

The City of New York BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



ANTHONY R. JORDAN

DISTRICT MANAGER

VANESSA L. GIBSON BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Seniors & Aging Services Committee Minutes

CLARISA M. ALAYETO
CHAIRPERSON

October 9th, 2024

Josephine Fernandez-Byrne, Committee Chairperson

Attendance: Josephine Fernandez-Byrne, Brenda Goodwin, Betty Bryant-Brown, Linda Duke, Elena Farciert

DRAFT

Approval of September Minutes and TD Bank Workshop Update

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne calls for a motion to accept the September minutes, which is seconded and approved.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan updates on TD Bank's coordination of a workshop for seniors, confirming they are willing to hold it at any location, including TD Bank or a senior center.
- Discussion about the workshop dates, with a preference for October 23rd at 11 AM at East Side House Settlement Senior Center.

Discussion on Senior Banking Services and Issues

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne clarifies that TD Bank will present on protecting seniors from scams, despite not having a specific senior window.
- Member Brenda Goodwin expresses frustration that none of the banks in the area offer dedicated senior services.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan recounts a passionate conversation with Chase Bank about improving services for seniors, including ADA windows and additional personnel.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne & Member Brenda Goodwin discuss the lack of senior-friendly banking services and the need for better accommodations.

Concerns About Chase Bank Closure and local Police Precinct Changes

- Member Brenda Goodwin raises concerns about the upcoming closure of the Chase Bank (East. 138th Street & 3rd Avenue) branch and its impact on seniors.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan confirms the move of local NYPD Precinct and discusses the potential of police services to Alexander.
- Member Elena Farciert mentions the closure of the 40th precinct and ongoing construction issues.

• Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne suggests writing letters to corporate to address the bank closures and service gaps.

Logistics and Interpretation Services for Upcoming Workshop

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and District Manager Anthony Jordan discuss the logistics for the October 23rd workshop, including refreshments and the need for an interpreter.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan announces a grant for interpretation services for all community board meetings, starting with Spanish and French.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and Member Brenda Goodwin agree on the importance of having interpretation services to ensure inclusivity.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne confirms the workshop will include a light fare and emphasizes the need for clear communication and planning.

Site Visits to Senior Centers and Engagement Strategies

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne proposes site visits to all senior centers in CB1 to introduce themselves and recruit new members.
- Member Brenda Goodwin and District Manager Anthony Jordan discuss the importance of engaging with different senior centers and the need for flyers in multiple languages.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne assigns senior center visits to various members, ensuring all centers are covered.
- Member Linda Duke emphasizes the need for youth involvement in senior center activities and suggests starting with a game night.

Intergenerational Activities and Youth Engagement

- District Manager Anthony Jordan discusses the potential for intergenerational activities, such as bingo or crocheting, to bring seniors and youth together.
- Member Linda Duke shares experiences with intergenerational programs in their development, highlighting the importance of youth participation.
- Member Brenda Goodwin expresses concerns about meeting with youth at night and suggests a more harmonious approach to engagement.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and District Manager Anthony Jordan emphasize the need for youth to take the lead in planning activities and the potential benefits of intergenerational interaction.

Finalizing Senior Center Visits and Next Steps

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and Community Coordinator Steven Palmers finalize the assignments for senior center visits, ensuring all members have a center to visit.
- Member Brenda Goodwin and Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne discuss the importance of having youth involvement in senior center activities and the need for clear communication.

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne suggests setting a deadline for senior center visits by the end of November.
- Member Brenda Goodwin emphasizes the need for youth to take the lead in planning activities and the potential benefits of intergenerational interaction.

Reach Out to 40th Precinct Officer for Senior Issues

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and District Manager Anthony Jordan discuss reaching out to the 40th precinct officer responsible for senior issues.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan confirms the officer was introduced at a senior center town hall meeting and is responsible for partnership with senior centers.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne and District Manager Anthony Jordan agree to find out the officer's name and contact information to invite them to future meetings.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne wraps up the meeting, recapping the assignments for senior center visits and the upcoming workshop.
- Committee Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne calls for a motion to adjourn, which is seconded and approved.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan takes a moment of silence to remember Nellie McKay, providing information about her viewing and funeral services.

Action Items

Arrange a presentation by TD Bank on protecting seniors from scams at the East Side House senior center on October 23rd at 11 AM.

Visit the Leon senior center and set up a meeting with the director.

Reach out to the 40th precinct officer responsible for senior issues.

Invite the Bronx Works representative from the senior center to a future meeting.