



Manhattan Community Board 9

Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville and Morningside Heights

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016

Committee Members

Hon. Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair, **Present**

Hon. Anthony Fletcher, **Present**; Hon. Martin Wallace, **Present**; Ernestine Welch, **Present**

Public Members

G. Wanda Capan, **Present**; Laenoria Conyers, **Excused**; Inez Woodhouse, **Excused**; Cora Gilmore, **Present**; Ruther Miller, **Excused**; Lillian Doctor, **Present**; Nazareen Robinson, **Excused**

Other Attendees: Leonard Bonanno, **Present**; Judy Crooks, **Present**; Zonia Bucknor, **Present**; Anne Payne, **Present**; Ameenah Muhammad, **Present**; Lucile Francois, **Present**; Verna Arthur, DFTA; Robert Goodson, **Present**; Anne Burley, **Present**

The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair of Manhattan Community Board No. 9 called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

The Agenda was adopted as it is and minutes were accepted with any necessary corrections.

Reports:

Con Edison of New York

Ms. Zamira Setaro, Customer Outreach & Education urged seniors to be careful regarding home evasion from criminals posing as Con Edison workers. She stated that all Con Edison employees have name tags and urged seniors to always ask for the representative to show their name tags before opening a door. She informed seniors that Con Edison field workers only come to the house/resident to read the meter or for repairs. She stated that Con Edison has a variety of services, billing and payment option for customers with Special Needs such as:

Senior Direct:

- It is a priority, toll-free phone service for customers' age 62 years or older.
- Operates from Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Customers are directly connected to a representative by calling (800) 404-9097

Concern Program:

- It is for customers' 62 years or older, blind or have a permanent disability
- Representative advice concerned customers about bill-paying options, government-aid programs and other organizations that offer assistance.
- The program is free and confidential

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NYC Department For The Aging:

Ms. Verna Arthur, Director of Manhattan Outreach reported that DFTA has a new initiative program Parenting the Second Time Around. It consists of series of workshops and geared for grandparents to promote healthy living, nutrition and healthy eating.

Participants will learn about:

- basic parenting principles and practices that really work
- why children/adolescents think and act the way they do
- exercise tips for you and your children
- how to identify problem behaviors
- legal information to keep your family safe and stable
- how to select and prepare healthy tasty meals and snacks

At the end of the program, participants receive:

- Two certificates of completion from Cornell University
- Stipend upon completion of the program (\$50 -- part at the beginning and part upon completion)
- Metrocards (public transportation required)
- A chance to meet other grandparents/relatives caring for children

**The agency/organization hosting the event will be given \$500 (part at the beginning and part upon completion). DFTA is looking for space to hold workshops in Community Board No. 9 district. Ms. Arthur stated that Ms. Cora Gilmore has been selected as a nominee for District 9 for the New York Senior Citizen's Day Recognition Event. She will be honored in Albany on Tuesday, May 10th, 2016

Announcements:

- New York City Council Fiscal Year 2017 Preliminary Budget Mayor's FY16 Preliminary Management Report and Agency Oversight Hearing, Friday, March 4th, 2016 at Council Chambers, City Hall, 10:00 a.m.
- Manhattan Community Board No. 9 Uniformed Services and Transportation Public Hearing on NYC Department of Transportation Proposed Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project, Thursday, March 5th, 2015 at Broadway Housing Communities, 583 Riverside Drive, 7th Floor @ 6:30 p.m.
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Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Note: The next meeting is Tuesday, April 7th 2015, George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th St

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate