SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013

Committee Members:
Ernestine Welch, Chair, Present; Tiffany Alston, Present; Anthony Fletcher, Present;
Carole Singleton, LOA;

Public Members:
Wanda Capan, Excused; Laenoria Conyers, Present; Bessie Davis, Present; Cora
Gilmore, Present; Ruther Miller, Present;
Inez Woodhouse, Present; Nazarene Robinson, Excused

Other Attendees Present:
Annie Payne; Iretha Fletcher; Sarah M. Martin; Dee Dee Halleck; Quentin E. Fletcher;
Lucille Boddie; Verna Arthur, Department For The Aging; Florence Rice; Ameenah
Muhammad; Joyce Garrett; Aginia Addo; Jael Sanchez; Lillian Doctor; Alma Sesay

The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West
125th Street, New York, NY 10027

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

The agenda was adopted and minutes will be available at the next meeting.

Reports/Reportes:
Councilmember Robert Jackson’s Office
Jael Sanchez, Community Liaison introduced herself and stated that her office is located
at 425 West 144th Street and anyone who needs assistance can call (212) 234-0551.

Empire Wealth Strategies – Family Love Letter:
Brooks Johnson, Financial Advisor stated that the “family love letter” is a book which
one can create and put together all the necessary unanswered questions which the will
cannot answer such as:

i. Where insurance papers are kept?
ii. What your cat/dog eats?
iii. What are your passwords to your financial records, etc?
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Estate planning is for everyone regardless of wealth it is a wish carried out by family. It is a process of anticipation and arranging for the disposal of an estate. The estate planning involves the will, trust beneficiary designations, power of appointment, property ownership (joint tenancy with rights of survivorship, tenancy in common, tenancy by the entirety), gift, power of attorney (durable financial power of attorney, and durable medical power of attorney.) Brooks Johnson agreed to assist anyone who wants to put together a family love letter book.

Update:  
NYC Department For The Aging  
Verna Arthur, Department For The Aging stated that the Jackie Robinson Center had to resubmit a proposal with DTFA to continue its senior program due to not meeting the set program requirements as a provider. The Social Day Care Adult Centers are not “free”; they charge the Medicare/Medicaid for provided services such as lunch. See

The George Bruce Library:  
Tiffany Alston, Branch Manager stated the library continues to provide the following programs to the community for free:
   i. Introduction to Computers for Senior – every Wednesday at 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
   ii. Money Matters – March 7th, 14th, at 11:30 a.m.; March 20th and 27th at 5:30 p.m.
   iii. A March calendar of events was distributed (see attached)

Old Business:  
Senior Garden:  
Sarah Martin reported that she hasn’t heard a word from NYCHA to officiate the Senior Garden which was completed in January.

Suggestions:
   i. Invite Time Warner to explain excess fees and inadequate services.
   ii. Contact New York City Housing Authority regarding non working elevators at the Grants Houses which impacts the senior population and mothers with young children.
   iii. Contact U.S. Postal Services regarding poor service at the Manhattanville and Hamilton Grange Post Offices.

Adjournment: 2:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate