COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, February 3, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Ernestine Welch, Chair; Cora Gilmore; Georgiette Morgan-Thomas.

Public Members in Attendance: G. Marilyn Alexander; Laenoria Conyers; Inez Woodhouse; Ruther Miller, Viola Rhods

Public Members Excused: Sophie Johnson


The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M. and welcomed everyone for coming. She stated that George Bruce Library has been designated as a City Landmark by the New York City Landmarks Commission.

A moment of silence was expressed for one of our Public Members, Herbert Crews who passed away December 2008.

The Agenda was adopted as stated and minutes with the any necessary corrections, which may be submitted to CB#9 office at a later date.

Commentary:
Ms. G. Marilyn Alexander, read a poem called “Prayer” by Paul Laurence Dunbar in recognition of Black History month. (See Attached.)

Highlights:
Georgiette Morgan-Thomas gave a brief synopsis of the 44th ‘s President Barack Hussein Obama’s Inauguration Event that took place January 20th, 2009; stated that it was a spectacular event and the crowd was very calm. It was the moment of fulfillment, Peace and Happiness.
Follow-up
Onix Lugo, Manager, Hamilton Grange Post Office stated that he has increased window clerks from 3 to 8 to improved services at the station and serve the community better but 2 clerks are out due to family issues. He is unable to put seats for seniors due to lack of space. The relocation of the station is on hold due to budgets. The 1st and the 3rd of the month are the busiest days in the post office—money orders and stamps are the most purchased items on these days.
Ms. Wanda Diaz, District Manager for Manhattanville, Morningside, and Hamilton Grange & Colonial Stations stated that the work load and work hours impact services at Hamilton Grange. She urged that if there is a missed delivery call (300) 275-3775.

The following are telephone numbers for Postal Stations in our district:
- Manhattanville Station — (212) 662-1540
- Hamilton Grange Station — (212) 381-8401
- Colonial Station — (212) 368-4956
Seniors urged to go directly to windows for service, if a problem arise, request to see Postal Supervisor or Mr. Lugo at Hamilton Grange Post Office.

Reports:
Rebecca Davies, Columbia University Food Sustainability program, stated that Columbia students obtained permission to use lead from New York City Housing Authority to start a Community Garden at Grant Houses. The project received a grant from the National Garden Association. Community meetings will be scheduled at George Bruce Library for involvement and those interested are invited to attend such meetings.

Tiffany Alston, Site Manager, George Bruce Library introduced herself and stated that she is here to assist and serve the community. She can be reached at (212) 662-9727 or (212) 662-0416 by email: talston@nypl.org. She will continue making available space at the library for CB#9 Senior Issues Committee meetings.

Suggestions:
- Temporary seating at Hamilton Grange – folding chairs as a remedy to alleviate long standing for seniors.

Announcements:
- The Harlem Consumer Education Council, Inc. is presenting “The Internet is Serious Business” on:
  Date: Tuesday, February 24th, 2009
  Time: 10:00 A.M.
  Place: Church of the Intercession
         550 West 155th Street
In order to attend RSVP at (212) 283-7011 and a light breakfast will be provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

Note: Next meeting Tuesday, March 3, 2009, George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th St

Prepared by: Hlezophi Zita, Community Assistant