SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Ernestine Welch, Chair, Present
Cora Gilmore, Present
Georgettie Morgan-Thomas, Excused
Anthony Fletcher, Excused
Tiffany Alston, Present
OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT
Verna Arthur, Dept. For The Aging
Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration
Joyce Garrett
Gisele Guerre
Anita Ross
Kenneth Boyd
Yvonne Hazel
Pat Cunningham

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

The meeting was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

Chair Ernestine Welch called the meeting to order at 11:20 A.M.

The agenda was adopted as stated and there were no March minutes due to that the digital recorder was not returned on time for the minutes to be transcribed; the minutes will be available at the May meeting.

Announcement:
- On Saturday, April 23rd Community Board No. 9 Manhattan presents a Youth Resources Expo at Riverbank State Park from 10 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Presentation:
Access-A-Ride Para-Transit:
- Donna Fredericksen stated that the expiration date is crucial and advised seniors to try to prepare a month before the scheduled date.
- If there are any changes in disability please call for reassessment.
- Russell Schmid stated that to be 60 years old doesn’t mean that you are eligible for Access-A-Ride services; the disability determines the eligibility (unable to walk a block; unable to move; etc)
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- A doctor's note is required and it has to be no more than six months old.
- At times an individual cannot be eligible for Access-A-Ride services within the actual borough but can be eligible for outside the borough.
- Transportation is provided the day of the interview to and from the appointment.
- For any pick-ups Access-A-Ride is required to only wait for 5 minutes.
- There is a grace period of 30 minutes for pickups.
- Access-A-Ride Newsletter is published three times a year.
- If you have any problems please call Access-A-Ride at (877) 337-2017 or (718) 393-4999.
- All complaints should be called in, entered online and mail in, in order to be logged in the system. This helps Access-A-Ride to respond and correct the problem.
- The cost is $2.25 per trip and customer aids ride for free and the service is door to door.

NYC Department For The Aging:
- Verna Arthur stated that Title 20 funding has been restored to avoid closure of senior centers.
- She stated that May is Senior's Month and if there are any events happening in the community please contact DFTA

Notification:
- Ms. Gilmore stated that there is a salary increase for Home Health Attendants
- There is a difference between Home Health Attendants and Home Health Aides.
- A manual should be requested from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that explains the description and duties of Home Health Attendant and Home Health Aides.

Adjournment: 12:30 P.M.

Note: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at the George Bruce Library

Prepared by: Hlezphi Zita, Community Assistant