



Manhattan Community Board 9

Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville and Morningside Heights

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

Committee Members

Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair, **Present**; Ernestine Welch, Co-Chair **LOA**

Anthony Fletcher, **Present**; Martin Wallace, **Present**

Public Members

G. Wanda Capan, **Present**; Laenoria Conyers, **Excused**; Inez Woodhouse, **Present**; Cora Gilmore, **Present**; Ruther Miller, **Excused**; Lillian Doctor, **Present**

Other Attendees: Kay Marie Pressley; Junelle Carter-Bowman, George Bruce Library Manager; Jully Merino, Columbia University; Florence Rice, Community Activist; Caitlin Falvey; Ameenah Muhammad; Judy L. Crooks; Zonia Bucknor; Anne Burley; Craig Himmons, Hamilton Grange Senior Center.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Anthony Fletcher, Manhattan Community Board No. 9 Treasurer and member of the Senior Issues Committee called the meeting to order 11:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He introduced the new Chair of Senior Issues Committee Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas.

Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas greeted everyone and stated that she is happy to be appointed to serve as chair of the committee. She stated that the senior issues committee is dear to her heart and passionate about issues that affect seniors in our community. She is looking forward in working with the committee in resolving all pressing issues that affects seniors in our community.

The Agenda was adopted with additional presenters and minutes were adopted with any necessary corrections.

Announcements:

- Manhattan Community Board No. 9 in partnership with the 26th Precinct will hold a Back2School event on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at Old Broadway [between West 125th & West 126th Streets] from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All are invited.
- Thursday, September 3rd CB9M Uniformed Services and Transportation Committee meeting will be held at 18 Old Broadway, 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public
- Saturday, September 12th MetroPlus Plan will present "Getting to Know Your, Mind, Body and Spirit at the George Bruce Library @ 2:00 p.m.
- Free computer classes at George Bruce Library. See attached flyer or more information
- Monday, September 21st, 2015 the Library HotSport patron lending event will be held at the George Bruce Library from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. See attached flyer for more information

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Concerns/Suggestions:

- The senior window at Manhattanville Post Office does not open in the morning as promised; the committee agreed that the postal services customer relations and manager should be contact and request an update on the issue and other issues raised at the April 7th meeting.
- Access-A-Ride still doesn't pick-up people on time and the committee agreed that the representative(s) should be invited to attend the monthly scheduled October 6th meeting and address concerns.

Updates

Columbia University Office of Government & Community Affairs:

Ms. Jully Merino, Project Coordinator reported that the Columbia Transportation Community Shuttle has added the Metrocard for Senior Citizens or People with Disabilities as one of the required identifications to ride the bus. All riders must present a valid id upon boarding the shuttle and the following are accepted identifications:

- Medicare Health Insurance Card
- Access-A-Ride ID Card
- Metrocard for Senior Citizens or People with Disabilities

A few copies of the new Community Shuttle Guide were distributed and a bulk mail will be distributed to Senior Centers; Community Based Organizations; Elected Officials Offices, Community Board No. 9, etc. This guide is printed with bigger letters and easy to read and understand.

The George Bruce Library:

Ms. Junelle Carter-Bowman, Library Manager stated that the New York Public Library received 43 million dollars for the Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island. Brooklyn and Queens received separate amounts too. The library will increase staffing, hire a librarian and increase hours. On Tuesday, October 6th the library will be closed due to upgrade of computers. The senior computer program is still on and seniors can sign-up for a one on one class with the instructor on whatever they want to learn. The library received volunteers who are eager to teach skills to the community.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Department of Population Health Science and Policy:

Ms. Caitlin Falvey, Clinical Research Coordinator stated that she is new in the area and interested to learn more about health issues that impacts the community.

Reports:

The Hamilton Grange Senior Center:

Ms. Craig Himmons stated that he is the new Director at the Hamilton Grange Senior Center and had made several changes such as hiring a new chef, create a healthy menu and increase attendance about 30%. He reported that Council Member Mark Levine granted the senior center twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) which will be used for transportation, recreational and education for seniors. The Hamilton Grange Senior Center has transportation that transports seniors around Manhattan and it cost \$2.50 roundtrip. The Transportation is available from Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. only. Anyone who is interested in using it can call (212) 862-4181.

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Harlem Consumer Affairs Educationist, Senior Advocate, and Community Activist:

Ms. Florence Rice reported that there is a war against seniors. Most seniors are being harassed by greedy landlords and urged seniors to know their rights. She stated that on September 3rd, 2015 there is a housing rally downtown in Chinatown regarding deregulation of rent controlled laws. She invited seniors to join in.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate

Library HotSpot

CHECK OUT THE INTERNET!

GEORGE BRUCE LIBRARY'S HOTSPOT PATRON LENDING EVENT

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

5:00pm – 6:00PM

The Library Hotspot Loan Program is a collaborative program by New York Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library, and Queens Public Library, to provide thousands of low income New Yorkers with free Internet access. This program addresses the needs of more than a quarter of New York City households who do not have home access to high speed Internet services.

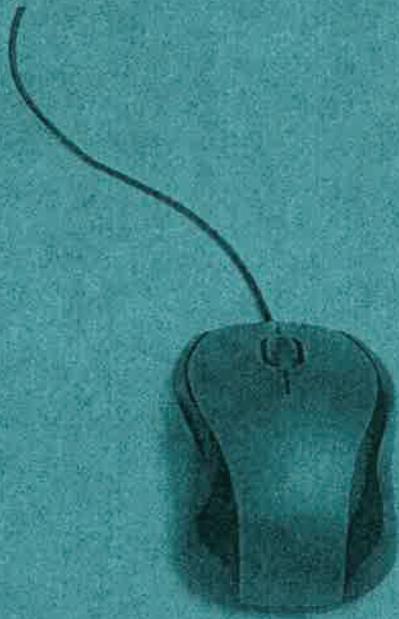
To participate in one of these programs, you must register FOR and ATTEND a patron lending event. During the lending event, you must be prepared to present your adult NYPL library card.

ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED AND DEVICE AVAILABILITY IS ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

****PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRANTS ARRIVING MORE THAN 10 MINUTES LATE TO THE LENDING EVENT FORFEIT THEIR ADMITTANCE AND SECURING A HOTSPOT DEVICE.**

For eligibility info and to register online, visit: <http://on.nypl.org/1KjECKa>

Join us
for a
hands-on
computer class



Free Computer Classes @ George Bruce Library

Learn to Use the Mouse and Keyboard

Thursday, September 10th, 11:30AM - 1:30PM

[Skill prerequisites: None]

Internet for Beginners

Tuesday, September 15th, 1:00PM - 2:30PM

[Skill prerequisites: Learn to Use the Mouse and Keyboard]

Gmail and Google Docs/Drives

Wednesday, September 23rd, 1:00PM - 2:30PM

[Skill prerequisites: Internet for Beginners and an active Gmail account (which students will have at the end of the 1st part of this class)]

Microsoft Word for Beginners

Tuesday, September 29th, 11:30AM - 1:30PM

[Skill prerequisites: Learn to Use the Mouse and Keyboard]

Pre-registration Required (Info Desk)

All Public Library Programs are free of charge.

PLEASE NOTE: PARTICIPANTS WHO ARRIVE 15mins AFTER THE START OF A CLASS CAN NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.



New York
Public
Library

George Bruce Branch

518 West 125th Street New York, NY 10027 | 212-662-9727 | www.nypl.org

