COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Ernestine Welch, Chair, Present
Cora Gilmore, Present
Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Absent
Anthony Fletcher, Present

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

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT
Ricky Wong, NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs
Shirley Saxton, Social Security Administration
Florence M. Rice, Tenants’ & Landlord Rec.
Patricia Moore, Comprehensive Care Management
Craig Schwartz, Comprehensive Care Management
Zonia Burknor, Hamilton Grange Senior Center
LaQuita Henry, Heritage Health and Housing
Joyce Garrett
Kenneth Boyd
Yvonne Hazel
Lucille Brodie

The meeting was held on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

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

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

Presentation:
New York City Department of Consumer Affairs:
- Ricky Wong Director of Community Relations reported that his agency was established in 1968 as a protection agency. The agency grant licenses; enforces laws, mediates between consumers and businesses; educates consumers and businesses and pursues litigation to target unfair business practices.
- The agency offers free Financial Empowerment Centers in Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens.
- DCA does not regulate nor enforce prices. (see attached)
- Consumers can file a complaint by calling 311 or by logging directly to the agency’s website at www.nyc.gov/consumers
- For further assistance please call Mr. Ricky Wong at (212) 487-6996.
Comprehensive Case Management Corporation:
- Craig Schwartz, Director of Outreach and Enrollment stated that Comprehensive Case Management programs are designed to fit an individual situation. CCM provides three specific programs; Pace, Select and Direct programs.

Pace – an all-inclusive care for the elderly:
- Serves elders 55 years and older.
- Enrolled in Medicaid or Medicare recipient
- Medicaid eligible or be able to pay privately
- Live in the five boroughs of New York City; Nassau and Westchester counties.
- The benefits coverage includes doctors, nurses, social workers, medical equipment, medications, aide service, day health centers, rehabilitative therapies, emergency care, hospital care, transportation, and nursing home care if needed.

Select – Medicaid Managed Long Term Care:
- Serves 18 years and older
- Medicaid or Medicaid eligible
- Live in the five boroughs of New York City, Westchester counties.
- Benefit coverage - nurses, social workers, individualized care management, medical transportation, aide service, rehabilitative therapies, social day centers, and home delivered meals, health-related services such as dental, vision, podiatry, audiology and nursing home care.

Direct – Medicare Advantage Plan:
- Serves seniors enrolled in Medicare Part A and B.
- Live in the five boroughs of NYC, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester counties.
- Benefit coverage, doctors, hospital care, medical equipment; prescription drugs; rehabilitative therapies, 24 hour emergency care and worldwide emergency coverage.

There was a Q&A with discussion of the presentation.

Old Business:
Social Security Administration:
- Shirley Saxton reported that the federal government will not provide Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
- Enrollment for Medicare Part D is from November 15 to December 31, 2010
- Help is available if assistance is needed in selecting a plan – call 311
- Medicare Part B will remain as it is due to no cost of living increase.
- Encouraged seniors to call or write to elected officials re: $250.00 one time stimulus fund.

Inez Dickens’ 10k Grant:
- Anthony Fletcher, Treasurer of CB9M and member of the senior committee reported that no Board member or Committee submitted an official proposal although Senior Committee indicated its interest to do the same.
- Committee discussion held on presentation on an official proposal to CB#9.

Adjournment: 1:00 P.M with best wishes to all for the Holidays and Happy Healthy New Year

Note: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at the George Bruce Library
Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate