 11:00

**A moment of silence was observed for Sophie Johnson and others who passed.**

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

**Commentary/Suggestions:**

- Continue plans at CB9 Health Fair with Amsterdam Nursing Home and Amsterdam Adult Day Health Care Program.
- Follow-up on quality of life improvement at Jackie Robinson Senior Centers (Grant Houses)
- Continue advocacy on Senior Centers remaining open and improvements of services.
- Follow-up on adequate safety services for seniors in completion of street pavements and bus stop shelters at 145<sup>th</sup> Street and Amsterdam Avenue and 152<sup>nd</sup> Street.

## **SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE**

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- Seek direct Hotline to the Mayor's Office Community Affairs Office and request an assigned representative to CB9.
- Follow-up on survey of high food prices and poor quality foods in our area.

### **Update/Report:**

#### **Miranda Murray, Senior Librarian, George Bruce New York Public Library**

- Budget cuts were reduced from 37 to 10 million due to assistance of 130 thousand New Yorkers who participated in the letter drive to elected officials to stop the budget cuts.
- Hours of operation have been reduced from 44 – 42 hours a week at the George Bruce Library
- See attached Library Schedule for Manhattan branches.

#### **Donita Hammock, Director, Major Morris Senior Center**

- Major Morris received discretionary funds to continue providing regular Senior Services.
- Seniors still continue to partake activities at the center.
- Preparing a proposal to have a food program contract with DFTA.
- Started physical activities to motivate seniors
- Funds are needed in order to repair building violations.
- Center has a housing program sponsored by Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) catchment area is from 133<sup>rd</sup> to 155<sup>th</sup> Streets.

#### **Diane Coleman, Financial Literacy Director/Fair Housing Program Counselor Urban League**

- Urban League has a housing program sponsored by Department of Housing Preservation and Development to offer legal assistance e.g. evictions, leases, repairs etc.
- Need partnership with other agencies and organizations in the community.
- Reached out to Senior Centers about the services Urban Leagues is offering.
- Urban League is located at 204 West 136<sup>th</sup> Street, 212-926-8000 ext. 147.
- Computer Technology Lab is located at the Renaissance High School; operating hours are from 3:00 – 8:00 P.M.
- The center has 30 computer terminals and offers basic computer skills.

#### **Old Business: Senior Garden**

- Sarah Martin, President of Grant Tenants Association requested to file an application with NYCHA to establish a Basic Green garden at the site next to the George Bruce Library. Commissioner Lopez approved a basic green garden for this site at an earlier date.
- **It was agreed that committee meet with John Cannizzo and Robert Benetton of Horticultural Society before requesting another meeting with Commissioner Lopez.**

#### **Announcements:**

- On 8/21/2010, a Memorial Event was held for Sophie Johnson, former long term CB9 Board Member and later many years as Public Member of Senior Issues Committee.

#### **Action Taken:**

A recommendation will be presented to CB9M Executive Committee for Senior Issues Committee to meet at the George Bruce Library at 11:00 A.M.

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

**The next meeting will be held on October 5, 2010, George Bruce Library at 11:00 A.M.**

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