

**SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012**

***Committee Members:***

Ernestine Welch, Chair, **Present**; Tiffany Alston, **Present**; Cora Gilmore, **Present**;  
Anthony Fletcher, **Present**

***Public Members:***

G. Marilyn Alexander, **Excused**; Wanda Capan, **Absent**; Laenoria Conyers, **Present**; Bessie Davis, **Absent**; Ruther Miller, **Present**; Virginia Lee, **Absent**; Inez Woodhouse, **Present**

***Other Attendees Present:***

Nazarene Robinson; Michael Anderson, Con Edison; Linda Prince; Joyce Garrett; Katherine Chen; Collete Battice; Dorothy Rudolph; Ginia Addo; Shirely Saxton, Social Security Administration; Alethia Brown; A. Muhammad; Lucinda Blackwell; Ellen Baxter, Broadway Housing Communities; Ana Ofelia Rodriguez, Broadway Housing Communities; Sarah Martin, Grant Houses Tenants Association; Lt. Feliz, 26<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Florence Rice; PO Ureni, 26<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Iretha Fletcher; Jessie Bovain.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10027

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

The agenda was adopted as stated; the minutes were accepted with any necessary corrections which may be filed at a later date.

**Commentary:**

- Mr. Michael Adams, a historian stated that African American try to find themselves and seem not to be there in present and in history.
- Encouraged seniors to inspire others especially the young and share their experiments, achievements, African American history and their extra ordinary achievement regardless of oppression.
- Educate others about AIDS awareness because it is high in Black and Latino communities.

**Update:**

**Consolidated Edison Company of New York:**

- Richard Downey stated Con Edison normally will state that meter readers will come between these hours to customers because meter readers leave the office at 8:00 a.m. and cover a huge section which allows them to get to the customer(s) between the said hours.
- A superintendant of the building is always contacted if meter readers are unable to access the meter; if the problem continues a fine is applied.
- To file a complaint call (800) 752-6633 or the manager at Con Edison payment center.

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- Estimated meter reading are calculated based on the previous monthly charges of the previous year at that month.
- If you need more information on how the estimated meter reading is being calculated contact Con Edison at (800) 752-6633 or go to the website [www.conEd.com](http://www.conEd.com)
- If someone is stealing electricity from another customer – Con Edison special unit will investigate and the perpetrator will be penalized.
- Call (212) 243-3003 if you do not want to participate in having bill by another supplier – A block will be put on the account.
- Paying bills at the payment center the new kiosks are working and for seniors who need assistance there is always an ambassador wearing a bright blue jacket to assist customers.
- The kiosk machines still do not give out change, Con Edison is working on this.

### **Reports:**

#### **Broadway Housing Communities Sugar Hill Development Project:**

- Ofelia Rodriguez, Director of Community Development stated that the garage that was located at 404 West 155<sup>th</sup> Street has been demolished and construction will start Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> for the Sugar Hill Development Housing Project.
- A children's museum will be constructed on site and will be the first in Harlem.
- The development dedicates a minimum of 25 rent subsidized apartment for seniors on low fixed incomes who are CB9 residents.
- Organization is requesting a letter of support to be sent to Commissioners of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and Department For the Aging re: 25 Section 8 subsidies.
- The federal government allocated funds for veterans and seniors
- Many seniors in our community live in walk-up buildings and are at risk of losing their independence and/or housing because they need elevator service.
- The building consists of 124 apartments and 20% is reserved for homeless families and section 8.

### **Suggestions:**

- Con Edison should do a group session for seniors on how to use the new payment kiosk machines.
- Meter reading Con Edison should give an exact time when a meter reader is arriving.

### **Action Item:**

- Committee voted in support of 25 apartments set aside for seniors requested by Broadway Housing Communities and recommended the Board to send a letter of support the appropriate City agencies [Dept. For The Aging and Housing Preservations and Development (HPD) ] (see attached)

**Adjournment:** 12:30 P.M.

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, George Bruce Library**

**Prepared by:** Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate

## **Senior Issues Committee 2/7/2012 Action Item**

2/7/2012 the representatives Ellen Baxter and Ofelia Rodriguez presented plans to include additional senior affordable apartments in the Sugar Hill Development located at 404 West 155<sup>th</sup> Street and requesting a letter of support to the appropriate City agencies for a minimum of 25 Senior Citizens apartments on low fixed income who are CB9 residents. This new building is sponsored by Broadway Housing Communities Organization and the development received approval for same in the CB9 resolution of 6/23/2010.

The Senior Issues Committee voted in support of 25 apartments set aside for seniors in the stated Sugar Hill Project; the Committee recommends the Board to send a letter of support to the appropriate City agencies (Dept. For the Aging and Housing Preservation and Development) (see attached)

### **Committee vote:**

Committee Members – 3  
CB9 Board Members – 3  
Public Members - 3  
Other attendees - 5